

November 15, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus who is our Savior and King!

We begin with a reminder about Covid19 transmissions. Incidences of positive cases are going up in our congregation and community. **If you have been in contact with someone who either tests positive for Covid19 or have been in contact with someone who soon after tests positive, you need to quarantine yourself from St. Paul Church, its building and its staff.**

It is our goal to keep one another (and our neighbors) as healthy as possible. What's more, if essential staff become infected, we will be forced to shut down worship, weekly mailers and all programs for two weeks. We thank you for your attention and care. We know it is difficult to stay home. Isolation is hard. And yet, it is our Christian calling to care for one another in the best way possible.

On Sunday, November 28, we will honor the ministry of Associate Pastor Dee Schroer. While she has resigned as our pastor, Dee will still worship amongst us as her health allows. The Rev. Daniel Busch, Northwest Ohio Association Minister, will preach that Sunday. The Church Council will host a reception for Dee following worship.

Worship Team met recently to make decisions about Christmas Eve. We will offer a Christmas Eve Open House from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary with music, scriptures and communion. We will also offer an in-person 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service. This service will be live-streamed, but not prerecorded.

Currently, we only need an Advent Candle Lighting family or individual for Sunday, December 19. Please see Pastor Becky if you would like to volunteer.

Worship Team also decided to wait until at least September 2022 to revive the Saturday evening worship. Pastor Becky and the staff

are stretched too thinly at this point to add another service. Thank you for your understanding.

We thank you for your faithfulness. We thank you for your generosity. We thank you for your love for God and neighbor.

Blessings,



Roland Dicke
Council President



Myra Hanenkratt
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of November 15, 2021

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$3,299.00 (weekly)
Endowment Transfers \$22,441.00(ytd)
Income \$268,773.59 (ytd)
Expenses \$269,080.23 (ytd)
Balance **(\$306.64)** (ytd)

Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37
Income \$45,468.50(ytd)
Endowment Income \$4,276.50(ytd)
Expenses \$49,616.75(ytd)
Balance \$73,772.62(ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20
Income \$20,974.43 (ytd)
Expenses \$17,624.18(ytd)
Balance \$9,600.45 (ytd)

BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15

Bless Pantry Inc. \$25,251.00(ytd)

Bless Pantry Ex. \$14,129.92(ytd)

BP Balance \$19,002.23

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$167.00(weekly)
Income \$23,078.50 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$24.00(weekly)
Balance \$4,584.00(ytd)

Birth Candles on the altar Sunday November 21 welcome twins Lilly Mae Shelby and Rhonan James Shelby. Lilly and Rhonan were born on Friday November 12, 2021. They are the daughter and son of Emily (Dicke) and Steven Shelby, grandchildren of Kirk Dicke, great grandchildren of Sally and Dan Dicke and Elsie Ahlers. Welcome Lilly and Rhonan!!!

Martha Plattner's family is requesting a card shower for her 88th birthday on November 30th. Please send Martha a card or call and wish her a Happy Birthday. Thank You.



Isaiah: A Child Is Born
(Christ the King)

November 21, 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.

God of hope, you spoke a word of hope to Israel, refugees in search of a home. Renew in us your vision of your people restored. Amen.



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

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

When Israel found herself conquered and exiled, there was only one thing left: hope in the form of a savior named "Wonderful Counselor..."



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

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

What does your name say about you? What do your nicknames say about you? What do these names for Jesus say about Jesus?

What name/s would Jesus take on today? How would these names effect change in the world?

For the littles: What words best describe Jesus?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God call you by name. Amen.



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

Do an internet search of your name. What pops up? What do these say about you?



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

Sunday, Isaiah 9:1-7, Isaiah: A Child Is Born
Monday, Isaiah 11:1-9, The Peaceful Kingdom
Tuesday, Isaiah 22:1-14, A Warning of Destruction of Jerusalem,
Wednesday, Isaiah 25:1-12, Praise for Deliverance from Oppression
Thursday, Isaiah 27:1-11, Israel's Redemption
Friday, Isaiah 30:8-17, A Rebellious People
Saturday, Isaiah 32:16-20, The Peace of God's Reign

T RUTH

And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
John 8:32

H EAVEN

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"
1 Corinthians 2:9

A RMOR
OF GOD

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil
Ephesians 6:11

N EIGHBORS

Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
Romans 15:2

K INDNESS

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you
Ephesians 4:32

F ORGIVENESS

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:9

U LTIMATE
SACRIFICE

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.
1 Peter 3:18

L OVE

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."
John 3:16

St. Paul United Church of Christ

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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, blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

November 21, 2021

Reign of Christ Sunday

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Bryan Trego

Taylor Opperman

Gavin Quellhorst

Cheyenne Olt

Becky Quellhorst

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Guest Worship Leader

Liturgist

Liturgist

Accompanist

Organist

Music 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

$\text{♩} = 120$

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

To verses | Last time, Fine

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Chalice Worship, Chalice Press, 1997)

Leader: Out of the fullness of the lives God has given us, we have come to worship and to praise.

