

January 18, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

**It is with joyful hearts we share with you that worship at St. Paul, beginning this Sunday January 24, will be offered both in-person and via Facebook Live.** We are excited to have you back in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. We do ask, however, that you wear your mask for the duration of the service and that you distance yourself in the sanctuary from other family units/groups.

Sunday School will reopen on Sunday January 24 and youth groups will begin onsite Wednesday January 27. Confirmation begins to meet onsite this Wednesday January 20. We are so looking forward to seeing you!

As Christians, our calling is twofold: loving God and loving neighbor. As we reopen, we want to ensure that we keep one another safe from infection. We thank you for your attention to this!

We are very aware that the weekly worship packets have not been arriving on time. We have been told that this is due to Covid19 infections at mail processing facilities. You can access the weekly bulletin on the St. Paul webpage: [www.stpaulnb.org](http://www.stpaulnb.org).

Our Church Council slate for 2021 is not yet complete. We still need a Treasurer, a Junior Deacon, and a First Year Trustee. If you feel called to any of these positions, please call the church office, Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkrafft.

We are seeking a volunteer with snow removal equipment who would be available for snow removal on weekdays on the west side of our property and on weekends for our parking lots. Please contact Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkrafft if you are interested.

Thank you for your faithfulness to St. Paul Church!

Grace and Peace,



Roland Dicke Myra Hanenkrafft Becky Erb Strang Dee Schroer  
Council President Council VP Senior Pastor Associate Pastor

**Financial Information as of December 31, 2020**

**Operating Fund**

**Beg. Balance (\$2,974.14)**

Endowment Transfers \$37,942.92(ytd)

Income \$312,518.40(YTD)

PPP Loan \$6,852.02

Expenses \$314,539.29(YTD)

PPP Loan Payment \$2085.49

Balance \$0.00

**Building Maint & Property Care**

Beg. Balance \$83,428.04

Income \$17,359.00 (YTD)

Endowment Income \$5,068.20 (YTD)

PPP Loan \$1,948.91

Expenses \$34,159.78(YTD)

Balance \$73,644.37

**2020 Year End is now completed. POY ending balance has been moved to designated/undesignated fund and marked for steeple /gutter repair. PPP stands for Payroll Protection Plan.**

**Financial Information as of January 11, 2021**

**Operating Fund**

Beg. Balance \$0.00

Giving Income \$5,668.51(weekly)

Endowment Transfers \$2,931.00(ytd)

Income \$13,064.51(ytd)

Expenses \$16,568.30(ytd)

Balance **(\$3,503.79)** (ytd)

**Building Maint & Property Care**

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37

Income \$984.00 (ytd)

Endowment Income \$0.00(ytd)

Expenses \$387.75(ytd)

Balance \$74,240.62(ytd)

**Local Aid**

Beg. Balance \$9,934.05

Income \$19,348.00(YTD)

Expenses \$23,031.85(YTD)

Balance \$6,250.20

Bless Pantry Inc. \$20,716.16

Bless Pantry Ex. \$12,835.01

Balance \$7,881.15

**Our Church Wider Mission**

Pledge \$30,000.00

Income \$24,767.00 (YTD)

**Project of the Year**

Balance \$2,548.00

**Local Aid**

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20

Income \$1,410.00(ytd)

Expenses \$90.10(ytd)

Balance \$7,570.10

BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15

Bless Pantry Inc. \$3,710.00(ytd)

Bless Pantry Ex. \$341.75(ytd)

BP Balance \$11,249.40

**Our Church Wider Mission**

Pledge \$25,000.00

Income \$1,102.00(weekly)

Income \$1,552.00 (ytd)

**Project of the Year**

Income \$749.00(weekly)

Balance \$774.00(ytd)

JANUARY 24, 2021  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY



*There is peace in waiting for God.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 1:14-20	Jesus calls the first disciples
Monday	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Jonah goes to Nineveh
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 7:29-35	Live without anxiety
Wednesday	Philippians 4:4-7	Paul encourages his co-workers
Thursday	Isaiah 40:26-31	The Lord gives strength
Friday	Joshua 1:1-9	The Lord speaks to Joshua
Saturday	Psalms 62:5-12	God is powerful and kind
Sunday	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus teaches in the synagogue

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.*

**Psalms 62:5-6 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, my soul waits for you in silence; let me wait for you with confidence, peace, and hope through Jesus Christ. Amen. (Psalm 62:5-6)

#### **Mealtimes Prayer:**

In peace we eat this food before us; in faith we receive this food with thanksgiving. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the steadfast love of God be yours as you place your trust in the good news of Jesus Christ. (Psalm 62:12 and Mark 1:14)



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JANUARY 24, 2021

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*He Comes to Us As  
One Unknown*



### WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some things that distract you and lead you to worry?
- How might God want you to deal with your worries?
- Why do you think the psalmist encourages us to wait for God's presence in silence? (Psalm 62:5)

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* 1 Corinthians 7:29-35.

