

October 4, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Peace and Grace to you in the name of Jesus, our Risen Savior and Friend!

We begin with a “Thank You” to both the Discipleship Team and the Blessing Pantry Team. Years ago, the Discipleship Team opened a Blessing Cabinet just inside the north doors of our education building. We offered toiletries, cleaning supplies, and diapers—all free of charge. As needs have increased in our community, our Cabinet grew into a Blessing Pantry—a fully stocked food pantry with a large team of volunteers. We thank the Discipleship Team for nurturing this ministry and we thank the Blessing Pantry Team for continuing this important gift to our friends and neighbors. At this time, the Pantry has formally moved from the Discipleship Team’s oversight to the Blessing Pantry Team. Thank you for your faithfulness!

We are soliciting volunteers in the following areas:

1. Folk to coordinate bathroom renovations in the education building
2. Folk to call and send cards to our homebound folk
3. Digital greeters for Sunday mornings to greet the online worshippers at 10:15

Please see Pastor Becky if you are able to assist in any of these areas.

October’s Book Club book is David Gregory’s Dinner with a Perfect Stranger. Instead of an in-person Book Club, we are encouraging readers to get together—possibly by email—for discussion. Books have arrived and you are able to pick up a copy of the book.

This packet is sent to approximately 510 households each week. Most of our recipients greatly appreciate the information—particularly the worship bulletin that includes sermon and prayers. However, if you would like to no longer receive the packet, please email us at stpaulnb@nktelco.net or call the church office at 419-629-2502.

The cookie jar in the office is once again stocked with Gingersnaps. Please stop by say hi and pick yourself up a wonderful treat.

We thank you for your faithfulness to God displayed in your faithfulness to St. Paul Church during these uncertain times. Your prayers, your volunteer hours, and your generosity allows us to Love God & Love Neighbor extravagantly. Thank you!

Blessings,



Roland Dicke
Council President



Myra Hanenkratt
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of October 4, 2021

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$4,523.00(weekly)
Endowment Transfers \$17,610.00(ytd)
Income \$222,412.29(ytd)
Expenses \$234,006.78(ytd)
Balance **(\$11,594.49)** (ytd)

Building Maint & Property Care
Beg. Balance \$73,644.37
Income \$43,180.50(ytd)
Endowment Income \$4,006.67(ytd)
Expenses \$40,583.21(ytd)
Balance \$80,248.33 (ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20
Income \$20,059.00 (ytd)
Expenses \$12,448.50(ytd)
Balance \$13,860.70
BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15
Bless Pantry Inc. \$19,796.00(ytd)
Bless Pantry Ex. \$11,848.92(ytd)
BP Balance \$15,828.23

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$410.00(weekly)
Income \$20,281.50 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$50.00(weekly)
Balance \$4,461.00(ytd)



God Provides
Manna

October 10, 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.

Faithful God, the Israelites had a hard time seeing what you were up to. Teach us to trust that you know what you're doing when we cannot see the bigger picture. Amen.



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

¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" (Exodus 16:11-12)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

The Israelites had a hard time seeing how God was working, and trusting that they would be cared for. But God knew what God was doing.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

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

How, when, and with whom do you eat? Tell about your favorite mealtime experiences, and how food brought you together.

How many different ways could the Israelites have prepared manna and quail? What else might they have eaten during their time in the desert? What would you hope to eat if you were starving?

For the littles: What's your favorite food?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God provide for your every need. Amen.



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

Host a dinner party. Prepare a meal with your own hands. Sit at the table. Say grace. Have stimulating conversation. Enjoy the entire experience.



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

Sunday, Exodus 16:1-18, God Provides Manna

Monday, Exodus 18:13-27, Jethro's Advice

Tuesday, Exodus 20:1-21, The Ten Commandments

Wednesday, Exodus 25:10-22, The Ark of the Covenant

Thursday, Exodus 32:1-35, The Golden Calf

Friday, 1 Samuel 1:1-28, Samuel's Birth and Dedication

Saturday, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Hannah's Prayer



St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street

New Bremen, Ohio 45869

Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207)

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, your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior. May every blessing be yours.

