October 24, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus!

This coming Sunday is a busy one at St. Paul Church. During our 10:15 a.m. worship service, we will celebrate All Saints Sundaya time of remembrance for those who have died within our faith family in the past year. You will have the opportunity to light candles in memory of loved ones. Memory candles will also be available to take home for families mourning losses from this past year.

After worship, Cami Flenar will lead Book Club in the Zoom Room at 11:15, discussing Mitch Albom's The Time Keeper. This event is both in-person and via Zoom. Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82958591523?pwd=L29ZZUVsTkVVWIV RNTVHbVYweDVTdz09

Meeting ID: 829 5859 1523 Passcode: 950189

Finally, on Sunday, we are hosting Trunk-R-Treating in the east parking lot from 3:30-5:30 during New Bremen's Trick-or-Treating. You are welcome to decorate your trunks and bring treats to pass out to our neighbors.

Amy Opperman is leading a Women's Bible Study on Thursdays at 6:30 in the theatre room and library. Please feel free to join us!

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

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

As a gentle reminder, our primary tasks as Christians is to love God and love our neighbors. This includes keeping one another safe and healthy. If you have tested positive for Covid19, we kindly ask you to stay home until your five-day waiting period is over, as prescribed by the CDC. Thank you for your attention to this detail.

May you experience the joy of Christ!

Blessings,

Roland Dectar Myra Hanunkratt

Roland Dicke Council President Council VP

Myra Hanenkratt

Belyabs

Rev. Becky Erb Strang Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of October 24, 2022 **Operating Fund** Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$0.00 Giving Income \$6,333.00 (weekly) Income \$20,144.70(ytd) Endowment Trans \$19,390.00(vtd) Expenses \$21,956.57(vtd) Income \$260,399.75(vtd) Expenses \$263,231.17(ytd) Balance (\$2,831.42)(ytd) **Building Maint & Property** Beg. Balance \$36,648.59 Income \$46,782.50(ytd) Endowment Inc. (\$8,768.54)(ytd) Expenses \$25,725.77(ytd) Balance \$48,936.78(vtd) **Project of the Year** Income \$7,825.00 Expenses \$13,315.00 Balance (\$5,490.00)

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82 Balance \$10,406.95(vtd) **Blessing Pantry** Beg. Balance \$29,161.12 Income \$12,619.00(ytd) Expenses \$13,323.90(ytd) Balance \$28,456.22(vtd) **Our Church Wider Mission** Pledge \$25,000.00 Income \$625.50 (weekly) Income \$20,253.50(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





October 30, 2022, Solomon's Wisdom 1 Kings 3:4-9, [10-15], 16-28

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Generous God, you promised Solomon whatever he wanted, and he asked you only for the wisdom to serve you. Grant us that same wisdom, that we might work for your justice in the world. Amen.

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

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David... Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" (1 Kings 3:5-6a, 9)

Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Solomon was faced with a difficult dilemma—how to decide which mother a baby belonged to. Solomon's God-given wisdom would help him figure this one out.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Where do you see justice carried out in your community? Where do you see injustice? What might you do to further the work of justice in your community?
- What does wisdom mean to you? How can you use your wisdom to do God's work?
- For the littles: Who is the wisest person you know? God gives people wisdom, and will give you wisdom, too.

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you wisdom. Amen.

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

Make a list of strengths you possess. If you do this activity with your household, list the strengths of others and share them. Keep the list visible this week so you can be reminded that you are God's worker.