The lectionary text ends at verse 31, but without verses 32-35, the heart of Paul's thought can be missed. Paul originally anticipated that Christ's return would happen in his own lifetime. Attention to marital matters, grief over the death of a loved one, concern for possessions, and daily schedules and responsibilities detract from the higher attention to "devotion to the Lord" (v. 35). What is helpful for us today is to be reminded that routine tasks can dominate our thoughts and we can miss the greater joy and calm that is ours through Christ. Our lives are finally, not measured by the demands of the day but by the steadfast love and faithfulness of God that is shown to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Yes, be responsible for the sake of the love of neighbor, but do not be defined by any accomplishments or failures. Be known, understood, and loved as a child of the risen Lord. Then we are able to hear the heart of Paul's message in verse 32: "I want you to be free from anxieties." Be free, be attentive, be faithful, and, of course, experience God's grace, mercy, and peace, not anxiety or fear. Indeed, isn't this part of what Simon and Andrew and James and John experienced when they walked away from the beach to follow Jesus in Mark 1:14-20? When have you been able to let go of anxiety because of the greater good that God has in store for you?

*Pray:* **God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, give us peace to see you in the midst of all things, and let us be devoted to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### SERVICE



There is much anxiety in people's lives. Seek out someone you know who is experiencing frustrations or worries. Take time to listen to them and offer them a prayer of hope and comfort.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Contemplative prayer is a form of prayer that does not ask for specific requests. It is simply an openness to God's presence and what God may want to say to the person praying. Cross your arms over your body and breathe in saying: **Bless me with peace, O Lord.** As you exhale say: **Thank you for your peace, O Lord.** Do this several times and then sit in silence until you feel ready to conclude with: **Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)



**St. Paul United Church of Christ**

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New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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Visit our website at <https://stpaulnb.org>

Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ – New

Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky Senior Pastor

Pastor Dee Associate Pastor

Roland Dicke-Council President

**Welcome to St. Paul UCC, we are glad you are here!!**

Blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

**January 24, 2021**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**Worship Leaders**

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Pastor Dee Schroer

Cheyenne Olt

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Accompanist/Vocalist

PRELUDE

GREETING AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES: As we light the altar and Christ candle, you are invited to light a candle or candles at home in preparation for worship.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# WELCOME SONG

## No Matter

### No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in quarter and eighth notes. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7. The lyrics are: "No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the". The second staff continues the melody with chords Bb, G7, F, Dm, G7, Gm7, C7. The lyrics are: "jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. No mat-ter". The third staff has chords F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7. The lyrics are: "who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the". The fourth staff has chords Bb, G7, F, Dm, Gm7, C7, C, F, F. The lyrics are: "jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace." The score ends with a double bar line and the instruction "To verses | Last time, Fine".

No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the  
jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. No mat-ter  
who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the  
jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace.

## CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 19:7-10, The Message by Eugene Peterson)

Leader: The revelation of God is whole and pulls our lives together.

**People: The signposts of God are clear and point out the right road.**

Leader: The life-maps of God are right, showing the way to joy.

**People: The directions of God are plain and easy on the eyes.**

Leader: God's reputation is twenty-four carat gold, with a lifetime guarantee.

**People: God's Word is better than diamonds, better than a diamond set between emeralds.**

Leader: You'll like it better than strawberries in the spring, better than red, ripe strawberries.

**People: Let us worship God with joy!**

GOD OF CREATION

## 31 I Sing the Almighty Power of God

N.C.  $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Fm}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$

1 I sing the al-might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;  
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes your glo - ries known;

N.C.  $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Fm}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Fm}$   $\text{Ebsus}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$

that spread the flow-ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y skies.  
 he formed the crea-tures with his word and then pro-nounced them good.  
 and clouds a - rise and tem-pests blow by or - der from your throne;

$\text{Ab}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Eb}$

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
 Lord, how your won-ders are dis-played wher - e'er I turn my eye,  
 while all that bor-rows life from you is ev - er in your care,

N.C.  $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Fm}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$   $\text{Db}$   $\text{Fm}$   $\text{Ebsus}$   $\text{Eb}$   $\text{Ab}$

the moon shines full at his com-mand and all the stars o - bey.  
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze up - on the sky!  
 and ev - ery - where that I may be, you, God, are pres-ent there.

