

September 7, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Peace and grace to you!

We begin with an apology. The sound/audio did not work on this past Sunday's worship livestream. Our tech team remedied this and later this week we will re-record Sam Simon's sermon, posting it to the St. Paul Facebook page. We thank you for your understanding as we navigate newer technologies.

You will notice in the financial portion of this packet, we are over \$18,000 in the red for our Operating Fund. This deficit can be remedied with your ongoing generous giving AND with a one-time extra gift to our Operating Fund. St. Paul's Operating Fund keeps the lights on, pays for curriculum and programming, staff salaries and other utilities. Without these basics in place, we would be unable to Love God and Love Neighbor as well as we do.

With Pastor Dee's resignation, Church Council has opened a Ministry Assistant position. This job will be part time (approximately 20-28 hours/week). If you are interested in applying, please send your resume and cover letter to our church office.

This coming Sunday, September 12, is Kick-Off Sunday. Sunday School and Chancel Choir rehearsal will both take place at 9:00 a.m. On Wednesday, September 15, Splash (grades 4 and 5) will meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. along with the invitation to stay for the youth group meal at 6:30. Youth of all ages will eat together at 6:30 in in the Assembly Room. Then, at 7:00 p.m., Confirmation and Junior/Senior High Youth Groups will meet.

Bell Choir is scheduled to play the first weekend of November. The Chancel Choir will sing in worship on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. If you would like more information about any of these music ministry opportunities, please contact Jim Strang, Music & Bell Director, or Tim Olt, Chancel Choir Director.

We are soliciting your assistance as we move into fall programming. We need more Tech Team volunteers. We need folk

willing to greet people online during worship streaming services. We need volunteers to reach out to our many folk who are homebound or recuperating. We need volunteers to deliver communion elements to homes. Please contact Pastor Becky or Barb Holdren if you are able to assist in any of these areas.

Blessings,



Roland Dicke
Council President



Myra Hanenkrafft
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of September 7, 2021

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$0.00 (weekly)
Endowment Transfers \$15,448.00(ytd)
Income \$190,218.91(ytd)
Expenses \$209,029.11(ytd)
Balance **(\$18,810.20)** (ytd)

Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37
Income \$41,732.50 (ytd)
Endowment Income \$3,329.22(ytd)
Expenses \$38,657.83 (ytd)
Balance \$80,048.26 (ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20
Income \$18,959.00 (ytd)
Expenses \$12,003.56(ytd)
Balance \$13,205.64
BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15
Bless Pantry Inc. \$18,096.00(ytd)
Bless Pantry Ex. \$10,653.34(ytd)
BP Balance \$15,323.81

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$0.00(weekly)
Income \$18,242.50 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$0.00(weekly)
Balance \$4,262.00(ytd)

Giving Income is unavailable due to staff time away.



Creation by the Word

September 12, 2021

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Creator God, you have created us in your image. Teach us to create, build up, and contribute to this beautiful world you have made. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

God created humanity in God's image—in the image of the Creator. We were made to create, build, and contribute to this world.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What does it mean that you are created in God's image? What about yourself reminds you of God?

For the littles: What is God's favorite thing that God created?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God continue to create and re-create you each day. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Donate time or money to a local organization that protects the planet in some way. Journal about your experience.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Genesis 1:1—2:4a, Creation by the Word

