



*Never place a period where God has placed a perfect sourdough boule.  
# UnitedChurchOfPandemicBaking  
--Rev. John Gage*

## **St. Paul United Church of Christ**

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Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky Senior Pastor

Pastor Dee Associate Pastor

Jeff Quellhorst-Council President

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

Welcome! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior. May every blessing be yours.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Church-Covid-19** is a respiratory illness. Good hygiene helps prevent the spread not only of coronavirus but also of colds and flu! **Stay home if you are sick.** Sneeze/cough into the crook of your elbow or a tissue, not your hand. **Wash immediately or use hand sanitizer after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.** On July 23 Governor DeWine mandated mask wearing in public, including houses of worship. Masks are essential to help keep those around us safe. Thank You for cooperating.

### **IN PERSON WORSHIP NOTES:**

Masks, Bulletins and Offering Plates are available on round tables.

Please fill out worship cards located in the pews and place in offering plate as you exit. It is very important these cards are filled out by everyone who is here in case we need to contact you. Thank you!!!!

Listening devices are available in the Narthex/front entrance, for those who need them. Please return your device to an Usher following worship. Thank you!

Children's Packets containing children's bulletins and other activities are available on the tables. Please take the whole packet home with you. Thank you!

WIFI Connection-connect via “St Paul – Guest”  
Password: Godlovesyou

The \* indicates all who are able may stand

**October 4, 2020**  
**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**World Communion Sunday**

**Worship Leaders**

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Pastor Dee Schroer

Rev. Jeanette Tangeman

Cheyenne Olt

Dick Hudson

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Guest Preacher

Accompanist/Vocalist

Organist

**GATHERING MUSIC**

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

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MOMENT FOR MISSION: Neighbors in Need**

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the U.S. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). CAIM provides Christian ministry and witness to American Indians and to the wider church justice issues that affect American Indian life. Historically, the forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with different tribes in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska. There are now 20 UCC churches on reservations. There are



many Indians who are members of other UCC churches and CAIM also supports these churches and pastors.

Two thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries in the US. (JWM) supports a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. NIN grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. **In the last two years our own St. Paul received a grant for \$5000.00 from NIN for our Community Garden and for the annual Art Camp.**

This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities throughout the US. Please support this all UCC Mission project for the month of October. Thank you for your generous support of another UCC Mission. The Mission Team.

\*WELCOME SONG

*No Matter*

No Matter

J=120

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.

To verses | Last time, Fine

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(from *Scottish students, World Student Christian Foundation*)

Leader: We gather today to learn what it is to be a pilgrim community

**People: We gather, bringing our hopes and our fears, our memories and our visions**

Leader: We gather, longing for the guidance of God's Spirit to give us renewal and courage for the days ahead.

**People: Come, Christ Jesus be in our midst. Bless us as we remember those who have shown us your way forward. Help us to find a clear vision for the future, as we learn to be your disciples day by day.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*I Come with Joy*

verses 1, 2, 3, 5

# I Come with Joy

*Unison* F  $\frac{Bb}{F}$  F  $\frac{C^4}{F}$  F

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en,  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near, to find, as  
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di -  
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that

Dm Csus Cm Bb  $\frac{Am}{C}$  Am  $\frac{F}{A}$

loved and free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in  
 all are fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
 vi - sion ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 ev - er near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
 God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

Gm Am7  $\frac{F}{A}$  Bb Bbmaj7 C(no3) Cm7 F

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 Christ's com - mun - ion bread, in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 stran - gers now are friends, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

SERVICE OF CONFESSION (from *The United Congregational Church of South Africa*)

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sin against God and each other.