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

Monday, 1 Kings 6:1-22, Solomon Builds the Temple Tuesday, 1 Kings 8:1-13, Dedication of the Temple Wednesday, 1 Kings 8:54-61, Solomon Blesses the Assembly Thursday, 1 Kings 10:1-13, Visit of the Queen of Sheba Friday, 1 Kings 10:14-29, Visit of the Queen of Sheba Saturday, 1 Kings 11:1-13, Solomon's Errors



St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869 Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207) Email <u>stpaulnb@nktelco.net</u> or <u>stpaulnb@gmail.com</u> Visit our website at <u>https://stpaulnb.org</u> 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, blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

October 30, 2022 Stewardship Week Three: Rain Come Down All Saints Sunday

Worship Leaders

Ministers Rev. Becky Erb Strang Ragan Miller Connie O'Neill Tracy Oldiges Jim Strang The Congregation Senior Pastor Liturgist Organist Sr. Deacon Music Director

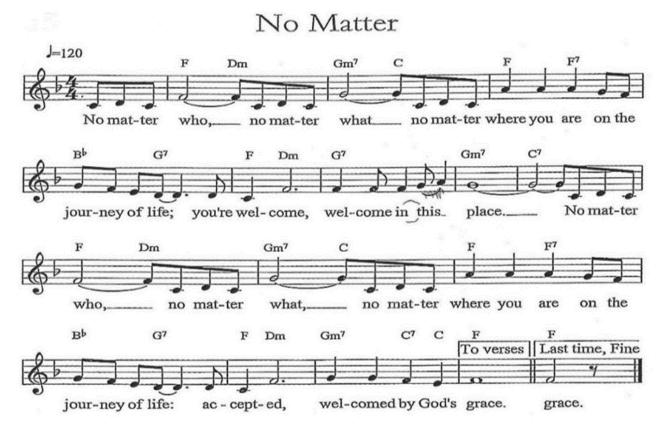
PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRIVING: SALT Jesus said, "Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." Mark 9:50 SALT: Summer Adult Leadership Training is a 10-week summer internship for adults aged 19-25. This part time position immerses our interns in all aspects of ministry at St. Paul Church. Many of our past interns stay active well past their summer experience.

WELCOME SONG



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In Luke's gospel, Jesus called together the disciples and a great multitude to a level place. There he touched, healed, and taught. There he spoke, "Blessed are..." There he named the blessed—the saints of the faith.

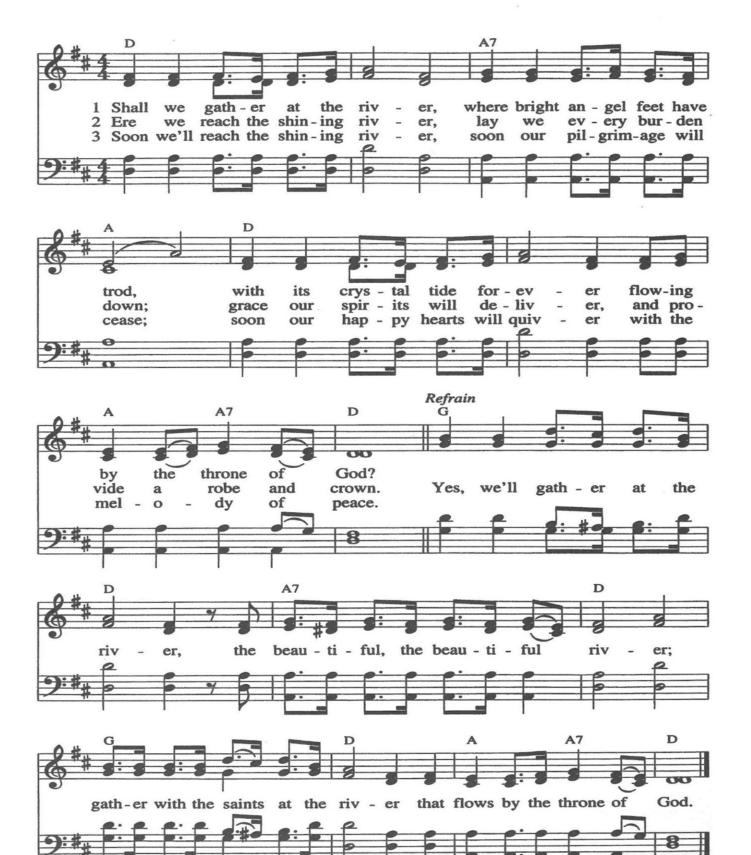
People: O God, call us together as you did those long ago to discover your blessed people.

