

August 15, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

We greet you in the name of Jesus Christ and thank you for your love of God and neighbors!

We are a congregation who puts our faith into action. During the month of August, you will have the opportunity to complete a Time & Talent form, offering you new ways to serve God through St. Paul Church. This form is available in this week's bulletin. You can also complete this form online through the St. Paul website or via the link found in your bulletin. You will hear more about this during the weeks to come.

After serving as our Lay Minister of Visitation for over a decade, Anna Louise Hoelscher retired at the beginning of this year. We are now accepting applications for this part-time staff position.

The Lay Minister of Visitation is responsible for the communication/visitation with homebound, nursing home, and recuperating members of St. Paul United Church of Christ approximately six hours per week. If the qualified candidate is a nurse, this position will be called Parish Nurse. The Parish Nurse position will include creating health-related workshops and possibly offer after-worship blood pressure screenings. Interested applicants are asked to submit a resume and cover letter to Pastor Becky as Head of Staff. Application deadline is Thursday, August 18. Questions? See Pastor Becky

Church Council is beginning to look toward 2023. We are seeking volunteers to serve next year as:

**Council Vice President    Junior Elder  
Trustee**

Please see Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkratt if you would like to serve on Council in 2023.

Project of the Year during 2022, St. Paul Church is raising funds for smaller physical plant projects.

At the August Church Council meeting, Council voted to replace the parsonage upstairs air conditioning unit and furnace. **The cost for these items is \$9940.00.** We have approximately \$2000.00 raised

for this project. Council invites you to give generously to the Project of the Year to complete this project. Thank you!

May you experience the blessing of the Risen Christ this week!

Blessings,

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

### Financial Information as of August 15, 2022

#### Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00  
Giving Income \$4,879.48 (weekly)  
Endowment Trans \$15,200.00(ytd)  
Income \$195,468.39(ytd)  
Expenses \$205,919.74(ytd)  
Balance **(\$10,451.35)**(ytd)

#### Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$36,648.59  
Income \$39,940.50(ytd)  
Endowment Inc. **(\$4,014.50)**(ytd)  
Expenses \$17,548.28(ytd)  
Balance \$52,026.31(ytd)

#### Project of the Year

Income \$6,502.00

#### Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82  
Income \$18,029.70(ytd)  
Expenses \$16,814.67(ytd)  
Balance \$13,433.85(ytd)

#### Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12  
Income \$8,960.00(ytd)  
Expenses \$10,551.20(ytd)  
Balance \$27,569.92(ytd)

#### Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00  
Income \$169.50(weekly)  
Income \$15,096.50(ytd)

Please remember the family of Edith Wissman in your prayers. Edith passed away Wednesday, August 10, 2022. Service to celebrate her life was held Saturday, August 13, 2022.



*Honor God by taking delight in the Sabbath.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 13:10-17</b>	<b>Jesus heals on the Sabbath</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Isaiah 58:9b-14</b>	<b>Delight in the Sabbath</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Hebrews 12:18-29</b>	<b>A kingdom that can't be shaken</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 5:12-15</b>	<b>Remember you were slaves</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Acts 20:7-12</b>	<b>Breaking bread on Sunday</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Exodus 20:8-11</b>	<b>Remember the Sabbath day</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 103:1-8</b>	<b>Praise for God's benefits</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 14:1, 7-14</b>	<b>Humility and hospitality</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, for pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord. **Isaiah 58:13-14a (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

God of the Sabbath, give us delight in your presence and heal us of all that separates us from you and from one another. For Christ's sake, amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Lord God, who gives us daily bread, our thanks to you we raise. Be present at our table here and fill our hearts with praise. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord forgive you all your sins and heal you of all your ills. (Psalm 103:3)



### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How do you spend the day when you take a day of rest (sabbath)?
- How does what you do in life honor God and honor your neighbor?
- Why is it hard to focus on God and neighbor instead of pursuing our own interests?

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Isaiah 58:9b-14.

