



St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street

New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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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 Erb Strang-Senior Pastor

Myra Hanenkratt-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.

IN PERSON WORSHIP NOTES:

Bulletins, Communion, Offering Plates, and Masks are available on 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 on the tables. Thank you!

Restrooms are located in the Narthex/front entrance of the church and in the south hallway of the educational building.

WIFI Connection-connect via "St Paul – Guest"

Password: godlovesyou

The * indicates all who are able may stand

February 4 and 5, 2023
Fifth Weekend after Epiphany
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Katie Brautigam
Kim Hemmelgarn
June Oaks
Bryan Trego
Jim Strang

The Congregation
Senior Pastor
Accompanist
Liturgist (Sunday)
Sr. Deacon
Sr. Elder
Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

*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

Leader: If we knock, God will open the door.

People: If we seek, we will find.

Leader: If we ask, God will give it to us.

People: We give thanks for God's wisdom and generosity.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

No. 48

verses 1 & 4

GOD OF MAJESTY & POWER

48 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

The musical score is written in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are arranged in four verses. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, the third system covers the third line, and the fourth system covers the fourth line. The chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, Am, D, Em, G/D, D7, G.

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains, high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
all praise we would ren - der, O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish - but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

*SERVICE OF CONFESSION

Leader: God has come to us in Christ, but often we live as if that makes no difference. Let us confess our sins before God and one another. Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, too often we forget your promise. We live in ways that bring glory only to ourselves. We bask in the false assumption that we are in control of our lives. Sometimes we want to tamper with the lives of those around us for our own ends. Help us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to serve you more faithfully each day. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; come and follow me.

People: Amen!

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

No. 734

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men." Above the vocal line, various chords are indicated: Eb, Bb7sus/F, Bb7/F, 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, Eb.

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

GREATOREX
Irregular

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Welcomed at Christ's Table!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Jay Waterman, Tavi Haastrup, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Leader: Let us pray. Confident that our Savior, Jesus Christ, hears us when we pray, we lift up to you, O God, the church, the world, and all in need.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: God of grace and mercy, make us wise that we would build our houses on the sure foundation of your word. Open our ears to hear your truth, so that we might endure when the storms come. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: You call us to do to others as we would have them do to us. Remind us that your creation nurtures and sustains us, that that we cannot survive without it, so that we, in turn, might nurture and sustain creation, for the flourishing of all. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Make our leaders slow to judge based on their own preconceived notions. Give them open minds and hearts, and ears to listen, so that equitable solutions might be found to challenging issues. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Jesus tells us to ask, and it will be given to us. Today we ask for healing for all who suffering in body, mind, or spirit, in our community and in the world. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Walk with all people of the earth, both those who follow you and those whose who do not. Remind us that we are all your children, even when others' ways are unfamiliar to us. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember with thanksgiving all the saints who imparted your wisdom to us throughout history. May we take their lessons to heart until the time we see them face to face. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Receive our prayers and hold all for whom we pray in your loving arms, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together...

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.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29 (The Message)

Jesus said, "Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. That critical spirit has a way of boomeranging. It's easy to see a smudge on your neighbor's face and be oblivious to the ugly sneer on your own. Do you have the nerve to say, 'Let me wash your face for you,' when your own face is distorted by contempt? It's this whole traveling road-show mentality all over again, playing a holier-than-thou part instead of just living your part. Wipe that ugly sneer off your own face, and you might be fit to offer a washcloth to your neighbor.

⁶ *"Don't be flip with the sacred. Banter and silliness give no honor to God. Don't reduce holy mysteries to slogans. In trying to be relevant, you're only being cute and inviting sacrilege.*

⁷⁻¹¹ *"Don't bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need. This isn't a cat-and-mouse, hide-and-seek game we're in. If your child asks for bread, do you trick him with sawdust? If he asks for fish, do you scare him with a live snake on his plate? As bad as you are, you wouldn't think of such a thing. You're at least decent to your own children. So don't you think the God who conceived you in love will be even better?*

¹² *"Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for them. Add up God's Law and Prophets and this is what you get.*

"Don't look for shortcuts to God. The market is flooded with surefire, easygoing formulas for a successful life that can be practiced in your spare time. Don't fall for that stuff, even though crowds of people do. The way to life—to God!—is vigorous and requires total attention.

“These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock.

²⁶⁻²⁷ “But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don’t work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards.”

