

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio  
Kathryn Sparks, Liturgical Dance  
Lector: 8:15 Don Coldren  
10:30 Paula Boyer

**Ministry of Music**

Organist: Sarah Myers  
Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

**Ministry of Service**

Head Ushers: Rick Ayers  
Ushers: 8:15 Jim Pirtle and Mike Gray  
10:30 Deborah and Noel Sufrin  
Ron and Susan Gabriel  
Greeters: 8:15 Rhonda and Doug Jacobsen  
10:30 Bonnie and Dennis Plymette  
Acolyte: 8:15 Clayton Pirtle  
10:30 Jeff Dundore  
Children's Sermon: 10:30 Rev. John  
Nursery: The Grice Family  
Flower Delivery: Tom and Cynthia Stone  
Fellowship Time: The Cawley Family

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
626 Williams Grove Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
717/766-7931

Web: [saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://saintpaulsucc-mech.org)  
Office email: [stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net)  
John's email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)

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

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

March 29, 2009

"Create  
in me a  
clean heart,  
O God,  
and put a  
new and right  
spirit  
within me."  
Psalm 51:10

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey You are Welcome Here!

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 29, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Delight in the Lord"

Sewell

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 118

\*THE HYMN NO. 198 "Lift High the Cross"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Life-giving God, be with us as we contemplate what it means to die and rise again. Help us to trust You, so we might believe that new life is possible, not only at the end of our physical lives but right here and now. Guide us through what we need to die to, so we might rise and live as You created us to be. Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

The idea of resurrection is appealing especially when it is compared to the finality of death. We long for, hope for the resurrection to new life that comes when our bodies stop functioning. However, we have a much harder time dying to, stopping, giving up on those things in life which make our lives "living deaths." We balk at dying to what hurts us, drags us down, entombs us because the mystery of new life is too scary, and we do not trust that God will see us through to those new places. Let us join in the unison Prayer of Confession.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of Your Name. Amen.**

THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive)

Minister: God receives our apologies and repentance, and has assured us that our sins are forgiven.

**All: Let us receive and pursue the new lives, which Jesus showed were possible for all of us. Amen.**

**ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION PEANUT BUTTER EGG SALE!** A sign-up sheet to order and to help with the Egg making is posted on the Bulletin Board. Eggs are a \$ 1.00 each or 13 for \$ 12.00. The Eggs will be ready for pick-up Palm Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds go to Making Strides against Breast Cancer. Any questions, please call Brenda Kern at 796-0939. **Today is the last Sunday to place your order for Peanut Butter Eggs.**

**WORK DAY AT ST. PAUL'S** – We are planning a work day on **Saturday, April 4 starting at 8:30 am.** On this day, we will clean up all of the branches that have come down during the winter and any other general cleanup. If you can help, please call Don Coldren at 697-1927.

**PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE IS BLESSED** to be having a visit from the **CHURCH LEADERSHIP OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN THE RHINELAND** over Palm Sunday Weekend. You are invited to share in this important event by attending a banquet at First Reformed United Church of Christ in Lancaster on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. For additional information, please see poster on bulletin board in the common area. The last day to call in your reservation is **March 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2009 ALTAR FLOWERS** is on the bulletin board in the Common. Please neatly fill in the information as you want it in the Worship Bulletin. The price for the altar flowers is \$32.00.

**THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2009 CHILD SPONSORSHIPS** is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office door. The cost for a child is \$29.00. There are still spots open so please fill them in so each child is sponsored for the entire year.

**EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST – EVERYONE IS INVITED.** No time for breakfast before or after sunrise services or early church? Did the Easter rabbit get you off schedule? Then join us at 9:15 in Fellowship Hall for our annual Easter Morning Breakfast. You are asked to sign-up on the bulletin board outside the office and bring a delectable offering to share. We are looking for **Hot stuff** (casseroles, breakfast meats) or **Fruits/Pastries.** Drinks and place settings will be provided. Ovens will be available to cook or warm hot items during early church. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Scott at 737-3139.

**ATTENTION SUMMER CAMPERS!!** Registration forms and brochures for Hartman Center summer church camp are available in the commons area. St. Paul's will pay 25% of the registration fee on a first come first served basis. Just send in your money to Hartman Center and let the church office know how much you paid. If the funds are still available, you will be reimbursed for 25 % of the total cost. In these troubled economic times, church camp is quite a bargain, especially at a 25% discount! See Jonneke Dundore if you have any questions.

**PALM CROSS WORKSHOP** will be held on **Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 PM** in the Youth Rm. We will be making the Palms that will be handed out to everyone on Palm Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or will be able to help, please contact Gail Parthree at 432-3370 or call the church office at 766-7931.

**PRAYER SHAWLS** – If you are in need of a prayer shawl, please see Reverend John, Terry in the Church Office, Martha Keith or another member of the Prayer Shawl group.