Leader: Today, in this place, Christ gathers us.

People: Let us remember, confess, celebrate, and embody the blessed saints of God. Christ, come among us. Alleluia!

DEATH & LIFE ETERNAL

Shall We Gather at the River 522



CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: We break open the shells of our lives in the presence of God's love. We come now in confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of our parents in faith, through the ages you called forth people—courageous, faithful, and steadfast. Forgive us when we disregard the witness of those who have gone before us. Our memories are dim. Our faith does not burn with a passion as that of those who offered their entire lives to you. Open us to the past and to the bold testimony to faith in our world today. Connect us to the great cloud of witnesses so we may proclaim Christ's justice and compassion in our own time.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God welcomes us, like a mother scooping up her lost child, like a father embracing his prodigal offspring. We are encouraged to learn from that forgiveness, to offer it to ourselves and others again and again. In Christ Jesus, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!



THANKSGIVING LITANY FOR THE BLESSED ONES

Leader: Jesus said, "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man." Jesus named the blessed ones. On this day of remembrance, let us recall and give thanks for those blessed ones who have gone before us:

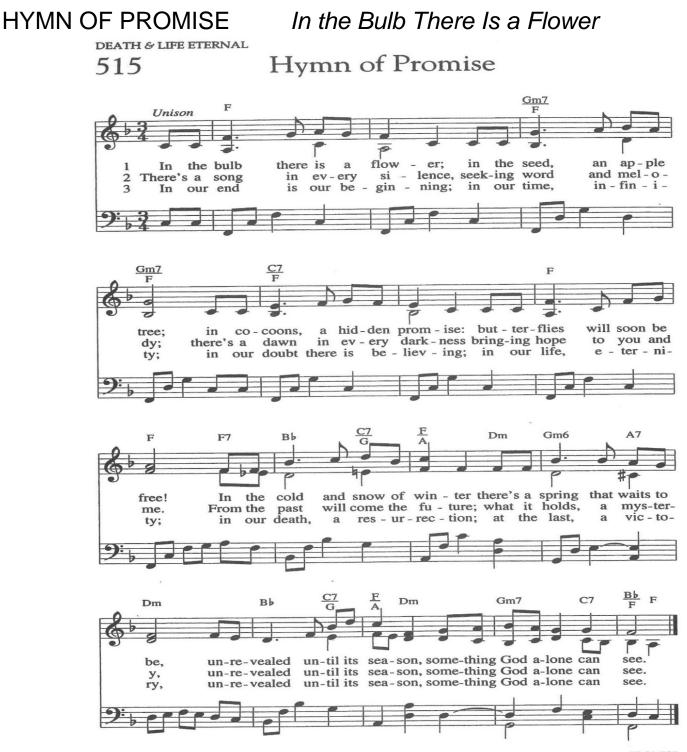
Pearl Nazrian-Zock Linda Nazarian Edward F. Dicke Jr. Andrew C. "Drew" Wray Marjorie S. "Marge" Felver Richard A. "Butch" Felver Donald E. "Don" Howell Dorothy L. "Dot" (Schroer) Koeper Mary Kathleen "Kaye" Moore Andrea R. (Rengers) Huber Richard L. "Dick" Hudson Zachary D. Hemmelgarn Jennifer K. (White) Clint William E. "Bill" Tostrick Mary Ellen (Keith) White Wilma Jean (Bruns) Quellhorst Jacquelyn A. (Wagner) Broerman Janet Miller P. James Moeller **Dale Wilbur Quellhorst** Timothy V. Smith Jeannette A. (Vogel) Quellhorst Earl L. Dicke Edith J. (Blanke) Wissman Janice L. (Hamsher) Dammeyer Betty A. (Holdren) Quellhorst

June 10, 2004 October 9, 2021 November 2, 2021 November 2, 2021 November 17, 2021 November 28, 2021 December 7, 2021 December 23, 2021 January 3, 2022 January 5, 2022 January 11, 2022 January 18, 2022 January 21, 2022 January 22, 2022 January, 30, 2022 March 3, 2022 March 11, 2022 April 10, 2022 April 24, 2022 May, 30, 2022 June 30, 2022 July 3, 2022 July 17, 2022 August 10, 2022 August 31, 2022 October 7, 2022

Members, family, and friends are invited to come forward to light candles in remembrance of the blessed ones.

