

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

November 2, 2025



GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

,

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

Worship Leadership

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

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: Steven Stough
Greeters: Paula Boyer, Chris Grice, Wendy Hayden
Acolyte: Elsa Riesmeyer
Kids' Place: Becky Thompson, Rachael Hersh, Barbara Wheeler-Bride
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel
Flower Delivery: Jonneke Dundore
Counting Team: David Scott

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

626 Williams Grove Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717)766-7931

saintpaulsucc-mech.org

Office: stpaulstaff@outlook.com

Rev. John: revjohnwd@outlook.com

Rev. Allyssa: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

**ONLINE
GIVING**



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

ALL SAINTS DAY
HOLY COMMUNION

November 2, 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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

THE ORGAN PRELUDE "O Land of Rest"

Roger C. Wilson

CHORAL INTROIT

*THE HYMN No. 381 "Faith of the Martyrs"

ALL SAINTS DAY CANDLE LIGHTING

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Responsive)**

One: We remember the great ancestors of our faith, from Abraham and Sarah to Paul and Priscilla:

All: Ancestors of our faith, we remember you.

One: We remember the prophets and priests, the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:

All: Teachers of our faith, we remember you.

One: We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts, and uncles; those who have gone before us in our lifetime:

All: Family of our faith, we remember you.

One: We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, parents, and friends whose lives ended too soon:

All: Those we hold close in our heart, we remember you.

One: We gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the lives of those who have died from St. Paul's community throughout the years and in particular, those who have died in the past year. We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

(As each name is spoken, a candle will be lit. Family members of the deceased may take their loved one's candle home with them after the Service or during the following week.)

We remember members of St. Paul's throughout our history together, and we remember: Cindy Bensel, Dixie Brown, Bill Cashman, Shirley Grammer, Harriet Grimm, Gene Keith, Dot Miller, Joanne Miller, Sandy Riter-Butz, Ned Rupp, Rhoda Rupp, Donna Sterner and Cathy Thomas and all our loved ones who have passed into new life, but whose names and memories we have not forgotten.

One: Let us pray. We give thanks, O God, for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life. We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ. We know that in our grief and celebration, O God, You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone.

All: Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you. We know you are with us in the spirit of worship, and our daily lives, and you will not be forgotten. In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We often believe we cannot serve God by serving others, due to something about ourselves that we perceive as limiting us. Instead of discerning the gifts we do possess and how to best use them, we often allow our perceived limitations to stop us. Let us join in the time for Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: God forgives us and continues to speak to us, reminding us of our unique gifts and how they are needed.

All: Let us remember our Saints, not because they were perfect people because no one is, but because they used the talents God gave them to the best of their abilities. Amen.

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.

*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 1:10-18

THE PSALM READING

Psalms 32:1-7

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

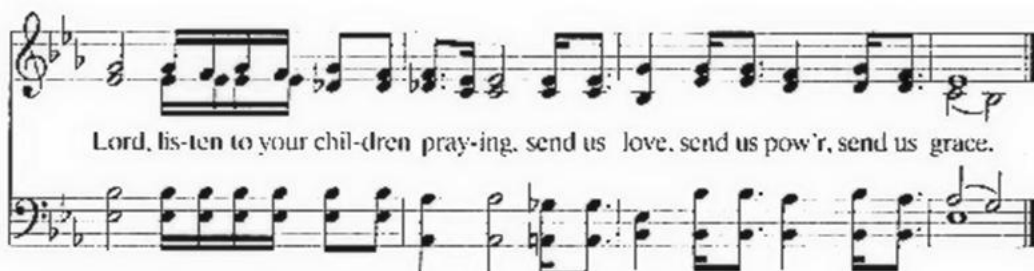
Luke 19:1-10

“Trying to See”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (unison)

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943
Music: Ken Medema, b. 1943
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CHILDREN PRAYING
regular

Please place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate.