\*UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

**God of mercy, we confess that we have not loved you with all our being. We have done things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone things which we ought to have done. We have built walls between neighbors and between countries, and we have ignored the cries of those in need. Forgive us and set us free, that we may live into the hope of your calling, that your reign may come on earth as it is in heaven. Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Christ is our peace; those who are divided he has made one. He has broken down the barriers of separation by his death and he has built us into one body with God. To whomsoever repents and believes he has promised reconciliation. So, live as people reconciled. 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.***

PRAYER HYMN *Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

# 489 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Chords: Eb Eb7  $\frac{Db}{Ab}$  Ab Eb

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, Lord, send your

Chords:  $\frac{Ab}{Eb}$  Eb F7 Bb7 Eb Eb7

Spir - it in this place; Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

Chords:  $\frac{Db}{Ab}$  Ab Adim7  $\frac{Eb}{Bb}$  Bb7  $\frac{Ab}{Eb}$  Eb

pray - ing, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

WORDS and MUSIC: Ken Medema (1943- )  
 Words and Music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company

CHILDREN PRAYING  
 Irregular

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys:** Ben Strang & Josie Sprague were united in marriage on Saturday October 3, 2020. Congratulations Ben & Josie. Worshipping together!

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Rosie Heitkamp, Karen Fox, Deb Lear, Ethel Mesloh, Julie Vogel, Jan Dammeyer, Drew Wray, Cindy Newman, and Pastor Dee Schroer.



## PASTORAL PRAYER, PERSONAL PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Let us join our hearts in prayer. Loving God, that you would think our hearts capable of belonging to you! You have filled our lives with your goodness in so many ways. We hear the call to give ourselves to your love in an even deeper and more complete way. We long to follow you so totally that you are evident in every fiber of our lives. We pray for faith, that long lasting, true sense of you that weathers all storms, that sinks into your love and lets go of anxieties and worries, that looks long into the eyes of others' sufferings, that takes care to be gentle with sinners and those whose lives are never free from tense pain of body or spirit (SILENCE)

We pray for love, that great and generous enough love that looks compassionately upon all, that love which accepts others with their mystery, doubt, hesitation, that love which reaches out even though there is no response in return, that love which is patient and kind, that kind of love, which is your love, never jealous, boastful or conceited, that love which is never rude or selfish but rather always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. (SILENCE)

We yearn for you to be the one at whose feet we can sit and ponder the message, the one whose hand we can hold and walk with when we are afraid, the one at whose side we can sit as we taste the meal, the one whose robe we can touch even in the crowd. We need to hear your voice over and over again. (SILENCE)

Confident of your love we lift our prayers not only for ourselves but for those of our brothers and sisters who need your comfort and your strength as they are ravaged by fire and water and disease; for those who are mourning the loss of a loved one or of a job or relationship. We give thanks for those who are caregivers and those who come quickly when we need them. Guide those who are using the gifts you have given them to find drugs and vaccines for the virus which has plunged our world into the depths of pandemic. And even in the midst of what seems to be overwhelming problems, we know there are joys and blessings to be found and that you share in those as well. Wrap us in your love (SILENCE)

Hear each and every prayer which we offer in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together...**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

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

(adaptation of a Jamaican folk song)

*Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.*

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

*Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he set the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.*

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

*Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share  
God Immanuel everywhere!*

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 10:34-37, 44-11:18 (NRSV)

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup> The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup> for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup> "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup> So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**11** Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you

*a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.<sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’<sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?”<sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”*

## RESPONSE

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

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

## SERMON

*All in the Family*

Rev. Jeanette Tangeman

Every year on the first Sunday of October, World Communion Sunday, we join Christians around the world who are also celebrating Holy Communion together. While this seems to some just another blurb on the church calendar, I have always felt that it deserves much more. If truly celebrated it has the ability to bring so much more to our worship and subsequently our lives together. We often tend to isolate ourselves from other cultures, or people from other places, people who do not look like us, or speak like us. In doing so, we become arrogant and it can result in us feeling that our ways are the best, or even the only true ones. That applies to our worship ways as well.