Leader: Let us pray. Living God, we give you thanks for calling forth these blessed ones.

People: O God, keep them forever in your arms. May they stay forever in our hearts. Because of their living, teach us to live faithfully. Amen.



PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE **Joys:** God's everlasting love!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Betty Bushman, Terri Goodwin, Terri Mullins, Rob Paul, Ethel Mesloh, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

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

Leader: Let us pray. God of the saints who pave our way, we thank you and praise you this day for your presence in our lives. We lift up to you in prayer the church, the world, and all those in need.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: God of the Ages, over and over again you show the world how generous and marvelous you are. Help us to be beacons of light for others so that all may know of your abundant love. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Your magnificent creation lives in delicate balance with humanity. Help us be mindful of the ways our decisions and behaviors affect the earth and teach us to choose our actions wisely. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Pour the abundance of your wisdom upon our world's leaders as they seek only to do you work rather than seeking gain for themselves. Bless them in their work so that others may be blessed through them. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Heal all who suffer illness and loss. Take away the hurt and teach us to be loving and healing toward one another. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Our ways are not always the ways of others, O God. Teach us to be tolerant of what we do not understand and accepting of those who are different from us. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember the wisdom of your beloved saints whose example guides us even to this day. May we also continue in your wisdom until we once again see those who have gone before us face-to-face. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift all for whom we pray into your loving arms, O God, in the name of Jesus, our Savior, 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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 55:1-13 (NRSV) Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters: and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: The word of God for the people of God! People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rain Come Down Rev. Becky Erb Strang It wasn't planned to be this way, but the Holy Spirit always, always shows up for worship planning. Here we are: midway through our fiveweek stewardship series, talking about rain on the Sunday we have gathered to name our losses—particularly our loved ones who died this past year.

Rain come down. On All-Saints Sunday, the heavens are raining down tears on our behalf. And yet, our Christian journey does not end with tears. It ends with the joy of resurrection.

Rain come down. And yet, as children, rain was a source of joy something to dance in, run in, stomp in. For farmers and gardeners, rain is a gift that nourishes our crops. For all of us, rain is the source of water for cooking, hygiene, and drinking. We literally would not survive without rain/without water.

Today's reading from the prophet Isaiah speaks of rain and crops, nourishment and the joy we find in God's love. Like our opening hymn, today's first verse invites us to "come to the waters." And so we do. We gather around the waters of baptism and the water turned into wine. We gather at the Jordan River and Grand Lake.

When we gather at the waters, we experience peace. I can only speak for myself, but there is something restful/peaceful about walking along the shores of Grand Lake or walking along the beach of the ocean. The sparkling water, the waves, the water itself, offer us space to reflect and rest.

On All-Saints Sunday, we symbolically gather at the Jordon River to remember those who have crossed into the Promised Land of heaven. While we miss our loved ones something fierce, we know they are at peace in the presence of the Prince of Peace.

Rain come down. Our scripture reading goes on to remind us that just as the rain comes down from heaven and waters the earth, providing nourishment for plants (which, in turn, provides nourishment for each of us). Water is life.

Water and stewardship go hand-in-hand. Rain comes down and is collected in ponds and rivers, lakes and oceans. We humans also collect the rain that comes down—collecting it into barrels that we might be able to water our gardens during dry spells. In other words, we collect the rain to give it away—to our gardens and fields.

So I ask you: what are your spiritual rain barrels? What do you "collect" in order to give away? Do you collect love? Grace? Peace? Do you collect toiletries to donate to the Blessing Pantry or dollars to donate to St. Paul's ministries? Do you collect friendships and connection to others?

