

June 7, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

As we experience rainy weather this week, we have reasons to rejoice: God's love and grace rain upon us each and every day of our lives.

Sunday in-person worship services are going well. Masking in worship is now a personal choice. We affirm both the masked and unmasked folk as we gather to worship God through the Risen Christ.

Even with Covid19 restrictions lifted, we will continue to livestream worship and send the weekly worship mailing.

Many of you are asking about Saturday evening worship. Our plan, at this point, is to begin the Saturday evening worship on Saturday, September 11. We'll continue to keep you in the loop as we get closer to that date.

We plan to purchase and spread mulch in our landscaping beds. While we have not taken any bids for this, we are estimating the cost will be between \$700 and \$1000. If you would like to donate toward the purchase of mulch, please mark your financial donation "mulch."

While we did not hold Art Camp last summer and we will not host it this summer, we are hosting a Summer Safari Carnival: Let's Reconnect on Wednesday, July 21 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. This event will be held in our St. Paul Community Playground and will include a meal, crafts, games and music. The Carnival is free to all participants and we expect 500+ people to attend. We will need lots of volunteers. If you'd like to assist, please contact Pastor Becky

Included in this mailer is a giving envelope. Your ongoing financial support of St. Paul Church keeps the many ministries and missions going strong.

Thank you for your faithfulness to St. Paul Church! Together we are the Body of Christ in this community.

Grace and Peace,



Roland Dicke
Council President



Myra Hanenkratt
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of June 7, 2021

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$4,718.55(weekly)
Endowment Transfers \$12,286.00(ytd)
Income \$137,978.21(ytd)
Expenses \$136,624.41 (ytd)
Balance \$1,353.80 (ytd)

Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37
Income \$8,271.00 (ytd)
Endowment Income \$2,477.46(ytd)
Expenses \$8,295.36 (ytd)
Balance \$76,097.47 (ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20
Income \$7,209.00 (ytd)
Expenses \$6,480.70 (ytd)
Balance \$6,978.50
BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15
Bless Pantry Inc. \$15,886.00(ytd)
Bless Pantry Ex. \$4,044.41(ytd)
BP Balance \$19,722.74

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$469.00(weekly)
Income \$12,052.00 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$1215.00(weekly)
Balance \$3,260.00(ytd)

JUNE 13, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



The reign of God will not be stopped.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 4:26-34	Parables of Jesus
Monday	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Israel to return from exile
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Living by faith
Wednesday	Psalms 107:4-22	Thanksgiving for deliverance
Thursday	Acts 5:27-42	The apostles are persecuted
Friday	Zachariah 8:1-17	God's promises to Zion
Saturday	Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15	A song for the sabbath day
Sunday	Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calms the sea

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"[The kingdom of God] is like a mustard seed, which when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." Mark 4:31-32 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, in Christ Jesus we thank you that by day and by night your reign of steadfast love and faithfulness will not be stopped. (Psalm 92:1-2)

Mealtime Prayer:

Nurturing God, for the seed that becomes the plant that supplies the food that shows your love, we give you thanks. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God bless you now and always. (Psalm 92:2)



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JUNE 13, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

As Rain from the Clouds



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 your experience with gardening and planting seeds.
- Think or talk about a time you have seen an act of kindness make a big difference in someone's life.
- Jesus describes the reign of God through images of tiny seeds and growth. In what way is this a message about God's kingdom?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Mark 4:26-34.

With Jesus' depiction of the kingdom of God, one would expect comparisons to something like spectacular cedar trees of Lebanon (Ezekiel 17:22 and Psalm 92:12) or some other vision of grandeur. Jesus chooses something more akin to a weed, a mustard bush that is prolific in Judea. It's an example that likely made his hearers chuckle, not gasp with indescribable awe; it's another example of getting people to see differently. Just as relentless as mustard bushes or weeds are, God's reign will not be deterred. It is like the seed planted that grows and grows without human intervention. As the Gospel of Mark gets underway, the message is that the kingdom is coming. The kingdom is viewed through surprising, even humorous comparisons. It will not be stopped, not by evil, not by scribes, not by disciples who fail again and again. Evil will be overcome, voices of the kingdom will be heard, and imperfect followers will keep pointing to Christ's victory over sin and death. How do you help others see the kingdom of God more clearly?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to see and believe with the eyes of faith that your reign will win the day through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