In my travels around this country and to various other countries and cultures I have developed an understanding and appreciation for the differing ways in which others worship. I have realized that they have some traditions that add depth and beauty to the ones in which I usually worship. For instance, on a mission trip to Mazahua Mission in Mexico I was privileged to share in worship with some Mazahua Indian families, people who are very low on the socioeconomic scale of the area. When I say I felt privileged to share, I really mean it. The singing was so joyful, the praying was amazing. During the time of prayer each person prayed their own prayers out loud...together, at the same time, in one beautiful cacophony of petition and thanksgiving to God. When it came time for

the offering, these folks who live in poverty, literally sang and danced their way to the offering baskets at the front of the church. They even shared what little they had in a “coffee hour” type of event...no coffee though. The children came around to all of us with little wagons of juice and milk and crackers. They truly made us feel like family as they invited us into their homes, literally shacks of tin and cardboard.

Worshiping in some other cultures involved the beauty and formality of “high worship” and sharing from a common cup during Communion. Often there were huge sanctuaries of grandeur and magnificent antiques and architecture and stained glass. But we were welcomed warmly and included in all. No matter where we were in this country or others, worship was a way to make us feel at home, like one big family of differing relatives but a shared love.

I hope you notice that I have included in the bulletin today, liturgies from some different countries. I do so intentionally to show that we are more alike than different; that we really are all part of God’s family. And today as we celebrate Holy Communion with our brothers and sisters across our nation and around the world, let the power of that thought sink in. We are part of a very large family. Everyone is always saying how small the world has become. Jesus made it very clear that the term “family” is certainly not limited to our blood relatives, but to all people. He made it a point in many stories that God’s love was not limited to the Jews, but also extended to the Gentiles. The clear implications of his words were that God loved all people and therefore, we are all part of God’s family. Of course there were many who did not agree with that and plotted to kill him. Nevertheless, much to their amazement, throughout his earthly ministry, Jesus lived out this wider concept of family by ministering to people of all kinds and conditions. We know that he poured out special care upon the outcasts, the poor, the rejected and the Gentiles.

Jesus constantly showed that his concept of family had nothing to do with genealogy and everything to do with love, and sometimes that was difficult for those around him to comprehend. Well guess what, unfortunately in our divisive country and world, it is still difficult for many today. We have divided into levels of wealth, color of skin, sexual identities, ages, politics, culture, and religion. There are probably many



more categories of which each of us are aware. And for some even their immediate families are divided and so thinking beyond them to the world as family is impossible. It is never going to be a once and done thing for any of us but if we are truly professing to be Christians, disciples of Christ, then we need to find ways to work on it. We need to grow in understanding and love and it is not just going to happen magically.

One of my favorite quotes is “love is an action verb.” When families love each other what do they DO? They care for and support each other, they help each other when someone is down and out, they surround each other with love and prayer when illness or tragedy befalls, they share with each other and join each other at meals. Love in action requires growth in thinking, understanding and doing. And it needs to go beyond the walls of our homes and churches. Sometimes it is easier than others. When faced with huge tragedies the kindness and love of folks just comes streaming out and is obvious everywhere. But when we disagree with politics or racism and even religion it is hard to see any love or kindness, and especially hard to imagine we are all one family of God. Watching the news can make one wonder what has happened to the human race.

Where do we start with this growth and how do we continue? There is no easy answer. Sometimes the best way is to develop a personal relationship with someone that is very different from you. To discover that in spite of the obvious differences, there are amazingly basic similarities in desires and needs, and in love of family and friends. One on one understanding and love then makes a person more willing to be open to it on a larger scale. When we can begin to ease up, to let go of the prejudices that have divided us, no matter the category, with one person, it makes it easier to begin to look at the bigger picture.