People: With thanks we offer to God the creativity of our minds, the warmth of our hearts, and the joy of our spirits.

Leader: We love because God first loved us, freeing us from the power of sin and death.

People: With glad hearts, let us join together in singing praise to God: Creator, Word, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Verses 1 & 4*

136 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

D Bm A7 D G $\frac{A}{G}$ G $\frac{A9}{G}$ D

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

$\frac{A}{C\#}$ D $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Bm $\frac{E7}{B}$ $\frac{A}{C\#}$ D $\frac{A}{E}$ E7 A A7

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

D Bm A7 D G $\frac{A}{G}$ G $\frac{A9}{G}$ D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

Bm $\frac{D7}{F\#}$ G D $\frac{Em}{G}$ A7 D

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

CALL TO CONFESSION (Book of Worship United Church of Christ)

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

UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, you have promised to receive us when we come to you. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have disobeyed your law. We have not loved you or our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may live and serve you with newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: How we love to hang on to the past! We get all tied up remembering, keeping count, bearing grudges. God doesn't. Your past is accepted. Let it go. Live in the freedom God hands to you afresh each day.

People: Thanks be to God!

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, F, Bb, Bb/D, Bb, Eb, Bb/D, Eb6, Bb/F, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb, Bb7, Eb, G, Fm7/Ab, Eb/Bb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, and Eb.

HYMN

437

Jesus Loves Me
Jesus Loves Me

C G C F $\frac{F}{C}$ C

1 Je - sus loves me, this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so!
2 Je - sus loves me, he who died heav-en's gate to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! He will stay close be - side me all the way;

C G C F C $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ G7 C

Lit - tle ones to him be - long: they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
he's pre - pared a home for me, and some day his face I'll see.

Refrain

C F C $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ G

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

C F $\frac{C}{G}$ Am $\frac{C}{G}$ G7 C

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Thankfulness in our heart!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Julia Paul, Susan (Topp) Wicker, Kohneita Lear, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jan Dammeyer, Scott Kuenning, Shannon Shupp, Patricia Wyatt and Pastor Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER. PERSONAL PRAYER. (adapted from *Nothing Is Finally Lost*, a poem written by the Rev. David Long-Higgins)

Let us pray. We come before you, O God, thanking you for the gift of this day: a day not of our own making, but received as a gift from you. You form our world, you form our days and you never stop loving us and calling us to experience your grace. SILENCE

God, we worship you and praise you because you are the God of new beginnings, the God of the resurrected Christ, our God who holds the future. Just as the leaves from the trees have fallen off branches, floating in your Spirit/Wind, and coming to rest on the ground, the death of the leaves provides nourishment for tomorrow's springtime. SILENCE

God, you are Motion and Mystery who will not rest until the world, your creation, is at peace. We seek your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We seek to share your love and your grace with all we encounter. We are challenged by you to love our enemies and to love those whose lives are so different from our own. SILENCE

Fill us with your Spirit, O God, that our hearts and lives might be born anew, finding resurrection and life in the midst of death, sorrow, pandemic, unrest and tragedy. May we bear your hope into our communities and into the world. May others see Christ's Light in the conduct of our lives. SILENCE

Today we pray for all who are sick, all who are recuperating from surgery or injury, all in need of your healing touch. SILENCE

We pray for our nation. We pray for our world. We pray for our villages, our cities, and our towns. We pray for ourselves—we who are greatly in need of your grace, your forgiveness and your hope. Pour your Spirit upon us, O God, that we might be reminded with every Breath/Wind/Spirit that we belong to you and we are precious in your sight. SILENCE

Gift us with Silence, Savior and Friend, that we might be unafraid to hear your new word for us this day. SILENCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Extended Dance Mix (written by the Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber)

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Our Father

Leader: Our Mother, Our Holy Parent, the Source of All Being from whom we came and to whom we return, you know us better than we know ourselves. Jesus called you Abba and so shall we. Be to us our Holy Parent, the one who loves without condition.

People: Who art in heaven...

