

**St. Paul United Church of Christ
New Bremen, OH**

**Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 14th, 2024 10:15am**



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.

Who We Are

**We are a justice-minded Christian community
WELCOMING TO ALL.**

At a time when religion is too often portrayed as narrow-minded and exclusive, St. Paul UCC believes in an alternate vision:

- God is all-loving and inclusive.
- The Church welcomes and accepts everyone as they are.
 - Your mind is nourished as much as your soul.
 - Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary.
 - Together we grow a just and peaceful world.

IN PERSON WORSHIP NOTES:

Bulletins, Communion, and Offering Plates are available on the tables.

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 Activity Bags containing children's bulletins and other activities are available. Thank you!

Restrooms are located in the Narthex/front entrance of the church and in the south hallway of the educational building. Changing tables are also available in each restroom.

WIFI Connection-connect via "St Paul – Guest"
Password: godlovesyou

The * indicates all who are able may stand

Worship Leaders

Ministers	The Congregation
Interim Pastor	Rev. David Voll
Accompanist	Patty Ruckman
Liturgist	Roland Dicke
Sr. Deacon	June Oaks

*Today's altar flowers are in memory of Ron Hittepole and Andrea Hittepole by
Marlene Hittepole .*

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES

We Gather Together

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WELCOME SONG

No Matter

No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
No mat-ter who, — no mat-ter what, — no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷
jour-ney of life; you're wel- come, wel- come in this place. — No mat-ter

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
who, — no mat-ter what, — no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm Gm⁷ C⁷ C F F
jour-ney of life: ac - cept - ed, wel- comed by God's grace. grace.

To verses | Last time, Fine

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION**

Leader: Let us praise God for the gift of grace through His Son!

People: **For in Christ we've been redeemed and are being made holy.**

Leader: We celebrate God's great gift of love in Jesus Christ,
Whose sacrifice means life now and for eternity.

People: **We are forgiven and are His forever – great gifts of love indeed!**

***OPENING HYMN**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

No. 358

358 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

B♭ Eb/B♭ B♭ F7 B♭ F/E♭ Eb B♭ F7 B♭

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
 3 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;

E♭ B♭ F7 F#dim7 Gm E♭ B♭/F F7 B♭

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:

Gm Gm/B♭ Gm/D D7 Gm/D D B♭ E♭/B♭ B♭ F/C C7 F7

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

B♭ E♭ B♭ F7 F#dim7 Gm E♭ B♭/F F7 B♭

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION**

Merciful God, Who out of love for humankind gave the world the gift of redemption through Christ: Accept our devotion to Jesus our Saviour and our gratitude for his forgiveness, though we sin and separate ourselves from Your love and from one another. May the mercy we receive from You cause us to be proactive in forgiving others and in removing obstacles that keep us from loving others. By our worship and our desire to be committed followers, may we be strengthened in these tasks. Hear us now as we silently confess our shortcomings:

(TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION)

***WORDS OF GRACE**

Leader: Hear the Good News: in hope we affirm that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness. Lean into the power of God to meet us at our point of need, offer His forgiveness, and lead us strive to live in newness and fullness of life in Christ's name. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory Be to the Father

F B♭ F C7 F C7 F

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and the Son and the Ho - ly Ghost. As it

5 Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 F

was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out end, A - men. As it

9 Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 F

was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out end, A - men.

13 Am Dm Gm C7 Am Dm Gm C7 Am Dm Gm C7 F B♭

A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Our youngest disciples are invited to come to the chancel steps for a special word. Worship bags are available in the narthex.)

THE SERVICE OF PRAYER

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT: Hebrews 10:11-14, 23-25 (NRSV) NT p. 224

11 And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, ‘he sat down at the right hand of God’, ¹³ and since then has been waiting ‘until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.’ ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:22-23 (NRSV) NT p. 6

22 ‘The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; ²³but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Mark 6:6b-13 (NRSV) NT p. 40

6 And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7 He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8 He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9 but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10 He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11 If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ 12 So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

*SERMON HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

(Tune: AURELIA – “The Church’s One Foundation”)

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us, and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance, until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

God, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; God! Free us, make us one!

SERMON

Spiritual Cataracts?

Rev. Dave Voll

We Respond to God’s Word

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY SENTENCES

*DOXOLOGY

No. 34

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavn’ly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, in response to Your mercy, we dedicate ourselves to be forgiving of others. And out of devotion to Christ for his gift of salvation, we give these offerings and dedicate them to be used to share the message of redemption and forgiveness. Amen.

