

March 28, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus who invites us to journey with him to Jerusalem—all the way to the cross that we might experience, with the Risen Christ, Easter's alleluias.

Upcoming worship services include:

Sunday April 3. 10:15 a.m. worship with Holy Communion.

Three of our confirmands will share their faith statements and be blessed by their parents.

Sunday April 10. 10:15 a.m. worship with the Rite of Confirmation/Palm Sunday.

Thursday April 14. 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Healing Service with Healing Prayers, Holy Communion and Lighting of Candles.

Friday April 15. 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae service.

Sunday April 17. Easter Sunday! Worship with Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.


*All worship services at St. Paul Church are offered in-person and via Facebook Live

Last week's letter talked about the need for "champions" of a variety of ministries at St. Paul Church. This week we offer you another opportunity: serving on Church Council as Vice President of Council. Roland Dicke (Council President)'s term ends in December. Myra Hanenkratt (Council Vice President) will become Council President in January for a two-year term. We are seeking someone who would be willing to serve as VP for two years and then President for the following two years. If you are interested, please contact Roland or Myra.

Boy Scouts and St. Paul Church members Jared and Jordan Weigandt are working on their Eagle Scout projects. The plans include adding benches (Jared's project) and corn-hole boards (Jordan's project) to our playground. These young men are in the process of raising funds for these projects. If you would like to donate, checks should be made payable to Troop 95. Please write "Jordan Weigandt" or "Jared Weigandt" in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to Troop 95, 8 Rummel Creek Drive, New Bremen, Ohio, 45869.

Last week's letter mentioned that a stewardship letter would be sent out soon. Our Leadership Team has decided to send that closer to Easter.

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 Myra Hanenkratt Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Council President Council VP Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of March 28, 2022

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$6,361.00(weekly)
Endowment Trans \$5,700.00(ytd)
Income \$81,029.87(ytd)
Expenses \$67,887.66(ytd)
Balance \$13,142.21(ytd)

Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$36,648.59
Income \$30,175.50(ytd)
Endowment Inc. (\$2,798.80)(ytd)
Expenses \$6,554.08(ytd)
Balance \$57,471.21(ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$527.00

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82
Income \$3,045.50(ytd)
Expenses \$6,158.24(ytd)
Balance \$9,106.08(ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12
Income \$4,924.00(ytd)
Expenses \$3,599.50(ytd)
Balance \$30,485.62(ytd)

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$296.50(weekly)
Income \$5,881.50(ytd)

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.



Jesus Condemned

April 3, 2022

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 justice, Jesus faced an unjust justice system. Help us to work toward justice, so that the system can work for all. Amen.

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



¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor. ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. (John 19:15-16)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Pilate was judge and jury in the highest profile case ever tried. The consequence of his decision would last forever.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

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

Tell of a time you were in a crowd when tension started to build. What is it that makes certain behaviors unacceptable when alone or in small groups, but more acceptable in large crowds? Did you keep your head when the crowd started to turn, or did you follow the crowd?

For the littles: How does it feel when someone lets you down?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God guide your thoughts and actions. Amen.



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

Attend a protest and stand up for something you believe in. Keep your head, even if the crowd begins to turn.



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

Sunday, John 19:1-16a, Jesus Condemned

Monday, Psalm 146

Tuesday, Isaiah 6:1-5, Holy Lord

Wednesday, Isaiah 28:5-6, Spirit of Justice

Thursday, Isaiah 32:1-6, King of Righteousness

Friday, Isaiah 42:1-4, Suffering Servant

Saturday, Jeremiah 23:5-6, Branch of David



St. Paul United Church of Christ

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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 Erb Strang-Senior Pastor

Roland Dicke-Council President

Welcome to St. Paul UCC, we are glad you are here!!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, this is the house of the Lord, and all are welcome to enter and praise our loving Creator.

May God's love fill you with kindness, mercy and joy.