Monday, Genesis 2:4b-25, A Second Account of Creation

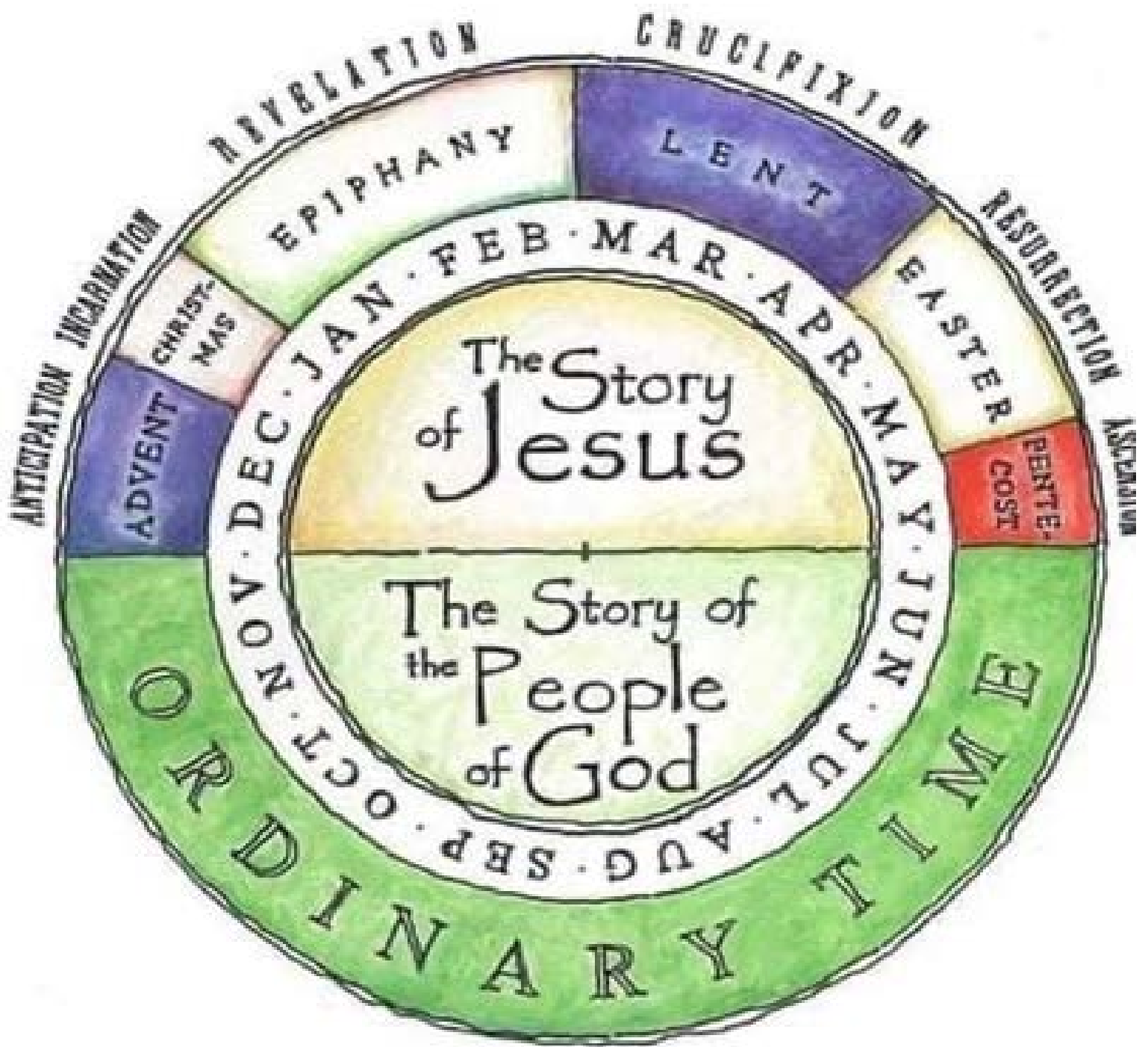
Tuesday, Genesis 3:1-13, The First Sin

Wednesday, Genesis 3:14-24, Punishment

Thursday, Genesis 4:1-16, Cain Murders Abel

Friday, Genesis 4:1-26, Beginnings of Civilization

Saturday, Genesis 18:1-15, A Son Promised to Abraham and Sarah



St. Paul United Church of Christ

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New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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Email stpaulnb@nktelco.net or stpaulnb@gmail.com

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

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

Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky Strang-Senior Pastor

Pastor Dee Schroer-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, one and all, to this time of worship. We are blessed to have you with us today.