The smallest of seeds planted can become the largest of plants. Likewise, the smallest acts of kindness can grow to make a very large difference in someone's life. Think of someone who is not so visible or lonely and reach out to them. In what way does reaching out to them grow the kingdom of God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Use a leafless branch and cut out leaf shapes. During devotion time this week, think or talk about ways you have seen and felt God at work in the world. Write down those ways on leaves and add them to the branch. Praise and thank God each time you add leaves by praying: **Dear God, we thank you for caring for us. May your presence in our lives help us to continue to grow and care for others, even in ways we may not see or understand. Amen.**



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



Teamwork: A mom and dad bird saving their baby.
Photographer Unknown

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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!!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, Welcome! Blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Church-Following the CDC guidelines on May 14, 2021, you no longer need to wear a mask during worship. We do ask, however, that you maintain social distancing. We are aware that some of you will want to continue wearing a mask in worship. We affirm both the masked and unmasked folk as we gather to worship God through the Risen Christ.

June 13, 2021

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Lauren Miller

Dick Hudson

Cheyenne Olt

Morgan Felver

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

SALT

Organist

Accompanist/Vocalist

Liturgist

PRELUDE

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME SONG

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 (adapted from Psalm 92)

Leader: It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name,
O Most High,

**People: To proclaim your love in the morning and your
faithfulness at night,**

Leader: To the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the
harp.

**People: For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for
joy at the works of your hands.**

Leader: How great are your works, O Lord. How profound are your
thoughts!

All: You, O Lord, are exalted forever! We worship you with joy!!!!

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

87

G D $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ G $\frac{Am}{C}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

G D $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ G $\frac{Am}{C}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

G $\frac{D7}{F\#}$ G $\frac{C}{E}$ G D G D $\frac{G}{B}$ Am $\frac{G}{B}$ D

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 Christ is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

G $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{D7}{A}$ G C $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D G Em $\frac{Am}{C}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

INVOCATION (unison)

God, our Rock, our refuge, our resting place, we come to you. Out of another busy week, out of our struggles to be meaningful in our world, out of our desire to meet you and to know you as the center of our being, we come to you, Holy One. Fill us with your Holy Spirit in worship this day and throughout the coming week. Amen.

HALLELUJAH!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht Hal - le -

lu - jaht Hal - le - lu - jaht

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. The lyrics are: Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht. Chord markings include C, Am7, D7, D, G, D, Em, and a final D chord.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Have you ever played charades? It is this wonderful game when teams work together to figure out the motions/signals/body movements of a teammate to guess who/what/where they are trying to express. I'll be honest—my friends and I hardly ever played charades in college since most of us were proficient in sign language. When everyone in the room knows how to speak with their hands, the game is over before it begins.

But here is the cool thing about playing charades—we have to **show** our teammates who we are rather than telling them with our words. Our lives as followers of Jesus should be like that. People should be able to know we are Christian NOT by what we say, but how we behave.

Remember the church camp song? They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love. People around us: family members, friends, neighbors and even strangers and enemies should be able to know we belong to Jesus by how we treat others.

This week I challenge you to play charades: not in your living room, but in your life. Show others you belong to Jesus rather than just telling them. Amen.

PRAYER HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians

CHRISTIAN UNITY

They'll Know We Are Christians 595

Unison N.C. Fm Eb/F Fm Cm7 Fm Eb/F Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

Fm Bbm Ab/Bb Bbm Gm7(b5)/Bb Fm Eb/F Fm

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
 And all praise to Christ Je - sus, his on - ly Son.

Fm Bbm Ab/Bb Bbm Gm7(b5)/Bb Fm Eb/F Fm

And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.
 And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
 And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.
 And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

Refrain N.C. Db Ab Db Fm/C Cm Fm Bbm

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love.

Bbm7 Fm/Ab Bbm Csus Cm Fm

Yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

WORDS and MUSIC: Peter Scholtes (1938-); para. John 13:35
 Words and Music © 1966, 1967 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 Lorenz Publishing Company

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Birth Candle welcomes Jaxson John Gilberg, born Thursday, May 27, 2021. Jaxson is the son of Jared and Kylie Gilberg, grandson of James and Diane Gilberg and great grandson of John and Joyce Gilberg.

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Cindy Newman (JTDMH), Bob Kettler (OSU), Pam Simon, John Gilberg, James Nelson, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Almighty and Holy God, we come before you this day as your precious children. In the presence of your love, your forgiveness, your bounty, keep us humble. In the presence of the needs of your children, make us compassionate and caring.

