

Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
June 19th, 2022

He has sent me to proclaim

**FREEDOM
FOR THE
PRISONERS**

...to set the oppressed free.

**COMMEMORATION OF
JUNETEENTH**

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: Kelly Chripczuk

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

Worship Welcome Team Leader: Wendy Hayden
Worship Welcome Team: Betty and Thomas Olsen, Jody Biss
Nursery:
Flower Delivery: Betty Olsen

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, Welcome Team, 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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST;
A SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION OF JUNETEENTH

June 19th, 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 Welcome Team Leader. 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 "Fatherhood"

Peter Burkhardt

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: God of deliverance, we recognize that emancipation wasn't a gift bestowed on enslaved people. Powered by your spirit, it was something they took for themselves, the culmination of a long struggle for freedom, fueled by revolutionary resistance to slavery.

All: O Lord, in fighting that struggle, Black Americans created new visions of democratic possibility for our country and the world.

One: The Emancipation Proclamation freed Black slaves in the United States on New Year's Day in 1863. But freedom for the last enslaved people did not come until a June day two and a half years later. This Juneteenth milestone reminds us of the triumph of the human spirit.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Harriet Tubman.

One: The Constitution once defined African Americans as three-fifths human. But Black people have labored and died as whole men and women, made in the image of God.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Frederick Douglass.

One: The Thirteenth Amendment abolished the heinous institution of slavery, but People of Color still struggle against the chains of racial discrimination.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Ida B. Wells.

One: The Fourteenth Amendment made Black Americans citizens by legislation. Their blood, sweat, and tears helped to build this nation.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Thurgood Marshall.

One: The Fifteenth Amendment said Black people could not be denied the right to vote because of the color of their skin, yet they have faced systemic exclusion from the political process, and they continue to struggle for full inclusion.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Ella Baker.

One: The Twenty-fourth Amendment abolished poll taxes, voting tests, and other restrictions upon Black Americans' right to vote. But these were soon replaced by gerrymandering, prohibitive voter ID laws, restrictions on Sunday voting, longer wait times than at polling places with more white voters, and voter purges.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Bayard Rustin.

One: The Civil Rights Act of 1964 translated into law some of the goals of the Civil Rights Movement. Still, racism is insidious, and discrimination persists. Let us remain ever diligent in our commitment to building the Beloved Community.

All: O Lord, be with us always, as you were with Pauli Murray.

One: The Divine will was made known in Eden and in Egypt; in Galveston and in Cape Town.

All: O Lord, let us pay tribute to all those born in freedom but cruelly chained; to all those redeemed from slavery but whose descendants still struggle against racism. May our hearts, voices, and actions proclaim that our destiny in Christ is liberty. Amen.

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

*THE HYMN No. 310 "It's the Old Ship of Zion"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

We are thankful for all the blessings of this life, O Lord; love, freedom, and hope. Today, we lament the terrors of slavery, and we confess our roles in continuing to benefit from systems of oppression. Although we cannot change the past, we can make a new commitment to building a world that recognizes all people as fully equal and free. May we, through your love, walk in Christ's Way, the way that brings repentance and freedom and healing. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION (Responsive)

One: Holy God, we confess that we have ignored the cries of others for justice. And we have become defensive when those who are suffering cry out in pain. We have not fed the hungry, helped the afflicted, or sheltered the stranger because of how they look, or the inconvenience of their need, or our fear that there will not be enough, that life is a zero-sum game.

(Continued on the next page.)

All: But today is a new day, full of opportunities to try again. What was left undone yesterday can be done today. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God who brought the Israelites out of Egypt is the power that frees us from our sin. Live in the grace of God's love as you walk in the way of Jesus, and surely you shall find mercy at the end of that road. 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 NEGRO SPIRITUAL ROYALTIES INITIATIVE

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 6:1-13

THE PSALM READING

Psalm 78:1-11

*THE HYMN No. 553 “There Is a Balm in Gilead”

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**


THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

Luke 4:14-21

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)



O Christ, by whom we come to God, the Life, the Truth, the Way, The



path of prayer you too have trod: Christ teach us how to pray.

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Walk Through the Valley”

Spiritual, arr. Thygerson

Kathy and Art Williams, and Jonne and Eric Dundore

*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!

