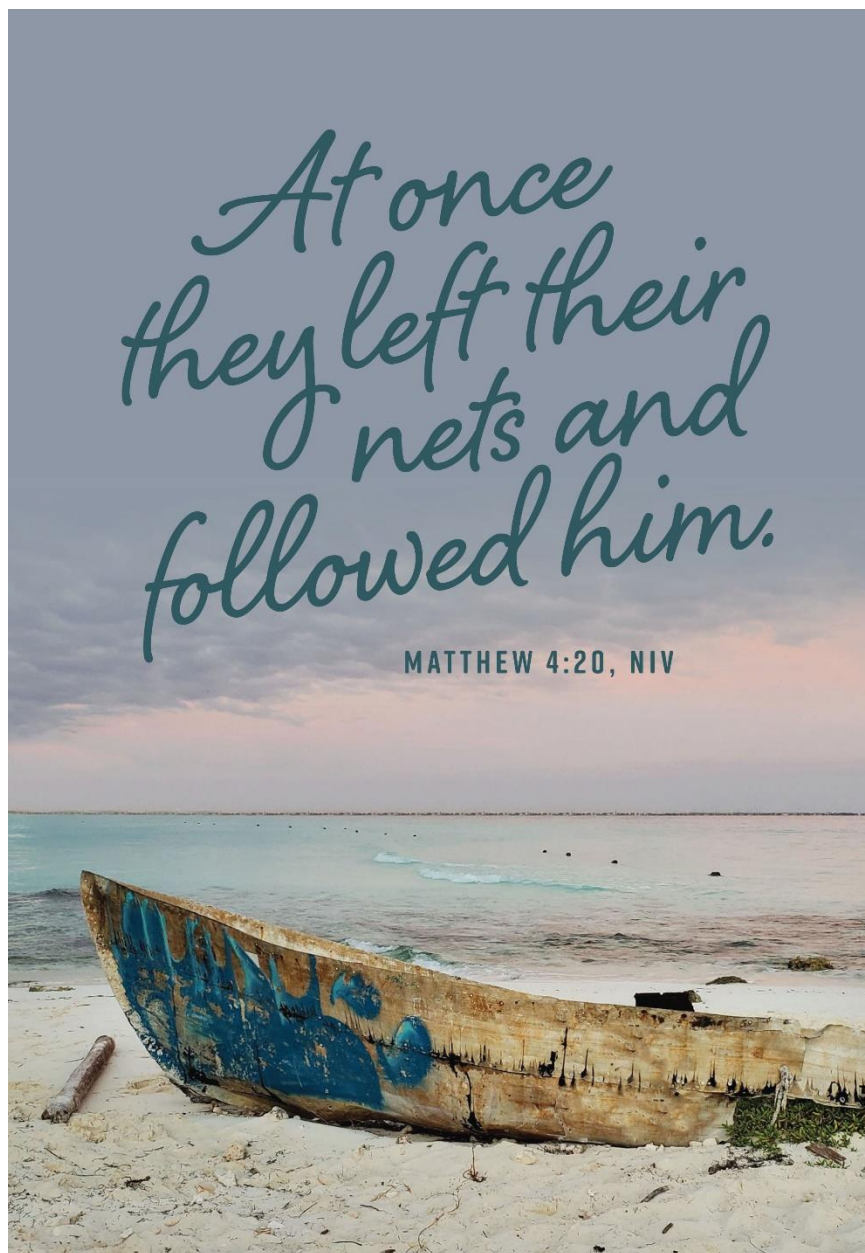


Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

January 22, 2023



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: The Rev. Allyssa A. Boyer
Lector: Dennis Plymette

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: Chris Bowers
Worship Welcome Team: Joan Moyer, Sherry Spencer, Nancy Richey
Kids' Place: Jonneke Dundore, Rebecca Anderson
Flower Delivery: Joan Moyer

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

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



St. Paul's Online Giving

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

Website: saintpaulsucc-mech.org
Office email: stpaulstaff@outlook.com
Rev. John's email: revjohnwd@outlook.com
Rev. Allyssa's email: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

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

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 22, 2023

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 "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

George Blake

CHORAL INTROIT

*THE HYMN No. 172 "Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Shine on us today, gracious God, for we need the light and salvation you offer. Come to each one gathered here, and to all who are a part of this community of faith. Come to our town, our nation, our world, to still the quarrels and dissolve the enmity among us. Come with good news of healing and wholeness for everyone. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus came to Galilee with the message of John the Baptist: Repent, for God's realm has come near. His invitation went out to common, everyday folks: Follow me. We, too, are called to repent and to follow. Let us join in silent prayers of confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (responsive)

One: Light has come. Salvation is poured out on God's children. God is gracious and reaches out to welcome us.