God's Word Sends Us Forth

***CLOSING HYMN**

Be Though My Vision

No. 502

Be Thou My Vision

502

Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Ab
Bb
Ab
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Cm
Bb
Eb

1 Be thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my Wis - dom, and thou my true Word,
 3 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Bb
 $\frac{F7}{C}$
 $\frac{Bb}{D}$
Eb
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Ab
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
Cm
Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Ab
 $\frac{Ab}{C}$
 $\frac{Ab}{Eb}$
Eb
 $\frac{Gm7}{D}$
Cm7
Cm
Gm7
Ab
Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Eb
 $\frac{Bb}{D}$
Cm
 $\frac{Eb}{Bb}$
 $\frac{Eb}{G}$
 $\frac{Fm}{Ab}$
Ab
Fm7
Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 high King of heav - en, my Treas - ure thou art.
 still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

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

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

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

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

Chords: F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, C7, F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, G7, C, Fmaj7, Dm, F/G, F/C, Am7, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, C7, F

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

*POSTLUDE



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The family of Gail Berning – sister of Roger (Cheryl) Barlage
Greg Maurer
Bart Maurer

Circle of Friends Cards

Please take a moment to sign cards for our friends: Regina Sudman (East door), Dorothy Wilkens (South door), and Joyce Ruedebusch (North door). Recipients greatly appreciate the cards you sign.

Summer Church Office Hours

Church office hours are Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Happening This Week

Monday - Take an afternoon break, and join other community members at the New Bremen Coffee Co. at 2:00 pm for conversation and fellowship.

Tuesday - Blessing Pantry Hours are 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Wednesday - Blessing Pantry Hours are 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Thursday - Blessing Pantry Hours are 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Worship Attendance on Sunday, July 7th - In-Person 82, Online 29

July Mission - Washington UCC Back to School Ministry

The school year is quickly approaching and again we are continuing to help the disadvantaged children served by Washington UCC by supporting their *Back to School* ministry program. With the funds, they are able to send many of their low-income children back to school, each in a uniform, if required, or new school clothes, socks and shoes, along with a backpack of school supplies and a personal hygiene kit. Our donations last year helped them to provide school uniforms for nearly 20 students in the Camp Washington community.

On average it is estimated that each student's average annual needs are \$100.00 per child. Camp Washington aims to help about 25 children this year, so the project costs would be around \$2500. Throughout the month of July we will be sharing the gifts that are donated to provide uniforms and hygiene kits to the children at Camp Washington, as their needs are continuing to grow.

Donations at any level are welcomed, and will make a great impact on the children in these communities. Thank you for your continued generosity and support, the Mission Team.

2024 Financial Information as of July 9, 2024

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$16,714.70
Endowment Trans \$ 21,595.00 (ytd)
Income \$165,516.24 (ytd)
Expenses \$ 159,589.57 (ytd)
Balance \$ 22,641.37 (ytd)

Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$71,978.89
Income \$ 27,131.00 (ytd)
Endowment Inc.\$ 1,717.79 (ytd)
Expenses \$ 20,337.74 (ytd)
Balance \$80,489.94 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$ 3,896.50

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$16,791.50
Income \$ 6,431.50 (ytd)
Expenses \$ 1,054.00 (ytd)
Balance \$22,169.00 (ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$32,845.83
Income \$ 6,981.62 (ytd)
Expenses \$ 4,089.05 (ytd)
Balance \$35,738.40 (ytd)

Our Church's Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$ 13,015.50 (ytd)

E-Giving @ St. Paul

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

2. Text – Make a donation by texting: 833-308-0048

How to Give by Text: (*\$25 is an example below. Minimum amount is \$5.*)

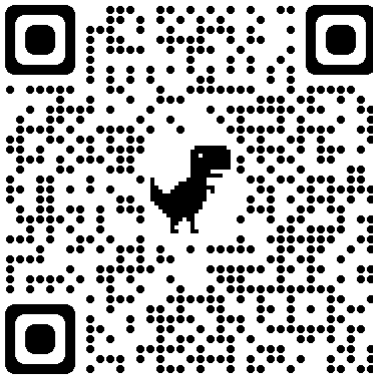
- For general fund giving: **Send 25 gl** (hit send)
- For building & property fund giving: **Send 25 bp** (hit send)
 - For the Blessing Pantry: **Send 25 pantry** (hit send)
 - For project of the year giving: **Send 25 poy** (hit send)

Once a text amount is sent:

Registration Link is sent by text the first time a donation is made.

Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

Donation Confirmation is sent by text each time a donation is made.



St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 N. Franklin St. New Bremen, OH 45869

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Summer hours may vary.

Blessing Pantry Hours:

Tuesdays 5:30–7:30pm

Wednesdays 1–3 pm

Thursdays 1–3 pm

Phone: 419-629-2502

Email: stpaulnb@nktelco.net

Website: <https://stpaulnb.org>

Facebook: [St. Paul United Church of Christ – New Bremen, Ohio](#)

Rev. David Voll, Interim Pastor

Email: stpaulpastor@nktelco.net

Matt Ranly, Council President

Phone: 419-305-1057



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST