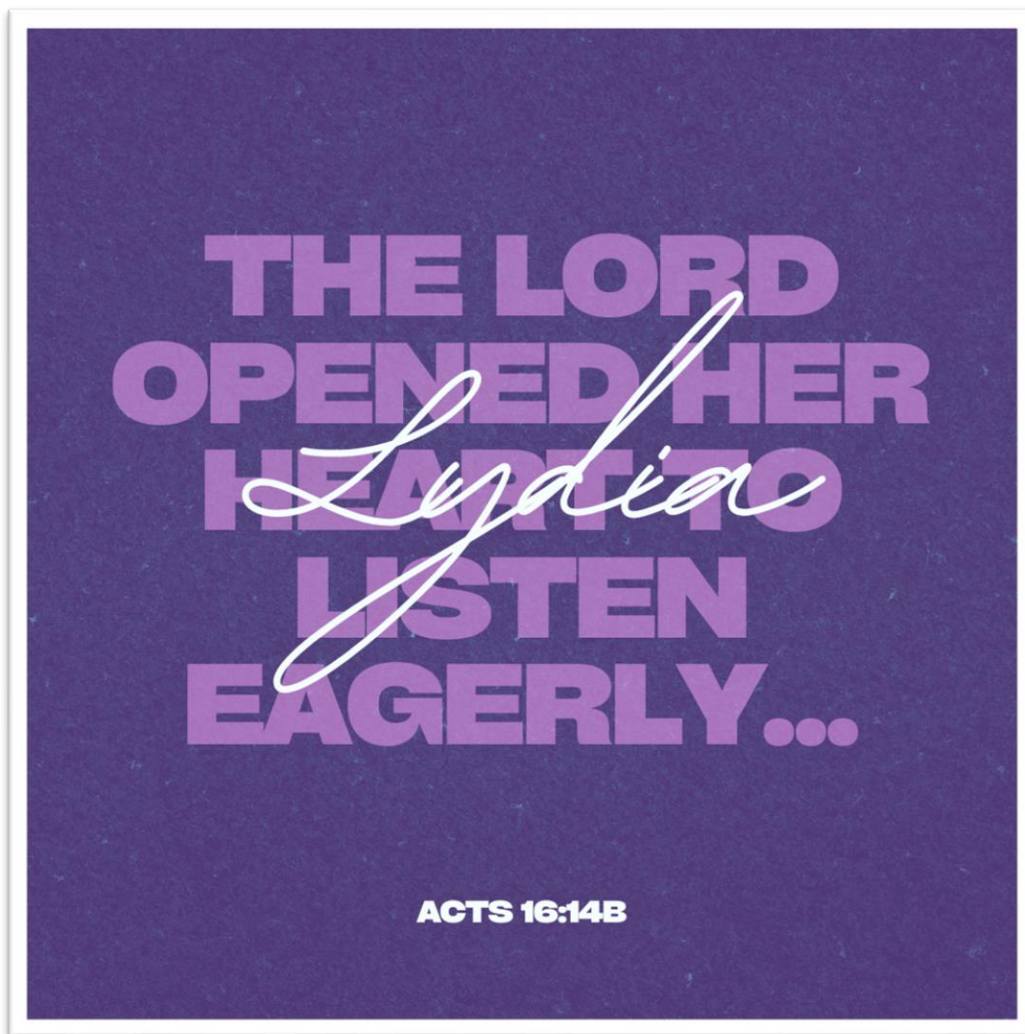


**Welcome to**  
**St. Paul's United Church of Christ**

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

May 22<sup>nd</sup>. 2022



**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: Pastor Allyssa A. Boyer  
Lector: Eric Dundore

### **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: Mary Runkle  
Nursery:  
Flower Delivery: Carol Sizemore

### **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**  
**626 Williams Grove Road**  
**Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**  
**717/766-7931**

**Website:** [www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org)  
**Office email:** [stpaulstaff@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulstaff@outlook.com)  
**John's email:** [revjohnwd@outlook.com](mailto:revjohnwd@outlook.com)  
**Allyssa's email:** [allyssaboyer@outlook.com](mailto:allyssaboyer@outlook.com)

St. Paul's Online Giving

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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 ORGAN PRELUDE "Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word"

Roger C. Wilson

CHORAL INTROIT

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

\*THE HYMN No.1 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**Gracious God, through a vision You sent forth Paul to preach the gospel, and called the women to the place of prayer outside the gate. Grant that we may be like Paul and like Lydia; our hearts responsive to Your word, and open to go where You lead us. May our witness be as bold as theirs, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

All who keep God's Word know God's love and live by it. But discipleship is not easy amid all the world's distractions, and the gift of love is not incorporated into our lives without effort. There is a gap between intention and reality, a chasm we create between ourselves and God. That is why we observe a time of confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Jesus invites us to feel our own strength, to understand our own power, to sense the changes that love is accomplishing within us and among us. The Holy Spirit has come to teach us all that

we need in order to be faithful. We are loving servants of God, who claims us and sends us on a journey of peace. Praise God, who has blessed and forgiven us.