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Holy God, you have given each of us gifts to use as members of the Body of Christ. Here are our gifts—the work of our hands, our hearts, and our lives, returned to you. May these gifts carry the promise of freedom, and justice, and kinship for all your children. Bless those who receive these gifts, just as we are blessed in the act of sharing them. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 593 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

*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. You may be visible and audible on the livestream as you exit early. If you choose to remain, please stay seated and listen quietly to the Postlude.

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

Robert T. Hughes

References:

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation are adapted from:

- Jamelle Bouie, “Why Juneteenth Matters,” The New York Times, June 18, 2020;
- “African American Heritage Hymnal,” Chicago: GIA Publications, 2001;
- Madison Shockley, “Service Prayers for the Third Sunday in Lent” in “Worship Ways,” Copyright 2021 Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ.

The Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance are adapted from:

- Trayce Potter, “I Still Have a Dream: Service Prayers for Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend 2020” in “Worship Ways,” Copyright 2021 Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ;
- “Book of Worship,” United Church of Christ, New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership, 1986.

The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from two prayers by Thom Shuman and Daniel Hayward, respectively, Pilgrim Uniting Church in Australia.

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
Jonneke Dundore, “In honor of Eric’s birthday.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vacation Bible School

You’re invited to our 2022 Vacation Bible School, “All God’s Children!” In this VBS, kids will learn about how we are all God’s children no matter who we are, where we come from, or what we believe. Students will have the opportunity to hear Bible stories about people who are different from one another, but are still able to learn from one another, help one another, or find beauty in their diversity. Kids will also have the chance to learn about different places, cultures, and faith traditions in Southern Asia.

VBS is Tuesday, July 5 – Friday, July 8; 6:00-8:15 PM. Open to all children age four through rising 5th graders. Registration forms can be found on the table in the Commons. Don’t forget to sign the medical and photo release sections. Please return your completed form to St. Paul’s UCC by June 30. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Allyssa at allyssaboyer@outlook.com.

Church World Service Orientation Meeting

Monday, June 27th, 2022, at 6:00 PM

A group from St. Paul's is serving on the Welcome Team for a family of 7 from Guatemala with Church World Service. On Monday, June 27th, folks from St. Paul's are meeting in person and via ZOOM for an orientation by staff at Church World Service. If you are already serving on the Welcome Team, interested in learning more, or interested in joining the team, please attend the meeting to learn ways that help is needed.

Questions: Please contact Shirley Keith Knox at skeithknox@comcast.net.

Open and Affirming Sunday

Next week join us for Open and Affirming Sunday, June 26th. St. Paul’s Open and Affirming Covenant has now been in effect since 2003, with the covenant being reaffirmed in 2018 on the 15th anniversary. We hope you join us.

Church Directory Updates

We are beginning to work on an updated church directory. If your mailing address, phone number, or email address has changed since the previous directory, please email the change to Renee, the Administrative Assistant: stpaulstaff@outlook.com If you're a new regular attender who would like to be included in the directory, you can also contact the church office.

#310 - It's the Old Ship of Zion

Refrain:

It's the old ship of Zion, it's the old ship of Zion,
It's the old ship of Zion, get on board, get on
board.

It has landed many a thousand, it has landed
many a thousand,
It has landed many a thousand, get on board, get
on board. [Refrain]

There's no danger in the water, there's no danger
in the water,
There's no danger in the water, get on board, get
on board. [Refrain]

It was good for my dear father, it was good for
my dear father,
It was good for my dear father, get on board, get
on board. [Refrain]

It will take us home to Glory, it will take us
home to Glory,
It will take us home to Glory, get on board, get
on board. [Refrain]

#553 - There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded
whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick
soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my
work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
[Refrain]

Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your
friend,

who, if you lack for knowledge, will never fail
to lend. [Refrain]

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot
pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, who died to save
us all. [Refrain]

#593 – Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven
ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening
skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past
has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let
us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening
rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has
been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the
blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at
last where the white gleam of our bright star is
cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way;
God, who by your might, led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met you,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the
world, forget you;
Shadowed beneath your hand, may we forever
stand, true to our God, true to our native land.