At the heart of this text is honoring God by taking delight in the Sabbath. The word *sabbath* in Hebrew simply means "to stop." To stop, to rest from work is a way to honor God and your neighbor. The Sabbath protects community as it protects the vulnerable, including children, slaves, and animals. In Luke 13, Jesus understands the Sabbath as protecting the needs of a woman so she may stand upright in her community. When we refrain from "getting ahead" seven days a week, we can care for the hungry, the afflicted, and won't need to speak evil of one another (vv. 9b-10). Then, the people of God will "get ahead" and have real needs satisfied, real bodies strengthened, and real thirst quenched (v. 11). In other words, by giving honor to God and justice to others, we will truly make progress in life by restoring relationships, not bank accounts or egos. At the end of your days, will you regret not working more? How is the Sabbath a delight for you?

*Pray:* **Dear Lord, it is not easy to stop to honor you and care for others. Give me delight in your presence that I may honor the Sabbath as I desire to honor you. For the sake of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath, amen.**

### SERVICE



The Lord is abounding in steadfast love (Psalm 103:8b). This Psalm is one that gives praise for all God has done for us. God forgives, heals, rescues, and redeems us. Is there someone you know who needs to hear about God's redeeming love? What can you do for them or say to them to show God's love?

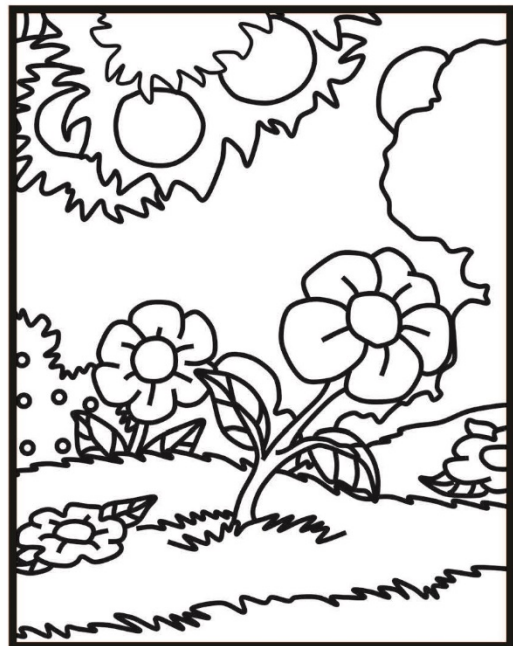
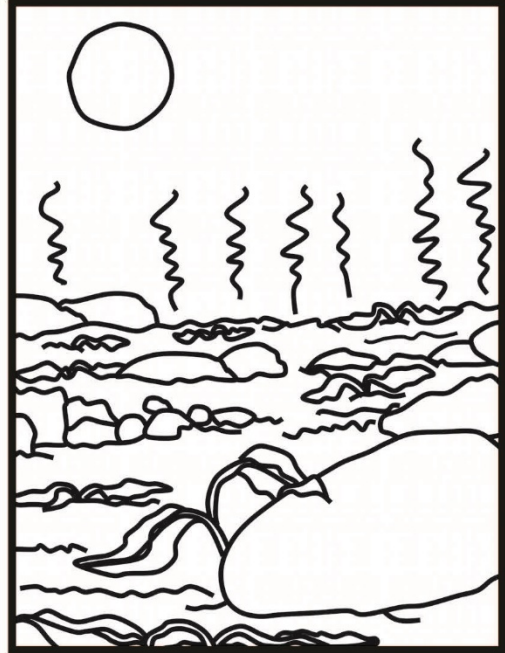
### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Sabbath is a time of rest. A time when you take a break and do not work. Make time each day this week to "take delight in the Lord" by observing a five-minute mini-sabbath. Set all electronic devices to the side, turn off the TV, and sit down in a comfortable position. Take a few deep breaths, close your eyes, and rest. After your mini-sabbath, thank God for this rest that gives health to your body, mind, and soul.



# Parable Of The Sower



**St. Paul United Church of Christ**

119 North Franklin Street

New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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

Email [stpaulnb@nktelco.net](mailto:stpaulnb@nktelco.net) or [stpaulnb@gmail.com](mailto: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, we welcome you to this service of worship. We hope that you will find it meaningful.