April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Gavin Quellhorst

Taylor Opperman

Allie Bornhorst

Diane Gilberg

Connie O'Neill

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Confirmand

Confirmand

Confirmand

Liturgist/Sr. Elder

Organist

Sr. Deacon

Bell Choir/Music Director

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Camp Templated Hills

Amy Felver

The Hills are Alive!! Nestled in the rolling landscape of Central Ohio, Temples Hills offers a sacred space beloved by generations, a place for spiritual growth and fun. Stewarded by the churches of the Ohio conference, Temple Hills is a place for people of all ages to be able to connect with God in nature. As our April mission project for the month. We would like you to prayerfully consider donating to "The Hills are Alive" campaign to give our current and future generations a special place to learn and grow. For more information about "The Hills are Alive!" campaign, please visit the website loveourhills.org. Thank you!

WELCOME SONG

No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷

No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷

jour-ney of life; you're wel- come, wel- come in this place. No mat-ter

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷

who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm Gm⁷ C⁷ C F F

jour-ney of life: ac- cept- ed, wel- comed by God's grace. grace.

To verses Last time, Fine

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship, not because we have all the answers, but because Jesus Christ offers us new life.

People: We gather to worship, not because we are better than others, but because we know that God does not reject sinners.

Leader: We gather to worship, not because our lives always run smoothly, but because by faith we journey together.

People: We are here to worship a God who never wearies and to praise a Savior who calls us his own.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Crown Him with Many Crowns

verses 1-3

ASCENSION

317 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

D Bm G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{A7}{E}$ D A

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
2 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave,
3 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

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

Hark! how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied;
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

$\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{A7}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{B7}{F\#}$ E $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{E}{G\#}$ A

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
his glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,
no an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me;

$\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ Em7 A D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G D Asus A7 D

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat them at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The Lord God said, *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.* Brothers and sisters, In Christ, all God's promises are, "Yes." Hear the good news: Through Christ Jesus, our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed, and renewed!

People: We offer to God our never-ending thanksgiving and praise!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. Chord symbols are provided above the vocal line for each measure. 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."

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

GREATOREX
Irregular

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Confirmands Faith Statements! **Sacrament of Baptism,** Lily Mae Shelby and Rhonan James Shelby were baptized Saturday April 2, 2022. Lily and Rhonan are the daughter and son of Emily and Steven Shelby. Their sponsors are Margaret McMichael and Eric Dicke. Congrats to the Shelby Family.

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Carol Mohrman, Julia Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

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

Leader: Let us pray. Holy and loving God, we lift up to you the church, the world and all who are in need. (SILENCE)

God, we would sooner argue to justify ourselves than surrender and discover what treasures there may be in yielding to your will. Make Jesus our model of unwavering faithfulness and give us strength to be as courageous in the face of threats to our status and safety. Steadfast Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: The cries of "crucify!" still ring in our ears, every time an innocent is punished, every time a guilty one goes unquestioned, every time your creation suffers from abuse and misuse. Forgive us and show us the way that leads to life. Steadfast Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: The long-repentant season is nearly ended, and the day of reckoning is ever nearer. Accompany us on this journey, Lord, secure in the knowledge that your resurrection stands at the other end. Steadfast Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all with no voice, make us advocates, O God. For those who are lonely or feel abandoned, make us companions. And for all who suffer any illness or trial, make us bringers of a healing word and a steadying hand. Steadfast Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those who stood trials on behalf of your Gospel, and all who gave their lives in service to a larger truth, we give you thanks.

Join us to saints of old and those saints among us still, and remind us that you love us for all eternity. Steadfast Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: When prayers are not enough, move us to act as your faithful servants on earth, empowered by your Spirit and inspired by your love. All of this we pray 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.**

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 19:1-16a (NRSV)

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³ They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" ⁶ When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." ⁸ Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" ¹¹ Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹² From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

LITANY OF RESPONSE

Leader: Don't let the forces of evil overtake you, they say.

People: Fight the good fight, to the bitter end, they tell us.

Leader: Never say die. Never.

People: But Jesus allowed evil to overtake the situation.

Leader: He refused to fight. He died.

People: Why did he fly in the face of conventional wisdom?

Leader: Because he always did. Jesus always made us see things differently.

People: In this case, he taught us about surrender.

Leader: He was God. He could have stopped the bad guys.

People: He could have beaten evil with one hand tied behind his back.

Leader: But he didn't.

People: What does that say to us, today?

Leader: Not that we shouldn't fight against evil, not at all.

People: Not that we should surrender without a fight.