September 12, 2021

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Kick-Off

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Cheyenne Olt

Dick Hudson

Carla Topp

Jim Strang

Tim Olt

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Accompanist/Vocalist

Organist

Liturgist

Music Director

Chancel Choir Director

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF CANDLES: You are invited to light a candle or candles at home in preparation for worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH LEADERS

Leader: We would like to dedicate our Sunday School and Youth leaders for the important ministry of leading and guiding our children in their faith. Will our Sunday School and Youth leaders please stand?

Through our Christian Education programming, we can learn and come to believe that God is still speaking in all the world and throughout all creation. That the power of God will flow through to every part of our lives when we find our hope and strength in his unfailing love, grace and mercy. God is our strength in all situations if we seek and follow his will for our lives. You have been called by God and this congregation to lead our children as they take this journey of faith. Will you search the scriptures diligently and then share your understanding of God's love and righteousness with joy and gentleness?

Teachers: We take seriously our calling to learn and share our understanding of God's love and righteousness as we find it revealed in God's Word. We promise to see our teaching ministry as participation in God's redeeming mission. We value the congregation's support and prayer for our ministry.

Congregation: We offer our encouragement and support for this teaching ministry. We promise to pray daily for the leaders and the students, beginning today. May you be guided by Jesus' presence as you grow in knowledge and wisdom while learning and worshipping together.

Leader: Believe that the trials and temptations of this world cannot overcome God's forgiving, redeeming and resurrecting love. That powerful love is in you through the Holy Spirit, equipping you to lead and teach as God puts on your heart. May you experience and be part of God's redeeming love that welcomes all who come to us in worship and in your classrooms this year. Amen.

Go forth and serve God, our church and the youth in our community with Love and Peace. Thank you.

WELCOME SONG

No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

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

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God created all things!

People: We celebrate all that God created when we worship—in person, online, in the pews, around our kitchen tables, on our back porches, soaking in the sun.

Leader: God made us in the image of the Creator!

People: We are created to create. May our worship be creative and Spirit-filled, sending us out to see the image of God in everyone we encounter.

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 24

1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan-ets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
 2 You have called us to be faith-ful in our life and min - is - try.
 3 God, your will is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to life made new,

mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth sun-shine, wind, and rain.
 We re-pond in grate-ful wor-ship, joined in one com-mun - i - ty.
 now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's work to dare and do.

We, cre - at - ed in your im - age, would a true re - flec-tion be
 When we blur your gra - cious im - age, fo - cus us and make us whole,
 Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion, fash - ion us with lov - ing care,

of your jus - tice, grace, and mer-cy, and the truth that makes us free.
 healed and strength-ened as your peo-ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 thus, new crea - tures in your im - age, we'll pro-claim Christ ev - ery-where.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber (1926-)

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Words © 1978 Jane Parker Huber (Admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

HYMN TO JOY

8.7.8.7.D.

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy and Gracious God, we confess to you this day that we have failed to care for all that you have made. We squander resources and oppress others. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we have failed to do. Teach us how to be stewards of your creation: offering care and nurture today and throughout the week. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our God will always love his creation. Although we find ourselves living in brokenness and sin, the good news this day is that God forgives us. Friends: we are forgiven. We are beloved.

People: Thanks be to God!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of three systems of music. The first system covers the lyrics 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the'. The second system covers 'Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is'. The third system covers 'now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.' The score includes various chords such as Eb, Bb7sus, Bb7, Bb, Bb/D, Bb, Eb, Bb/D, Eb6, Bb/F, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb/Ab, Eb, Eb, Fm7/Ab, Eb/Bb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, and Eb. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is written below the bass clef staff.

BIBLE PRESENTATIONS

Today is a special day for some of the children here at St. Paul Church. It is a day when they will be presented with a Bible.

This is a very old book. Some parts of the Bible were composed more than a thousand years before Christ. Some of the stories come down to us from a time before people could even write. This is an ancient sacred book of our faith.