Leader: Our Father who art in everything. Our father who art in orphanages and neonatal units, and jail cells and luxury high-rises, who art in law offices, libraries, and in rooms where people live in quiet despair. Our Father who art in the halls of Congress and the halls of tenements.

People: Hallowed be thy name.

Leader: Holy is your name. Ever since the beginning we have attributed our own sin and ego and wishful thinking and greed and malice and racism and ambition and manipulation of others to you and to your name—and yet your name remains holy. We print “In God we trust” on the US dollar and then worship that dollar and the power that dollar brings us, and yet still, your name remains holy.

People: Thy kingdom come...

Leader: God, right now we beg you to bring more than just a small measure of heaven to earth because, if you haven't noticed, we are in the middle of a global pandemic and millions are sick and dying. It is a mess down here Lord, so we need your Kingdom to come quickly. We need wise leaders, and just systems and an extra dose of compassion for all of us.

People: Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Leader: Thy will and not ours be done. Forgive us when we use prayer as a self-help technique by which we can get all the cash and prizes we want out of your divine vending machine if we just bug you to death through ceaseless prayer, because when it comes down to us, we know better. You are our Father whose name is holy and whose love is boundless and who wants, as our holy Parent, to hear our prayers.

People: Give us today our daily bread.

Leader: Give us today our daily bread, our daily naan, our daily tortillas, our daily rice. Lord, give us real bread, even when we keep reaching for those literal and metaphorical donuts. Give us the gift of enough-ness. May our response to the perceived scarcity always be increased generosity for we are your children and from you we receive everything. Give us today our desire for the neighbor to be fed. Give us today a desire for justice.

People: And forgive us our sins. As we forgive those who sin against us.

Leader: Forgive us when we hate what you love. Forgive us when we would rather anesthetize ourselves than feel anything. Forgive us for how much we resent in others the same things we hate in ourselves. Forgive us for the terrible things we think about our own bodies, bodies you have made in your image. Forgive us for thinking we know the hearts of our enemies.

People: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Leader: Deliver us from the inclination that we do not have evil in our hearts. Deliver us from religious and national exceptionalism. Deliver us from addiction and depression. Deliver us from self-loathing. Deliver us from self-righteousness. Deliver us from a complete lack of imagination about where you are in our lives and how you might already be showing up. Deliver us from complacency. Deliver us from complicity.

People: As Jesus taught us, we are throwing this bag of prayers at your door. We are not asking nicely, Lord. We are your children and we are claiming your promises as our own today. Some of us are holding your feet to the fire, some of us don't know if we believe in you, some of us are distracted and just going through the motions, some of us are desperately in love with you...But all of us are your children.

Leader: Use these prayers to hammer us all into vessels that can accept the answer when it comes.

People: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Leader: And the children of God say,

People: Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 9:1-7

(NRSV)

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

*² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.*

*³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.*

*⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

*⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.*

*⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named*

*Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.*

*He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

RESPONSE

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

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

MEDITATION

Bryan Trego

Good Morning. My name is Bryan Trego and I will be giving the sermon this morning. I would like to thank Pastor Becky for asking me to give the sermon and I would also like to thank the congregation for allowing me to speak today.

My theme today is that of hope. Hope is amazing. We can give it as well as receive it. In our lives we have all faced challenges. Some minor, as we find in our day to day lives, and some greater, like the loss of a loved one. So, the question we need to ask ourselves is, "How can we continue to have hope during the difficult times?"

What is hope? One theologian's definition is that hope is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense regardless of how it turns out." Humanity's search for the meaning is universal. We are always looking for the reason why things happen the way they do. We ask ourselves. What is it all for? Is the suffering worth it? Does any of it matter? Hope is knowing that, yes, suffering can be worth it when there is a greater purpose, and when there is a possibility of relief. To have that kind of hope takes a tremendous amount of faith, and faith can be cultivated through our spiritual practices and life experiences.

I would like to share one of these life experiences. Many of you know that I am a junior high and high school teacher in Botkins. Being a teacher has been an amazing blessing. I get to talk about history all day and people, my students, must pay attention. Ok well in my mind I have hope that they are paying attention. We know that is probably not always the case. When I decided I wanted to be a teacher one of the reasons was that I hoped I would be able make a difference in my students lives. The reality of the situation is that often you never know if you have accomplished this goal. Here is where hope comes into the picture. You just have to have hope, as I said early, that you are making a difference regardless of the feedback you receive. There are many students over the years that have struggles. I am not trained, nor claim to be a

counselor. I feel that the most important thing I can do for these students is to give them hope and faith that things will get better.

