

### St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street
New Bremen, Ohio 45869
Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207)
Email <a href="mailto:stpaulnb@nktelco.net">stpaulnb@nktelco.net</a> or <a href="mailto:stpaulnb.org">stpaulnb.org</a>
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, Communion, Offering Plates, and Masks are available on tables.** 

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

Children's Easter Take Home Bags containing children's Holy Week 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

## Easter April 9, 2023

#### Christ is Risen!

#### Alleluia!

### Christ is Risen Indeed!

## **Worship Leaders**

Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Connie O'Neill
Keith May
Shelly Zeller
June Oaks
Bryan Trego
Jim Strang

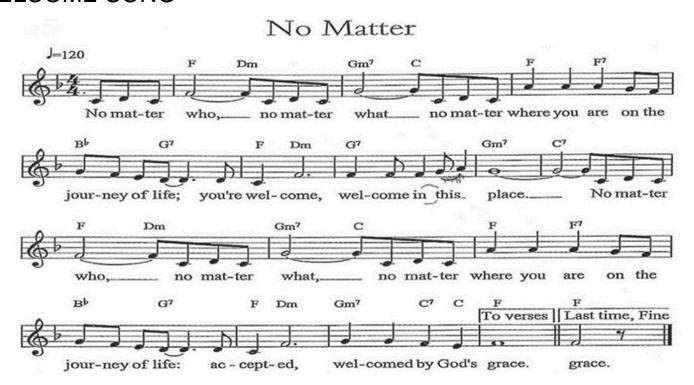
The Congregation
Senior Pastor
Organist
Liturgist (7:00am)
Liturgist (10:15am)
Sr. Deacon
Sr. Elder
Music Director

#### EASTER GREETING

#### PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*WELCOME SONG



\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed! Leader: Our God has done this.

People: We are amazed!

Leader: This is the day that God has made.

People: We will rejoice and be glad!

\*HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

No. 288

(verses 1 & 4)

# 288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today



#### \*EASTER PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: We confess our sins before God and one another.

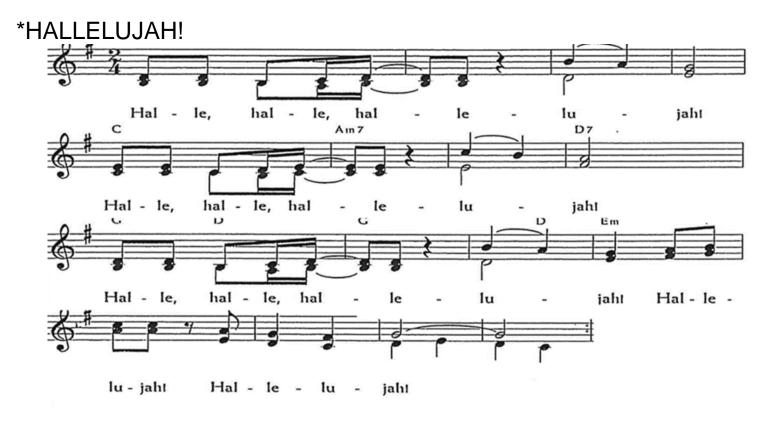
SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: God of resurrection,

People: You have redeemed us through the gift of your son, yet we often act as though we don't know what that means. We fail to see where we need to change and where we need to work to bring positive change to the world. We remain fixated on ourselves rather than living in love and service for others. Forgive us our sins of thought, word, and action or lack of action, that we might better do your will. Amen.

Leader: Christ is risen, indeed, and proclaims to you and to all of creation the entire forgiveness of sin. Receive this gift of forgiveness with joy!

People: We sing praises to our God of life!



**EASTER HYMN** 

The Day of Resurrection

No. 298 (verses 1 & 3)

298

## The Day of Resurrection!



#### PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Resurrection of Christ Jesus!

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

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

Leader: Standing in awe of your unfathomable grace, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (SILENT PRAYER)

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen! With grateful praise we lift our voices in song to you. We celebrate the coming of your reign of justice and peace, in which all people belong to you and all are our sisters and brothers. God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: The oceans roar and the skies thunder in celebration of the risen savior. Teach us to nurture all that you have created, so that everything might join in praise you! God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Breathe new life into those weary from the work of serving in positions of leadership. Give them hope in you, that they might strive to bring your justice and mercy to all. God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Send your healing rain upon all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Help us to remember them in prayer as we go about our busy lives. God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring this world closer to you, O God. Let all your children be at peace and show us how to live and love in you. God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift up all the saints who have gone before us, whose lives of faith have been an inspiration. As we celebrate the resurrection of your Son, make us sure of the resurrection of all people, that we might one day see your saints face-to-face. God of life,

## People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Confident in the promise of the resurrection, we lift all these prayers to you, saving God, in the name of your Son, Jesus the Anointed,

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

#### **ANTHEM**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 118:17-24. (The Message)
I didn't die. I lived!
And now I'm telling the world what God did.
God tested me, he pushed me hard,
but he didn't hand me over to Death.
Swing wide the city gates—the righteous gates!

I'll walk right through and thank God!
This Temple Gate belongs to God,

so the victors can enter and praise.

<sup>21-25</sup> Thank you for responding to me;

you've truly become my salvation!

The stone the masons discarded as flawed is now the capstone!

This is God's work.

We rub our eyes—we can hardly believe it!

This is the very day God acted—let's celebrate and be festive!

Salvation now, God. Salvation now! Oh yes, God—a free and full life!

