

# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

January 19, 2025



**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**



*NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON  
LIFE'S JOURNEY YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*

### **Worship Leadership**

The Rev. John J. Ward-Diorio  
Preacher: The Rev. Allyssa A. Boyer  
Lector: Paula Boyer

### **Ministry of Music**

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore  
Assistant Music Director: Mark A. Dundore  
Organist: Sarah A. Myers  
Assistant Organist: Patrice G. Miller

### **Ministry of Audio and Video**

Jeffrey A. Dundore

### **Ministry of Service**

Lead Greeter: Chris Grice  
Greeters: Don Dupes, Steve Roush  
Acolyte: Elsa Riesmeyer  
Kids' Place:  
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel  
Flower Delivery: Dale Thorpe and Don Dupes  
Counting Team: Sherry Spencer, Paula Boyer

### **Pastor Emeritus**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

### **Ministers**

The Entire Congregation

*Visit the church website, under the 'Sign Up' menu heading,  
to help as a Sunday volunteer or Worship Participant.  
We're grateful for your generosity.*

## **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Rev. Allyssa: [allyssaboyer@outlook.com](mailto:allyssaboyer@outlook.com)**



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 19, 2025

*The livestream starts with the Announcements. If you'd prefer not to be on camera, kindly choose a seat in the back three pews of the Sanctuary. Leave prayer requests in the bowl in the Common area or give them to the Lead Greeter.*

*\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.*

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ORGAN PRELUDE "Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word"

Roger C. Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

One: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

\*THE HYMN No. 4 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**How awesome it is that You care for us, God of all life! Your delight in us brings out our best. When You rejoice in us, we come to believe in our capacity for goodness. When Your light and salvation dawn in our lives, we want to share the joy. Remind us now of the gifts You so freely bestow. Help us to recognize them in ourselves and in one another, that we may use them to serve our neighbors, near and far, and give glory to Your name. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Despite our best intentions, there is much in life that separates us from God. We find ourselves living for things and being ruled by our wants. Our possessions become for us idols that keep us from taking risks and making sacrifices of faithfulness. Let us join in the time of silent prayers of confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: God does not treat us as forsaken and desolate. God welcomes us with rejoicing, enfolds

us in love, and celebrates us as people of worth in whom God delights.

**ALL: May our hearts be lifted up. We are free to live today rejoicing in God's benevolent gifts of life and love.**

*If you are able, please rise and greet one another with signs of Peace.*

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI (#759 is the tune, but not all the same words)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS (unison)

**May God's grace be upon these shawls...warming, comforting, enfolding, and embracing. May these mantles be safe havens...sacred places of security and well-being...sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones. May the ones who receive these shawls be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love. Blessed be!**

*Children are invited to the front at this time.  
Everyone who comes forward will be on camera.*

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world  
Shy and Joyful, Bold and Bright  
They are precious in his sight  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 36:5-10

\*THE HYMN No. 457 "Jesus, I Live to You"

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

John 2:1-11

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (unison)

Thru Christ our ear-nest prayers are said with words we scarce can frame; Our  
work of Christ-mas now be-gun, We serve now in Christ's name.

*Please place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate.*

THE OFFERTORY “The Church’s One Foundation”  
Hand Chimes

arr. McChesney

\*DOXOLOGY

***From all who dwell beneath the skies,  
Let the Creator’s praise arise!  
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung.  
Through every land, by every tongue! Amen.***

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**God of our baptism, whose Holy Spirit fires our imagination and fills our lives with purpose, we rejoice to commit ourselves anew with our gifts. May what we share strengthen Your children, inspiring each person to invest fully in the work You set before us. The varieties of gifts You entrust to us can be realized only if they are used. Thank You for granting us this joy. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN No. 423 “Great Is Your Faithfulness”

\*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

\*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

**All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.  
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.  
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.  
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.**

\*THE BENEDICTION

\* THE THREE-FOLD AMEN

*The livestream ends after the Postlude. You're welcome to converse in the Narthex after the Three-fold Amen.  
However, if you choose to stay for the Postlude, please remain silent until the conclusion.*

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE "Fanfare"

Jean Joseph Mouret

References:

Cover Image: Koenig, Peter. Wedding at Cana, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58519> [retrieved January 15, 2025]. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>.

The Call to Worship is from "Book of Worship," by United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership: New York, NY, 1986

The Prayer of Invocation, Call to Confession, Words of Assurance, and Prayer of Dedication are adapted from "Gathered by Love" by Lavon Bayler, The Pilgrim Press: Cleveland, OH, 2001.

The World Peace Prayer is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine nuns.

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**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Dennis Plymette, "In honor of Bonnie's birthday."

Tom Herrold and Family, "In loving memory of Sharon Ann Herrold"