October 10, 2021

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Rev. John Rinehart

Cheyenne Olt

Dick Hudson

Deb Gibson

Jim Strang

Tim Olt

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Guest Preacher

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

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 and a key signature of one flat (Bb). 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, F. 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 (adapted from Psalm 66)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing glory to God's name!

People: We say to God: "How awesome are your deeds! All the earth worships you."

Leader: Come and see what God has done:

People: We went through fire and water, yet you have brought us out to a spacious place. Hallelujah!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

68 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise to thee an al-tar, hith-er by thy help I've come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be!

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar-rive at home.
 Let thy good-ness, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee;

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

Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

D A7 D A D G D $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

praise his name—I'm fixed up-on it—name of God's re-deem-ing love.
 he, to res-cue me from dan-ger, bought me with his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a-bove.

SERVICE OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sin, our brokenness, before God and one another.

People: Gracious God, we are here again, hearing about the wholeness you give, and yet focusing on our brokenness; hearing of your incredible provision, yet dwelling on what we lack; and talking about your healing without believing that it applies to our lives, our pain, and our needs. With our vision fixed on what we don't have, we are empty of gratitude. Fill our hearts with your grace again, O Lord, and send us out rejoicing in you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS.

Leader: God's anger is but for a moment and God's favor is for a lifetime. God receives us where we are and empowers us to move toward who we should be. God is ready to bring out the best within us!

People: Thanks be to God! Amen!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in E-flat major and 4/4 time. 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, Eb, Bb/D, Bb, Eb, Bb/D, Eb6, Bb/F, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb/Ab, Eb, G, Fm7/Ab, Eb, Bb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, and Eb. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

WORDS: *Gloria Patri*, 2nd c.
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex (1813-1858)

GREATOREX
Irregular

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM for Justine Beard

Congregational Response: We promise our love, support, and care.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS for Justine Beard and Gage Homan

New Member Welcome Congregational Response: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: John Rinehart joining us in worship

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Sue Kettler, Martha Plattner, Kohneita Lear, Dorothy Wilkens, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Scott Kuenning, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

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

Leader: Let us pray. Faithful God, today we pray for your presence in worship. Whether we are in the sanctuary, in our homes, or on vacation, we lift up to you prayers for our congregation, our community, and your world. We pray for all those in need. SILENCE

Leader: Holy God, we are not always willing when you call. We make excuses, downplay our gifts, deflect and dodge the responsibilities you have given us. Help us past our doubts, misgivings, and lack of trust in your promises. Lead us boldly forth for the sake of your gospel. Faithful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We are as much enslaved as we have ever been, O God. Not by shackles or bars, but by our shortsighted greed and callous disregard of the vulnerable and powerless. Bring us to repentance and reconciliation with each other and with all your creation. Faithful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: As seasons change and uncertainty visits us daily, plant within us as assurance of your steadfast promises which have never forgotten us nor left us to flounder on our own. Faithful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, you are who you are forever, and one word from you can bring about healing for all. Visit us with your transformative Spirit, and surround with your presence all who are sick, all who are in need of your healing and life-giving touch. Faithful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We stand in a long line of servants who followed you without knowing exactly where you would lead them, but trusted nonetheless. Make us worthy to share their company, and bring us all at length to your eternal kingdom. Faithful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Steadfast and loving God, gather these prayers we have offered, both aloud and silent, into your loving arms, for we know that you are faithful and will never abandon us. We pray this prayer in the name of Jesus the Messiah 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.**