All: **We are free to accept the invitation to follow Jesus. There is good news of forgiveness and healing to be shared. Let us share the good news.**

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 “Everywhere I Go”

Sleeth

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

*THE HYMN No. 503 “O Savior, Let Me Walk with You”

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

Matthew 4:12-23

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)

Prayer Response



Thru Christ our ear-nest prayers are said with words we scarce can frame; Our



work of Christ-mas now be-gun, We serve them in Christ's name.

Please also place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate. Thank you.

THE OFFERTORY “No Turning Back”

Besig

Youth Choir

***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)**

Let these gifts follow Christ's lead into the lives of people who live in poverty or despair. O God, use them to heal divisions among your children. Show us how to be instruments of peace. Ready us to follow Jesus, to make an offering of ourselves, not just our money. Teach us so we may teach others. Heal us so we can become instruments of healing. To these purposes we dedicate this offering and our lives. 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 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 "On Our Way Rejoicing"

Lani Smith

References:

The Prayer of Invocation, Call to Confession, Words of Assurance, and Prayer of Dedication are adapted from "Taught By Love" by Lavon Bayler, 1998, 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
Allyssa Boyer, "In honor of Paula Boyer's birthday."
Nancy and Tom Richey, "In memory of Tom's mother, Lois Richey."

50 YEAR MEMBERS:

Marshall Bender, Shirley Grammar, Sandra Heckman, Craig Hershey, Albert Huebner, Jacquelyn Kreitzer, Raymond Krouch, Dayne Miller, Joanne Miller, Dorothy Miller, Thomas Milletics, Franklin Roth, Ned & Rhoda Rupp, Carolyn Rutherford, Patricia Scott, Donna Sponsler, Anna Thompson, Susan Thorn, Barbara Westhafer, and Don Wood.



QUEER BIBLE STUDY

Don't let the 'Q' word scare you, Queer Bible Study is open to all people who wish to go deeper into scripture. You are invited to join us as we explore scripture in relation to sexuality and gender. We welcome older teenagers and adults of every gender and sexual orientation. We meet on select Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Our upcoming meetings are January 24 and January 31. For more information, contact Rev. Allyssa or call the church office. We would love for you to join us!

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIP FOR 2023 IS NOW OPEN.

It will cost \$30 to sponsor the flowers in 2023. You may go on the church website, under the heading, "Sign Up" to sign up.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP FOR 2023 IS NOW OPEN.

It will cost \$30/MONTH to sponsor a child in 2023. You may go on the church website, under the heading, "Sign Up" to sign up and for more information.

CELEBRATING AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH THROUGH THE SPIRITUALS

The Spirituals of the African American tradition, sometimes called the "Negro spirituals" are songs created by enslaved Africans. They do not have individual composers but emerged from the whole community. They were passed orally from person to person. They were crafted in the fields where they would sing to pass the day and ease the often-tedious work of planting, tending, and harvesting the crops. Over the years, enslaved persons and their descendants adopted Christianity, the religion of their masters, and they began to include religious themes into their field songs.

Each Sunday in February - during the Sunday School hour -, join us in Fellowship Hall to sing and develop a deeper understanding of these wonderful and inspiring spirituals. Each week, we will look at a group of spirituals and provide some history about the song, if known. The spirituals are wonderfully creative and contain a wisdom that comes from suffering and a hope that comes from faith in God's promises. The African American Spirituals are a national treasure and gift to the Church of immeasurable value.

Questions: Contact Eric Dundore at ericdundore@outlook.com or Shirley Keith Knox at skeithknox@comcast.net.