



## **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 419-953-1152

Myra Hanenkratt-Council President 419-305-3652

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

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, Welcome, one and all, to this time of worship. We are blessed to have you with us today.

#### **IN PERSON WORSHIP NOTES:**

**Bulletins**, Offering Plates, and Masks are available on tables.

**Listening devices** are available in the Narthex/front entrance, for those who need them. Please return your device to an Usher following worship. Thank you!

**Children's Activity Bags** containing children's bulletins and other activities are available on the tables. Thank you!

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

**WIFI Connection**-connect via "St Paul – Guest"

Password: godlovesyou

The \* indicates all who are able may stand

March 12, 2023  
Third Sunday in Lent

Worship Leaders

Ministers  
Rev. Becky Erb Strang  
Bryan Trego  
John Wierwille  
Donna Schmitmeyer  
June Oaks

The Congregation  
Senior Pastor  
Worship Leader  
Pianist  
Liturgist  
Sr. Deacon

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

190<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY-DID YOU KNOW: Sunday School was first held in the afternoon and started in 1874. Sunday School picnics were an annual event.

\*WELCOME SONG

No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and repetitive. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7. The lyrics are: "No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the". The second staff continues the melody with chords Bb, G7, F, Dm, G7, Gm7, C7. The lyrics are: "jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. No mat-ter". The third staff repeats the first line with chords F, Dm, Gm7, C, F, F7. The lyrics are: "who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the". The fourth staff concludes the piece with chords Bb, G7, F, Dm, Gm7, C7, C, F, F. The lyrics are: "jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace." There are two boxed sections at the end: "To verses" and "Last time, Fine".

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

To verses | Last time, Fine



**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are invited to the banquet.

**People: Let us clothe ourselves in love.**

Leader: Come and feast at God's table.

**People: We will honor God's gracious invitation.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

No. 87

JESUS CHRIST

**Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

**87**

1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
2 Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joi - ce;  
Christ is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

**\*INVOCATION (in unison): Lord of hosts, you fling the door wide and welcome into your reign all people, no matter what. Send us out to extend the invitation to all we meet, that all might share in your eternal feast. Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**  
734

*Glory Be to the Father*  
Glory Be to the Father

No. 734

The image shows a musical score for 'Glory Be to the Father' in B-flat major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.' The score includes various chord symbols above the vocal line, such as Eb, Bb7sus, Bb7, Eb, Bb, D, Bb, Eb, Bb, Eb6, Bb, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Ab, Eb, G, Fm7, Ab, Eb, Bb, Gm, Bb, Bb7, and Eb.

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

GREATOREX  
Irregular

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE**

Joys: Spring is coming!

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

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray. Trusting in the promise of Jesus Christ's unending love, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

**SILENT PRAYER**

Leader: Welcoming God, you have invited all people into your just and righteous reign. Help us to accept that invitation each day, and live in joyful anticipation of the feast that has no end. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We are in awe of the work of your hands, O Creator. Teach us to understand the interconnectedness of all of nature, that people, plants, animals, and the earth itself might flourish together. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: As we walk together on this journey of Lent, give us the humility to see where we have ignored your call. Free us from contempt as we work to seek always to do your will. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: Bring up all who have been brought low by sickness, grief, imprisonment, addiction, isolation, neglect, or illness. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open our hearts to extend your hospitality to all the people of the earth. Let us tear down the artificial barriers we construct between peoples and cultures. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We thank you for all the saints whose faithfulness has drawn us to your holy table. Hold and keep them until we enjoy the wedding banquet with them in your presence. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We lift these prayers to you, Gracious God, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray as one family...**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 22:1-14 (NRSV)

*Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup> “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup> He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup> Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything*

is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’<sup>5</sup> But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,<sup>6</sup> while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.<sup>7</sup> The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.<sup>8</sup> Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.’<sup>9</sup> Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’<sup>10</sup> Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup> “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,<sup>12</sup> and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless.<sup>13</sup> Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’<sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen.”

## RESPONSIVE LITANY

Leader: We are all invited to God’s wedding banquet.

**People: No matter who we are or what we’ve done.**

Leader: Let us not take the invitation for granted.

**People: Let us arrive ready to honor our host.**

Leader: God’s banquet is one of peace and justice.

**People: Let us not come to the banquet clothed in contempt, jealousy, or hatred.**

Leader: But let us arrive in our wedding finest,

**People: Clothed in love and compassion for all people.**

## SUNG RESPONSE

*Prepare Us, Lord*

Piano/Organ

# Prepare Us, Lord

A Song for Lent

February 26 through March 26, 2023

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

Am Em F C introduction

Pre - pare us, Lord. Give us a hum - ble heart, an

*with pedal*

introduction Dm E Am Fine

o - pen heart that's read - y for your love.