²⁸⁻²⁹ When Jesus concluded his address, the crowd burst into applause. They had never heard teaching like this. It was apparent that he was living everything he was saying—quite a contrast to their religion teachers! This was the best teaching they had ever heard.

RESPONSIVE LITANY

Left Side: It is easy to judge others.

Right Side: If they don’t agree with us, they are wrong.

Left Side: If they make different choices, they are bad.

Right Side: If we don’t understand them, they are sinners.

Left Side: When the truth is we don’t understand them

Right Side: Simply because we don’t try.

Left Side: We are so focused on the speck in their eye

Right Side: That we don’t notice the log in our own.

Left Side: Let us pause when we are tempted to judge.

Right Side: Let us put ourselves into the other’s place.

Left Side: Let our default be compassion and kindness.

Right Side: Let our ears be open to truly listen.

Left Side: Then, with God’s help, we might treat them

Right Side: With respect and love as we want to be treated ourselves.

SUNG RESPONSE

We Reach For You

We Reach For You

January 8 through February 19, 2023

Word and Music by
J. L. Salt(er)

F C/E Dm

Oh, Je-sus teach us, guide us with your preach-ing. Like a flow-er grow-ing, al-ways reach-ing

with pedal

introduction

B \flat maj7 Gm7 Gm7/C F B \flat m F **Fine**

for the sun, we reach for you.

B \flat Gm7 Am G

^{2/5} Do not judge lit - tle specks when there's a log that's in your own. Just

Gm7 Gm7/C F Gm7/C **D.C. al Fine**

make your faith like hous - es built on stone.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (Sunday)

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: Let us give as we are able: generously and joyfully!

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 34

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly 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)

O God, you give good gifts to your children simply because we ask. We now return our gifts to you in gratitude for your loving care. Bless them to you service wherever there is need, in Jesus' name. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the United Church of Christ, we practice an Open Table. You need not be a church member to commune; you need only a sincere desire to draw near to Christ and seek peace with your neighbor. Saturday, communion elements will be offered by coming forward or are available on the bulletin/offering table. Sunday, communion elements are available on the bulletin/offering tables. Sunday, we hold the elements and commune together.

Leader: God, our holy parent, giver of only good gifts, here at this table we receive the best gift of all: Jesus' body and blood poured out in love for all creation. Come. Share in this holy gift. Let us pray:

People: We give you thanks, O God, that through Jesus, we might know and experience your redeeming love. We bless you for

your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and for calling us to be your people.

Leader: Although we rebelled against your love, you did not abandon us in our sin, but sent to us prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus, our only Savior, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

People: In the fullness of time, you came to us and received our nature in the person of Jesus, who, in obedience to you, by suffering on the cross, and being raised from the dead, delivered us from the ways of sin and death. We praise you that Jesus now resigns with you in glory.

Leader: We thank you for the Holy Spirit who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and gathers us from every nation to unite us in one holy church. Bless this meal we are about to receive, that we might be nourished by the life, death, and resurrection of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: We remember on the night of his betrayal, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it saying, "Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Leader: In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup, giving it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me." The gifts of God for the people of God. All things are now ready.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Leader (with the bread): Take and eat. This is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Leader (with the cup): The blood of Christ. The cup of salvation. Take and drink.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your

universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

*HYMN OF SENDING *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* No. 698

HOLY COMMUNION

698 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

C G C F Dm7 G Dm Fmaj7 G Dm F

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a

C E Dm F Am7 E G D C E G7 D C F Am D Gsus G

shout of joy: bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured,
 set the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:

Dm7 C Dm7 F Dm7 C G7 C Refrain Am C7 G

Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain,
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!

WORDS: Fred Kaan (1929-)
 MUSIC: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter (1925-1980)
 Words and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD
 L.M.Ref.

F Dm G F/G Em G G7 C Dm7 F C

earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*BENEDICTION: May the great Ruler of all high places, God of many names, touch you with a wind that keeps you strong for all the days to come. 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

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

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

*POSTLUDE

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"Pass the Love" Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in memory of Loved Ones by Jason and Tracy Oldiges.

Circle of Friends Cards for you to sign are Jay Waterman (East door), Shannon Shupp(South door), Karen Vornholt (North door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants-January 29-Sunday School-18, Teachers-5, Worship Online-185, In-Person-68.

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

Daily Devotions-Please join us, Monday-Thursday, online. Devotions will air and saved on our Facebook page: St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

Elmwood Worship-Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

Women's Service Group-will meet Thursday, February 9th, 1:00pm in the Assembly Room for a bible study. Please contact Joyce Gilberg for more information. All are welcome!