When we talk about hope I truly believe that we need to look for things in our lives that we can gain inspiration from. My former superintendent at Botkins took the time to write a personal message on every student's grade card. These were not just generic messages, but she truly knew each student and knew what areas they needed encouragement. We printed grade cards on Wednesday and the students received them on Friday, so she had a lot of work to do. We have over 700 students in our school. She also would write notes to athletes during their season as well as the coaches. My first year of teaching I probably received more than a dozen notes or cards from her encouraging me on my new teaching and coaching career. Many of the other teachers kind of laughed at this, and looked at it as a ridiculous waste of time. I am sure that she had hope that maybe one of these students need some reassurance. I saw this firsthand. The teachers were in charge of passing out the grade cards. Many of the students would open them, already knowing what their grades were, just to see the note she had written. I would often hear the students make comments about the message on the grade card. For some, it probably didn't matter. But for the ones that truly needed a little hope in their life, it probably made all the difference in the world.

Your first year as a teacher is often a very difficult time. Most of us have dreamed about the moment when you get your own classroom and all the things you were going to do. Then reality sets in, and you realize that this is a lot harder than you ever imagined. It was almost as if she knew when I was having one of these moments because I would find a note in my mailbox or on my desk telling me what a great job I was doing. I knew that her door was always open, and she gave me the hope I needed to continue.

I decided that I wanted to be that person for others. I started writing small notes of encouragement to the athletes I coached. Usually, at the beginning of the season and often if we were struggling during the season. I would also write them another note when our season had ended. Another coach saw what I was doing and commented that he felt it was a waste of time. He said that it probably didn't matter what I wrote

them. I responded by saying that he was probably right, but what if one student needed someone to give them hope. If I made a difference for just one student it would all be worth it. I was not as diligent as my former superintendent. Some years I wrote more notes than others. As the years passed, I started to do the same thing in my classes. If a student was unsuccessful on an assignment, I would try to write words of encouragement to them. Sometimes I felt like it worked, but most of the time I really never knew if it made a difference, but a few weeks ago I received an email. I would like to share it with you.

Mr. Trego,

I'm sure you probably don't remember me, but I was a student in your class during part of my 8th grade year in 2017-2018. I went on the D.C. trip and left shortly after, transferring to another school. I'm writing to you in particular because of the impact you had made on my life. Though it may seem insignificant to some, you had given me a card the day I left, and the contents of said card told me to keep my head up and give my new school a chance. As I started my first day of 8th grade (again), I entered the building distraught, afraid, and overall just a mess. I kept that card in the front pocket of my binder and in my bag with me after. When I was in your class, I literally hated life and the very essence of my existence; as my grandmother's passing (and my grandfather's passing a year prior) left me in a state of indescribable grief for years. But your words, your kindness, out of all the things that happened that year... That moment I read your card, those words kept me going for years... and they still do. I have that card in my desk now and still look at it from time to time. Even now, I still think about that one moment in time where you gave me that final pep-talk as I left your room for the final time. At the time, I didn't have it in me to believe you. Slowly though, I came to find that it did get better and I found the hope in your parting words. Overall, I wanted to thank you for card and the words of encouragement inside. Words can't describe how blessed I've been to have used them for years to fuel my means of improving my life for the better. Thank you for showing me the brighter side of an otherwise absolutely dismal situation. Thank you for giving me hope when no one else could. Thank you for everything.

As a teacher you look back over your career and I am sure there will be moments that stand out in your memory. This email is one of those moments, all of the cards, all of the pep talks I have given were well worth it. I responded to this email and I let her know that I was happy to hear that I had helped her and that things were going better. I also let her know that as I was a source of hope for her, she was also a source for me by letting me know that I had a difference. She had given me hope that I was doing the right thing. So I will keep writing those notes and giving those pep talks because you just never know who might need a little hope in their lives. I said at the beginning of this sermon that hope is an amazing thing. It truly is. I also said that it can be given as well as received. It's like a gift and they say that it is always better to give than receive. In your lives look for inspirations of hope and look to give somebody the gift of hope.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: Today we present ourselves as an offering to God. If you are alienated from a family member, today is the day to build bridges: a phone call or perhaps an email or written notes to bring about reconciliation. At this moment, we offer our time, our abilities and our financial resources in thanksgiving for God's extravagant love for each of us.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Gracious God, everything we have comes from you. Our hearts and lives overflow with your abundance. With thanksgiving, we bring to you our time, talents, and treasure. Use these gifts that you have given us to feed others as we have been fed, to serve others as we have been served, and to bless others as we have been blessed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING *Now Thank We All Our God*

14 *Now Thank We All Our God*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
 who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
 who, from our mother's arms, has blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God whom earth and heaven adore;
 with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

BENEDICTION: May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace. Amen.