Our Bible is very valuable. There was a time in history when Bibles were chained to the pulpit so they could not be stolen. People have been imprisoned because they read this book. Some have even died to save this book from being destroyed. Our Bible, our sacred Scripture, is both ancient and valuable.

The Bible is filled with wonderful stories. There are adventure stories and miracle stories, stories of heroes and stories of those who wandered away. And yet, the Bible is mostly a love story—a story of God's eternal and abiding love for his creation.

Not only is our Scripture ancient and valuable and entertaining, but it is also inspired. It came from people who had a special understanding of God. When you read it, you will understand what God is like and what God wants you to do. In the Bible you have a message from God and about God. God wants to speak to each of you through God's Holy Word.

Between the covers of this holy book, is a history that gives meaning to our lives. Many caring, faithful people before us preserved this word of God and passed it on to the next generation, just as we are doing here today.

At this time, I invite our children to receive their Bibles. (Pause)

You have just received your very own Bible, filled with scripture inspired by God. As you read through the many pages, may you find answers to your questions when you are searching or confused, comfort when you are in pain and hope for your life.

Let's take a moment to pray: Holy God, Loving Creator, sometimes we are afraid. Sometimes we need help in knowing what to do. Sometimes we need your hope and your love to cope with all that is happening around us. May your word be our guide, a lamp unto our feet. We ask your blessing on these children and their Bibles. Amen

WORD & TEACHING

664

Thy Word

Refrain (Unison)

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be-
 2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is

side me. And noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.
 wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side; and

Please be near me to the end.
 I will love you to the end.

to Refrain

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: God's Love for Us! Bible Presentation! Sunday School Starting!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Karl Mesloh, Donald Mohrman, Dale Quellhorst, Denise Joyce, Rhonda Bowlby, Martha Plattner, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Levi Bushman, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Scott Kuenning, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER. SILENT PRAYER. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

(adapted from a prayer written by the Rev. David Long-Higgins, Heartland Conference Minister)

We thank you, O God, that you have awakened us from a sleep that renews us to a life that restores. Move our thoughts and actions to the new covenant, new hope, you offer to us in Jesus. Continue to pour your Holy Spirit into our midst. SILENCE

We ask, O God, that you fill us with trust—that we might see your face in the mystery of undeserved grace. May that grace smooth out our rough edges, melt our hardened hearts, and call us to lay down our weapons of destruction. Place within us your will. SILENCE

Just as we are born and renewed at our baptism, we pray that all water that touches us this day might be a sacrament—something sacred—for the days to come. As our Sunday School, youth groups and confirmands begin their classes this week, fill each one with your baptismal touch that they might be moved to offer you their praise. SILENCE

Healing and Holy God, we pray that the waves of your power and presence pour upon those who are sick: physically, mentally or spiritually. Wash each one in the waters of your love. May the waves of your power and presence pour upon those who are grieving, those who are lost, those who need your touch in their lives this day. SILENCE

Lord of the Universe, awaken our hearts as we listen for your word this day. SILENCE

Gentle One: We thank you for stilling the storms in our lives, for healing us of all that ill us and for loving us beyond measure. May we share your love, your life, your hope with others. We pray all of this in the name of Jesus who gave us this prayer... **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth**

as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 1:1-2:4a (The Message)

First this: God created the Heavens and Earth—all you see, all you don't see. Earth was a soup of nothingness, a bottomless emptiness, an inky blackness. God's Spirit brooded like a bird above the watery abyss.

3-5 God spoke: "Light!" And light appeared.

God saw that light was good and separated light from dark.

God named the light Day, he named the dark Night.

It was evening, it was morning—Day One.

*6-8 God spoke: "Sky! In the middle of the waters;
separate water from water!"*

*God made sky. He separated the water under sky
from the water above sky.*

And there it was: he named sky the Heavens;

It was evening, it was morning—Day Two.

9-10 God spoke: "Separate!

*Water-beneath-Heaven, gather into one place; Land, appear!"
And there it was.*

God named the land Earth. He named the pooled water Ocean.

God saw that it was good.