**August 21, 2022**

**Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**Worship Leaders**

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Cindy Newman

Arianne Henry

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Liturgist

Accompanist

Sr. Deacon

Music Director

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**RAIN COME DOWN: Weddings** *And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:12)* Weddings at St. Paul Church are joyous occasions. When couples offer their sacred vows before God, one another, and their family & friends, we are invited to share in that holy moment. St. Paul Church's sanctuary is open and available to all for wedding ceremonies.

## WELCOME SONG

### No Matter

*J=120*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "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." The chords are: F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7, Bb, G7, F, Dm, G7, Gm7, C7, F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7, Bb, G7, F, Dm, Gm7, C7, C, F, F7.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted from Chalice Worship; Chalice Press, 1997)

**Leader:** Rejoice, people of God! Celebrate the life within you, and Christ's presence in your midst!

**People:** **Our eyes shall be opened! The present will have new meaning, and the future will be bright with hope.**

**Leader:** Rejoice, people of God! Bow your heads before the One who is our wisdom and our strength.

**People:** **We place ourselves before our God, that we may be touched and cleansed by the power of God's Spirit.**

**Leader:** Let us worship God!

# Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

G G/D D7 G/D D/C G/B D7/A G G/D D

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,  
 4 Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

G C/G G7 C<sub>2</sub> Am/C G/C Am/C G/D D7 G/D D7 G

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
 love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, join - ing all with - in its span.

D G/D D7 G/D D7 B/D# B7 Em A7 D

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;  
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;

G C/G G7 C<sub>2</sub> Am/C G/C Am/C G/D D7 G D7 G

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!  
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.  
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

**Spirit God, in the beginning you gave life and movement, color and harmony to the universe. Everything moves by your power and is one through you. But most of all, you move in the minds and spirits of women and men. You give vision and insight, speaking spirit to Spirit. You stir the sleeping conscience, rouse the dormant mind to seek justice, express beauty, declare truth.**

**Most of all you come in the power of Jesus, bringing love and joy and peace, patience and kindness, goodness and faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. So move us now in mind and conscience; stir and quicken us with beauty and truth; and give us all your harvest, now and always. Amen.**

## HALLELUJAH!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht Hal - le -

lu - jaht Hal - le - lu - jaht

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys:** For the gifts of service we share joyfully with others.

**Concerns: Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Janet Eilerman, Karen Fox, Kay Makley, Lois Dicke, Rob Paul, Ethel Mesloh, Donald Mohrman, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

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

Let us pray. Holy and Gracious God, we pray today for this household of faith, the church, charged with proclaiming your word, feeding the hungry and loving our enemies. May we all, as members and ministers, be faithful to our baptismal vows as we follow your will in our lives. SILENCE

We pray for our nation and the family of nations who suffer mightily under wars and violence, distrust and division. Guide those who lead us in their concern for justice and peace.

SILENCE

We pray, O God, for all parents, grandparents, the married and single, widowed, separated or divorced. Help them to share their faith and show their trust as they listen to, affirm, and support our children and youth.

SILENCE

We lift up to you, Gentle Jesus, infants and children, especially those who are abused and those without parents. Let them know your love through the tenderness of all who care for them.

SILENCE

We pray today, O Holy Spirit, for young women and men as they approach life's decisions. Give them a full and happy youth and open their hearts to your world's goodness and beauty.

SILENCE

We lift up to you, Healing God, all who are sick. We pray for those who are facing surgeries and those who are recuperating from surgeries. We pray for those whose mental health has been deeply affected these past few years. Pour your light and love and grace upon all in need.

SILENCE

We come to you, Listening One, just as we are. We come with our hurts and our joys. We come with our burdens and our laughter. We bring to you our tears and our love. Hear us now as we lift up to you our prayers.