Leader: Jesus gave himself as a sacrifice so that evil was conquered, once and for all.

People: And he asks us to believe that is so.

Leader: He urges us toward peaceful protest, the radical love he showed the world—

People: Shows the world still.

Leader: Jesus died so that we don't have to.

People: Oh, we will take our last earthly breath someday.

Leader: But the next breath, we will take in eternity.

People: Jesus modeled surrender for us, that we may give ourselves up to God.

Leader: To love.

People: What do we surrender ourselves to?

Leader: Do we ever surrender ourselves at all?

People: Or do we hold ourselves in, hold ourselves together, tight as a drum?

Leader: When do we just let go?

People: When do we accept, truly accept,

Leader: That whatever happens, God's got it?

People: Tough for humans to do.

Leader: But we have the supreme example, right here.

People: God and man, in one, in triumphant surrender.

Leader: Ceding no ground to evil, but ceding everything to God.

People: In this holy time of Lent,

Leader: May we look evil fearlessly in the eye and say:

People: I am, we are, more than you.

Leader: Our love. Our grace. Our peace.

People: Like falling backwards in trust into waiting arms.

Leader: Let us fall fearlessly into the arms of our Lord,

People: Confident that, in our peaceful surrender, we have won.

Everything.

RESPONSE

Raise Us from Our Slumber, Lord

Raise Us From Our Slumber, Lord

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

C G Am F

Raise us from our slum - ber, Lord. Show us how to love

with pedal

F C Dm G

'Til your king - dom comes to earth, down from heav'n a - bove.

Am Dm Am D

Je - sus wore a crown of thorns. They cried, "Cru - ci - fy!"

introduction

Dm Em Dm/F F G Csus C

Pi - lot sent him up to die. Wash us with your love, O Lord.

CONFIRMATION FAITH STATEMENTS & PARENT BLESSINGS

Gavin Quellhorst

My favorite Bible verse or chapter has popped up in my life multiple times recently. At first I wasn't sure if this was a good thing or not because they all were at funerals and viewings. But as I started my confirmation journey, I realized that this is God trying to grab my attention. The chapter is Psalm 23, it goes like *"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever."* I picked this passage because it shows that God is my guide in life and he fills me with blessings. It also shows how powerful God is.

What do I believe about God? I believe that God is an almighty, powerful teacher and more. He forgives us and nourishes us with what we need. He is with us at all times to guide us through our journey. He takes care and loves all even those who sin. He is the creator of all in the universe. He ignores no one and accepts the least. He exists and places people in our life.

What do I believe about Jesus Christ? I believe that he sacrificed himself on the cross to forgive our sins. He also is a guide in our life. He is a teacher who loves and forgives us. He is 100% God and 100% Human. He is a healer and our savior.

What do I believe about the Holy Spirit? I believe that the Holy Spirit is everything around us and it guides us throughout life. It shows up at random times but is always with us. It is part of God so it gives us gifts and talents. The Holy Spirit is hiding within us.

What do I believe about the Bible? I believe that it is the teaching of God. It has the rules for life and guides us like a road map. Take it word for word because it is inspired, not literal. It is written by many different people and is comforting and gives us hope. It inspires us to take action and love others.

What do I believe about the church? I believe that it is God's home and is welcome for all. It is a place of comfort and acceptance. It will help out when needed and is family. It is a place of fellowship and worship. It is more than just an ordinary brick building. It is open minded and welcome to any opinions and the church serves all.

Why do I consider myself to be a Christian? I don't judge others. I know who God is through believing in Jesus. I can have faith without having to see anything. I help other people believe in Jesus and I believe in the Trinity.

Why do I want to be confirmed? I want to be confirmed to take my next step in my Christian journey. I also want to be closer to God and take responsibility for my own faith. I want to fulfill my parent's baptismal promises and to become a bigger part of the church.

How do I intend to continue my Christian journey? I intend to continue my journey by becoming a bigger part of the Christian community and to serve others through God. I also intend to join different parts of the church. Most importantly is that I will forgive and love others.

Taylor Opperman

My favorite Bible verses are Romans 12:9-10. It says, *"Don't just pretend to love others, really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other."* These are my favorite verses because they say to not just pretend to love others, but to really love them. Nowadays people don't really love each other with genuine affection. People sometimes pretend to love others. I also like this verse because it reminds me to honor the people I love.