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

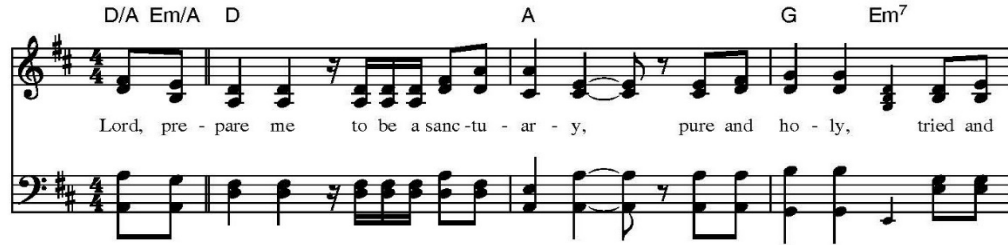
Sanctuary

with God's Holy Temple

Words and Music by
JOHN THOMPSON
& RANDY SCRUGGS
Arranged with additional
text and music by
LLOYD LARSON

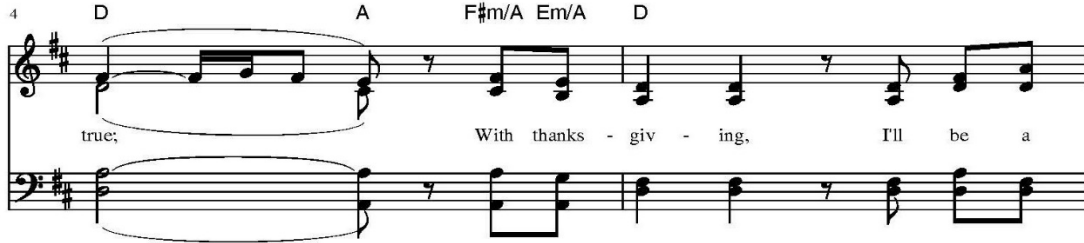
♩=46

D/A Em/A D A G Em⁷




Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and

4 D A F#m/A Em/A D



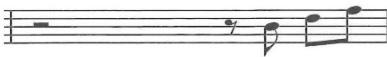
true; With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

6 A G Em⁷ F#m/A A⁷ D

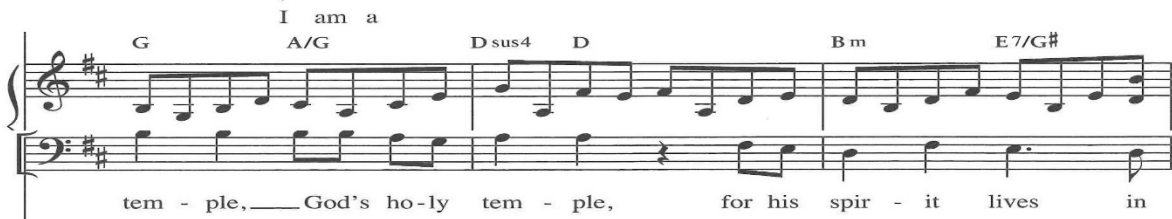


liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for You.

CCLI Song # 24140
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CCLILicense # 3095528



G A/G D sus4 D B m E7/G#




tem - ple, God's ho - ly tem - ple, for his spir - it lives in

25 S.A. *mf*



cre - a - ted as a sa - cred dwell - ing of the
(mel.)
me;

28



most High God!

After a long time the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery, and cried out. Out of the slavery their cry for help rose up to God. 24 God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. 25 God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.

Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV): Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." 4 When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. 10 So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" 12 He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

13 But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I am

who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’” 15 God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

*This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 4:10-17 (NRSV)

But Moses said to the Lord, “O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” 11 Then the Lord said to him, “Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.” 13 But he said, “O my Lord, please send someone else.” 14 Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, “What of your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he can speak fluently; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. 15 You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and will teach you what you shall do. 16 He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. 17 Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.”

RESPONSE

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

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

SERMON

From Han to Hope

Rev. John Rinehart

The Exodus story has inspired hope for oppressed peoples whenever they found their community in desperate circumstances of poverty and oppression. It is a reminder to all oppressed communities - Christians, Jews, Blacks, Latin Americans, Asians, and all others – that they are God's delivered people. The story begins with the Israelites suffering the pain of Pharaoh's oppression, as forced labors whose human dignity has been stolen from them. They cried out in great pain.