SILENCE

Gracious God, give us all a share of joy and happiness, that we may constantly discover your love that we might praise and glorify you in our daily lives. May we arrive at your perfect joy, which is to live with you forever and ever. All of this we pray in the name of Jesus who taught us



to pray...**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:1-23

(NRSV)

*That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> Let anyone with ears listen!"*

*<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup> He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. <sup>12</sup> For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>13</sup> The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.' <sup>14</sup> With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:*

*'You will indeed listen, but never understand,  
and you will indeed look, but never perceive.  
<sup>15</sup> For this people's heart has grown dull,  
and their ears are hard of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes;  
so that they might not look with their eyes,  
and listen with their ears,*

*and understand with their heart and turn—*

*and I would heal them.'*

*<sup>16</sup> But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. <sup>17</sup> Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.*

*<sup>18</sup> "Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup> yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup> But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

SUNG RESPONSE

*Jesus Loves Me*

Music: William B. Bradbury

Words: Anna B. Warner, Rev. Becky Erb Strang

***Jesus loves me, this I know:***

***For his stories tell me so.***

***Parables to him belong***

***Turned upside down, he can't go wrong.***

***Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.***

***Yes Jesus loves me: his stories tell me so.***

SERMON

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Vegetable gardening is part of my DNA. When I was a child, my father labored for hours every evening to turn the hard Texas clay into workable soil for tomatoes, corn (popcorn, actually), onions, zucchini,

cucumbers, broccoli, cantaloupe and watermelon. Many years, he would give me a corner of the garden to grow my own produce.

When Jim and I married and moved to Texas, our backyard was far too tiny and far too hot for a garden. So, I was delighted to move into our first house in Kettering—with a yard that was so filled with trees and bushes that we spent an enormous amount of time landscaping the yard to make it play-worthy for kids.

But before we even finished packing the boxes in the house, I had taken my shovel to the back corner of the yard to put in a vegetable garden. With memories of working alongside my father firmly in mind, I planted tomatoes, squash, peppers, cucumbers, zucchini, pumpkin, carrots, corn, beans and potatoes.

Truly, gardens are magical places. Our son Jimmy was in first grade at the time and I enlisted him to help me plant the seeds. Together we watered and weeded. And magically and mysteriously, up popped our plants. We were thrilled. Within a month, the garden was thriving.

Then the squirrels arrived. One by one, they systematically chomped off each and every corn plant at its base. A week later, I found chipmunk holes near my potato plants. A snail ate a huge hole through the only decent sized bell pepper. And, for some reason, my squash, zucchini and cucumbers were lush and flower-filled, but my only produce was one scrawny cucumber. If you could ignore the critters and lack of crops, my garden was beautiful.

Gardening is a true act of faith. You can plant the seeds, take care of the soil, chase away the critters, but beyond that you cannot MAKE a squash plant produce. It either will or it won't—and usually in the end, the harvest is much greater than expected.

Much of what we do as a congregation is like gardening. We plant seeds of faith, we plant seeds of love, we plant seeds of hope, but we cannot control the outcome.

And what about each of us? What seeds of faith have you planted this past week? Have you taken the time for Bible study? For Prayer? To reach out to someone in need? To give of your time and your treasure?

The seeds of love are planted every time we put away our hardened hearts, every time we reach out to a person who is different from us, every time we forgive and let go of our grudges. Seeds of love are not seeds of

emotion, but of action. Love is a verb—it is something we do. Love moves us beyond ourselves that we might share of ourselves fully with others.

What seeds of love have you planted this past week? Have you forgiven a past injury? Have you hugged your loved ones and told them you love them? Have you been kind to your cranky neighbor?

The seeds of hope, of love are planted every time we help make life better for others. We do this by paying attention to the children and youth in our neighborhood. By donating time, toiletries and food or money to our Blessing Pantry. By writing a letter (yes! An actual letter!) to a long-lost friend. By forgiving and loving and serving and caring.

I once read a terrific article in the Christian Century about seeds of hope. A husband and wife team, Sally and Peter Cunningham from Australia moved to Niger in Africa where they work with a project they have named “Sowing Seeds of Change.” Teaching local farmers to plant nitrogen rich acacia trees around the perimeter of fields has enriched the soil. They also teach farming methods that emphasize biodiversity—a mixture of crops with acacia trees planted between sections.