**THE ADULT II SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** has decided to spearhead a number of projects around the region. One way we want to show support for the stranger in our midst is by putting together **Welcome Kits for the Refugee Resettlement Program at Church World Services in Lancaster**. You may have already seen tags in the Commons, which designate items to be packed into the Welcome Kits for refugees who are resettling to Central Pennsylvania. These kits contain items like soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, band-aids and more. The class is planning to package 50 Welcome Toiletry Kits this spring. Please consider helping us by taking the picture of one (1) item, two (2) items or more from the display and bringing it to the church by **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. The items will then be packaged (wrapped in a towel), and delivered to Church World Services in Lancaster later in April. Sunday School classes or families may decide to take an entire kit and divide it up among the members or may decide to take all of one item. Let us know if you know where to get certain items at a bulk discount. Be creative in your spirit of donation! Thank you for your help with this project. Questions on the project can be addressed to Kathy Aumiller at 580-6292.

**HARTMAN CENTER CABIN CLEAN-UP IN MAY** – please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area.

**PRIDE BREAKFAST RETURNS** - Join Pride Festival of Central PA for the return of the annual Pride Breakfast. This year's breakfast will be Saturday April 18, 2009 from 9 AM to 11 AM at MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St. Harrisburg. Board and committee members will be at the breakfast to provide information and answer questions about the 2009 Pride Festival which will be held July 24-26. Applications for both vendor/exhibitor booths at the festival and parade participation will be available at the breakfast. These applications may also be found online at [www.harrisburgpride.org](http://www.harrisburgpride.org). In addition to obtaining applications, people can also stock up on Pride items such as rainbow flags, magnets, key chains, and t-shirts. A free will donation will be taken to cover the cost of the breakfast and help to raise funds for this year's pride festival.

**PACK 190 BOY SCOUT EVENT AT ST. PAUL'S** – The Spring 2009 Recruitment and bring a Friend to Scouting Night will be held in Fellowship Hall on Friday April 17 starting at 6:30 pm. Please see the posters on the bulletin board in the common area for more details on this event.

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI

10:30 SERVICE

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world  
Red and yellow, black and white  
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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 51:1-12

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

First Service

“Dying Into New Life”

John 12:20-33

Second Service

Liturgical Dance

“Prayer”

John 12:20-33

Psalms 51(page 520)

\*THE HYMN NO. 191 “Before Your Cross, O Jesus”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (Unison)

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

THE OFFERTORY

8:15 Chancel Choir

10:30 Youth Choir

“Jesu, Gentle Savior”

“O Lord, I Pray to Thee”

Farrar

Liebergen

\*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We dedicate these offerings to the proclamation of Your Word, the teaching of Your ways, and the living of Your will for all humankind, Gracious God. We reach out with joy and gladness to offer Your love to the world. May these gifts enable the sharing of Your presence with many who have not experienced a sense of their own value as Your children. As we keep covenant with You, we would also share its joys and obligations with our neighbors. Amen.

\*THE HYMN NO. 493 “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

\*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 POSTLUDE

“Praise Ye the Lord!”

Moorpark

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

We welcome warmly all who are visiting with us. Please register your attendance on the Friendship Form so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

The Prayer of Confession is from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, 1997, Harper, San Francisco.

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, and is also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine Sisters.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Richard and Gloria Hoffman in Honor of their Children’s Birthdays; by Mary Runkle in Honor of Lyne Leeder’s 28<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Kevin Allison pinched nerve in lower back; Maime Alfono (Paula Boyer’s mother) recovering from surgery and Dory Milletics who fell last week and broke bones in her hand.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of March 29-April 4, 2009

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services/10:30-Liturgical Dance
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	3:00 pm	Voice Recital-Tara Savarino (Sanctuary)
	6:00 pm	Youth Fellowship (FH & Rm 7/8)-Easter Sunrise Rehearsal
MON	6:30 pm	Color Guard (FH)
TUES	5:30 pm	TOPS
WED	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (S)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (S)
THU	5:30 pm	St. Paul’s on a Mission Easter Eggs (Kitchen)
	6:30 pm	Palm Cross Workshop (Youth Room)
	7:00 pm	Pack Committee Mtg (Rm 7/8)
FRI	5:30 pm	St. Paul’s on a Mission Easter Eggs (Kitchen)
	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts (FH)
SAT	8:30 am	St. Paul’s on a Mission Easter Eggs (Kitchen)
SUN Apr 5	8:15/10:30 am	Palm Sunday Worship Services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LITURGICAL DANCE** – Kathryn Sparks, **seminar leader**, is adjunct professor of dance at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, where she teaches seminarians tools for incorporating movement and dance into worship. She is passionate about worship and the ways we can use our whole body to praise God. Kathryn has degrees in dance and theological studies and has danced with people of all ages and abilities in churches and conference centers throughout the country. She is gifted at making creative use of a variety of skills for beautiful expressions of the Word.

**ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT** will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. All children 12 and under are invited to attend. It will be held rain or shine. Bring a friend! If you have any questions, please call Joan Moyer at 766-3325 or email at [joanmoyer@msn.com](mailto:joanmoyer@msn.com).