

#### St. Paul United Church of Christ

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Rev. Becky Senior Pastor
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Jeff Quellhorst-Council President

# June 7, 2020 Trinity Sunday Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

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

#### MOMENT FOR MISSION: Strengthen the Church

Money donated to Strengthen the Church offering contributes to the continued expansion and revitalization of the United Church of Christ. Fifty percent of your offering stays with the Heartland Conference. (Ohio Conference is now known as Heartland Conference because our conference consists of members from Ohio, West Virginia and Northern Kentucky.) Fifty percent is sent to the national body of the UCC for grants towards new church starts, inspiring youth and young adults into leadership, and equipping pastors for ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The Rev. David Long-Higgins, Transitional Conference Minister of Heartland conference, writes, "This mission on the national level is helping assist churches who are struggling due to the Covid-19 pandemic. There are churches that need the kind of bridge help which can help them in this extraordinary season. At the Heartland Conference level, Strengthen the Church money especially helps support seminarians as we nurture a new generation of leadership for the church.

I have heard all of the scholarship recipients from last year who have shared what a profound difference this support makes in their lives." Our own Katie Jackson received this help while in seminary.

Monies received from this mission also support the National Youth Event. 4000 youth ages 14-19 attend this event that centers on faith, leadership, service and social justice. It is held every four years and was to be held at Purdue University this year but alas, because of COVID-19, it has been postponed until the summer of 2021.

Please join us in planting the seeds needed to grow and sustain our denomination by making a gift to the Strengthen the church offering. The Mission Team.

#### WELCOME SONG

#### No Matter

#### No Matter



#### CALL TO WORSHIP

(from The Worship Sourcebook; Faith Alive Christian Resources; 2013)

Leader: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

Leader: We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

People: We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: O God: teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord god Almighty!

THE TRINITY

136 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!



#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: God has come to us in Christ, but often we live as if that makes no difference. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed: by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us atone for what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God set you apart before you were born. In God's grace there is a place for you. Leave your past behind. It is forgiven. Embrace the new future Christ offers. Live and share the faith, now vital and alive to you!

People: Amen!

#### GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

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'S MOMENT

(adapted from <a href="https://sermons4kids.com/mystery\_of\_the\_trinity.htm">https://sermons4kids.com/mystery\_of\_the\_trinity.htm</a>)

Do you like mystery stories? When I was young, I loved to read mystery books. My favorites were always Nancy Drew. Recently, I saw a good mystery book, "What Really Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective." We all know that Humpty Dumpty had a great fall, but in this book Humpty's brother Joe Dumpty who is a detective, investigates to try to find out what really happened. Did Humpty fall, or was he pushed off that wall? If he was pushed, who did it? Was it Little Miss Muffet, Goldilocks, Old Mother Hubbard, or the evil Big Bad Wolf? I won't spoil the mystery by telling you the ending. You will just have to read it for yourself.

Today we are going to learn about a different kind of mystery. Today is a special day in the church called Trinity Sunday. Do you know what Trinity means? The first thing I want to ask you is, how many Gods are there? Right, there is only one God. The Bible says there is "One God and Father of all," but God is made up of three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. That is what we call the Trinity. Perhaps you have noticed that when someone is baptized we say, "I baptize you in the name of God the Father and our Creator, Christ the Son and our Savior, and the Holy Spirit, the Mother of us all." Now you will know when you hear those words – Father, Son and Holy Spirit — we are talking about the Trinity — one God in three persons.

As simple as that sounds, the Trinity is hard to understand. It is a mystery to us - something we can think about and wonder about. People have used many, many different things to try and help explain what the trinity is. Since we started out today talking about Humpty Dumpty, I think I'll use an egg! (Hold up a hard-boiled egg.) How many eggs do you see? That's right! I have one egg. As you probably know, the egg is made up of three parts. The first part is the shell. (Crack the egg and peel the shell.) The next part you see is the egg white. Next, I am going to cut the egg in half. Now what do you see? Right! You see the yellow yolk. The egg has three parts — the shell, the white, and the yolk — but only ONE egg. In the same way, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three persons but only ONE God! Mystery solved!