# CALL TO CONFESSION (Book of Worship United Church of Christ)

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

**God, whose love knows no bounds, we confess today our tendency to see ourselves as the most valuable members of your family while we regard those unlike us as less important. Forgive us, we pray, and move us to be people of radical acceptance and hospitality of all your children. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: How we love to hang on to the past! We get all tied up remembering, keeping count, bearing grudges. God doesn't. Your past is accepted. Let it go. Live in the freedom God hands to you afresh each day.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## \*HALLELUJAH!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl  
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl  
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl Hal - le -  
lu - jahl Hal - le - lu - jahl

Chord markings: C, Am7, D7, D, G, D, Em

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

This week in your packets you should have received fish stickers. Our Sunday School families should have received the card game Go Fish.

Have you ever played Go Fish? It's been years since I've played, but I grew up playing this card game with my brothers and sisters.

The game goes like this: each person playing is given between five and seven cards to begin. The goal is to get the most matches possible—generally from other people, sometimes from the rest of the cards of the deck. For example, if I wanted to collect 8's, I might say, "Pastor Dee, do you have any 8's?" If Dee does, she has to give them to me. If she does not, she says, "Go fish!" Then I pick the top card off the remaining deck.

The game goes around and around until all the cards are in play. The person with the most sets/matches of cards wins the game.

In today's New Testament Lesson, Jesus tells the disciples to, "Go fish!" He didn't mean they should get cards from each other. He didn't even mean that they should continue to fish for fish in the sea. Instead, as Jesus' disciples, they are now to fish for people.

Jesus' instruction to Go Fish is not just something for disciples 2000 years ago. That instruction is for us today. When Jesus tells you to Go Fish—that might mean sending a card to someone who is lonely. It might mean calling a friend who is in quarantine. It might mean dropping off cookies on someone's front porch. It might mean praying for healing in the midst of this pandemic.

We go fishing each and every time we share Jesus' love with others. Go Fish is not just a children's card game. It is a way of life. Amen.

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys: Birth Candle** Welcomes Lily Elizabeth Schrader born January 13, 2021. She is the daughter of Rachel and Dan Schrader, little sister to Leah, Lucas and Levi, granddaughter of Deb and Dave Kramer and great granddaughter of Jan and Don Dammeyer. Worshipping Together!

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Drew Wray, Deb Lear, Jan Dammeyer, and Pastor Dee Schroer.



Please remember the family of Bob Finke in your prayers. Bob passed away Friday, January 8, 2021. Services to celebrate his life were held Sunday, January 17, 2021.

PASTORAL PRAYER. PERSONAL PRAYER. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Gracious God, we are grateful that you always have and you always will come to us just as we are. We are also grateful, at least sometimes we are, that leaving us where you found us is not your way. On the other side of what we have valued most is something more that may turn our lives upside down, unsettling everything on the outside but bringing us to the true wholeness that we can never find until you are the center of our lives.

We thank you for calling us to radical discipleship and hospitality—for pushing us, prodding us, challenging us to live out your call in the way we offer your love to others.

We thank you for calling us to fish for people—to reach out to a world greatly in need of your healing touch and loving songs. Gift us with the right words to say. Gift us with silence when we must listen to others. Gift us with courage when we are compelled to make an unpopular stand on behalf of your kingdom. Send us out fishing—in our community, in our nation and in our world.

We ask your healing light shine on those who are sick, those who have tested positive, those who are dealing with catastrophic diagnoses and those who are grieving. May we be bearers of your healing light to those around us.

Holy God, hear us now as we lift up to you the prayers of our hearts.  
SILENCE

God of Grace and God of Glory, we thank you for hearing our prayers and for answering us in surprising and life-filled ways.