*DOXOLOGY

***The saints of light are gathered ‘round,
The great and small, the lost and found;
Saints past and present and to come:
Alive in you, O Holy One!***

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

God of glory, in thanksgiving for Your abundant goodness, we seek to reach out to others as You have reached out to us. We want to treat our siblings as we wish to be treated, with dignity, understanding, and grace. May these offerings prove to be a blessing to those who give and those who receive. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 337 “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

One: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.
One: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

We gather both in person and in Spirit. For those of you present in the Sanctuary, greeters will pass out gluten-free bread, and then red wine and white grape juice. They will bring the trays to you. Please hold the elements until all have been served; we will eat and then drink them together. All are welcome to participate. Thank you.

For those of you joining us via livestream, we hope you have some bread and wine or juice of your choice before you. We trust that God is powerful enough to extend God's Blessing upon these Communion elements, even as we and they are scattered in geographic space.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Holy God, we give You thanks for the miracle and wonder of this meal. We give You thanks for Your coming to us in the person of Jesus, and for Jesus' willingness to offer his whole self for our benefit. We can see how we can best live our lives. We can believe all "deaths," those losses, endings, and struggles in this life, and the ones at the end of our physical lives, are not the final word. We can trust that Your Spirit is within all of us, and always will be. May the gifts of this table always remind us of the gifts You have given us all. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 299 "For All the Saints"

*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 "All People That On Earth Do Dwell"

Robert J. Hughes

References:

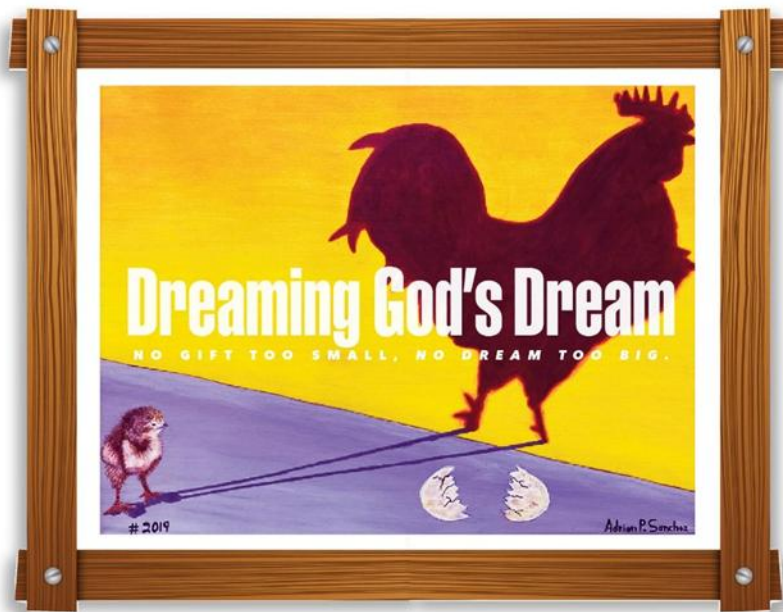
The All-Saints Day Candle Lighting litany is adapted from a worship resource by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-olution.org.

Doxology: text by Rev. Dr. Mary Luti

The Prayer of Dedication is from "Led by Love" by Lavon Bayler, 1996, United Church Press.

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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Why Pledge

WHY DO WE MAKE A COMMITMENT OF SUPPORT TO CHURCH?

- support of people in the congregation. This is the place where we belong.
- Mind: we think about our resources, both our income and our accumulated assets when deciding on what commitment to make in the coming year.
- Soul: we experience the hope that comes from making a commitment to the future. A commitment card symbolizes our confidence in God's future and makes us part of helping that future come about.
- Strength: we do what we can to help support our community.

We ask you to return a commitment card because it connects you to the mission and ministry of our congregation to our neighbors, near and far. Returning your commitment card affirms with all of your being that you are part of our response to God's dream.

We can give to our congregation without turning in a commitment card. So, why write down our intention for the coming year? Of course, telling the church about our intention helps leaders plan. But we ask you to write down your intentions for another reason.

Jesus told us to love God with our heart, mind, soul, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

A commitment card can engage us in all those ways as we express our love of God and neighbor.

- Heart: we feel the love and

CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1667

On average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity.
Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.