Let's pray, God, we thank you for being all-powerful and all-knowing and for loving us. We thank you for the things in life that we don't completely understand and for giving us the faith to believe them anyway. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

PRAYER HYMN When We Face an Unknown Future

#### When We Face an Unknown Future

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020 Beach Spring, attr. B. F. White; harm. Christopher Gage 1. Whenwe face an un-known fu - ture that we a - gine can't Je-sus faced the lone-ly des - ert time look with - in. as to May we che - rish those a - round us have be - fore. as we nev - er 4. God, when ill - ness comes to threat-en, and when so much here goes wrong, when the close - ness we have trea-sured turns from bless - ing in - to threat-There he met such trial and con-flict; there he knew you were with him. May we think much less of prof - it; may we learn what mat-ters more. may we know this thing for cer-tain-that your love sure and strong. As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave com - mu - ni - ty, se - pa - ra - tion when we miss the life we've known, In this time of May we hear our neigh-bors' suf-fering; may we see our neigh-bors' pain. in our suf-fering-and when times are sure - ly tough, You're be - side us may we look, God, this sea - son, for a whole new way in pro - claim-ing: "I am here! You're not may we hear your voice of off - ering life and health and hope a - gain. May we learn new ways un - known fu - ture, but it's filled, Lord, with your love. we may face an

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#### PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER. (adapted from A Prayer for the Ones Ailing and Dying Alone by the Rev. Michelle Torigian)

Peace-bearing God, we know that your presence fills each space and time in our universe. When we cannot enter a space, you are present. When our loved ones are on the brink of Sheol, the roughest of spaces, you are present.

So many who are on our hearts are in hospitals and care facilities. The doors are locked to the outside world, and loved ones are barred from entering. Their bodies ache and may be failing them, and what they want most—to be surrounded by the ones they love—is a privilege denied.

So many are on ventilators, and all they want to do is share love with their dear ones—a small consolation that is near impossible. We ask that they find a bedside friend in you, Holy Attendant. May final breaths be filled with memories of love-filled times. May moments of healing be invigorated by hope seen in small moments and friendly strangers.

And for the ones outside of doors whose deep desires are to be at bedsides instead of in silent homes—may they find peace through you, O God. May they find ways to share their love before the end arrives.

May your Divine Comfort give all who ail and all who love them the strength they need. If death nears, may they find all of the peace they need from you, O God. We thank you for all of the caregivers in hospital rooms and care facilities who can give the ailing a little bit of comfort.

Healing God, we ask that you be with our wider community—especially with all for whom shelter in place is painful and lonely. Prod us, challenge us, spark us with your Spirit that we might reach out to those who experience deep longing and need for belonging in these days of confinement.

We also pray for ourselves: that you might fill us with the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit for this day and the days ahead. Remind us again and again that we belong to you and we are yours.

Gentle one, we humbly ask that you quiet our busy minds and our racing hearts that we might hear YOUR voice for us this day. SILENCE

God of power and might, God of grace and glory, we thank you for abiding with us in times of health and times of sickness. We thank you for abiding with us.

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.

ANTHEM When the Morning Stars Sang Together Tom Bajoras (YouTube.com; search: Tom Bajoras When the Morning Stars Sang Together) Also available on Apple Music and Google Play Music

Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have any understanding, Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning starts sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

-Job 38:4-7

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Job 1:1-22

1 There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. <sup>2</sup> There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. <sup>3</sup> He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. <sup>4</sup> His sons used to go and hold feasts in one another's houses in turn; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. <sup>5</sup> And when the feast days had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." This is what Job always did.

<sup>6</sup> One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. <sup>7</sup> The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." <sup>8</sup> The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil." <sup>9</sup> Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing? <sup>10</sup> Have you not put a fence around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. <sup>11</sup> But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face." <sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, all that he has is in your power; only do not stretch out your hand against him!" So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

<sup>13</sup> One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother's house, <sup>14</sup> a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, 15 and the Sabeans fell on them and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you." 16 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you." 17 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you." 18 While he was still speaking, another came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house, 19 and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you."

<sup>20</sup> Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshiped. <sup>21</sup> He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.

#### **RESPONSE:**

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

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

#### QUESTIONS FOR THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

- 1. What words or phrases captured your attention in this text?
- 2. What might God be saying to you in this passage?
- 3. What might God be saying to our community in this passage?
- 4. What is the good news of Job 1:1-22?

#### SERMON Pastor Dee Schroer

It is agreed that the book of Job originated as a folktale before the common era, a few obvious clues to this are-the names of Job and his friends are not Israelite names and the writing style seems to be from the Near East (Egypt and Mesopotamia) styles. The storyline of Job can be found in other regions, for example, Samaria has a story called "a man and his God", Mesopotamia has a story in which a sufferer praises his God for deliverance from his suffering, and Babylonia had a story called "I will Praise the Lord of Wisdom".