F Am F Am

<sup>3/12</sup> A king once held a wed - ding feast. The food was all pre - pared. When

Dm Am Dm E D.C. al Fine

guests de - clined, more guests they'd find. "Come dine!" the king de - clared!

*Composer's note:* Because the verses are a little difficult to sing, you may wish to have them sung by a soloist or a group



WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: Let us come before the Lord our God with our tithes and our offerings.

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

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for the doxology. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a treble staff with notes and a bass staff with chords. The second system also has a treble staff with notes and a bass staff with chords. The lyrics are written below the treble staves.

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

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

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

OLD 100th  
 L.M.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison): **Sovereign God, you have prepared a rich banquet for all your people and fed us with your generous love. Accept now these gifts we return to you, that they might be used to welcome all the world into your abundant care. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF SENDING

*Pass It On*

No. 557

## Pass It On

D Em7 F#m G G/B F#m/A A

1 It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,  
 2 What a won - drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,  
 3 I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that I've found—

D Em7 F#m G G/B F#m/A A

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;  
 the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;  
 on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

D/F# G A/G D/F# Em7 F#m Bm

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:  
 that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:  
 I'll shout it from the moun - tain top, I want my world to know:

Bm Em D/F# G A A7 D

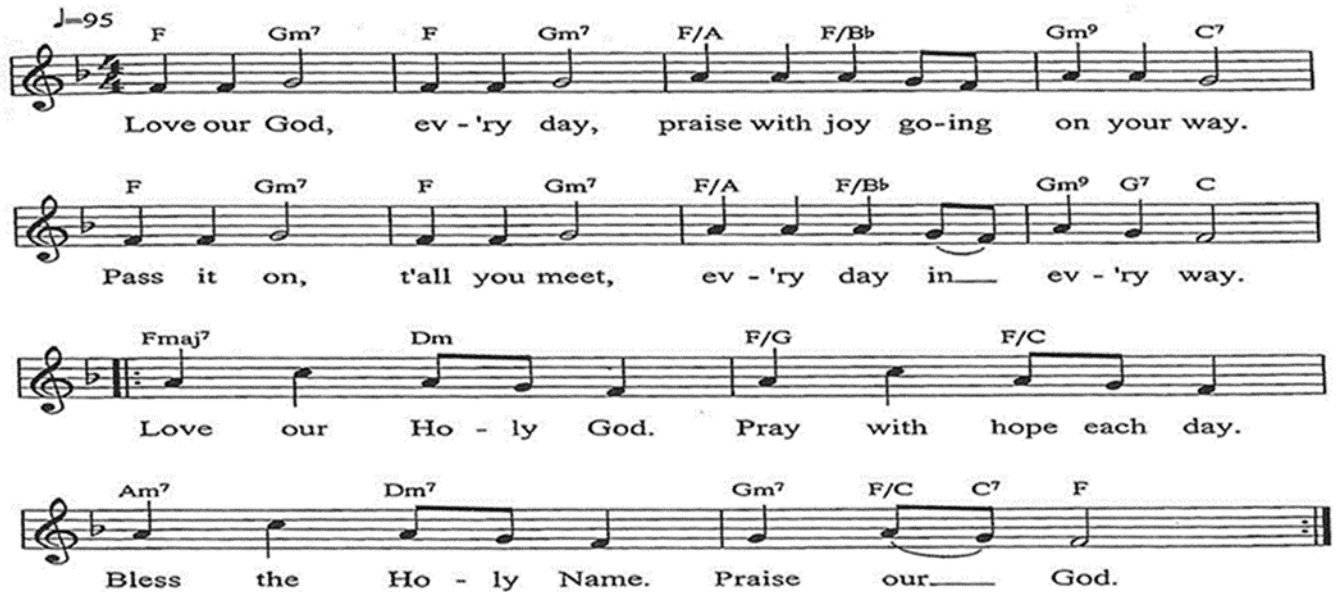
you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.  
 you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.  
 the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

\*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 obey the will of God until we meet again. Go in peace. Amen.

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Pass the Love

### Pass the Love

*J=95*



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 share Christ's peace with one another!

\*POSTLUDE

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

*This arrangement by Rodney Milton, Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Flowers** are in memory of Jacquelyn Broerman by June Oaks.

**Circle of Friends Cards** for you to sign are for Joyce Gilberg (East door), Carol Stauffer (North door), and a sympathy card for Roland Dicke (South door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

**Participants-** March 4| In-person-24. March 5| Sunday School-17, Teachers-6; Worship Online-154, In-Person-60. March 8| Splash-4, Adults-2; Jr/Sr High-22, Adults-2

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

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

**Easter Flower Order Form-** We have a limited quantity of 25 Single Stem Easter Lilies available this year. Please return your order form and payment no later than March 20<sup>th</sup>. Once we receive 25 orders, we will return any extra orders/payments.

**Lucky Strike-** All are welcome for fellowship and bowling Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1:30pm at Speedway Lanes. Please RSVP by calling 419-629-2502.