Give us faith in our praying and love in our serving, knowing that by your power all may find a new balance in living and a new victory in adversity.

We pray today for all unhappy lives: those who are bitter and resentful, feeling life has given them a raw deal, those who are sensitive to criticism and quick to take offense, those who desire their own way, whatever the inconvenience or cost to others. May your healing love become a soothing balm.

We pray for those who are lonely, who are shy and self-conscious, who find it hard to make friends; those who are nervous and timid, who ever feel themselves strangers in a world they can scarcely understand. May your presence inspire confidence and ensure companionship.

We pray for those who live with bitter regrets, for loving relationships brought to ruin, for opportunities freely given and woefully abused, for bitterness of defeat or betrayal at another's hand, or for a failure in personal integrity. May your grace give new hope to find victory in the very scene of failure.

We pray for all in illness and pain, weary of the day and fearful of the night. Grant healing to all who seek your gentle touch in body, mind and spirit. Offer your gift of the peace that surpasses all understanding.

Bless the company of Christians, the church in every land. Make her eager in worship, fearless in proclamation of the gospel, and passionate for caring.

Holy One, we humbly ask that you quiet our busy hearts and minds that we might hear your still-speaking voice in our daily lives. SILENCE

Bless us, each one, in the communion of saints, and keep us ever mindful of the great cloud of witnesses that, following in their steps, as they did in the steps of the Master, we may with them at the last, join them at the Banquet you have prepared for all.

All of this we pray in the name of Jesus, your Son, 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Adelle Bretz

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Habakkuk 1:1-6; 2:1-11; 3:2; 17-19a
(NRSV)

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² *O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?*

*Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?*

³ *Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?*

*Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.*

⁴ *So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.*

*The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.*

⁵ *Look at the nations, and see!
Be astonished! Be astounded!
For a work is being done in your days
that you would not believe if you were told.*

⁶ *For I am rousing the Chaldeans,*

*that fierce and impetuous nation,
who march through the breadth of the earth
to seize dwellings not their own.*

*I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;*

*I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.*

² Then the Lord answered me and said:

*Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.*

*³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.*

*If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.*

*⁴ Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.*

*⁵ Moreover, wealth is treacherous;
the arrogant do not endure.*

*They open their throats wide as Sheol;
like Death they never have enough.*

*They gather all nations for themselves,
and collect all peoples as their own.*

*⁶ Shall not everyone taunt such people and, with mocking riddles, say
about them,*

“Alas for you who heap up what is not your own!”

How long will you load yourselves with goods taken in pledge?

*⁷ Will not your own creditors suddenly rise,
and those who make you tremble wake up?*

Then you will be booty for them.

*⁸ Because you have plundered many nations,
all that survive of the peoples shall plunder you—
because of human bloodshed, and violence to the earth,
to cities and all who live in them.*

⁹ *“Alas for you who get evil gain for your house,
setting your nest on high
to be safe from the reach of harm!”*

¹⁰ *You have devised shame for your house
by cutting off many peoples;
you have forfeited your life.*

¹¹ *The very stones will cry out from the wall,
and the plaster will respond from the woodwork.*

*O Lord, I have heard of your renown,
and I stand in awe, O Lord, of your work.*

*In our own time revive it;
in our own time make it known;
in wrath may you remember mercy.*

*Though the fig tree does not blossom,
and no fruit is on the vines;*

*though the produce of the olive fails,
and the fields yield no food;*

*though the flock is cut off from the fold,
and there is no herd in the stalls,*

¹⁸ *yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.*

¹⁹ *God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
and makes me tread upon the heights.*

RESPONSE

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

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

SERMON

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Lament. Today's sermon focuses on lament and how it shapes our lives. This conversation is particularly important in the second year of the global pandemic. For here is our reality: many of us have lost family members and friends, our health, our livelihoods, our socializing. Many of us are not even sure how to begin to count those losses.

According to dictionary.com “lament” means:

verb (used with object)

to feel or express sorrow or regret for: *to lament his absence.*

to mourn for or over.

verb (used without object)

to feel, show, or express grief, sorrow, or regret.

to mourn deeply.

noun

an expression of grief or sorrow.

a formal expression of sorrow or mourning, especially in verse or song.