All of this we pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...**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.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 6:1-8

(NRSV)

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:*

*“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”*

*<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”*

*<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 5:1-11

(The Message)

*Once when Jesus was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret, the crowd was pushing in on him to better hear the Word of God. He noticed two boats tied up. The fishermen had just left them and were out scrubbing their nets. He climbed into the boat that was Simon’s and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Sitting there, using the boat for a pulpit, he taught the crowd.*

*<sup>4</sup> When he finished teaching, he said to Simon, “Push out into deep water and let your nets out for a catch.”*

*<sup>5-7</sup> Simon said, “Master, we’ve been fishing hard all night and haven’t caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I’ll let out the nets.” It was no sooner said than done—a huge haul of fish, straining the nets past capacity. They waved to their partners in the other boat to come help them. They filled both boats, nearly swamping them with the catch.*

*<sup>8-10</sup> Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell to his knees before Jesus. “Master, leave. I’m a sinner and can’t handle this holiness. Leave me to myself.” When they pulled in that catch of fish, awe overwhelmed Simon*

*and everyone with him. It was the same with James and John, Zebedee's sons, coworkers with Simon.*

*<sup>10-11</sup> Jesus said to Simon, "There is nothing to fear. From now on you'll be fishing for men and women." They pulled their boats up on the beach, left them, nets and all, and followed him.*

## RESPONSE

Leader: The word of God for the people of God!

**People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*Catching People*

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

The imagery is nearly overwhelming, the language vivid, the implications both powerful and frightening. The sixth chapter of the book of Isaiah begins with:

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple.*

*Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:*

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.*

*The whole earth is full of his glory.*

*The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.*

Whew! On a Sunday when we reflect on our own call by God, Isaiah's experience is both glorious and awe-inspiring.

My guess is that very few of us have experienced God's call like Isaiah did. My guess is that very few of us, when God calls us to serve, are surrounded by seraphs, music, and earthquakes. My guess is that, for most of us, being called by God is much more ordinary, but possibly just as frightening.

For some of us, God's call comes in an idea that has grabbed hold of our imagination. For some of us, God's call is a nighttime dream groping for sunlight. For some of us, God's call is a rock and roll song, a symphony's concerto, or the music heard in the rustling of leaves in a

tree. For others, God's call comes from the gut—a passion for justice, a passion for knowledge, a passion for expanded horizons.

In many ways, we are like the fishermen in the Gospel of Luke who worked without success throughout the night. We are so busy mending our nets, cleaning our boats, and planning our next excursion that Jesus has to step smack dab into the middle of our boats and into our hearts for us to even take notice.

And when we do notice that Christ is on the boat with us, we often find ourselves in Simon Peter's shoes, falling at Jesus' feet, utterly aware of our unworthiness, feeling frightened and overwhelmed by the call. After all, why would God want to call ME? Isn't there someone else around who can do the job better, more efficiently, more lovingly? What can I offer?

God's call can be daunting, if one is not ready to say YES to it. On a personal note, I went out of my way to avoid God's call to ordained ministry. I first heard the call in high school—and I can guarantee that like Isaiah and Simon Peter—I was overwhelmed. But UNLIKE Isaiah and Peter, I did everything in my power to avoid the call: I got mad at God. I was mad at the church, I refused to go to seminary. I did not think I was ready to say YES to God—after all, what would it mean for my life?

But, God has a sense of humor. To avoid God's call—I found a job I loved, working in a church! (Go figure!). And even when I was ready for seminary, I went swearing aloud to anyone who would listen that I was not there to learn to serve a church or certainly never to preach. Yet somewhere in the midst of avoiding the call, I kept turning back to God until I finally said, "YES!" with my heart and my life.

There is comfort in knowing that my experience—that our experiences—of God's call are universal. When the prophet Isaiah had his awesome vision of God in the Temple, he cried out, "Woe is me! I am lost! I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

There are times when each of us has cried out: Woe is me! I am lost! For I am a man, a woman, a youth, a child of unclean lips. Surely God does not have work for me! After all, I am not up to the job!

As children of God, as heirs of the Reformation, ours is a faith of the priesthood of all believers. God's call is not exclusive to clergy, Sunday

school teachers, elders and deacons. God calls each of us to live with Jesus on our boat, steering us into deeper, uncharted waters.

This is what God's call is like: we find ourselves saying "YES" to God against all odds. It is when we say YES to God that we find that God calls us to a new way of living, a new way of thinking, a new way of ordering our lives. We discover that, although the winds of death and sickness may swirl around us, God's call to life, God's call to laugh, God's call to share our lives with others is stronger than death itself.

This, my friends, is the gift of grace. Isaiah, when told his ministry would be one of destruction and desolation did not say, "How can this be, Lord?" Instead, he said, "How long?" In his gut—the place of call—Isaiah knew that God would be with him through the pain of hardened hearts and emptiness in the land.