Have you ever shared a meal of strange food with someone and discovered how delicious it is? In Toledo where I grew up each year an International Festival was held and it was one great big event. I never missed it. Beautiful people with amazing food and conversation. And Toledo is also known for its German American Festival, the Hungarian Festival, the Greek Festival and the Polish Festival. You can imagine that the biggest drawing card was the FOOD! Oh there was dancing and vendors of colorful cultural items, but if you ever begin a conversation

with anyone about one of the festivals, the first topic would be the food. What a unifier of people. My stomach is growling.

And what about our church potlucks? Churches are notorious for enjoying tables full of home cooked goodies and the fellowship around the tables is loud and loving. I really believe that eating together is one sure way to begin to grow in love and understanding. I believe it can bring us closer together and not just more tolerant of each other, but a feeling of agape love, a feeling of being connected to each other.

So today, as we share in the Lord's Supper, Christ's meal, a feast of love, be reminded again that we are sitting at a dinner table that stretches around the world. Our family of brothers and sisters in our neighborhood, our country, our world is sharing this meal. What a visual. I hope you can see the picture. May it fill you with hope for our world that love will reign. Let us come To Christ's Table and share in a meal with our world family with hearts and minds fully prepared to meet our Lord there. All are welcome. Love abounds.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: Through our offerings we identify with the cause of Christ. We proclaim our concern for all people and name them as our next of kin. We identify with their suffering and grief and we rejoice when good comes to them. Both our material resources and our personal time and effort are offered here to extend the body of Christ into this moment in history and into the whole world.

\*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)

**May these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness, hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are oppressed. Grant to each giver a sense of participation in the most important opportunity of all time: to share your love with the world. To this end, we dedicate our offerings and ourselves. Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN

One Bread One Body

689

One Bread, One Body

Refrain (Unison)

Chord symbols: C/D, G, C/G, G, C/G, G, D, Em, Bsus B

Lyrics: One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,

Chord symbols: Em, D, G, Em, A7/C#, A, D, C/D

Lyrics: one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And

WORDS: John B. Foley (1939- )  
 MUSIC: John B. Foley (1939- ); arr. Gary Alan Smith (1947- ), alt.  
 Words and Music © 1978 John B. Foley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

Chord symbols: G, C/G, G, C/G, G, D, Em, Bsus B

Lyrics: we, though man - y through-out the earth,

Chord symbols: Em, D, G, Em, A7/C#, D7, G, C, (G/B), G, D/F#

Lyrics: we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Chord symbols: Em, D, Em, D

Lyrics: 1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
 3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

Chord symbols: Em, F, Am, D, D7, to Refrain C/D

Lyrics: wom - an or man, no more.  
 one in the Lord of all.  
 gath - ered to one, for all. One

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION: Come people of God, out of your separateness, to enter into unity with one another and with all those who seek the presence of Jesus Christ, through the breaking of bread and sharing of the fruit of the vine. The table is now prepared for us. We are invited to share in the feast of God's presence, celebrating here and now all that is meant by being alive.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for your presence in our midst as we gather in praise and thanksgiving to you.

**People: Amen, we praise your name O God**

Leader: Creator God, you made humankind in your image, with varied hues of skin, hair, and eyes, of varied heights and widths, with differing talents and gifts. Yet all are beautiful in your sight. We give you thanks for calling us to be your children.

**People: Amen, we praise your name O God**

Leader: We thank you for sending Jesus Christ to live among us. In his time on earth, Jesus reached out to all persons, poor and rich, children, women and men, sick and marginalized. He taught us to do the same. And he gave us this meal to remember him: taking a loaf of bread, giving 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 after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me." We give you thanks for Jesus Christ and for this meal.

**People: Amen, we praise your name O God**

Leader: We ask your Holy Spirit to come to the table spread around the world today: Bless each person, and bless our partaking that we may grow into your body, united in your love, to bring your reconciling peace to the whole world. For these hopes and for all your promises given and kept, we thank you Holy Trinity now and forever.

**People: Amen, we praise your name O God**

### SHARING THE MEAL

Leader: The body of Christ broken for you. Take and eat

Leader: The cup of the new Covenant poured out for you. Take and drink.

# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

God of new life, with joy we have received this sacrament of bread and fruit of the vine, giving you thanks for Jesus Christ, our peace and our hope. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your suffering divided world. Unite your church throughout the world in continuing Christ's ministry of love and servanthood that your name may be praised in all the earth. Amen

\*HYMN OF SENDING *In Christ There is no East or West* verses 1 & 4  
CHRISTIAN UNITY

## 603 In Christ There Is No East or West

D F#m G  $\frac{D}{F\#}$   $\frac{A}{C\#}$  A7 D  $\frac{Em}{G}$   $\frac{D}{F\#}$   $\frac{A7}{E}$  D A

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In him shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mun - ion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your race may be!  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north;

D  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{D}{A}$  G  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em7 A7 Bm  $\frac{D}{F\#}$   $\frac{Em}{G}$   $\frac{D}{A}$  A7 D

but one great fel - low - ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
his serv - ice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
Who serves my Fa - ther as his child is sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ - ly souls are one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

WORDS: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.  
MUSIC: Alexander R. Reinagle (1799-1877)

ST. PETER  
C.M.



## \*BENEDICTION (from *Women's Conference Japan*)

Go forth in love to meet the world's needs. Go into the world with a daring and tender love. The world is waiting. Go in peace. And all that you do, do it for love, and by the Spirit of Jesus Who is the Lord.

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

### Pass the Love

♩=95

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 C7

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

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 G7 C

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

Fmaj7 Dm F/G F/C

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

Am7 Dm7 Gm7 F/C C7 F

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

## \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: In Christ, we are a new creation. Let us pass the peace of Christ with each other.

As the ushers are dismissing you, let us pass the peace of Christ with each other, while maintaining our 6 ft physical distance. Direct eye contact, loving words, and a warm smile are as meaningful as a traditional handshake or hug.

## \*RECESSIONAL

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*"Pass the Love"* Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANK YOU!!

Dear St. Paul family, I never expected when I began as your Director of Youth Ministries in 2009 that I would end up being ordained, let alone at St. Paul. I will always be grateful for the encouragement and support I found within the community of St. Paul and New Bremen. I specifically want to thank those who attended my ordination or participated online. One could not ask for a better send off into ordained ministry in a new setting. Thank you also for the beautiful travel communion set and fabulous 'hands-on' stole. The pandemic has created some unique challenges and I am impressed and honored that many of you took the time to trace your hands and be part of my ordination. I will always hold St. Paul in highest regard, and I will always pray for the ministry you do and those who minister on behalf of the church. Thank you seems insufficient, so please recognize the intensity with which I say THANK YOU!! Blessings, Rev. Katie Jackson

**Altar Flowers** are given in loving memory of Curl and Knost Families by John and Kancy Knost.

**Attendance**-Online-Daily Devotions Avg.-201, September 20-Sunday Worship Online-338, In Person-51, Confirmation 9/16 & 9/23-12 students, 4 leaders.

**Meetings: Mission Team**-Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 11:15am.  
**Worship Team**-Sunday, October 18, 2020 at 11:15am.

**Blessing Pantry-Starting October 5**, the Pantry will be located in its original space in the North Hallway and accessible by the North door during these tentative hours - **Monday's & Wednesday's - Friday's 11:30am-4:00pm** and **Tuesday's 11:30am-7:30pm**. The Pantry will be self-serve. **All Donations Welcome - Thank you!** There is a metal can outside the East Educational Building door for donations.

**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!

**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.

**Coffee with Pastor Becky**-Monday's from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. at NB Coffee Co. All are Welcome!!!!

**Opening Day Jr/Sr High Youth Groups and Splash**-Jr/ Sr High Youth Groups will begin Wednesday, October 7. Jr High will run from 6:00pm to 6:45pm and Sr High will run from 7:00pm to 7:45pm. Splash (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade youth group) begins Sunday, October 11 and runs from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Questions? Please contact Pastor Dee. Thanks.