Today we explore the prophet Habakkuk as we focus on lament, loss, grief and sorrow. Habakkuk is considered a minor Old Testament prophet. We rarely hear Habakkuk preached—only four short verses are included in the Revised Common Lectionary. Yet, Habakkuk’s voice and vision challenges us to pursue justice and righteousness in the midst of sorrow and loss. Habakkuk’s voice and vision challenges us to see life through the eyes of faith.

We know very little about Habakkuk—as a prophet AND as a book of the Old Testament. The text itself is difficult to date and scholars argue to this day about the book’s cohesiveness: Was the form in which we have Habakkuk today written as a whole work OR was it a mish-mash of gathered material?

All scholarly arguments aside, it is amazing how important a role this tiny book tucked near the end of the Old Testament has played. In his letters to the Romans, Galatians, and Hebrews, the Apostle Paul cited Habakkuk 2:4 ***the righteous shall live by their faith*** as the basis for his own doctrine of justification by faith. And Talmudic Rabbi Simlai identified that same verse as the summary of all 613 commands of the Torah.

Habakkuk has much to teach us about lament, loss, hope and faith.

While we might not want to focus on sorrow, today’s scripture lesson reminds us that lamentation is part of life. For this is the truth: we have known pain and sorrow in our lives—especially in these past months. We often bury unspeakable pain and horrors deep inside our souls. At times, we are ashamed of our pain. At other times, we cling to our brokenness

and bitterness like a child clings to her ragged blankie. At times, we rage at God. At times, we give up all hope of new ways of living.

Without a doubt, very few of us know **what** to do with the burdens we bear, with the sorrow we experience, with the unfairness of life we know in our own lives and in the wider world.

Somehow, it seems that the intersection where our own pain and the world's injustices cross leaves us feeling the most powerless and hopeless. After all, how can I be an instrument of justice when my own life's horrors have me overwhelmed? OR the opposite: why should I even acknowledge my own pain when there is so much brokenness around me?

The prophet Habakkuk echoes our brokenness and sorrow along with our outrage and helplessness. Unafraid of the consequences, the prophet rages at God. First, he rages against God for NOT answering the outcries of the people. Then, he rails against the Holy when help **does** come—in the form of a foreign invader. What initially seemed to arrive as an instrument of hope and justice, the Chaldean invaders ultimately were an instrument of oppression and violence.

Habakkuk's cries reach deeply to the very core of our fears—that which we pray for might ultimately be the worst thing we could need. For Habakkuk, justice was not to be found in human-made institutions. Nor was justice to be found in political, military, and economic systems.

What, then are we to do? How, then, are we to hope?

Habakkuk speaks directly to this dilemma—offering us a beacon of light in the midst of the swirling and oppressive storms of life. He reminds us that no matter what injustices we encounter: homelessness, domestic violence, addiction, illiteracy, global pandemics, families fleeing for their lives throughout the world, violence answered with violence—no matter what—our God is a God of justice. According to Habakkuk, the righteous will live by faith.

God's justice and righteousness are hard to imagine when the walls are falling in upon us. And yet, we are called to live into God's vision. To look around us that we might not only envision, but work toward God's kingdom right here and right now.

When I was a teenager, I subscribed to Youth magazine which was published by the United Church of Christ for teenagers. One month's

issue included a pull-out poster of a hippopotamus walking on a tightrope. The caption said, “Some things must be believed to be seen”—a reminder to my 14 year old self that sometimes we need to place our trust in God/see the world through new eyes in order to envision God’s future.

Some things must be believed to be seen. Or, to quote Habakkuk, *the righteous shall live by their faith*. The prophet speaks of a vision from God—condemning oppression, hatred, injustice, and violence—all the while pursuing a vision of how things COULD be, SHOULD be, WILL be—when we imagine our lives through God’s heart and mind.

Biblical laments have a way of moving us through our sorrow, through our despair, as we seek a new vision for our lives and for our world. The pandemic has certainly done this for us. We, who have lost so much, have also had this literal “time out” to reevaluate our priorities. As we begin to move into a post-pandemic world, it is up to us—as individuals and as a faith community—to articulate our deepest values.

An example? I’ve had the privilege to watch St. Paul Church pivot this past year from offering a Blessing Pantry as something on the edges of all we do as a congregation to the Blessing Pantry becoming WHO WE ARE: a faith community that feeds its neighbors. At St. Paul Church, we welcome you, we feed you, we love you—no matter what.