Andrew Sung Park, a Korean theologian, calls this deep, grinding pain, Han. Han is an experience of visceral pain that affects the whole body, mind, and spirit of the oppressed. Han destroys hope. Han is like a sunset, taking time, before yielding to darkness. It seeps into the soul like a poison, enveloping the human spirit in sadness, hopelessness, despair, bitterness, even anger. The result of unchecked Han is resignation, self-renunciation, and meaninglessness. There is no medical cure for this sort of pain.

There are two responses to Han: positive and negative. According to Park, the positive reaction is letting it go, not letting it control us. This positive response requires self-awareness and self-control. One can hear it in the spirituals: *My Lord What a Morning; Go Down Moses, 'Way Down, in Egypt's Land; Nobody's Known the Trouble I've Seen, Glory Hallelujah.* Howard Thurman points to one spiritual in which the singers realize that they have already been freed, by God.

*Slav'ry chain done broke at las'-
Goin' to praise God 'til I die.
I did know my Jesus heard me
Cause de spirit spoke to me
An' said, 'Rise, my chile, your chillum,
An' you too, shall be free!'*

The current version of that song is “Black Lives Matter.” As I have studied African religions and their influence, I have been amazed that the slaves could, and did, sing “*Glory Hallelujah.*” There is lament, but no whining and many slaves took the Underground Railroad north. The Ohio River was their River Jordan and Ohio was their promised land.

The second, negative response, is one of resignation, self-denunciation, and self-deprecation. One person, or a community of persons just gives up and lets the Han wash their spirit away. Many German Christians saluted Hitler to avoid the Han that threatened them. Some, known as the “Confessing Church,” surrendered to God rather than Hitler.

Liberation is hard work and does not come easily or quickly. God was nearly invisible and seemed to take no action until he recruited Moses and revealed that he had heard the cry of the Israelites. God made it clear to Moses that he was on the side of the oppressed but that he was like a

puppeteer, pulling strings to liberate people. God is made visible through the acts of his creatures in history. There is no emancipation proclamation. God recruited Moses to be his agent, to liberate the Israelites from Han. His first task was to remind the Israelites that they are the descendants of Abraham', the one who had followed God. He reminded them of the hope they once had, and pronounced a new goal, to establish a new kingdom of heaven on earth, a Promised Land filled with milk and honey. To reach this new place the Israelites must follow Moses, who is God's agent for liberation.

But why was Pharaoh so oppressive? He feared that the growing number of slaves might try to escape, or revolt, or conspire with his enemies who wished to overthrow him. As dictators, oligarchs and supremacists through the centuries, Pharaoh did not want to lose his labor force, so he pressed harder on the Israelites, finally resorting to genocide to maintain his order. As with all supremacists, Pharaoh discarded the covenantal vision of justice, peace, and love for selfish gain.

Believing himself to be omnipotent, Pharaoh, chose to continue his oppression, and he had the army and the bureaucracy to do his will. Pharaoh tried to escape responsibility for his action by suggesting an alternative scenario. He accused Moses and Aaron of promoting false dreams, and the illusion of freedom in a promised land to divide the Israelites. By following Moses and turning toward God, the Israelites begin to overcome their Han and regain their hope in spite of Pharaoh's hardened heart.

Moses, released from his own fear of Pharaoh, and strengthened by the leadership of God and the backing of the Israelites, addressed Pharaoh with the demand to "let my people go." The hidden message to Pharaoh was that he too could be redeemed if he were to relinquish his false sense of omnipotence and release the Israelites from the Han, he was imposing on them. Moses warned Pharaoh that if he did not let the Israelites go, he and all Egypt would suffer.

The plagues served two purposes, they demonstrated that God's power was greater than Pharaoh's and reassured the Israelites that God was on the side of their side, the oppressed people. God gives humanity the freedom to accept or reject his presence. To accept God's presence

is to accept his loving mercy and grace. To reject God's presence is to live in chaos, fearing rejection.