Scholars believe that this book was written by more than one author, because as you read through the entire book you will see the changes as it moves from a narrative form to poetic even psalm-style of writing.

The story of Job should be read as a parable the same as the parables Jesus told in the New Testament.

I believe we all have felt in some way that we have been in Job's shoes at some point in our lives. We can most certainly relate to being tested in our faith to the very core of our being.

We have a tendency to show strength and perseverance in our faith when our lives are humming along uneventfully. But what about when strife and uncertain times come upon us? When we are tested by our circumstances and in the midst of that, well-meaning people try to help us, only to leave us frustrated and feeling even more alone and misunderstood.

We, as a human race, like to think and feel that we have our lives totally under control, that we can control how our lives are going to turn

out – but obviously there are things that can come up that are totally out of our control.

How stable, how certain, how strong does our commitment, our assuredness and our faith in God remain?

These should be some of the questions that arise in your spirit as we begin a series studying the book of Job.

We will not be covering this book in its entirety so I encourage you to read the whole thing for yourself.

If there is any time that is appropriate to study the book of Job, it is now!

Our world will continue to be in a time of uncertainty and upheaval for some time because of the recent pandemic. Many people have suffered losses of some kind and, as the after-effects of the many shutdowns continue, it may cause even more losses.

This is why I feel it is of the greatest importance that we search our faith and utilize the tools that God provides to nurture, sustain and carry us through.

I look to the scriptures for examples of hope and perseverance. I want God's love and peace to work and flow in all people so we can live and walk in the spirit of truth and easily identify what is really important to living a healthy happy life no matter what our circumstances may be.

As we heard in our scripture lesson for today, Jobs story begins by defining Job as a blameless and upright man who "feared" God and turned away from evil. (To fear God here is to respect and obey. Not a fear of one's own safety-as you will see; Job fully trusts God)

Job was blessed with many children who were prosperous and doing well for themselves. He owned a considerable amount of livestock and is described as "the greatest man in the East"

Job was such a good man that when his children would get together and "feast" he would sanctify them and make sacrifices to God after their "parties". I guess you could say he was "cleaning up their mess."

Job was, as people say, healthy, wealthy and wise!

In verse 6 the story shifts from introducing Job to the dialog that happens in the heavenly realm where God and Satan have a discussion about Job. God has pointed Job out to Satan as being the most upright man of his time who always turns away from evil. Satan wants to test Job to see if he will turn away and curse God if he is not prosperous and does not feel like the protection of God is covering everything he has obtained.

Satan didn't waste any time because in the very next verses it explains how Job's livestock and servants were taken away, killed or consumed by fire and then a final servant entered to inform Job that all his children were killed as they were feasting at the oldest son's house.

At this Job rose and tore his clothes and shaved his head and the first thing it said he did was – worship!

Verse 22- is very clear in saying – "in all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing."

As I typed the last two sentences, this thought went through my mind; that maybe the story of Job should be used as a type of stewardship story. In my mind Job understood to the fullest capacity what it means to be a good steward of all God gives. At this point he fully understood and recognized that everything he had from his land, his livestock and even his children were truly gifts of God.

He also understood that these blessings and gifts are truly not for us to possess, but the things of this world are for us to nurture and care for as God would have us do so.

Job was able to worship in the midst of his grief and pain because he believed and lived his life fully trusting that God is ultimately in control.

In his deepest time of grief every physical, emotional, financial, relational, every human thing we can possess had been taken from him. Yet still, Job remained faithful to God.

He remained faithful and strong in his spirit, in his faith, in his commitment to God and God's vision for his life in this world.

Isn't this what God calls us to do? Isn't this what God calls us to fight for?

What are the gifts from God that we should be most careful with? What we should nurture and grow? Is it what is on the outside or what is on the inside that that needs to be nourished and protected the most?

Studying the book of Job is a call for us to enter a deep place of introspection into our faith. It should cause us to consider what our walk with God will look like in the midst of all situations and how we uphold and

transfer that faith to others in the midst of our most painful times when we are full of grief and confusion.

Do we seek someone or something to blame or take revenge on?

Do we let our grief and loneliness consume us to the point that we can't see past it anymore? Do we let our well-meaning friends influence the decisions we should be making by leaning into our faith and using the guidance of the Holy Spirit and looking to the examples Jesus has set for us to follow? Do you really understand how God wants us to live as the children of God? I do believe that Job did, and this story is an example for us.