What is wonderful about this program is that it is working. The farmers plant acacia trees along with a mix of sorghum, millet, cowpeas, peanuts, and sesame—along with a variety of fruit trees. The village of Magajin Kware has seen a 200 % increase in crop income and an overall increase in farm income of 502% compared to neighboring farms. Now how is that for hope???

Today’s scripture lesson has Jesus telling a similar story of sowing seeds. Yet in his parable, many of the plants are choked out and die quickly. The weeds and thorns are abundant. Yet, the harvest from that which did take root was one hundred-fold.

This would have been surprising good news for the hearers of the parable. In Jesus’ day a good harvest would be 4-10 fold of what was planted. A spectacular harvest would be perhaps 15 fold. Yet, Jesus tells a story of seeds planted, many not even making it to the harvest, and yet the harvest is still abundant beyond our imaginations.

When we reflect upon our own journey of faith, our stories are much the same. Seeds of faith, of love, of hope have been planted within. Yet, the weeds and thorns and critters of apathy, distrust, anger, disappointment, and betrayal have often threatened to destroy our

garden of faith. Still, the harvest we reap of love, of hope, faith and of joy is often 100 times more than we expected in our wildest dreams.

Now hear me well. God does **not** send weeds and thorns and sickness and betrayal our way as a test of faith. Those things happen—just as easily as the squirrels ate away the tender shoots of corn in my garden. God does not wish hardship and pain upon us. But we all know there are times in our lives when our hearts are hardened, when we are angry, when we are sick, and it seems nearly impossible to open ourselves to God's grace.

Too often this parable has been preached that if WE work hard enough, we will become good and fertile soil for the seeds God plants. My friends, it is not what WE do that brings about the final harvest. We are already good soil—we are God's precious children. The good news is that even when God's seeds land on the thorny and dry and angry and hurt parts of ourselves, God's grace still abounds. When we open ourselves up to God's word, we begin to find joy in what had been difficulties, weedy, and thorny times.

We do not control the harvest—God does. If it were in our control, we would be unable to think beyond the expected 10-fold harvest of joy. But the good news is that God dreams bigger than our wildest dreams. God loves more fiercely than our most passionate love. God rejoices more joyously than our greatest happiness. With God in charge of the harvest, how can the harvest be anything but abundant?

My friends, God is sowing seeds among us. God is sowing seeds in our congregation, in our community, and in you and in me and in each person we encounter along life's way. Let us open ourselves to one another and to God that we might see God's grace taking root and growing in ourselves and others.

God is sowing seeds in us and we are good, good soil.

May God's harvest within each of us be one of faith, love and hope.  
Amen.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR THITHES AND OFFERINGS

**OFFERING SENTENCES:** Our ancestors in faith gathered together long ago to remember, to be restored, to be renewed. They shared their story, prayed together, and made an offering to God as they prepared to set out on the long journey to freedom in the Promised Land. Today we gather to remember and to pray together, to be restored and renewed, and we bring our own offerings so the ministries of this church will continue to participate in the saving works of God.

### DOXOLOGY

#### Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

Musical score for the hymn "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow". The score is in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass 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." The chords for the first system are G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G, D, Em, C, G, D. The chords for the second system are Em, D/F#, G, D, G/B, C, F#dim/A, G, Em, D, Am, G/B, D7, G.

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

OLD 100th  
L.M.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**We offer to you, O God, the gift of our hands and the loyalty of our hearts. Accept us with our gifts, we pray, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

### HYMN OF SENDING

*O Come to Me, the Master Said*

# O Come to Me, the Master Said 346

Em C D/C G/B Em D G/B D7/A G Am C Dsus D

1 O come to me, the Mas-ter said, my Fa-ther knows your need;  
 2 A - bide in me, the Mas-ter said, the true and liv - ing vine;  
 3 Be - lieve in me, the Mas-ter said, for I have called you friends,

G/B C2 C Am7 D G/B A7/E D G/B D7/A G G/B C Am Em

and I shall be, the Mas-ter said, your bread of life in - deed.  
 my life shall be, the Mas-ter said, poured out for you as wine.  
 and yours shall be, the Mas-ter said, the life that nev - er ends.