I believe that God is always with us and that he will always forgive us. I believe that he accepts all of us and that, no matter what, he is always there. God helps guide us through life by putting people in our lives that help shape and form who we are.

I believe that Jesus Christ is a teacher who forgives our sins. Jesus Christ is a role model and a friend. I believe that he is a problem solver and a miracle worker.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is within us all. I believe that he is a comforter and a guide. Lastly, I believe that he is a moral compass by helping us find our way in the world.

I believe that the Bible is the teachings of God. I also believe that it is a road map to help guide you in the right path. Lastly, I believe that the Bible offers us comfort when you are feeling lost.

I believe that the church is a place of comfort and acceptance. I also believe that it is more than just a building, it is a safe place where we come together like family. Lastly, I believe that the church is a safe place to learn and worship.

I consider myself a Christian because I have faith without any proof that God is real. I consider myself a Christian because I believe in God and Jesus Christ. Lastly, I am a Christian because I believe that God is love and love is powerful and it is what brings all of us together as Christians.

I want to be confirmed because I want to be closer to God. I also want to be confirmed because I want to take responsibility for my own faith. Lastly, I want to be confirmed because I want to fulfill my baptismal promises that my parents had chosen for me. I intend to continue my Christian journey by being kind and loving others. Also I want to continue learning about God and to grow a stronger connection with him.

Allie Bornhorst

My favorite verse is Galatians 5:16, which says *“So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.”* I chose this verse because although there are many different religions, ways of worship and so many other things that make each religion different, everyone has someone watching over them, no matter who it is or what they believe. It’s comforting to know that no matter what happens on Earth, someone or something will always be watching me. Something that reminds me of this verse is the painting “Starry Night” by Vincent van Gogh. In the center of the painting, there is a gust of wind as the Holy Spirit, guiding and watching over the people in the village below. This verse helps me know God because it helps me know that he was there, watching over everyone. During one of our last confirmation

classes, there were questions written on a whiteboard that we had answered as a group.

The first question was about what I believe about God.

- 1.) He exists. For some, this may not seem like a big deal, but for me, it is one of the biggest parts of my beliefs. Knowing he exists and is there is a huge comfort, especially, if I am alone, scared, anxious, or just feeling lonely.
- 2.) He is beyond description. There are so many things God does and so many things he is and any description in any language can't fit him. He can't be put in a box.
- 3.) He takes notice of everyone. Simply put, everyone needs some level of attention. Some need it more than others, but everyone should be noticed. God does that. He pays attention and sees everyone as part of his Kingdom. He especially takes notice of those who don't get attention. Those on the outside, those not noticed by the rest of the world.
- 4.) He guides me throughout my journey. If I was entirely alone, God would still be there to guide me. While it may not seem like it, he has a plan for me, and he'll guide me through it.

While there are many other things I believe about God, these four are the most important to me.

The second question was about what I believe about Jesus.

- 1.) He was an actual person who has lived on Earth. At some point in time, someone had a conversation with him, ate with him, walked with him. The stories of the Bible seem more believable to me now.
- 2.) He was a miracle. Most people look at the miracles he performed, but forget that he himself was one. His mother was a virgin when she became pregnant with him; he was 100% Human and 100% God. No one else on Earth has ever been the same.
- 3.) He was a non-conformist. Jesus didn't belong with any one group because he loved everyone, believed that God loves everyone and anyone could love him and God. It seemed as if

he wasn't interested in following rules if they kept him from loving everyone.

- 4.) Not only is he a teacher, but he is also a counselor. Throughout his life, Jesus spent his time telling stories and teaching people about God, but he was also a listener. He understood people's problems and tried to help or give advice. He made people feel safe.

The third question was about what I believe about the Holy Spirit.

- 1.) It is our moral compass. I consider it as my conscience, guiding me to make the right choices, no matter what anyone else is doing.
- 2.) It is a part of God. The Holy Spirit is inside of us and is the Breath of God. Every time we breathe, we take in part of God.
- 3.) He challenges us. If our lives become too routine or comfortable, the Holy Spirit will intervene and give us a challenge, whether to teach us a lesson or help us walk our paths in life.

