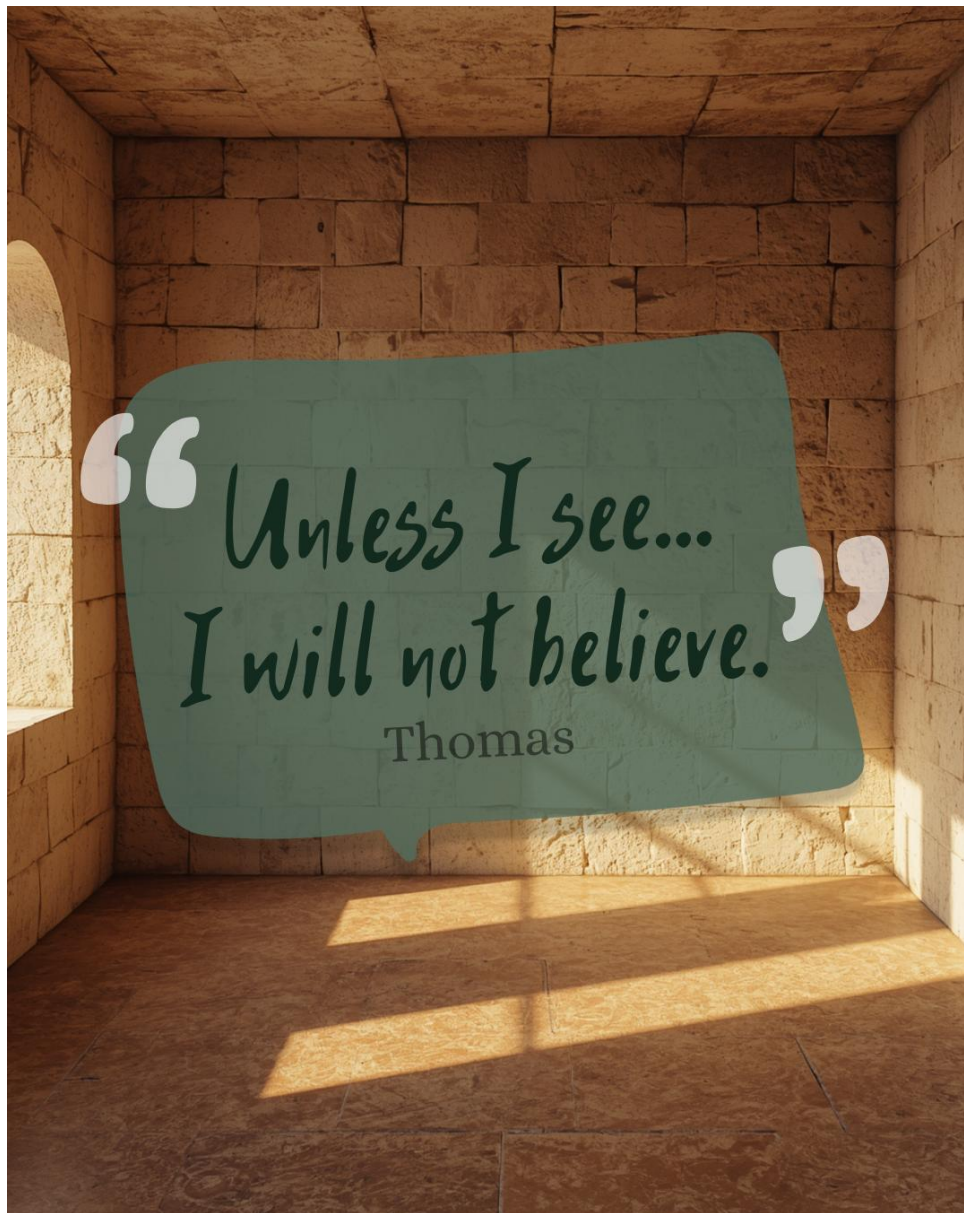


# Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

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

April 12, 2026



**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

The Rev. Allyssa A. 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: Nancy Richey

Greeters: Don Dupes, Crystal Cline

Acolyte:

Kids' Place: Paula Boyer, Shirley Keith Knox

Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel

Flower Delivery: Mary Runkle

Counting Team: Mary Runkle

### **Pastor Emeritus**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

### **Ministers**

The Entire Congregation

### **Youth Worship Leaders**

Alice Anderson

Caroline Anderson

Henry Anderson

Jack Anderson

Josh Benfer

Andrew Clauser

Kate Clauser

Lilly Clauser

Sam Dickensheets

Eli Ginder

Natalia McFarland

Sofia McFarland

Mia Riesmeyer

Eloise Wheeler-Bride

*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.*

**Text "SPUCCGIVE" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.  
or at <https://onrealm.org/saintpaulsuccmech/-/form/give/now>**

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

**626 Williams Grove Road**

**Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

**(717)766-7931**

**[saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://saintpaulsucc-mech.org)**

**Office: [stpaulstaff@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulstaff@outlook.com)**

**Rev. John: [revjohnwd@outlook.com](mailto:revjohnwd@outlook.com)**

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

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN EASTER  
YOUTH SUNDAY

April 12, 2026

*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 VIOLIN PRELUDE

*played by Caroline Anderson*

CHORAL INTROIT

\*THE HYMN No 253 "Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!"<sup>5</sup>

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*A Labyrinth Meditation*

CALL TO CONFESSION

How quickly we forget that we are Easter people, raised up out of the ways of death into the fullness of life. The power of death leaves us shaken and afraid, but God in Christ calls us out of our fear to experience a presence that embraces us with eternal hope. Trusting in God's mercy and grace, let us make our confession in silent prayer.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

**ALL: Alleluia! 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.**

THE CHORISTERS “Love’s Sweet Lesson”

Page and Shafferman

THE EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 16

\*THE HYMN No. 256 “We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE:

John 20:19-31

*Youth Sunday Skit: Thomas’s Encounter with Jesus*

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)

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

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

THE OFFERTORY “El-Shaddai”

Thompson

Youth Choir

\*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)

**Compassionate and faithful God, You meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by Your grace, You call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. Let our giving testify to Your resurrection power, and shape us into a community where wounds are not hidden, but held with love. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN No. 43 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

\*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.*

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

References:

Information about labyrinths shared prior to the Prayer of Invocation is from “Practice Spiritual Disciplines” Leader’s Guide, Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living, Louisville, KY: Growing Faith Resources, Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, 2022.

The Call to Confession is adapted from “Taught by Love” by Lavon Bayler, Cleveland, OH: United Church Press, 1998.

The Words of Assurance are adapted from liturgies written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What is Good.’ Used with permission.

The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from Lisa Hancock, Director of Worship Arts Ministries, Discipleship Ministries Worship Planning, The United Methodist Church.

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**

Jake and Rhonda Jacobsen, “With thanks to God for fifty years of marriage.”