Bm Em D7/F# G Am/C D G G/B G D7/A G/B C Dsus D

By faith in him we live and grow and share the bro - ken bread,  
 His bod - y to the cross he gave, his blood he free - ly shed,  
 And so, with sin and sor - row past, when death it - self is dead,

G/B C2 C Am G A7/E D G/B D7/A G Bm C Am Em

and all his love and good-ness know, for so the Mas-ter said.  
 who came in love to seek and save, for so the Mas-ter said.  
 the Lord shall raise us up at last, for so the Mas-ter said.

BENEDICTION: May the power of the love of Christ work in the hearts of all who hear. May the power of the love of Christ fire many to go and tell the good news. May the power of the love of Christ uphold all who serve, that by the same power the peoples of the earth may be blessed to be at peace with each other. Amen.

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

### Pass the Love

*J=95*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 95. The lyrics are: "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." The chords are: F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, C7; F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, G7, C; Fmaj7, Dm, F/G, F/C; Am7, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, C7, F.

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

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

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

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

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pass the Peace of Christ to one another!

## POSTLUDE



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Flowers** are in Honor of the New Bremen High School Class of 1962 by Dan and Kathy Nedderman.

**Participants**-Daily Devotions-64, August 7-Sunday Worship Online-134, In Person-80.

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

**SATURDAY WORSHIP-SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 5:00pm** Beginning in September running through December, we will be worshipping the first Saturday of the month. Communion will be observed.

**Fall Kick-Off: September 11**-Fall worship and programming kicks off on Sunday, September 11. On that morning, Sunday School for children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet at 9:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir will sing during worship and children (3 year olds, 1<sup>st</sup> grade students, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students) will receive their Bibles. There will be a cookie reception following worship. That Wednesday, September 14, our youth programming begins with Splash (grades 3-5) at 5:30, dinner for all ages of youth at 6:30 then Junior/Senior High Youth Group and Confirmation from 7:00-8:00 p.m. All are welcome!

**Project of the Year Update**-During 2022, St. Paul Church is raising funds for smaller physical plant projects.

At the August Church Council meeting, Council voted to replace the parsonage upstairs air conditioning unit and furnace. **The cost for these items is \$9940.00.** Council invites you to give generously to the Project of the Year to complete this project. Thank you!

**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. They will be saved to our Facebook page.

**Want to be part of the Prayer Chain?** Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul at [jrpaul@nktelco.net](mailto:jrpaul@nktelco.net) or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

**August Book Club Is Now September Book Club-Hello Book Lovers!**

Due to scheduling, the August Book Club (reading The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede) is now scheduled for Sunday, September 18 following worship in the Zoom Room. This book is about how one small community in Newfoundland became heroes for stranded travelers in a time of chaos and confusion during the 9/11 tragedy. If you are interested in reading stories about the kindness of strangers, please join us by grabbing a copy of the book off the table by the church office. This event will be available in person and via Zoom. Questions? Contact Cami Flenar.

We hope you can join us! Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906786890?pwd=UGZIR3hQNFFxRENIZjI5](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906786890?pwd=UGZIR3hQNFFxRENIZjI5NWwhNYU9CZz09)

[NWwhNYU9CZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906786890?pwd=UGZIR3hQNFFxRENIZjI5NWwhNYU9CZz09)

**Meeting ID: 889 0678 6890**

**Passcode: 637129**

**Monthly Mission-Blessing Pantry** St. Paul Church's Blessing Pantry is indeed a blessing to many individuals and families in our village and the wider area. Open three times a week, we care for 30+ families per month, providing food, toiletries, cleaning supplies and diapers. Beth Bretz is our Pantry Champion who works with a large team of volunteers to keep the Pantry stocked and welcoming. During the month of August, your donations to the Monthly Mission will go toward providing for the needs of our friends and neighbors in need. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