Each and every one of us collects something in our spiritual rain barrels—something we can give away to make life better for someone else. It is our task during Stewardship season to reflect upon that which we collect. Then, once we've figured out what we store in our life's rain barrels, it is our job to give it away—and give it away joyfully.

We all have something to give. In particular, we all have gifts, talents, treasure that we need not hoard. Your giving to the mission and ministries of St. Paul United Church of Christ, not only does the important work of keeping the lights on, you are keeping the lights on in order that lives might be transformed. You, my dear ones, by your giving, are creating opportunities for friends, neighbors, and strangers to experience the good news of Jesus (love, grace, forgiveness, peace).

When God causes the rain to come down at St. Paul Church, people are fed, children and youth are taught, disciples are being made, and our connections to one another deepen. And, when these things happen, lives are transformed. And, when lives are transformed, our response is one of joy.

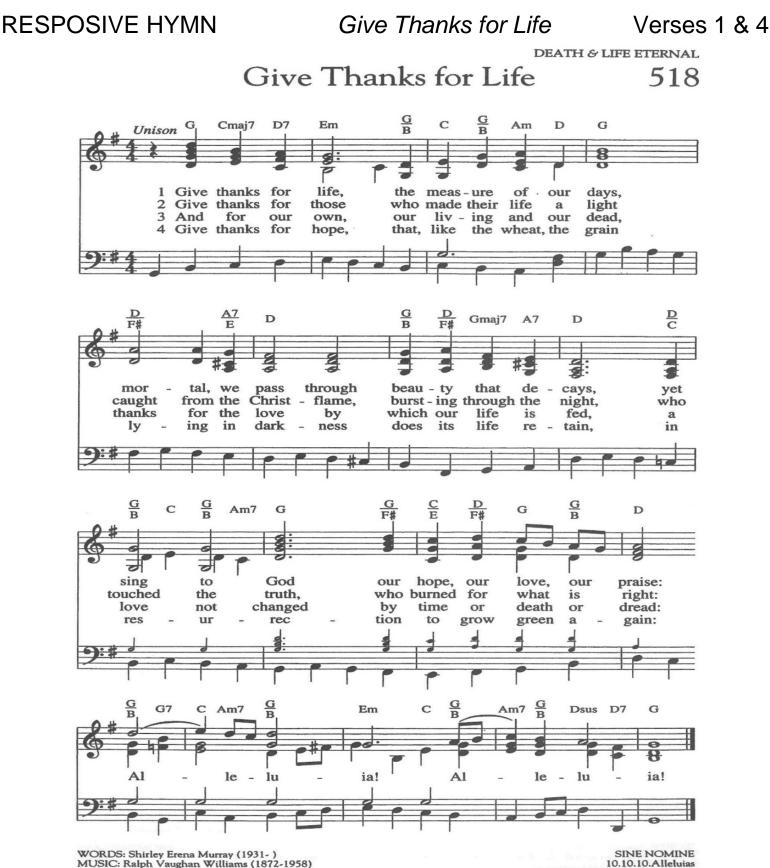
Today's scripture lesson echoes this: For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall clap their hands.

You've heard me say this before: joy is the benchmark of our lives as Christians. When we can tap into joy—even on All Saints Sunday, we know we are on the right track. Grief is a part of life on this earth. We must take time to grieve our losses. But, joy is also in the mix. Joy reminds us that we are not alone, that we have one another, and that when we share and share joyfully, lives are changed.

Rain come down. In 1991, British singer/songwriter Eric Clapton's 4-year-old son fell to his death from an apartment window in New York City. Devastated by this tragic loss, Mr. Clapton isolated himself for several months before he began songwriting again. In his grief, he wrote a tribute to his son, Conor, called *Tears in Heaven*. Part of the song's lyrics include:

Beyond the door There's peace, I'm sure. And I know there'll be no more Tears in heaven.