**Confirmands' Faith Statements-** During worship on March 26, 2023 at 10:15am in the Sanctuary, our confirmands will read their faith statements for all to hear. Please join us in-person or online via Facebook Live. All are welcome!

**Rite of Confirmation & Palm Sunday-** Please join us April 2, 2023 at 10:15am for Palm Sunday worship and witness/celebrate our confirmands being confirmed in their faith.

**March Book Club**-We will be reading *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Books can be picked up on the table outside Pastor Becky's office. This event will be offered via Zoom and in-person on Sunday, March 26 following worship in the Zoom Room.

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

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

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

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

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

### **March Monthly Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing**

Deadly wildfires, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and wars have left people homeless, families grieving loss of loved ones, and entire communities awaiting assistance for long term disaster recovery.

Refugees and asylum seekers are left in limbo, languishing at borders, awaiting welcome. Many have been displaced by economic conditions, war, and climate change. Among the millions of refugees are families looking for safe places that they can call home.



In the midst of these despairing moments, the United Church of Christ is able to offer hope as we stand in solidarity and mutuality with communities suffering and in need. Through Wider Church Ministries, the United Church of Christ fulfills its commitment to respond to a variety of global and local concerns by providing advocacy, sustainable development resources, long term disaster recovery support, and assistance for refugee and asylum seekers, working in collaboration with our partners locally and globally.

With your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, we are able to be present for the long term in disaster recovery, as we partner with churches and organizations around the world to walk with families as they rebuild their homes and lives.

Thank you for your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, as together we build a just world for all.

With Gratitude and Hope, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, AGM, Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive Global Ministries

Thank you, The Mission Team

**Blessing Pantry**-is accessible during these hours - **Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm**. The Pantry will be closed Mondays and Fridays. **All Donations Welcome—Blessing Pantry Needs-Dish Soap, Dryer Sheets, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Tampons, Diapers (sizes N-6), Baby Wipes, Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo, Bandages, Manicure Items, Napkins, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

**St. Paul Church Nursery Announcement.** The St. Paul Church Nursery will be open on Communion Sundays and on Children's Worship Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion, at 937-658-1770.

**Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins** are available for download on our website [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org). Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

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

**Want to be part of the Prayer Chain?** Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul 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.

### **Calendar-Week of March 12, 2023**

|           |               |                                     |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 9:00am        | Sunday School                       |
|           | 10:15am       | Worship                             |
|           |               | In Person & via Facebook Live       |
| Monday    |               | Devotions via Facebook Live         |
|           | 2:00-4:00pm   | Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop          |
| Tuesday   |               | Devotions via Facebook Live         |
|           | 5:30pm-7:30pm | Blessing Pantry Open                |
|           | 5:30pm-7:30pm | Donation Drop-Offs for Rummage Sale |
|           | 7:00pm        | Church Council Meeting              |
| Wednesday |               | Devotions via Facebook Live         |
|           | 1:00pm-3:00pm | Blessing Pantry Open                |
|           | 5:30pm        | Splash                              |
|           | 6:30pm        | Youth Dinner                        |
|           | 7:00pm        | Jr/Sr High Youth Group              |
| Thursday  |               | 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 gl (hit send)
- For building & property fund giving: Send 25 bp (hit send)
  - For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 pantry (hit send)
- For project of the year giving: Send 25 poy (hit send)

**Once a text amount is sent:**

**Registration Link-** Sent via text the first time a donation is made.  
Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

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





### Easter Flower Order Form

We will be decorating our Sanctuary with  
6.5" Single Stem Easter Lilies.

We have a limited quantity of 25 available.  
Flowers may be picked up after the  
Last Easter Service, April 9, 2023.

Please return your order form and payment no  
later than Monday, March 20, 2023.

Checks should be payable to St. Paul

\_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) Flowers, foiled, drip pan-\$18.34 each

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

A gift for \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# St. Paul UCC's

St. Paul UCC Auditorium; enter through Herman Street entrance.

# RUMMAGE SALE

**\*ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. PAUL UCC LOCAL AID FUND\***

## DONATION DROP-OFF OPTIONS

- ⇒ **Any Day** - \*Drop off during church hours on the auditorium stage.
- ⇒ **\*\*March 7th; March 14th; and March 21st @ 5:30-7:30 p.m.**
- ⇒ **\*\*March 19th @ 11:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. DRIVE-THRU DONATION DAY**  
\*\*Youth/Adults available to unload and carry.

GENTLY USED DONATIONS: Clothes and Shoes: Mens/Womens/Plus Size/Kids/Toddler/Baby; Decorations: Home/Seasonal; Furniture: Lamps/Tables/Chairs/Desks/Baby Furniture/Etc.; Toys and Games; Books; Housewares: Dishes/Cups/Utensils/Tablewares/Small Appliances/etc.; Bedding

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## SALE DAYS