Read Job to the very end and see how it turns out when you stay true to God, you have patience in the midst of hardships and sorrow. We are not guaranteed that we will never have any trials or tribulations, we are told and reminded over and over again that God will be with us, let's not lose sight of that.

Are you truly in tune enough in the spirit of your heart and life to decipher the difference between your own feelings and what the Spirit is speaking to you?

Are we really happy and faithful, doing good with all God gives us when we are healthy, prosperous and loved and admired by those around us? Do we stay true to God making sure to take time to worship consistently not letting the good things of life consume and distract us from continually seeking and acknowledging God? Do we use our skills and prosperity for the good of others? Job did!

I know this may sound a little farfetched to some of you but if God and Satan were to have a discussion about you, what would they have to talk about? Make a list; review it often, as you grow deeper in your faith journey see how that list changes!

In the book of Job; Satan is translated as "the accuser" this is interesting to me because as we move through the rest of the book of Job you will see how everyone eventually turns on Job and accuses him of doing wrong. Even Job's wife tells him to "curse God and die." I think as we move through life we also need to look out for those who come against us as accusers, those who seem to think they know what is best for everyone and can make our lives better if you just buy their product.

On a personal note, as I studied the bible and my faith grew, I saw the importance of making my mind up and being intentional about how I would react in all situations before they even happened. By choosing to get quiet, check my spirit and praying for guidance God grants me peace and direction. I may not always get good results, but I have learned to be at peace and seek what steps to take next to move forward. It is always our choice to follow God or not.

So I ask again, what happens when we encounter a little hardship or loss in our lives? How do we respond? What about a major hardship? What about losing everything all at one time? Will your faith in God sustain you through these times so you can pick up the pieces and move forward?

God would like us to live out our lives as good and righteous people, people who cling to our faith and love and serve each other, people who believe and work to carry out God's good plans for us, people who want what is right for our world. We, as God's people, want the world to be whole, safe and prosperous for all people to be sustained – "on earth as it is in heaven."

#### WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: "Consider the lilies...look at the birds of the air": Jesus pulls our attention away from our worries about scarcity and turns our gaze toward the beautiful gifts of God's creations, signs of abundance and grace surrounding us always. Trust may be difficult for us, as it was for those early disciples, yet we bring our gifts together with the assurance of God's care for us every day of our lives. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise by giving online or by mailing the giving envelope included in this week's worship packet.

**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 (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.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (adapted from Maren Tirabassi's Communion Liturgy for Good Shepherd Sunday)

INVITATION: For Holy Communion this morning, we sanctify our time and our many tables for a sacrament never confined to sanctuaries or precious surfaces — carved with "Do this in Remembrance of Me," but always following wherever one of God precious children, like a sheep astray, is lost or needs a guide.

Christ is our shepherd. In the loneliest lockdown, we do not want for companionship. In crowded families — distance-learning and never catching breath, we find an inner source of still waters.

In the soul-stretching days of health care and emergency professionals, decision-makers for others, and essential workers with daily risk, we meet a restorer of souls.

In the paths of tight-eousness — assisted living, correctional facility, shelter, immigration detention, nursing home, housing for those who are simply poor — we find a leader, a staff to lean on, a rod that points a new way. Christ leads us not around it, but through the valley of the shadow — and turns to us, as Jesus did when he came through the walls of a locked room in the afternoon of resurrection, said, "Peace be with you," and then asked if they had anything to give him to eat.

Give the gentle Shepherd who is the Risen Christ your bread, your cup and your heart through this sacrament and throughout your life.

#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Leader: We have bread and cup and heart. Our church community is dispersed in distance but we are one in Christ. In your many kitchens, and living rooms, rest your hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them and upon us and upon those who are in our prayers this morning. Let us pray:

Unison: Gentle Host, you prepare a table before us in the threatening presence of virus. You anoint our hearts, bless our bread and our cups overflow. Surely as we shelter in place we find both the goodness of community and mercy to those most

vulnerable. Now, and all the days of our lives, we claim that this house — these many houses where we dwell and also our precious church building, are, indeed, the house of God.

Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing upon your children who are staying at home so that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love and this Cup poured out to give hope to all. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you. Amen.

WORDS OF REMEMBERING

Leader: We remember the sharing of bread in many places — wilderness manna, tents and caves of shepherds, Abigail's saddle bags, the lunch of a small boy, the fish of the disciples and the loaf of Emmaus. We remember that Paul, the apostle, wrote letters to congregations throughout places we now call Greece, Turkey and Macedonia, and they were the first "remote" worship resources, including these Communion words sent to the church at Corinth:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

#### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Leader: Take and eat.