Our resurrection faith assures us that in heaven there is no mourning or crying. Our resurrection faith promises us an eternity of joy in the presence of the Risen Christ. While the rain might fall on this side of heaven, today we thank God for nourishing us with the good water of his love and for calling us home—across the river and into the Promised Land. Amen.



Words © 1987 Hope Publishing Company

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: God is the author of all of creation. God created the world and God created us. As much as we'd like to believe we are self-made, we are not. We belong to God and we worship not ourselves, but God who created us. Our stewardship of time, abilities, and financial resources acknowledges God as the center of our lives. Let us give generously and joyfully. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34



PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

God we have not earned your grace or the abundance with which you shower us. In gratitude for your favor, we give back what we have been given, for the sake of all your people. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING

Rejoice in God's Saints Verses 1 & 3

COMMUNION OF SAINTS

531

Rejoice in God's Saints



MUSIC: William Croft (1678-1727) Words © 1973 Hope Publishing Company

10.10.11.11.

BENEDICTION: May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to follow Jesus until we meet again. Go in peace. Amen.



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in loving memory of Bea Young by Ann Young.

Participants-October 16-Sunday School-19, Teachers-7, Worship Online-214, In Person-106, Wednesday October 19, Jr/Sr High Youth Group-16.

Sundays in October & November-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. Saturday, November 5-Worship will be in the chapel at 5:00pm with Holy Communion.

St. Paul Church Nursery-is once again fully staffed during the entire Sunday worship service. Please spread the word to let young parents know this is available. If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion.

Daily Devotions-Please join us, Monday-Thursday, 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.

Women's Bible Study-We will be following along with one of Beth Moore's DVD Bible study series. Beth Moore is passionate about women knowing and loving the Word of God. We will be studying her series titled "The Basket Case" in which she will guide us to turn our worry and anxiety over to God. We will meet once a week on Thursday evenings November 3, 10 and 17 at 6:30p.m. in the theater room.

BookClub-Sunday, October 30th, immediately following church service-11:15ish. "The Time Keeper" by Mitch Albom will be discussed. Please pick up your copy on the table outside the church office if you are interested. If you do not feel comfortable meeting in person, we will also be on Zoom. Hope to see you there! To join Zoom Meeting follow this link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82958591523?pwd=L29ZZUVsTkVVWIVRNT</u> <u>VHbVYweDVTdz09</u> **Meeting ID: 829 5859 1523 Passcode: 950189**

Elmwood Worship- Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

Veteran's Recognition November 5 and 6- Military veterans and active duty personnel will be honored at the beginning of the worship services November 5 and 6. Since, we plan to list the names of veterans and active duty folk from St. Paul UCC in the bulletin that weekend, please call or email the church office to give us your name and branch served/serving.

Women's Service Group-will be going to the Do Good Restaurant for lunch on November 10 at 11:30 am. We will meet at 10:45 in the St. Paul church parking lot and ride together to Osgood. Following lunch there will be a brief meeting before returning to New Bremen. Guests are welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Julia Paul by November 7th if you plan to attend. Thank you.

Widow and Widower Luncheon-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30 am on Wednesday, November 9th. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

Mission Team-will meet Sunday, November 13 following worship in the middle Sunday school room. December's meeting will be Sunday, December 4 following worship in the Assembly room. Any questions? Please contact June Oaks.

2023 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You may also call the church office Monday-Thursday to sign up. 2023 altar flower price will increase. 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.

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.

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, Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Softener Sheets, Body Wash, Toothpaste, Razors, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products, Diapers (sizes 5 & 6), Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo, Q-Tips, Vaseline, Bandages, Garbage Bags. We can always use Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Bleach, All Purpose Cleaner, Disinfectants, Pull Ups. **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

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

| Calendar-Week of October 30, 2022 | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | 9:00am | Sunday School |
| - | 9:30am | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:15am Worship-In Person & via Facebook Live | |
| Monday | | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| | 2:00pm-4:00pm | Coffee Shop @ NB Coffee |
| Tuesday | | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| | 2:00pm | Elmwood Worship |
| | 5:30pm-7:30pm | Blessing Pantry Open |
| Wednesday | | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Blessing Pantry Open |
| | 5:30pm-6:30pm | Splash |
| | 6:00pm | Bell Choir Rehearsal |
| | 6:30pm | Youth Dinner |
| | 7:00pm-8:00pm | Jr/Sr High Youth Group |
| | 7:00pm-8:00pm | Confirmation |
| | 7:00pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursday | | Devotions via Facebook Live |
| | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Blessing Pantry Open |
| | 6:30pm | Women's Bible Study |
| Friday | Noon | Office Closed |
| Saturday | 8:00am | Men's Club-Speedway Lanes |
| | 5:00pm | Worship w/Holy Communion |

HAPPY HALLOWEEN TRUNK-ER TREAT JOIN US SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH FROM 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM FOR TRICK OR TREATING Decorate your trunk to pass out your Halloween

Decorate your trunk to pass out your Halloween candy with us for Halloween! Bring a lawn chair and plan for 100 kids to come by your trunk! Pull your vehicle in front of the Sanctuary and Parsonage by 3:15 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Save the date for the Christmas Market! This year's Christmas Market will be held at St. Paul in the educational building on

Saturday, November 19th from 9 am to 1 pm. Join us for this extraordinary holiday shopping event with over 20 local artisans, craftspeople, bakers, and

more!

Enter through the West double doors, Herman St. side. Admission is \$1 at the door. All proceeds help support the Blessing Pantry. For questions please contact Jennifer Snider.

Enliven

A series of Zoom courses designed to create community and conversation around spiritual life, encouraging older adults to learn, grow and share together.

Grief Care for the Holidays

The gatherings. The traditions. The presents and people and food. The memories...The grief.

The holidays bring many things, and not all of them are joyous. Darker days, financial stress, loneliness, health concerns, concerns for the world: it can be hard to find joy in the season.

For those of us grieving a loss--death of a loved one or dear pet, layoff from a job or move from a home, a divorce or disrupted friendship--it can feel nearly impossible.



You are invited to a different sort of gathering this season: a time of Grief-Care for the Holidays. During this gently facilitated space, grief will be spoken and honored, and mourning loss will be welcomed and supported.

Join us for a **3-hour "mini-retreat"** of sharing and honoring loss, while receiving resources for practicing your own grief-care for the holidays in the weeks to come. Or plan to touch base in **four weekly sessions**, making space for support throughout the season. **Or both**, if that's what you need!

Remember: grief is about loss, not death. All who are grieving loss are welcome.

Course Facilitator: Kristen Orion, MDiv, Hospice Chaplain

Rev Orion's pastoral service began in New York City the week of 9/11/2001, forever shaping her ministry with a call to affirm God's Presence in every moment. Practicing loving Presence in relationship through whatever life may bring, Kristen's ministry over the past several years has been as a hospice chaplain as well as a chaplain in a senior community. Kristen's most insistent spiritual teachers are a pack of six rescue dogs, who walk her daily through the forest behind their home in West Michigan and remind her to wag her tail frequently in praise of this day and all that is within it.

Day/Time

Mini-Retreat: Friday, November 11, 12:30 - 3:30 pm EDT *Weekly Grief Care:* Fridays, 11:30 - 12:30 EDT, Four sessions beginning Nov. 18; 12/2; 12/9; 12/16

What You'll Need

Attending the retreat is not a requirement for attending the weekly sessions. No prior reading or homework will be required. You will need a computer/tablet/phone on which you can watch via Zoom and the desire to accept care and support during the holiday season.

Offered to You at No Cost

Registration Deadline: So that the facilitator can better prepare for the first session, please register no later than FRIDAY November 4, 2022

Limited to: A MINIMUM OF 4 REGISTRANTS for either Offering; MAX of 12. Notification that minimums have been met will be confirmed via email by Tuesday, NOV. 8, 2022

To Register, www.UnitedChurchHomes.org/enliven