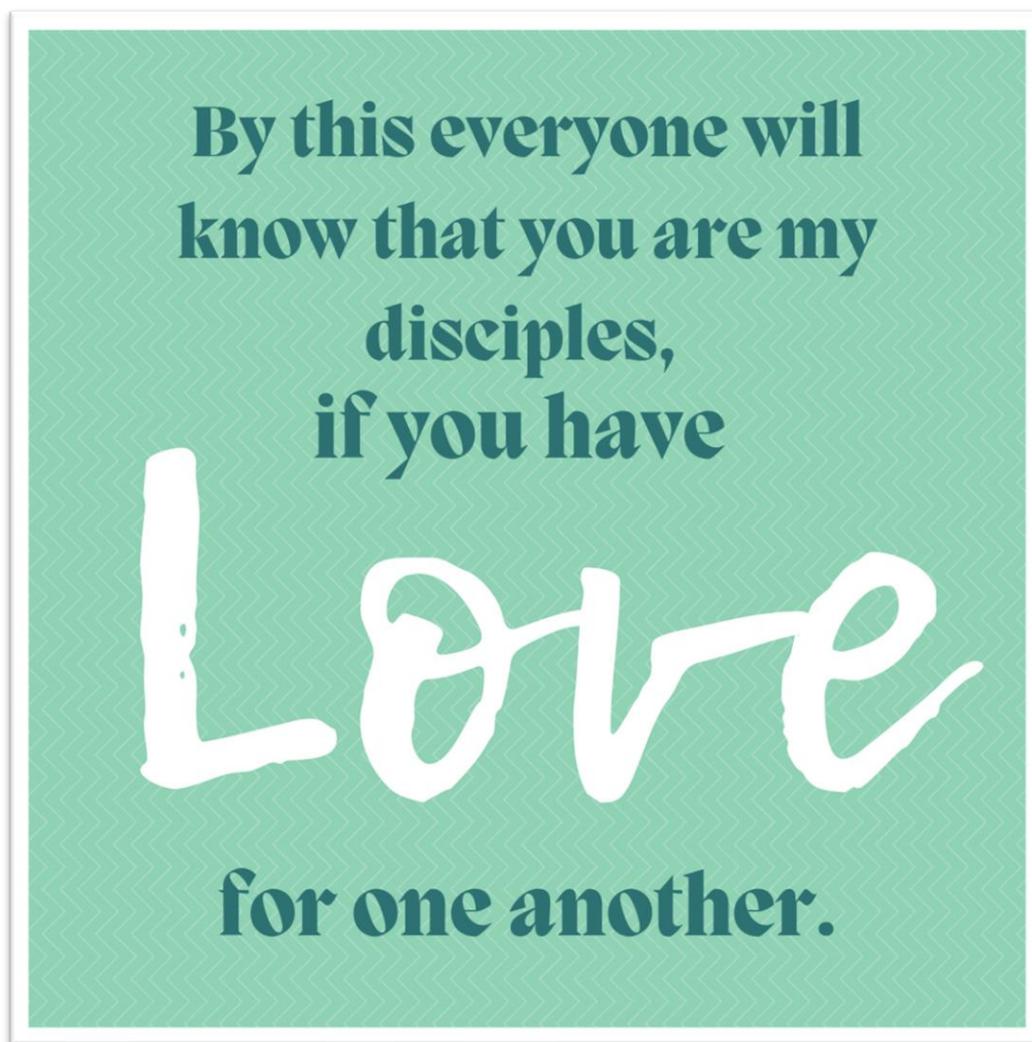


Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 15th. 2022



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

Pastor Allyssa A. Boyer

Lector: Rev. Karin Stork-Whitson

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore

Choristers' Director: Jonneke A. 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

Head Usher: Jim Pirtle

Ushers: Rebecca Drazba, Mary Runkle

Nursery: Jonneke Dundore, Art Williams

Flower Delivery: Patrice Miller

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Please visit the church website at <http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org/> to sign up for Acolyte, Usher, Lector, Volunteer in the Nursery, Deliver the Altar Flowers, and/or Sponsor the Altar Flowers. You will find the individual signup sheets under the "Sign Up" menu heading. Thank you.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

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Office email: stpaulstaff@outlook.com

John's email: revjohnwd@outlook.com

Allyssa's email: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

St. Paul's Online Giving

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 15th, 2022

Please note: the livestream broadcast begins with the Announcements.

If you do not wish to appear in the livestream, it is best to sit in one of the back three pews of the Sanctuary.