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

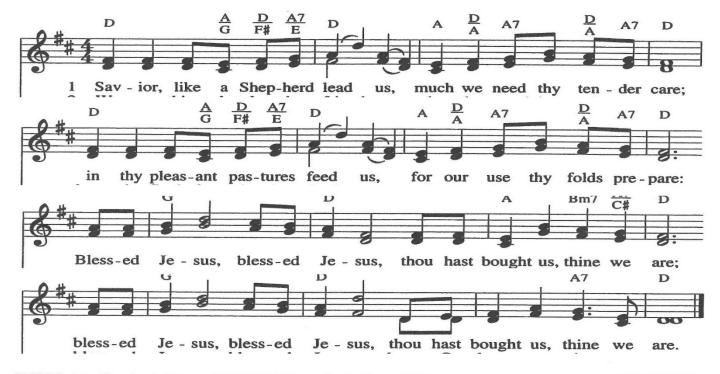
Leader: Take and drink

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Let us pray in thanksgiving for this meal of grace, rejoicing that, in the holy dispersion of virtual worship, we claim the risen Christ's

love is not limited by buildings made with human hands, nor contained in human ceremonies, and celebrating God's shepherding that carries us into the unknown, to listen and follow, to lead and be led, to feed and be fed.

Unison: (sung) Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us verse 1 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 440



WORDS: Attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847); Hymns for the Young, 1836 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868)

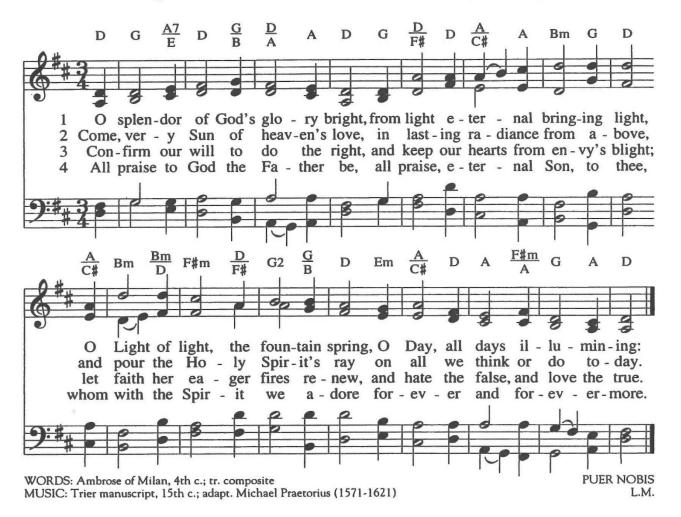
BRADBURY 8.7.8.7.D.

Leader: Amen

**HYMN** 

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

### 144 O Splendor of God's Glory Bright



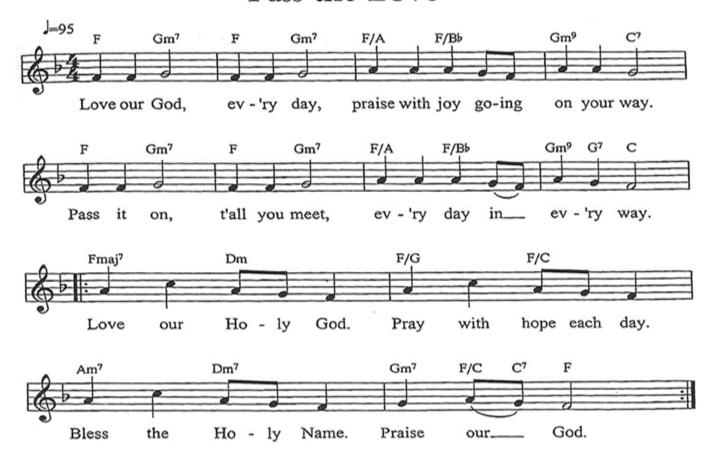
#### **BENEDICTION**

And now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to do far more than we ask or imagine—be glory and honor in the name of Christ Jesus whose love knows no bounds. Go into the world filled with the Spirit of the Living God! Amen.

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Pass the Love

#### Pass the Love



#### PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In many of the resurrection stories, when Jesus appeared to the believers, the first thing he said to them was, "Peace." Christ's peace is for everyone, everywhere. Let us share that peace with joy!

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today's altar flowers were to be given** in loving memory of Edgar, Vilma and Edward Rump by Bev and Ralph Plattner.