*11-13 God spoke: "Earth, green up! Grow all varieties
of seed-bearing plants,*

Every sort of fruit-bearing tree." And there it was.

*Earth produced green seed-bearing plants, all varieties,
And fruit-bearing trees of all sorts.*

God saw that it was good.

It was evening, it was morning—Day Three.

*14-15 God spoke: "Lights! Come out! Shine in Heaven's sky!
Separate Day from Night.*

Mark seasons and days and years,

Lights in Heaven's sky to give light to Earth."

And there it was.

16-19 God made two big lights, the larger to take charge of Day,
The smaller to be in charge of Night; and he made the stars.
God placed them in the heavenly sky to light up Earth
And oversee Day and Night, to separate light and dark.
God saw that it was good.

It was evening, it was morning—Day Four.

20-23 God spoke: “Swarm, Ocean, with fish and all sea life!

Birds, fly through the sky over Earth!”

God created the huge whales, all the swarm of life in the waters,
And every kind and species of flying birds.

God saw that it was good.

God blessed them: “Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Ocean!

Birds, reproduce on Earth!”

It was evening, it was morning—Day Five.

24-25 God spoke: “Earth, generate life! Every sort and kind:
cattle and reptiles and wild animals—all kinds.”

And there it was: wild animals of every kind,

Cattle of all kinds, every sort of reptile and bug.

God saw that it was good.

26-28 God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them
reflecting our nature

So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea,
the birds in the air, the cattle,

And, yes, Earth itself,

and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.”

God created human beings; he created them godlike,
Reflecting God’s nature.

He created them male and female.

God blessed them:

“Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!

Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air,

for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.”

29-30 Then God said, “I’ve given you

every sort of seed-bearing plant on Earth

And every kind of fruit-bearing tree, given them to you for food.

To all animals and all birds, everything that moves and breathes,

I give whatever grows out of the ground for food.”

And there it was.

31 God looked over everything he had made;

it was so good, so very good!

It was evening, it was morning—Day Six.

2 Heaven and Earth were finished, down to the last detail.

2-4 By the seventh day God had finished his work.

On the seventh day he rested from all his work.

God blessed the seventh day. He made it a Holy Day

Because on that day he rested from his work,

all the creating God had done.

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

Today is a day of beginnings at St. Paul Church. The Chancel Choir is back in the sanctuary after a year and a half hiatus. Our Sunday School began this morning. Children received Bibles to grow in their Christian faith. Youth programming begins this week. Even in the midst of this global pandemic, we still worship, learn, and become more deeply rooted in the God's love and grace.

Beginnings are usually exciting. As we celebrate Kick-Off Sunday at St. Paul we are looking toward a future together in which we serve God by serving the world. In some ways, today is kind of like the first day of school.

But if we are really honest, beginnings can also be kind of scary. Do you remember that pit in your stomach on the first day of school because you didn't know exactly what to expect? I sure do. Beginnings **can** be stressful and anxiety-producing. We wouldn't be fully human if we didn't experience a wide-range of emotions with each new beginning in our lives.

Today we also begin a new year with the Narrative Lectionary. And, while today's reading was long, it is important that we get the full scope of the first creation story in Genesis. Yes: you heard me correctly. There

are two creation stories in Genesis, each recorded at different times in Israel's history. Today's readings comes from what scholars call the Priestly Source.

This version of creation came into being after the Babylonian Exile: the Hebrew people had been scattered by conquests and now only a remnant remained. One of the characteristics of the Priestly Source is the demand for the people to "Be Fruitful and Multiply" (or, using today's translation: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!") that their nation might once again be filled with faithful people who looked to God as the source of life.

The second Creation Story was written by the Yahwist Source or J Source, according to scholars. In recent decades there has been much debate about this Source. Some believe it was written during the time of King David or King Solomon. Old Testament Scholar Harold Bloom even argues that the writer was a woman in King David's court.

So what is this second creation story? It is the story of woman being created from man's rib. It is the story of the Garden, the Serpent, the forbidden fruit and the expulsion from the Garden.