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

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in honor of our 60th wedding anniversary on November 23rd by Linda and Marvin Topp.

Attendance-Daily Devotions-69, November 7-Sunday Worship Online-296, In Person-87, Sunday School-In Person-20, Teachers-6, Splash, Jr/Sr High Youth Group & Confirmation -14, Leaders-8.

Sundays in November-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Sunday School** will be in person at 9:00am.

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.

November Monthly Mission-Washington UCC Children's Christmas Gifts: A Christmas tree can be found in the Narthex of the sanctuary that has tags on. We ask that if you wish, please take a tag or two and shop for a child. **Please return the unwrapped gifts and the tag and place them under the tree by Sunday, November 28th.** You may also make a financial donation by this date by marking monthly mission on your giving envelope or with "Washington UCC Gifts to the Manger" on the envelope. Thank you for your generous giving.

Celebration of Pastor Dee Schroer's Ministry-As you know; Pastor Dee's health has been deeply compromised this past year. Therefore, she has tendered her resignation as our Associate Pastor effective December 1, 2021. On Sunday, November 28, we will celebrate Pastor Dee's ministry during the worship service. The Rev. Daniel Busch, Northwest Ohio Association Minister, will preach and lead the Liturgy for the Ending of an Authorized Ministry. This liturgy formally ends Dee serving as our Associate Pastor at St. Paul Church. Following worship, Church Council will host a reception. But Dee is not leaving us! She grew up at St. Paul and grew up at St. Paul United Church of Christ. As her health allows, Dee will worship with us and participate as a layperson amongst us. We encourage you to join us in worship on Sunday, November 28. If you are unable to attend, we invite you to send her a card of appreciation. Cards can be sent to St. Paul Church. Together, we will celebrate the gift Dee Schroer is to us!

Congregational Meeting-December 5, 2021. The meeting will begin immediately after the Hymn of Sending. We will be approving the 2022 council members and the 2022 budget.

2022 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You may also call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. Price is \$30.00.

Advent Candle Lighting-Would your family or group of friends like to light Advent candles this season? We need volunteers for:

Sunday, December 19

Please contact Rev. Becky to volunteer.

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- Diapers (size 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Baby Shampoo, Baby Lotion, Paper Plates, Garbage Bags, Chap Stick, Bandages, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Q-Tips, Cotton Balls, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, and Napkins. 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.

November/December 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. Deacon**. Questions or willing to serve, please contact Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkratt. Thank you!

E-Giving @ St. Paul

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

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)

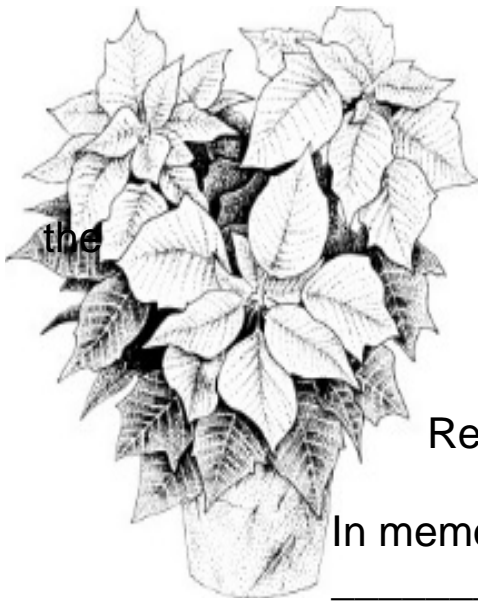
Once a text amount is sent:

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 November 21, 2021

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School in person
	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-New Bremen
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Thursday	All Day	Office Closed
Friday	All Day	Office Closed



It is time to place your orders for the poinsettia plants that grace our sanctuary during the Christmas season. The poinsettias are 6½-inch wrapped in foil with a drip pan. We are offering choice of Red or White and the cost per plant will be \$11.00.

Poinsettia color choice and quantity:

Red _____ Qty White _____ Qty

In memory of _____

A gift for _____

By _____

I wish to contribute \$_____ to the Christmas Decorating Fund.

Please place payment along with the order form in the offering plate or drop off in the church office. Checks should be payable to St. Paul UCC.

Please have poinsettia order in by November 24.

Every year at this time we also ask for and accept donations to the Christmas Decorating Fund. This money will be used toward decorations for the Church and Educational Building.

Please include payment with this order form.

Thank you for helping make our sanctuary even more beautiful as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.