

Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

May 8th, 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: John Layne

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: Sherry Spencer, Bonnie and Dennis Plymette
Nursery: Kim Pirtle, Joan Moyer
Flower Delivery: Jonneke Dundore

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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St. Paul's Online Giving

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8th 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 “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Edward Broughton

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

*THE HYMN No. 305 “You Servants of God”

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**God, our shepherd—restorer of our souls—the One who calls us to nap in green pastures;
we enter this moment of worship, trusting that You will guide us along the paths of
righteousness. Wherever we may be in this world, let us feel Your comforting presence.
We are expectant, O God, that our fears will fade, that our cups will overflow, and that
Your goodness and mercy will accompany us in this hour and beyond. Now, let us worship
You in spirit and in truth. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

As God calls us into the fullness of life that abounds in God’s presence, let us acknowledge the
ways our unbelief has separated us from God’s vision for our lives and all creation. Let us join
in silent prayers of confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Siblings, sisters, brothers in Christ, hear the Good News: God believes in us even when our belief in God is challenged. God's grace and mercy abounds, and in God and Christ, we are forgiven. 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.**

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 NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 9:36-43

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 23

*THE HYMN “Good Shepherd, We Are Not Alone”
(to the tune of No. 361, “Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here”)

*Good Shepherd, we are not alone, for you protect and love your own.
And we, responding, know your voice; we hear you calling and rejoice.*

*Another shepherd might turn back and flee at danger's first attack;
But you laid down your very life — a loving shepherd's sacrifice.*

*A thief may well destroy and steal, but you, Good Shepherd, save and heal.
You lead your sheep to pasture land, to life abundant, by your hand.*

*You gather sheep from far and wide — from folds we know and from outside.
One flock, one Shepherd, there will be — a loving, blest community.*

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THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

John 10:22-30

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 musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), and 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

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 “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Larson

Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

In the confidence that You will multiply our best efforts, we bring our offerings for the work of Your church in the world. Holy God, it is a joy to present our offerings, for we are as blessed in our giving as we have been in receiving abundant goodness from Your hand. Amen.

*THE HYMN “God of the Women”

(to the tune of No. 451, “Be Thou My Vision”)

*God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.*

*God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.*

*God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.*

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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 “Sing To The Lord A New And Glorious Song” Lani Smith

References:

The Prayer of Invocation, Call to Confession, and Words of Assurance are adapted from Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Easter by Rev. Mia M. McClain, 2022, “Worship Ways: Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ.”

The Prayer of Dedication is 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

Anna Thompson “In honor of Olivia’s first communion, Logan’s confirmation and Sonya and Lance’s anniversary, and all those who have mothered us.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Graduate Recognition

St. Paul’s UCC treasures the opportunity to recognize all the hard work of our new graduates and commend them for their accomplishments. This year we will create a digital photo collage of our new graduates, which we will share on social media, as well as a collage on poster board that we will display at the church building. If you or your loved one is graduating from high school, college, trade school, or graduate school (or graduated over the past year) and would like to be included in our celebration, please provide us with:

- A photo of the new graduate
- Information about their diploma/degree
- Information about their future plans

Indicate whether you would like your photo, name, and/or information published on our digital collage online, or only on the poster board collage that will be displayed in our church building. Please email the info and photo to Pastor Allyssa (allyssaboyer@outlook.com) or drop

these items off at the church office by May 15th. Congratulations, class of 2022! We are so proud of you!

New Graduate Celebration

St. Paul's UCC is excited to celebrate our new graduates! On Sunday, May 22, we will hold a reception following worship in their honor. It is a joy to celebrate our new graduates' accomplishments. Please plan to join us. Hats off to the class of 2022!

Simply Sondheim

On Sunday, May 15 at 3:00 pm, the Central PA Womyn's Chorus presents its spring concert, *Simply Sondheim* at St. Paul's. The concert celebrates the work of the great American Broadway musical writer and composer, Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021). A beautiful arrangement of his most well-known song, *Send In the Clowns*, is included.

#305 - You Servants of God

You servants of God, your Sovereign proclaim,
And publish abroad that wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
Who, Sovereign and glorious, now rules over all.

God rules from on high, almighty to save;
And still God is nigh, whose presence we have;
The great congregation God's triumph shall praise,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus always.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud for what God has done.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Still veiling their faces, they worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and render God's right,
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing with angels above
And thanks never ceasing and infinite love.