The Old Testament contains these two very different creation stories, written at completely different time periods: a reminder that the Bible is NOT meant to be taken literally, but it is meant to be taken seriously and faithfully. As followers of Christ, as disciples of Jesus, we need to be reminded that the Bible was never meant to be a textbook of laws pointing to eternal damnation. Instead, the Bible is a love letter of God-lovers and Jesus-followers to the Source of Life and Love and Grace and Peace.

On this day of new beginnings, it is vitally important to be reminded why we are Christians. We are Christians NOT because we show up to worship: in our homes and in our sanctuary. We are Christians because we follow Jesus—all the way to the cross, along the difficult road of suffering, loving, forgiving, and serving others.

And, like our creation stories, because of Jesus, we are offered new beginnings each and every day. Every day you wake up, Jesus is offering you a new opportunity for service and love. With every breath you take, God is blowing his Spirit within you. In every interaction with family, friends, neighbors, strangers and even enemies, we are to be the Light of Christ in this community and beyond.

But we can't do this alone. Christianity is, at its very core, a communal religion. We cannot follow Jesus fully all by ourselves: we need each other. Let me say that again: because we love and follow Jesus, we need each other, we need this particular Body of Christ to offer us hope, healing, forgiveness, challenge. Then, we are called to offer the same for others.

When we follow Jesus, we are following him our whole lives long: engaging in daily devotions. Taking time out for silence and prayer. Finding ways to serve him by serving others. Digging deeply into the rich Word of God. Participating fully in the life of this particular Body of Christ. As followers of Jesus, we are challenged by the Holy One to continually grow, explore, deepen our relationship with God through Jesus.

On this day of new beginnings, I encourage you to find ways to grow with God this season—especially when the future seems so uncertain. Reach out to a stranger. Reconcile with one from whom you are estranged. Deepen your spirituality. See Jesus in everyone you encounter. Be the bearer of Christ's light in our world.

And I promise you this: when you do this, God will pronounce your lives good. Very good. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: Indeed, after each day of creation, God pronounced creation "very good." We are part of that goodness. We are created to be creative, faithful and lavish in our love. We are created to be generous with all that we have. Let us give joyfully—offering our lives to God who is our Source of life.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost." The guitar accompaniment includes various chords such as G, D, Em, Bm, C, G, D, F#, and Am.

WORDS: *Doxology*, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois (ca. 1510-1561), *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

OLD 100th
L.M.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

We bring to you, O God, gifts out of the abundance you have created for us. Receive our gifts, and use them to continue making this world all that it can be. We thank you for your creativity and your endless love. We pray this in the name of your Son, Jesus the Risen Christ. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING *I Love to Tell the Story*

560 *I Love to Tell the Story*

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes in the vocal line. The score includes a refrain section.

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove, of
2 I love to tell the sto - ry, 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat what
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best seem

Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love. I love to tell the
seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet. I love to tell the
hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of

sto - ry be - cause I know 'tis true; it sat - is - fies my long - ings as
sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from
glo - ry I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that

noth - ing else can do.
God's own Ho - ly Word. I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill be my theme in
I have loved so long.

glo - ry, to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

BENEDICTION: Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good and render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace. 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

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in memory of Loved Ones by Vernon and Julia Paul.

Attendance-Daily Devotions-95, August 29-Sunday Worship Online-297, In Person-67.

Daily Devotions-Please join us, 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 September-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Sunday School** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 9:00am.

Youth groups for all ages will take place beginning Wednesday, September 15. Splash (4th & 5th grade youth) will meet from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Junior High, Senior High and Confirmation will meet from 6:30-8:30. At 6:30 each Wednesday ALL the youth will share a meal together. Interested in providing a meal for our youth? Please contact Mimi Messick.