The gift of grace was also given to Jesus' new disciples. In Luke's telling of the story, Jesus did not say, "Follow me." That was already a guarantee. Instead, he said, "There is nothing to fear. From now on you'll be fishing for men and women."

Jesus' promise is for us also: There is nothing to fear. When we say YES to Jesus, our life's job description may change; our focus in life will most certainly shift. We may be embarking on a frightening journey, but we will not be alone.

God calls us to a variety of ministries in a variety of settings. We are not promised safety and security in the call. We are, however, promised God's presence with us as we welcome Jesus onto our boat and into our lives. We are promised that—though the waters seem unfriendly and dangerous—the bounty of God's harvest is sure.

God's call comes to us in surprising ways: through a whisper in the night, through a song that grabs our hearts, through the encouragement of friends. God's call may come like Isaiah's—in the Temple surrounded by images of the mysterious and the holy. Or perhaps God's call may come as you go about your daily life—fishing, living, serving, and loving others.

As we move through these months of pandemic, my prayer is that each of us will answer YES to God's call in our lives.

Then, we will be able—like Isaiah—to say to God: Here I am! Send me!

(YouTube search: *Here I Am Lord* Chris Bray)

*I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people's cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright,  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone  
I will speak my words to them. Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I will go, where You lead me, father lead me  
I will go, I will follow endlessly*

*Here I am Lord. Is I Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERING SENTENCES:

Jesus draws us from the margins into a great feast; he draws us out of a crowd, to healing; he draws us from death to new life. Each day, God finds the way that we need to be loved and challenged, and then God calls us to minister to others with warm hospitality, healing mercies, and the promise of resurrection and new life. We respond to this marvelous call through our giving to the ministries and missions of St. Paul Church. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

### DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen.**

# HYMN OF SENDING

# Pass It On

WITNESS & MISSION

557

## Pass It On

D Em7 F#m G  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{F\#m}{A}$  A

1 It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,  
 2 What a won-drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,  
 3 I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that I've found—

D Em7 F#m G  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{F\#m}{A}$  A

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;  
 the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;  
 on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

$\frac{D}{F\#}$  G  $\frac{A}{G}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em7 F#m Bm

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:  
 that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:  
 I'll shout it from the moun-tain top, I want my world to know:

Bm Em  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G A A7 D

you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.  
 you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.  
 the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

WORDS and MUSIC: Kurt Kaiser (1934- )

Words and Music © 1969 Bud John Songs (Admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing)



## BENEDICTION (Traditional Navaho Prayer):

Before us, it is blessed, behind us it is blessed, below us, it is blessed, above us it is blessed, around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.

Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.

With beauty before us, with beauty behind us, with beauty below us, with beauty above us, with beauty around us, we set out for a holy place indeed. Amen.

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

### Pass the Love

Musical score for "Pass the Love" in 4/4 time, tempo J=95. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics and chords. The chords are: F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, C7; F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, G7, C; Fmaj7, Dm, F/G, F/C; Am7, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, C7, F.

Love our God, ev - 'ry day, praise with joy go-ing on your way.

Pass it on, t'all you meet, ev - 'ry day in— ev - 'ry way.

Love our Ho - ly God. Pray with hope each day.

Bless the Ho - ly Name. Praise our— God.

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you.**

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Attendance**-Online-Daily Devotions Avg.-116,  
January 10-Sunday Worship-266, Sunday School-109,  
January 13-Confirmation-12, Leaders-3, Youth Group-2, Leaders-2

**Daily Devotions**-Please join Rev Becky or Pastor Dee Monday-Friday at 11:30am, online via Facebook Live. These will air on our Facebook page St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

**Zoom Bible Study**-join us Thursday's at 6:30pm. Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on or logging onto:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88640093949?pwd=ZllqSDBpZzdzZi9LT0d6SThwbltZz09>      **Meeting ID: 886 4009 3949**      **Passcode: 344973**

\*If you would like an email version of this to make logging on easier, simply email Pastor Becky: [berbstrang@stpaulnb.org](mailto:berbstrang@stpaulnb.org)

**January Book Club**-All are welcome to join St. Paul Church's January Book Club set for Sunday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss Gail Tsukiyama's book *Women of the Silk*. Copies of the book can be picked up at the church office or you can contact the church office if you need a copy sent or delivered to you. All are welcome. Zoom information: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89039130630?pwd=akg3STIJbXRFWWE9CSXE5M3hjZXBrUT09>      **Meeting ID: 890 3913 0630**      **Passcode: 744081**

\*If you would like an email version of this to make logging on easier, simply email Pastor Becky: [berbstrang@stpaulnb.org](mailto:berbstrang@stpaulnb.org)

**Sunday January 24 and 31-Sunday School** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 9:00am. **Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am.

**Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins** are available for download on our website [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org). Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

**2021 Altar Flower Chart** has been posted in the Narthex. To sign up for the date(s) you would like. Please call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. **January date still open the 31<sup>st</sup>.** Open dates the rest of the year **February 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, December 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**Women's Service Group-**The Women's Service Group is planning to send fifty school kit bags to Church World Service this coming summer. The supplies for the bags are all purchased but what is needed is persons willing to help sew the school bags. Material and directions on how to sew them is available. If interested, please contact Joyce Gilberg @ 419-629-2947 for more information.

### **Project of the Year and January Monthly Mission-Blessing Pantry**

A number of years ago, a decision was made to alternate the Project of the Year between a St. Paul facility project and a broader church mission project, chosen by the Mission Team. 2021 is the year for the broader mission project. We, the Mission Team, with Council's approval have chosen the Blessing Pantry because it serves many from the surrounding area who do not belong to St. Paul. We see long lines for food on our TV's every day, well, believe it or not, we have the same needs here in New Bremen and surrounding area as in other places. January will kick off this important project to help with the very real needs of area families. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, families utilize the pantry for food and other daily necessities regularly. St. Paul has partnered with West Ohio Food Bank, which allows us to purchase food for as little as .19 cents a pound and this gives us greater purchasing capability to keep the shelves stocked. We are asking members of St. Paul for donations of money as well as items for the Blessing Pantry. We, the Mission Team, will keep you updated on how we are doing throughout the year. Thank all of you for your generosity to the missions of St. Paul. **God Loves a Cheerful Giver!**  
The Mission Team

**Blessing Pantry**-is located in the North Hallway and accessible by the North door during these hours - **Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm**. The Pantry will be closed Mondays and Fridays. **All Donations Welcome – Blessing Pantry Needs-Paper Plates, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, Napkins, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Diapers (size 5&6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Vaseline, Bandages, Shampoo, Bar Soap, Hand/Body Soap, Hand/Body Lotion, Tampons & Panty Liners, Cleaning Supplies, Storage Bags, Garbage Bags and Pet Food. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

**January/February Upper Rooms**-have arrived! They are available at the East entrance to the education building. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

**Mailbox**-There is a mailbox outside of the East Educational Building door for any correspondence you may have for the church and would like to drop off. Please lift the flap and drop through the slot on the top. The box is locked and will be checked often. Thank you!

## Calendar-Week of January 24, 2021

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School-in person & via Facebook Live
	10:15am	Worship-in person & via Facebook Live
	5:00pm	Splash-in person
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop w/Rev Becky New Bremen Coffee Inc.
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Confirmation w/Mentors-in person
Thursday	6:30pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Group-in person
	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Bible Study via Zoom
Friday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	Noon	Office Closed

## **E-Giving @ St. Paul** **3 Different Ways to Give**

**Online** – Make a donation on our website: [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org)

**Give+ App** – Search “Give Plus Church” in your App store and find St. Paul to Get Started!

**Text** – Make a donation to our Number: 833-308-0048  
St. Paul New “Text to Give” #(# changed as of 10/9/19)

**How To Give by Text (Example - my amount for the example is \$25 (minimum amount is \$5.00))**

- For general fund giving: Send 25 space gl (hit send)
- For building & property fund giving: Send 25 space bp (hit send)
  - For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 space pantry (hit send)
- For project of the year giving: Send 25 space poy (hit send)

**Once a text amount is sent:**

**Registration Link-** Sent via text the first time a donation is made.  
Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

**Donation Confirm-** Sent via text each time a donation is made.  
Thank you for donating \$ (amount)! Text repeat to make this recurring or refund to cancel this donation.

### **Blood Drive-New Bremen American Legion Hall**

6458 State Route 66, New Bremen

**Monday, February 1 12:00pm-6:00pm**

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBood.org](http://RedCrossBood.org) and enter: amlegnb to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

Special offer from our partners at Amazon: To thank you for coming to give Feb. 1-28, we'll send you a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Restrictions apply, see [amazon.com/gc-legal](http://amazon.com/gc-legal). Terms and conditions apply; visit [rcblood.org/together](http://rcblood.org/together)