The outcome between God and Pharaoh was predictable, Pharaoh's heart was so hardened that he was unwilling let the people go, until the night of the Passover. But, fearing that he was losing his position of sovereignty, his laborers, who might join his enemies against him, Pharaoh changed his mind and began to pursue the Israelites.

Seeing Pharaoh's army in hot pursuit, the Israelites cried to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the Wilderness? What have you done to us bringing us out of Egypt?...it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." (EX: 14:11) Moses commanded them to turn and face their fears, for God was with them. And indeed, God was, for Pharaoh's army was destroyed, according to the story.

The Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann writes, "God's victory is seen in Exodus both as a cosmic victory over forces of chaos that threaten God's creation and as a defeat of human oppressive power in history." Pharaoh's defeat brings public honor to God.

Brueggemann and others suggest that, "The salvation wrought by Yahweh is liberation in the sociopolitical order. Israel is delivered from the hand of a flesh-and-blood, historical tyrant...God is at work to bring wholeness to those who are broken and dehumanized...to bring hope to those broken of body and not just of spirit. It is in recognition of this concrete liberating activity of God that the Exodus story has functioned for generations to bring hope to those victimized by oppressive power."

In our own time, the liberation theologies of African American, Latin American, and Asian, looked to Exodus for their understandings of God as liberator. These liberation theologies, born in the experience of powerlessness and marginalization, understand what it means to view the activity of God from the perspective of Israelite slaves liberated from bondage. The good news of this Exodus story is that God can be trusted to oppose and defeat all power arrangements directed against the full experiencing of human well-being.

But what is there in this story for us Euro-Americans? Are we the liberated ones? Or do we play the role of Pharaoh? Our Euro-American ancestors stole the land, they had accidentally "discovered," from the

indigenous people, killing an estimated eighty percent of the native population. Beginning in 1640, when slavery began in the colonies away, and legally ending after the Civil War, slavery continued by other names until the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We have denied our aspirational claim that “all men are created.” Over the years we have been persuaded to fear Blacks, communists, Asians, Muslims, immigrants and denied the humanity of the strangers in our midst. We have denied our enemies a place at the Lord’s table, forgetting that he denied no one. Many of us are frightened by the loss of control and some, like Pharaoh, are fighting to maintain their control. Some fear sharing their control with who they have controlled, and insist on a seat at the community table of discussion and action. Some of us are trying to retreat into a mythical past, while others struggle for a utopian future. And while we argue, sometimes violently, nothing gets done. We seem to be at a stalemate fearing loss of privilege and power and sealing the fate of the millions of dispossessed people.

While dithering, we differ, forgetting that we are all children of God’s creation. While there are many names for God, we all share the same ultimate concerns for life. When we read the lines between the covers of our bibles and books of wisdom we find the same line, love one another as you are loved. None of us need to fear the future, for the arch of history points to justice if we just follow. In the Exodus story, Pharaoh’s hardened heart cost him the loss of power while the Israelites moved from the forced construction of Pharaoh’s buildings to the equally hard work of building of a temple for the worship of God in thanksgiving to God for their liberation.

We are called together to relinquish our supremacy in a journey from Han to Hope so that we will be liberated to build a new kingdom of heaven bound together in thanksgiving for God’s love. Change is coming, resistance is futile. We are all searching for new ways for new days in new promised lands, liberated from Han, and living in Hope.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: We are living, breathing messages of God's love for the world. This is our work of faith and our labor of love. Like the earliest Christians, we are here in this place because of the commitment and faith and generosity of others who shared the good news of the gospel in their time. So we turn now, in our time, and share our faith and our commitment through generous giving to support the ministry of this church in Christ's name. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow'. It is written in G major and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are: '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.'

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

OLD 100th
L.M.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Our spiritual ancestors offered sacrifices to glorify you, O God; so would we honor you by these gifts. May they express the depth of our love for you. As your church, we put them to work on your behalf in programs of outreach toward those who long for meaning as well as long for life's other necessities. Grant your joy to all who give and all who receive. Amen.