**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- Paper Towels, Kleenex, Laundry Detergent, Bleach, Dryer Sheets, Dish Soap, All Purpose Cleaner, Disinfectants, Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Body Wash, Razors, Shaving Cream, Tampons, Q-tips, Diapers (sizes N & 6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Manicure Items, Hand/Body Lotion, Vaseline, Storage Bags (all sizes), Garbage Bags.** We can always use Toilet Paper, Shampoo,

Conditioner, Deodorant, Pull Ups. **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

**Disaster Relief Bucket-**For those of you who have filled a disaster relief bucket, please return them soon. We will then be able to take them to the association office in Tiffin. If you would like to fill a second bucket, the association will pay you \$75.00 to do so. This money will come from the Disaster Relief Fund at the association office. There are still buckets to be used for this purpose in the front of the church, where the choir sits. Thanks, The Mission Team

## **AGAPE MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY**

### **Items Needed to Re-stock the Food Pantry**

Chicken & Beef Broth

Diced Tomatoes

Scalloped Box Potatoes

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Pork & Beans

Sloppy Joe Sauce

Egg Noodles

Macaroni & Cheese

Can Peaches

Spaghetti Sauce

Hamburger Helper

Taco Kits & Salsa

#### **BREAKFAST ITEMS**

Pancake Mix

Waffle Mix

Cereal

Fruit Bars

#### **BAKING ITEMS**

Sugar & Flour

Oil & Vinegar

#### **CONDIMENTS**

(NO KETCHUP NEEDED)

BBQ Sauce, Pickles

Mustard, Mayonnaise

Salad Dressing

#### **Personal Care**

- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Feminine Products (Maxi, liners, and regular)
- Diapers (Sizes 5 & 6 Needed Most)
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- Shampoo

**September/October Upper Rooms**-are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

**Social Media Safety Presentation**-New Bremen Local School is asking for the support of the community in educating our children on the importance of social media safety. The district is sponsoring presentations this fall for both parents and students in grades 4-12. For over a decade Robert Hackenson Jr. has been the leading youth speaker on social media safety. He has delivered hundreds of presentations to elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, parent education nights, and colleges in 33 states across the nation.

On Wednesday evening, August 31<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Hackenson will present to parents at 6:30 p.m. in the junior high gym. This presentation breaks down all of the serious issues children face with the rapid growth of technology and social media. **During this presentation you can see all of the information that your child will receive PLUS additional information just for parents**, including realistic tips, tricks, and resources to help you help your child use this technology responsibly.

Then on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Hackenson will present to students during the school day on the latest trends in technology, cyber safety, and how to use social media responsibly. The district is excited to sponsor these presentations and looks forward to seeing parents on August 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

## Calendar-Week of August 21, 2022

Sunday	10:15am	Worship-In Person & via Facebook Live
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop @ NB Coffee
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	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed

### E-Giving @ St. Paul

**Online** – Make a donation on our website: [stpaulnb.org](http://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.

Time and Talents. We are each called to ministries of service and love. One way we fulfill this calling is through service to God through St. Paul Church. The Discipleship Team invites you to complete either this hard-copy form (return to the church office) or the online form( on our website, [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org), blue button, upper right hand corner marked time and talent, or by using the following link, <https://forms.gle/TS6iU3gdejJDv4fy9>) during the month of August. Together, we continue to serve God through St. Paul Church as we seek to Love God & Love Neighbors.

# Time and Talents

Please fill out this form to offer your time, as well as your talents, to serve our faith community.

Projects that you would be willing to help by providing your talents (Circle all that apply)

- General Landscaping/Property Maintenance
- Cooking/Baking
- Ushering at Worship
- Delivering Home Communion Elements
- Liturgist
- Taking church recycling to the recycling center.
- Sunday School Teacher
- Youth Leader
- Bulletin Packet Stuffer
- Participate in Bell Choir
- Participate in Chancel Choir
- Accompany Pastor Becky on home visits.
- Provide Rides
- Lead Online Daily Devotions
- Craft Baptismal Doll
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Champion slots that need filled.

- Trunk or Treat
- Christmas Caroling
- Funeral Luncheon
- Nursery Coordinator
- Bible Study
- Community Meal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_