When: September 20, 2021

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: Chicken Alfredo, House Salad, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Yummy Desserts

Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages

Prepared and Served by: The Women's Group of Holy Redeemer

Book Club-We are putting a new spin on Book club. We will not be hosting formal Book Clubs as we have in the past but still providing the books for you to read. If you'd like to get together with others who are reading the book to discuss, a sheet will be provided for you to put your name on when picking up the book, make contact with fellow readers and set a date to discuss. Septembers book is *Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man* by Emmanuel Acho. For anyone seeking to understand and eradicate racism, the book is filled with honest reflections and actionable conclusions. Books will be available on the table outside the church office.

Local Aid- September monthly mission. As the name implies, local aid helps individuals and families in our surrounding communities, meet the needs of daily life. Aid can come in the form of gas cards, rent money and other miscellaneous repairs and expenses that may occur. To give towards Local Aid, please mark your giving envelope accordingly or bring

to the church office in an envelope labeled "Local Aid". Thank you! The Mission Team

Blessing Pantry-is accessible 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-Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Diapers (size 6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo, Sanitary Napkins, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors, Shaving Cream, Q-Tips, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Dryer Sheets, Napkins, Paper Plates and Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

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.

September/October 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!

2022 Council Postitions-2022 will be here before we know it and we are looking to fill several council positions. Please prayerfully consider serving in one of the following: **Jr. Elder, Jr. Deacon, Trustee (2 positions open)** Questions or willing to serve, please contact Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkratt. Thank you!

Calendar-Week of September 12, 2021

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday | 10:15am | Worship in person & via Facebook Live |
| | 11:15am | Worship Team (Assembly Room) |
| | 11:15am | Mission Team (4 th /5 th grade Room) |
| 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 |
| | 7:00pm | Church Council |
| Wednesday | 11:30am | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Blessing Pantry Open |
| | 5:30pm-6:30pm | Splash (4 th & 5 th grade) |
| | 6:30pm | Youth Dinner |
| | 7:00pm-8:30pm | Confirmation |
| Thursday | 7:00pm-8:30pm | Jr/Sr High Youth |
| | 11:30am | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| Friday | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Blessing Pantry Open |
| | Afternoon | Office Closed |

E-Giving @ St. Paul

3 Different Ways to Give

Online – Make a donation on our website: stpaulnb.org

Mobile App – We are working on a new App-more information to come.

Text – Make a donation to our Number: 833-308-0048

**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.



WARM WINTER COAT & GLOVES DRIVE

September 19 – October 30th



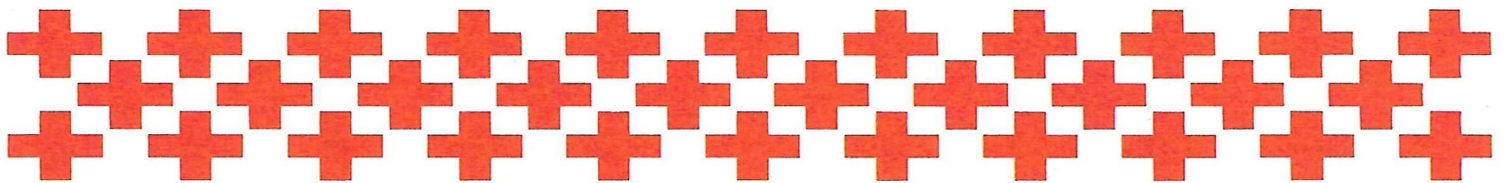
United Way
of Auglaize County
Participating Member Agency

SHARE THE WARMTH

Accepting Donations of **NEW & GENTLY USED ADULT & CHILDRENS WINTER COATS & NEW WINTER WATER PROOF GLOVES.** Drop off Coats in the barrels (located in Sanctuary or outside church office) or to the Agape Client Services Building from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday beginning September 19. If dropping off at AGAPE THRIFT STORE, you must specify it is for the Warm Winter Coat Drive.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive **American Legion**

Hall
6458 State Route 66
New Bremen

Monday, September 20
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



Get gameday ready with the Red Cross! Come to give Sept. 13-30 for a limited-edition college football T-shirt, while supplies last!



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App