575 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

F Gm F Dm Dm Bb C Bb F

1 Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,

F Gm F Dm Dm F Bb C Bb F

who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed;
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great - ness, dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;

F C C Dm Am F Bb

we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart,
 As, O Lord, your deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

C Dm Dm Bb F Gm7 Am Bb F

con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - ery gift that you im - part.
 use the love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.
 stir - ring us to tire - less striv - ing, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

BENEDICTION: And now to God who, by the power at work within us, is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Pass the Love

Pass the Love

Musical score for "Pass the Love" in 4/4 time, tempo J=95. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics and chords. The chords are: 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.

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.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of John Ahlers by Marlene Ahlers.

Please remember the family of Jeanie Perl in your prayers. Alice "Jeanie" J. Perl, 84, of Tiffin, passed away Saturday evening, September 25, 2021. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, October 16th at 2:00 pm at Trinity United Church of Christ, 131 E. Perry Street, Tiffin with visitation before the service from 12:30 - 2:00 pm at the church. Hoffmann-Gottfried-Mack Funeral Home & Crematory are assisting the family with arrangements.

Attendance-Daily Devotions-57, September 26-Sunday Worship Online-250, In Person-68, Sunday School-In Person-16, Teachers-7, Splash & Jr/Sr High Youth Group-15, Confirmation-6, Leaders-12.

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 October-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.

Chancel Choir-will be singing Sunday, October 10. Rehearsal begins at 9:00am in the Chapel on the 10th. Please join them. All are welcome.

Women's Service Group-is making their annual trip October 14th to VOSH in Pandora. We will meet at the church parking lot at 7:30am. We usually work on glasses from 9am until noon. And then start for home with a stop someplace for lunch. The trip is open to everyone, including men. It is always a good day of fellowship and doing volunteer work. If you have any old glasses now is a good time recycle them. If you are planning to attend contact Bev Plattner at 419-629-3694 or 419-236-1558.

Widow and Widower Luncheon-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30 am on Wednesday, October 13th. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED-October monthly mission: In 2021, Neighbors in Need "Unfailing Love" is focused on supporting organizations and projects serving our homeless and immigrant neighbors and communities. One third of NIN funds support the Council for the American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the Justice and Witness Ministries to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects in their communities. We have received grants in the past from this mission. Thank you for your contributions. 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, Kleenex, Paper Plates, Diapers (size N-6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Baby Shampoo, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors, Toothpaste, Deodorant (men's & women's), Feminine Hygiene Products and Q-Tips. 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.

Bulletin Mailing-No longer want to receive the weekly bulletin mailing? Please let the church office know, 419-629-2502, stpaulnb@nktelco.net.

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 Positions-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 Hanenkraat. Thank you!



When: October 18, 2021

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: Fried Chicken, Potato, Vegetable and Dessert

Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages

Prepared and Served by: New Bremen Legion Auxiliary Post 241

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.

Calendar-Week of October 10, 2021

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School in person & via Facebook Live
	9:00am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	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
	6:15pm	Finance Team
	7:00pm	Church Council
	8:00pm	Budget Team
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
	7:00pm-8:30pm	Jr/Sr High Youth
Thursday	7:30am	Women's Service Group
	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Afternoon	Office Closed

MOM TO MOM SALE



EARLY BIRD SHOPPING
8AM-\$5 DONATION
9AM-12PM SHOPPING
\$1 DONATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021

St. Paul Church in New Bremen
119 North Franklin Street
New Bremen, OH 45869

call 419-629-2502
for booth rental and
more information



WARM WINTER COAT & GLOVES DRIVE

September 19 – October 30th



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.



Sweet Potatoes/Yams Instant Box Potatoes & Stuffing
Pasta Salad Mixes Salad Dressing Egg Noodles Gravy Broth
Muffin/Dinner Roll Mixes Can Beef & Chicken Can Pumpkin
Brownie & Cake Mixes Fruit Pie Filling Jello Pudding

Drop off items to the Agape Ministries Client Services Building Monday thru Friday during the hours of 9 am to 4:30 pm