**Ushers Needed**-Myra Hanenkratt, our Senior Deacon, is still seeking ushers for in-person worship. If this is something you are willing to do, please contact her or the church office.

**Zoom Bible Study**- Thursday's at 6:30 p.m. Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on or logging onto:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88567175194?pwd=K2FBaGYzRUpaRElwTjIc4Q1Y4b3UrUT09> Once you are logged on, you will need the following:

**Meeting ID: 885 6717 5194      Passcode: 229014**

\*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)

**October Book Club** is currently scheduled for Sunday, October 25 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss Gavin Edwards book *Kindness and Wonder Why Mister Rogers Matters Now More Than Ever*. 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 will be forth coming.

**September/October Upper Rooms**-have arrived! They are available at the East entrance to the education building and on Sunday's in the Sanctuary. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

## **Sunday School and Worship Schedule for October**

**Sunday's in October-Sunday School** will be in person beginning at 9:00am. **Worship**-we will be worshipping via Facebook Live and in person in our sanctuary at 10:15am.

### **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 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.

# Warm Winter Coat & Gloves Drive



Agape Ministries will once again be collecting  
**NEW & GENTLY USED WINTER COATS &**  
**NEW WATER PROOF WINTER GLOVES**  
for those in need.

Coat Drive Dates: September 21 – November 1.

Drop off Coats to the Agape Client Services Building from 9 am – 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday.

If dropping off at THRIFT STORE, please tell them it is for the coat drive and not to be sold in store.

Items may also be dropped off at St Paul. We will have a designated coat rack available in east hallway of Educational building. Thank you.

**WE'RE ALL**  
**IN THIS**  
*Together*



## **Blood Drive** **American Legion**

Hall  
6458 State Route 66  
New Bremen

**Monday, October 5**  
**12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

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



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

**Schedule a blood donation appointment today:**

Download the Blood Donor App | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767



September 27, 2020

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you during these gorgeous fall days. We continue to pray for your good health and the health of our communities.

This coming Sunday, October 4, marks both World Communion Sunday during worship at 10:15 and Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. The nursery will be open during worship, however we do ask that parents pack their toys for their children.

This week marks a transition week for ministries and missions of St. Paul Church. Beginning Sunday, our education building doors will be open as they were pre-Covid. Youth groups begin next Wednesday. We will begin to welcome outside groups into our building for meetings.

Our Blessing Pantry is on the move. The Pantry will be closed this Thursday and Friday in order to move into our original space off the north hallway. We are also entering into a partnership with West Ohio Food Bank in order to purchase needed foods at greatly reduced prices. Because of this partnership, we will need to track our guests who visit the Pantry. **The new Blessing Pantry hours beginning next week: Tuesdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** We will need two volunteers to staff each of these shifts. Please contact the church office if you can volunteer.

We thank God for your ongoing financial support of St. Paul Church in the midst of Covid19. The giving envelope included in this mailing serves as an invitation and reminder for your continuing support of the many ministries and missions of our congregation as we seek to serve Jesus by loving our neighbors both near and far. Thank you for your generosity!

Next week we will not have a weekly update letter due to the Strang Family wedding. We will, however, include financial information and announcements in next week's worship packet.

Our sanctuary air conditioning Project of the Year is complete and fully funded. Thank you for your generosity! Any funds given to the Project of the Year for the rest of 2020 will go toward repairing the steeple roof and repairing the gutters on the education building. Council will determine the order of these projects depending on the funds donated.

May your week be filled with blessings, joy and service!