*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.**

*Children are invited to the front at this time. They may sit on the chancel steps, they may sit in the front pews, or they may remain seated with their families. Remember, 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 GOSPEL READING

John 14:23-29

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 67

\*THE HYMN "If We Just Talk"

(to the tune of No. 208, "God So Loved the World")

*If we just talk of thoughts and prayers And don't live out a faith that dares,  
And don't take on the ways of death, Our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.*

*If we just dream of what could be And do not build community,  
And do not seek to change our ways, Our dreams of change are false displays.*

*(Cont. on next page)*

*If we just sing of doing good And don't walk through our neighborhood  
To learn its hope, to ease its pain, Our talk of good is simply vain.*

*God, may our prayers and dreams and songs Lead to a faith that takes on wrongs —  
That works for peace and justice, too. Then will our prayers bring joy to you.*

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THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING & MESSAGE:

Acts 16:9-15

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!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*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

“Let Your Faith Be Stronger than Your Fear”

words and music by Tom Trenney

Chancel Choir and soloist, Gordon Kaslusky

In the deserts of your life, I'll not desert you. I will make a way beside a flowing stream.  
Through the valley, do not fear for I am with you; My rod and staff to comfort and redeem.

In the darkness of your life, I will not leave you, In the shadow, I'm your light, your lamp, your sun.  
I will be the star that shines above to guide you, A light unto your path to lead you on.

Refrain:

Do not be afraid, I go before you. Do not be afraid, I am by your side.  
Be still and know that I am with you. Let your faith be stronger than your fear.

When you're weary, when you're faint, I will be with you. I will raise you up to soar on eagle's wings.  
I will be the joy that seeks you through your sorrow. Unending hope my resurrection brings.

When the storms of life assail, I will uphold you. I will strengthen you; I'll be the help you need.  
Though the waters rage and foam, fear not, I'm with you. I am the way, the truth, the life, indeed!  
Refrain (2x)

## \*DOXOLOGY

### \*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**For the hospitality of Your good earth, for the people You have given us to love, for the tasks You have called us to do, we give thanks, gracious God. Our offerings are a measure of our faith, and evidence of our gratitude. We dedicate ourselves with our gifts, that Your reign of peace may be realized in the places where we live, and work, and far beyond our personal reach. Amen.**

### \*THE HYMN “God, In Our Church’s Teaching”

(to the tune of No. 386, “The Church’s One Foundation”)

*God, in our church's teaching, may we be bold and clear;  
may it become our practice to counter hate and fear.  
We've said that Jesus' message is one that's filled with love,  
and yet our sweeping statements are clearly not enough.*

*Isaiah boldly told us you hate our worship ways  
when we ignore injustice and simply offer praise.  
And Jesus gave a warning: When we — in sin and pride —  
refuse to welcome others, we turn our Lord aside.*

(Cont. on next page)

*May these be crucial lessons we teach the old and young:  
that racist ways are evil, that sexist ways are wrong.  
In Sunday schools and pulpits, may this be what we speak:  
God made each person precious, beloved and unique.*

*O God, we grieve the violence, the shootings, and the hate;  
we grieve our own indifference — our speaking out too late.  
God, in our church's witness, may we say loud and clear:  
We welcome every neighbor. We work for justice here.*

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\*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 ORGAN POSTLUDE “Carry His Love With You”

Adam Mason

References:

The Prayer of Invocation is adapted from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers copyright © 2002, Consultation on Common Texts, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

The Call to Confession, Words of Assurance, and Prayer of Dedication are adapted 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  
Sara Weiser, “In Memory of Ann Palazzo.” &  
Tom & Tillie’s Children, “In Memory & Celebration of the Lives of Tom and Tillie Valenteen  
on their Wedding Anniversary.”

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**New Member and New Graduate Celebration following worship today!**

### **Summer Worship Schedule**

Beginning on Sunday, June 5, we will hold one worship service starting at 9:15 AM each Sunday morning. There will be no Sunday school; enjoy your summer break! Sunday school will resume on Rally Day, September 11, 2022.

### **Special Worship Services**

Our congregation will praise God and proclaim the Gospel through the observance of several special worship services this June:

- June 5: Pentecost Sunday (don’t forget to wear “flame-colored” clothes)
- June 12: Trinity Sunday
- June 19: Commemoration of Juneteenth
- June 26: Open and Affirming Sunday

We hope you will join us!

**Pollyannas will be meeting 11:30 am, Tuesday, May 24th at PERKINS instead of Brothers.**

### **Urgent Need**

The Ecumenical Food Pantry is in dire need of toiletries, especially shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Please remember them in your benevolent giving.

### **Yard Sale**

Thank you to everyone who showered St. Paul’s with treasures, drinks, food, and delicious baked goods to sell! The Spring Yard Sale brought in \$1785.39! The weather didn’t dampen the mood in the kitchen which sold the best egg sandwiches and hot dogs with sauerkraut for breakfast. The Yard Sale committee greatly appreciates everyone who weathered the storm and came out to help in any way.



## **#1 - Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, your great name we  
praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Your justice like mountains high soaring above your clouds, which are fountains of goodness  
and love.

Your life is life-giving, to both great and small; in all life you're living, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers, then wither and perish, but naught dims  
your powers.

So perfect your glory, so perfect your light of light, your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we now render, as your angels do; in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.