Widow and Widower Luncheon-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30 am on Wednesday, February 8th. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

Ash Wednesday Worship-February 22, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary Our confirmands have burned last year's palm branches and prepared the ash to be used for this service. Worship will include music, imposition of ashes and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please join us in-person or online via Facebook Live. All are welcome!

Congregational Meeting-will take place Sunday February 26, 2023 during the 10:15am worship service.

February Book Club-We will be reading *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. Books can be picked up on the table outside Pastor Becky's office. This event will be offered in-person and via Zoom.

2023 Altar Flower Chart has open dates: July 2, 30, August 27, October 29, December 31. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You may also call the church office Monday-Thursday to sign up. 2023 altar flower price will be \$40.00. Thank you.

St Paul UCC Job Openings-The following positions are or will be available in the near future: Technology Director, Worship Organist, Music Director, Bell Choir Director, Chancel Choir Director, Sanctuary Custodian, and Bookkeeper. Interested applicants are asked to submit a resume and cover letter, indicating position applying for, to the church office, attention Myra Hanenkratt, Council President.

The Bookkeeper position is part-time. It includes accounts payable, payroll and preparing reports for council.

The Sanctuary Custodian position is part-time. It includes cleaning and sanitizing the sanctuary, bathrooms vestibules for all worship services. The Sanctuary Custodian unlocks and locks the sanctuary for all services-including weddings and funerals.

The Worship Organist is responsible for playing organ/piano during worship services, accompanies the choirs and works closely with the Worship Team.

The Music Director/Bell Choir Director/Chancel Choir Director serves part time to recruit, rehearse and perform bell and chancel choir music. The Music Director works closely with the Worship Team.

The Technology Director serves part time at St. Paul Church to maintain and update all computer, networking and worship technologies. The Technology Director works closely with the Worship Tech Team and the Worship Team.

February Monthly Mission: Back Bay Mission

Back Bay Mission has been located in Biloxi Mississippi since 1922 and has just celebrated its 100th anniversary. It was founded by the Evangelical Reformed Church which is one of the four founding denominations of the United Church of Christ.

Back Bay Mission has been a mission partner of the UCC for 100 years and volunteers have given their time, money and help to the people of this area of Southern Mississippi. Many members of St Paul have been on mission trips to Back Bay over the years and have learned about the poverty and homelessness of Southern Mississippi. Mississippi is still the poorest state in the Union and Back Bay Mission is doing more than its share to help the people of this area.

Back Bay has a Day Care Center where people can go for a shower, a place to use a computer to look for job opportunities, a food pantry, a washing machine, as well as mental and physical professional help if needed. Other ways the mission helps, is with offering clothing donations and finding suitable housing for people.

Our St Paul UCC Church has supported this Mission financially and with work groups for many years. Over the past number of years Back Bay has gained the support of some of the Casinos, The Air Force Base which is located near Biloxi, some businesses, and the local Chamber of Commerce, as well as individuals.

St Paul members have been on many trips to Back Bay and they have seen the ongoing needs of the very poor people of Southern Mississippi. They have helped with cleaning out homes that have been damaged by hurricanes and flooded by some terrible storms and have helped with the rebuilding of these homes. The people that are helped are always so gracious and thankful for any help that they receive

The Motto for Back Bay Mission is taken from the Book of Micah and says “To do Justice, Love kindness, and Walk humbly with God” Remember- God loves a Cheerful Giver!

Thank you, John Gilberg, 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-Dish Soap, Dryer Sheets, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Tampons, Diapers (sizes N-6), Baby Wipes, Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo, Bandages, Manicure Items, Napkins, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

St. Paul Church Nursery Announcement. Effective immediately the St. Paul Church Nursery will be open on Communion Sundays and on Children's Worship Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion.

St. Paul UCC Rummage Sale-Planned for March 24th & 25th. Donations will be accepted during the month of March. Start gathering your items and watch for more details.

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.

March/April 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.

Want to be part of the Prayer Chain? Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

Calendar-Week of February 5, 2023

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship-w/Holy Communion In Person & via Facebook Live
	11:30am	Mission Team
Monday		Devotions via Facebook Live
Tuesday	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
		Devotions via Facebook Live
Wednesday	2:00pm	Elmwood Worship
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Group
Thursday	7:00pm-8:00pm	Confirmation
	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm	Women's Service Group
Friday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	Noon	Office Closed

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 gl (hit send)
- For building & property fund giving: Send 25 bp (hit send)
- For 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- Sent via text the first time a donation is made.