The fourth question was about what I believe about the Bible.

- 1.) It is inspired. Not literal. It is possible that some events in the Bible could have happened, but it was written so long ago that so many of the rules and guidelines are outdated. Although they are outdated, you can interpret the meaning of the rule, and you can apply that to your life in a way that fits the time period and makes sense for you.
- 2.) Different versions, different interpretations. Since the Bible wasn't originally written in English, different versions can have different words, meaning a different interpretation and a different understanding of the lesson.

The fifth question was about what I believe about the church.

The church is more than a building. It's more about the people. Here, we help anyone, making them feel safe and comforted and accepted. A building can't create all those feelings. There are all kinds of people here, all holding the door open for anyone who wants to come in, holding no judgement towards anyone. It's these people that make the church

innovative and creative, adapting to the changes in the environment, all while learning from each other and worshipping God.

The sixth question was why I consider myself to be a Christian.

I'm Christian because all are beloved and good in God's eyes and all are under the protection of Jesus. Being Christian also gives me a sense of belonging. Belonging to something bigger than myself and bigger than my community. Anyone, anywhere, can be a Christian and follow God's call to help others and not judge anyone for being who they are.

I want to be confirmed so I can become closer to God and continue learning. I want to take on the responsibility of continuing my faith and following Jesus. I intend to continue my faith journey by being kind, forgiving, and loving others unconditionally. While I don't know what life will bring, I intend to keep learning and let the Holy Spirit guide my life.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: This morning we will joyfully present our offerings of money to the Lord; but we will offer not just our money: we will present also the bread and wine which will be consecrated and then given to us in remembrance of Jesus who gives us everything. We come to this time thankful, joyful, and generous.

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 the lyrics, and the second system covers the next two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the notes in 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)

You are a generous, faithful and just God: even when we fall short of those expectations of us. Accept these gifts we offer to you today as our expressions of our willingness to grow beyond our perceived limits and soar for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

Leader: God meets us in the sacraments, communicating grace to us by means of water, bread and wine. In baptism, whether of the newly born or the newly converted, God reminds and assures us of our union in Christ in covenant love, the washing away of our sins, and the gift of the Holy Spirit—expecting our love and trust in return.

In the Lord's Supper, Christ offers his own body and blood to his people, assuring them a share in his death and resurrection. By the Holy Spirit, he feeds us with his resurrection life and binds us to each other as we share one loaf and cup.

People: We receive this food gladly, believing, as we eat, that Jesus is our life-giving food and drink and that he will call us to his heavenly banquet.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer our praise for all the saints who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. May we be filled

with the Spirit's power, as we taste and see, experience and remember, the goodness of our God. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We remember on the night Jesus was betrayed and deserted, he gathered his disciples for a Passover meal. At that meal, he took bread, blessed and broke it saying, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." He also took the cup after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it for the forgiveness of sins.

The gifts of God for the people of God. All things are now ready.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Bread: The body of Christ! Take and eat!

Cup: The cup of Salvation! Take and drink!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus the Christ. Strengthen our faith. Increase our love for one another, and send us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING *O Love, How Deep, How Broad* verses 1, 4, 5

O Love, How Deep, How Broad 244

D Bm A D $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{D}{A}$ A D G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{A7}{E}$ D

1 O Love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed, for us he taught, for us
 4 For us to e - vil power be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

$\frac{A}{C\#}$ A D $\frac{G}{D}$ D $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Bm $\frac{E7}{G\#}$ A D

thought and fan - ta - sy: that God, the Son of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and
 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 deep, so high, so broad— the Trin - i - ty whom

G $\frac{G}{B}$ D Em $\frac{Am}{C}$ D Am $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G A D

God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 sharp he knew, for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 cross and death, for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 Spir - it here to guide, to com - fort, and to cheer.
 we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

WORDS: Latin hymn, 15th c.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.
 MUSIC: Trier manuscript, 15th c.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621);
 harm. George R. Woodward (1848-1934)

PUER NOBIS
 L.M.