The gift of visions—of imagining and seeing the world as God intends—is a gift open to each and every one of us. Habakkuk reminds us that righteousness and faith are intimately tied to justice. When we prayerfully open our hearts and our minds to injustice and suffering—our own AND that of others--we allow God to envision **with us and for us** new ways of living and being.

Now it is true: I alone cannot heal all the world’s ills or rectify all the injustice. You alone cannot single-handedly take away the pain and sorrow of these past months. But together—in covenant with God and with each other—we CAN take part in the repair of the world. Or, as Brother Lawrence from the seventeenth century declared: *Many things are possible for the person who has hope. Even more is possible for the person who has faith. And still more is possible for the person who knows how to love. But everything is possible for the person who practices all three.*

With hope, we can indeed work alongside our Creator and Redeemer to move mountains. With faith, we can turn our sorrow and our pain into new visions for God's children. With love, we can face our own brokenness and despair—finding ways to share ourselves fully that, like Habakkuk, we will ***rejoice in the Lord who is our strength.***

In the days and weeks and months ahead, let us acknowledge our losses, cry with those who grieve, all the while living into God's vision for our lives. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: Let us give as we are able—joyfully returning to God a portion of all he has given to us in the name of love. Amen.

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)

Lord of life, you promise abundant life to all who live together in Christ. We offer these gifts as a sign of our desire to share our resources for the common good the building up of your kingdom. We humbly ask that you use them to strengthen our unity and deepen our witness and healing presence in this hurting and broken world. Amen.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

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1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
 2 Be-fore our Fa-ther's throne we pour our ar-dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu-tual woes, each oth-er's bur-dens bear;
 4 From sor-row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds is like to that a-bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
 and oft-en for each oth-er flows the sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.
 and per-fect love and friend-ship reign through all e-ter-ni-ty.

WORDS: John Fawcett (1740-1817), alt.
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli (1773-1836); arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

DENNIS
 S.M.

BENEDICTION: May the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, that despite the sorrow in our lives, we might place our faith in the Risen Christ. May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, come upon you and stay with you always. Amen.

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

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in memory of Loved Ones by Joyce and John Gilberg

Attendance-Daily Devotions-69, May 30-Sunday Worship Online-254, In Person-57.

Daily Devotions-Please join Rev Becky and Lauren Miller Monday-Thursday at 11:30am, online via Facebook Live. These will air on our Facebook page: St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

Sundays in June-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am.

Wednesday, June 16th Summer Youth Activity-10:00am Ft Loramie Playground-14 Herman St. (beside new ball diamonds). All ages are welcome. Remember to bring a snack/lunch/drinks.

Wednesday, June 16th Young Adult Event, 7:00pm-Volleyball Tournament for High School Freshman through 2016 Alumni. Join our SALT intern Lauren Miller at the volleyball court, located in the St Paul Community Playground, for an evening of fun. Bring your friends and a water bottle.

Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins are available for download on our website stpaulnb.org. Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

May/June Upper Rooms-are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. 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. Thank you!

Monthly Mission-Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Heartland Conference and the National setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. Your generosity to Strengthen the Church (STC) provides the funds that allow the Heartland Conference to provide Seminary Scholarships for those who are seeking authorization for ministry in the United Church of Christ. In the National Setting, funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. Thank you, 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- Toothpaste, Hand Soap, Diapers (size3 & 6), Baby Wipes, Training Pants (size 3T-6T), Laundry Detergent, Dryer sheets, Shampoo, Hair Conditioner, Shaving Cream, Cotton Balls, Feminine Hygiene Products, Cleaning Supplies, Pet Food (Dry & Wet), Paper Plates, Toilet Paper, Razors, Men’s Deodorant and Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

Calendar-Week of June 13, 2021

Sunday	10:15am	Worship-in person & via Facebook Live
	11:15am	Mission Team

Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop Hours New Bremen Coffee Shop
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Discipleship Team
Wednesday	10:00am	Youth Activity-Ft Loramie Park
	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Summer Safari Carnival Team
	7:00pm	Young Adult Volleyball
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Afternoon	Office Closed

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 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.



St. Paul Ucc
YOUNG ADULT EVENT

Volleyball Tournament

@7 P.M. WEDNESDAY JUNE 16TH

THE VOLLEYBALL COURT AT ST. PAUL COMMUNITY PARK