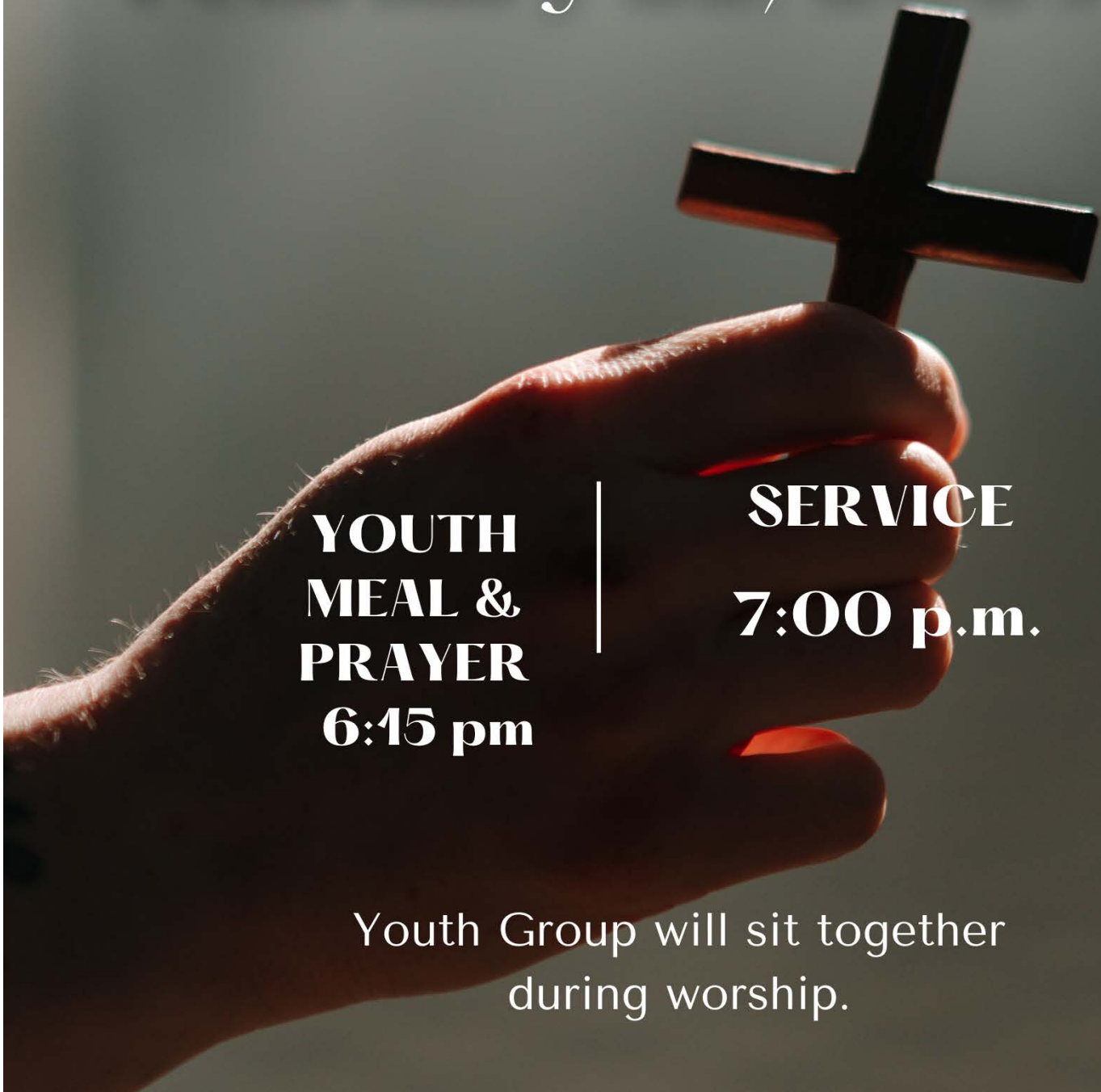
Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

Donation Confirm- Sent via text each time a donation is made

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Ash Wednesday Service

February 22, 2023



**YOUTH
MEAL &
PRAYER
6:15 pm**

**SERVICE
7:00 p.m.**

Youth Group will sit together
during worship.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

Children's Worship

Join us at 10:15 am to celebrate the
history of St. Paul Church through the
eyes of the Youth