BENEDICTION: Go in peace in the name of God the Father and our Creator, Christ the Son and our Savior, and the Holy Spirit, the Mother of us all. Arm yourselves with love and scatter joy into this week. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

♩=95

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 C7

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

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 G7 C

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

Fmaj7 Dm F/G F/C

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

Am7 Dm7 Gm7 F/C C7 F

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

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in loving memory of Merlin and Eldine Blumhorst by Katie Blumhorst and Daniel Sok.

Thank You!-A big thank you to the Women's Service Group for the basket of fruit and cookies from Marv Topp. Thank You!!!!

Participants-Daily Devotions-48, March 20-Sunday Worship Online-297, In Person-105, Sunday School-17, Teachers-6, Splash-7, Jr/Sr High-17, Leaders-6.

Sundays in April-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.

May/June 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.

Elmwood Worship- Tuesday, April 5, 2021 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood. Rev. Becky will also be doing a Good Friday Worship service at Elmwood on Friday, April 15 at 2:30pm. Please see Rev. Becky if you would like to assist her with the Good Friday service.

Good Friday Worship Service Scripture Readers-Rev. Becky is looking for scripture readers for the April 15 Tenebrae Service. Interested? Please see Rev. Becky for more details.

Women's Service Group-will be meeting Thursday, April 14 at 1:00pm in the Assembly room. We will be packing school bags for Church World Service. Questions, please contact Bev Plattner. All are welcome.

Holy Week Worship Services

April 10. Palm Sunday/Rite of Confirmation at 10:15am in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Sunday School children will process with palms at the start of the service.

April 14. Maundy Thursday Healing Service at 7:00pm in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include prayers, scripture, sermon, Prayers of Healing, Sacrament of Holy Communion and lighting of candles for healing.

April 15. Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include music, scriptures and candlelight slowly diminishing until only the Christ Candle is lit.

April 17. Easter Sunday! Worship will be held in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live at 7:30am and 10:15 a.m. Service will include music, prayers, scriptures, preaching and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Coming to St. Paul Church: Game Day! Are you interested in a Game Day? St. Paul Church will be having one on Sunday, April 24 from 2-4 P.M. in the church Assembly Room. There will be refreshments and snacks. We will have various games and puzzles or you can bring a game of your own to play with someone. This event is geared for all ages. Want more information? See Leif Dietrich or Pastor Becky

Bible Study: Unafraid—Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times

We are living in uncertain times. Many of us are afraid. Some of us are without hope. We do not know what the future holds.

Beginning Thursday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m., Pastor Becky will lead a five-week Bible Study following Adam Hamilton's book Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times.

Because the study includes a video each week, this Bible Study will be in-person only unless we can work out how to include Zoom technology. Questions? See Pastor Becky

BOOK CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT! Book Club plans to start back up in June 2022! If you have any interest in being on the contact list to be notified of upcoming events, please text or email Cami Flenar at 419-733-0895 or imac01@hotmail.com.

The goal will be to read one book each month and meet, either virtually or in person, to discuss the book of the month. A variety of books will be on our reading list, such as Adult, Young Adult, Middle-Grade, Biographies, and more! If you think you may enjoy reading with a group and covering topics ranging from kindness, community, family, love, perseverance, inspiration, and more, please reach out via email or text to be included on our Book Club list!

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, Baby Wipes, Diapers (size n-6), Laundry Detergent, Softener Sheets, Dish Soap, Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products, Shampoo, Hair Conditioner, Toothpaste, Kleenex, Paper Plates, Napkins, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags, Cotton balls, Safety Q-Tips** and Pull Ups (size 2-6). **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

Troop 95 Eagle Scout Projects-Jared Weigandt and Jordan Weigandt Trees, Benches and Corn Hole Boards will be added to the playground. Donations should be made payable to Troop 95 and sent to Troop 95, 8 Rummel Creek Dr, New Bremen, OH 45869. Please write Jordan or Jared Weigandt on memo line. Thank you.

2022 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. Dates available- **August 28, October 30**. You may also call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. Price is \$30.00.

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!

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.

Calendar-Week of April 3, 2022

Sunday	9:00am	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship In Person & via Facebook Live w/Holy Communion
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-New Bremen
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm	Elmwood Worship Service
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
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-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed



When: April 18, 2022

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: To Be Decided

Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages

Prepared by: Bolly's

Served by: County Crossroads 4-H Club