Blessing Pantry-is open 10am-noon and 1pm-3pm Monday-Friday and 5:30pm-7:30pm Tuesday's. All Donations Welcome-Thank you! We have placed a metal can outside the East Educational Building door for donations.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Halle Halle" Words and music by Hal H. Hobson ©1998 Hope Publishing Company

<sup>&</sup>quot;Pass the Love" Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.

**Building Entrance-**St. Paul is accessible by the East Educational Building door, Monday-Friday 10:00am-Noon and 1:00pm-3:00pm. Please ring the doorbell, wait outside the doors so staff may assist you. We are currently taking everyone's temperature, asking you to sanitize hands and shoes. Thank you!

**Mailbox-**We have installed 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!

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

May/June Upper Rooms-have arrived! Please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

Thursday Evening Vespers-One of the most difficult parts of the Covid19 pandemic is our inability to gather as a congregation. Yes, many of us log onto Facebook for weekly worship and daily devotions, but the interactions with each other is limited. Thursday's at 6:30pm, Pastors Dee and Becky will host Thursday Evening Vespers. Vespers are traditionally an evening prayer service. We plan to gather via the online site called Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, you can click on or log onto this website: <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78283243697?pwd=cTFzYVIPWjZRZ0dEQUFDT015TIljUT09">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78283243697?pwd=cTFzYVIPWjZRZ0dEQUFDT015TIljUT09</a> \*If you would like an email version of this to make logging on easier, simply email Pastor Becky: <a href="mailto:berbstrang@stpaulnb.org">berbstrang@stpaulnb.org</a> Once you are logged on, you will need the following:

Meeting ID: 782 8324 3697 Password: 2mSAg1

The plan is for us to check in with one another, hear scripture, and pray together each week. Any questions? Contact Pastor Becky

Coffee with Pastor Becky-To keep social distancing guidelines, Pastor Becky plans to be at the St. Paul Playground Shelter House on **Mondays** June 22, 29, July 13, 20, 27 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Becky will provide the coffee and water (and possibly) homemade snacks. All are welcome!

#### **Worship Schedule for June**

June 7. Worship with Holy Communion at 10:15 via Facebook Live.

**June 14.** Worship via Facebook Live at 10:15. Our six confirmands will receive the Rite of Confirmation.

**June 21.** Worship via Facebook Live AND in person in our sanctuary at 10:15.

**June 28.** Worship via Facebook Live AND in person in our sanctuary at 10:15.

Confirmation Celebration! On Sunday, June 14, we will confirm the baptisms of our six confirmands during our Facebook Live worship at 10:15 a.m. Our young adults will read their faith statements. Their parents will bless them and we will pray for the Holy Spirit to come upon each as they continue their Christian journey. We encourage you to send cards of congratulations to our young adults: Henry Nelson, Megan Opperman, Clint Voress, Jay Waterman, Zack Wiedeman and Hayden Zeller. Congratulations!!!!

**Becky's Book Club-**On Sunday, June 28 at 4:00 p.m. Pastor Becky will host a Zoom Book Club, offering us the opportunity to discuss Kim Michele Richardson's <u>The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek</u>. Copies of this book have been ordered. If you live locally and would like a copy, please contact Pastor Becky and she'll get the book to you. If you do not live locally, please contact Pastor Becky and she'll order a copy to be sent to your home.

Zoom login information: Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88216315511?pwd=TjIUWk95SEZ0blJvYlhh Q0NPRXpFUT09

Meeting ID: 882 1631 5511 Password: 875813

Contact Pastor Becky if you would like an email version of this invitation to make logging in simpler. All are welcome!

**Council Meeting-**Tuesday, June 9 at 7:00pm in the Assembly room. Council is hoping to meet in person instead of by email. We are very sorry, but this meeting will be restricted to council members only due to covid-19 restrictions. Thank you for your understanding.

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

Online - Make a donation on our website: 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 project of the year giving: Send 25 space poy (hit send)

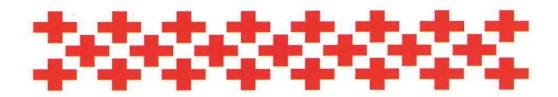
#### Once a text amount is sent:

**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.

#### **American Red Cross**

Give blood.
Help save lives.



#### Blood Drive American Legion

Hall 6458 State Route 66 New Bremen

Monday, June 15 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS or go to redcrossblood.org, sponsor code "amlegnb" to schedule your blood donation appointment



1-800-RED CROSS | redcrossblood.org Download the Blood Donor App

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Donors are critically needed!! Thank you!