Please write up any Prayer Requests ahead of time, leave them in the Red Bowl or give them to the Head Usher. They will bring them forward.

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

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PIANO PRELUDE "Prelude #1 from Welltempered Clavicord"

J. S. Bach

CHORAL INTROIT

Please note: we will be singing with our masks in place.

*THE HYMN No. 17 "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing" (Vs. 1-4)

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Loving God, stir us so we might continue to strive to love others like Jesus loves us. Such unconditional love as Jesus' is hard to offer. Guide us in continuing to try. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We tend to put limits on how Jesus loved others. That way when we limit our love for others, we can still claim we are following Jesus' commandment. Yet Scripture is filled with how Jesus pushed the limits of who is welcomed, who is accepted by God, by loving them. We fall short in doing so. Let us join in the time of Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

Minister: God forgives us and continues to love us unconditionally, as God had Jesus show us how that is done.

ALL: Let our love be so deep and noticeable, that others will make the connection that we are seeking to love as Jesus loves. Amen.

*Please note: we will not be shaking hands or hugging.
If you are able, please rise and greet one another with other 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 will be singing for the Children's Sermon. Only members of the Choristers should come to the front today for this time.

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 CHORISTERS

"Love's Sweet Lesson"

Page

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*

PRAYER OF BLESSING (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!

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 11:1-18

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 148:1-6

*THE HYMN No. 52 “There Is a Name I Love to Hear”

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

John 13:31-35

“How Do We Love Like 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)

Joyful Eastertide

O Je - sus, Sa - vior, Gen - tle One, come take our hearts to be your own. And
 now, O Christ, with us a - bide in this, our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide!

Please note: you can leave your offerings in the plate in the Narthex on your way in or on your way out after Service. You may also place your pew pad sheets in that Offering Plate. Thank you.

THE ANTHEM “God Will Make a Way”

Moen

Youth Choir

*DOXOLOGY

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Thank you, gracious God, for making Your home with us and claiming us as Your own people. We dedicate ourselves and our gifts toward the new world You are creating among us—a world where peace emerges from mutual respect and honest encounters. May Your love be reflected in our attitudes and actions when we are together and when we are scattered. 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

Please note: the livestream continues until the end of the Postlude.

*Please know you are free to leave following the Three-fold Amen,
and exit to the Narthex to speak with one another.*

Do remember you may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early.

If you choose to remain, please be seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.

THE PIANO POSTLUDE “Christ Is the Way, the Truth, the Life”

Todd Kendall

References:

The Prayer of Dedication is from “Gathered by Love” by Lavon Bayler, 1994, 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Mike and Kathy Aumiller, “In honor of Aurora Chandler’s second birthday.”

#17 - To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

To you, O God, all creatures sing, And all creation,
everything
Sings your praises, Alleluia!
Your burning sun with golden beam, your silver moon
with softer gleam
Sing your praises, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your wind that blows the tempest by, your clouds that
sail across the sky
Sing your praises, Alleluia!
Your morning rises with a song, and lights of evening
sing along,
Sing your praises, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your flowing waters, crystal clear, make melodies for
you to hear,
Sing your praises, Alleluia!
O fire so bountiful and bright, remembering your
warmth and light,
Sing your praises, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every
way,
Sings your praises, Alleluia!
As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your
glory and your power,
Singing praises, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

#52 – There Is a Name I Love to Hear

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
It sounds like music in my ear, The sweetest name on
earth.

Refrain:

Oh, how I love Jesus, Oh, how I love Jesus,
Oh, how I love Jesus, whose love has first found me!

It tells my Savior's love for all, Christ died to set us free;
Whatever problems may befall, we'll live in
dignity. *Refrain*

It bids me serve amid the wrath God's people face each
day,

And sheds along life's troubled path bright sunshine on
my way. *Refrain*

#43 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, on
earth be found,
Fix in us a humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies
crown.

Jesus, you are all compassion, pure, unbounded
love impart.

Visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling
heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into every
troubled breast.

Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised
rest.

Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega
be.

End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at
liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all your life
receive.

Suddenly return, and never, nevermore your
temples leave.

You we would be always blessing, love you as your
angels love,

Pray and praise for your unfailing, wounded arms
outstretched above.

Finish, then, your new creation; pure and spotless
may we prove;

Let us see your great salvation perfectly restored in
you;

Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take
our place,

Crowned with saints we ever shall be lost in
wonder, love and praise.