Grace and Peace,



Jeff Quellhorst    Roland Dicke    Becky Erb Strang    Dee Schroer  
Council President    Council VP    Senior Pastor    Associate Pastor

#### Financial Information as of September 27, 2020

##### Operating Fund

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

Giving Income \$2,060.69 (weekly)

Endowment Transfers \$28,457.19(ytd)

Income \$220,612.47 (YTD)

Expenses \$220,712.52 (YTD)

Balance **(\$3,074.19)**

##### Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$83,428.04

Income \$11,671.00 (YTD)

Endowment Income \$2,627.44 (YTD)

Expenses \$27,968.88 (YTD)

Balance \$69,757.60

##### Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$9,934.05

Income \$13,654.00(YTD)

Bless Pantry Inc. \$10,685.55

Expenses \$17,512.14(YTD)

Bless Pantry Ex.\$10,314.68

Balance \$6,446.78

##### Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$30,000.00

Income \$355.00(weekly)

Income \$18,299.00 (YTD)

##### Project of the Year

Income \$500.00(weekly)

Balance \$2,151.00

OCTOBER 4, 2020  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

# taking† faith home

*We want to know Christ Jesus.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

|           |                     |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday    | Matthew 21:33-46    | Parable of the vineyard tenants |
| Monday    | Isaiah 5:1-7        | A song about a vineyard         |
| Tuesday   | Philippians 3:4b-14 | To know Christ                  |
| Wednesday | Exodus 20:1-20      | The Ten Commandments            |
| Thursday  | Psalms 19           | The wonders of God              |
| Friday    | 1 Peter 2:1-10      | A chosen people                 |
| Saturday  | Psalms 80:7-15      | Prayer for Israel's deliverance |
| Sunday    | Matthew 22:1-14     | Parable of the wedding feast    |

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death.

**Philippians 3:10 (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

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

Almighty God, help us to trust that in your death there is eternal life and in suffering there is the power of love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Nurturing God, we thank you for this food; help us to use food wisely so that others may have enough to eat. Amen.

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

May God bless you to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. (Philippians 3:10)



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OCTOBER 4, 2020  
**HYMN OF THE WEEK**  
*Come and Fill Our Hearts*



# taking† faith home

## 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:

- Describe or think about what you feel are the characteristics of a good friend.
- Are you a good friend? How would others describe you?
- How does your faith in Jesus free you to care for—even feel the pain of—others?

## DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Philippians 3:4b-14.

We don't get it. According to research on American religious views, we want to be saved by God because we are "good people." We prefer to rely on our own merits rather than trust the power of Christ's death and resurrection that conquers our sin. Perhaps this is part of the sinful self-centeredness that Christ comes to cleanse us of. Paul writes to the church at Philippi and points out that if anyone has a claim to self-righteousness based on the law that measures our goodness, Paul would be pretty unbeatable; he would be "blameless" (v. 6). But he counts all of his religious success as "loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (v. 8). The truly amazing part of his testimony is that knowing Christ does not free him from suffering; he is not concerned about why "bad things happen to good people." Paul announces his freedom to suffer with Christ. This "theology of the cross" sees life in death, sees joy in suffering and sees hope in despair. Paul presses "on to make it my own" (v. 12). He is announcing a view of life, and this way of life sees Christ as the source of all our hopes of salvation. How is freedom from judging our own goodness important to our salvation?

*Pray:* Dear God, help us to know Jesus; may we focus our attention on the needs of others and to care for them through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SERVICE



Grapevines and vineyards are written about more than any other plant in the Bible. They were important in Biblical times and part of the culture. They were often used as symbols of producing fruit. In this context, fruit means one's actions that come from the heart. Place grapes in a bowl and as you eat them, think about what it means for you to produce good fruits (take positive actions). What positive actions can you take to care for others?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Philippians 3, Paul talks about pressing towards the goal to reach the prize of knowing Christ Jesus. Think about a time you tried to reach a goal. What happened? Whether we reach the goal or not, God is always with us. *Pray:* Lord, help us to keep our eye on the goal, the prize of the "heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." 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)