### EASTER LESSON: Matthew 28:1-10.

(The Message)

After the Sabbath, as the first light of the new week dawned, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to keep vigil at the tomb. Suddenly the earth reeled and rocked under their feet as God's angel came down from heaven, came right up to where they were standing. He rolled back the stone and then sat on it. Shafts of lightning blazed from him. His

garments shimmered snow-white. The guards at the tomb were scared to death. They were so frightened, they couldn't move.

<sup>5-6</sup> The angel spoke to the women: "There is nothing to fear here. I know you're looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross. He is not here. He was raised, just as he said. Come and look at the place where he was placed.

<sup>7</sup> "Now, get on your way quickly and tell his disciples, 'He is risen from the dead. He is going on ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.' That's the message."

<sup>8-10</sup> The women, deep in wonder and full of joy, lost no time in leaving the tomb. They ran to tell the disciples. Then Jesus met them, stopping them in their tracks. "Good morning!" he said. They fell to their knees, embraced his feet, and worshiped him. Jesus said, "You're holding on to me for dear life! Don't be frightened like that. Go tell my brothers that they are to go to Galilee, and that I'll meet them there."

#### SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: The word of God for the people of God!

People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!

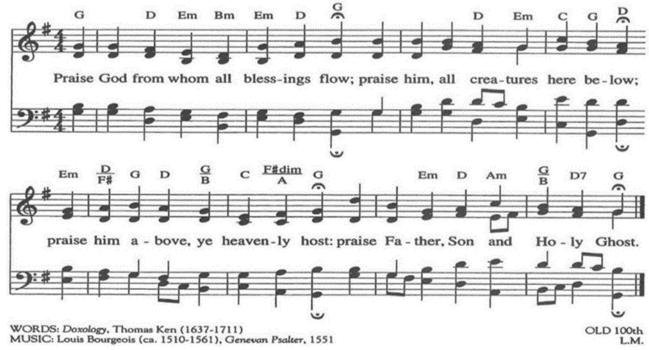
SERMON God is not afraid of new things.

--Pope Francis

# WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS OFFERTORY SENTENCES

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

## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34



\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

With gratitude and boundless joy, we offer our gifts to you, O God. Use them for the sake of your good work in the world, that all might know and celebrate your incredible love. We pray this in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the United Church of Christ we practice an Open Table. You need not be a church member to commune; you need only a sincere desire to draw near to Christ and seek peace with your neighbor.

COMMUNION INVITATION: God sets before us a feast of victory and opens the gates wide for all to enter. Come, join with all creation in the celebrating of Christ's resurrection by remembering him in the sharing of his body and blood. Come with joy, for all is ready.

## **COMMUNION PRAYER (unison)**

Loving Father, living God, it is right and appropriate and our joyful duty always and everywhere to give you thanks, especially today, when we greet our risen Lord. We praise you, God, for all that you have done for us in Christ. We praise you for his life through which he showed your love; for his victory over evil and his obedience which took him to the cross; for his triumph over death and for his coming to be our living Lord. We praise you for this bread and wine, through which we remember; through which our faith and hope are renewed; through which we receive the power of your Spirit and share the fellowship of your undying love. Honor and glory and praise be to you, living God, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

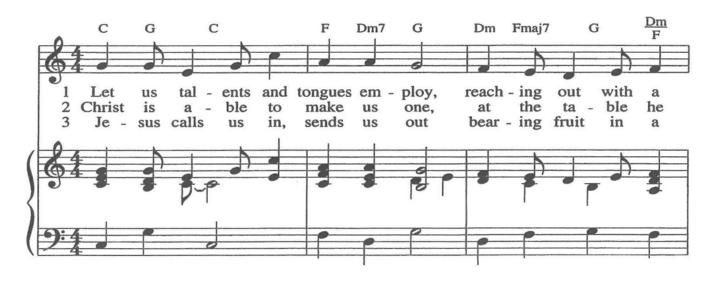
SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

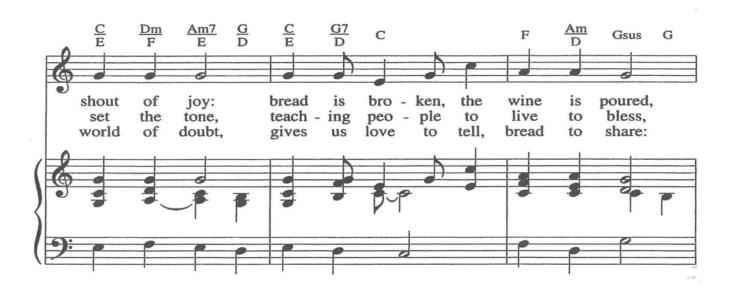
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

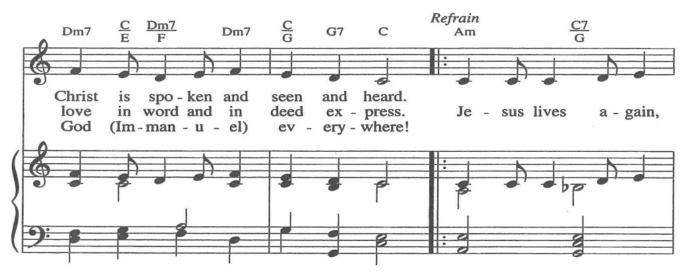
Loving God, through your goodness we have received this bread and cup which the earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in all bread, that we might know your touch in all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer ourselves as gifts. Amen.

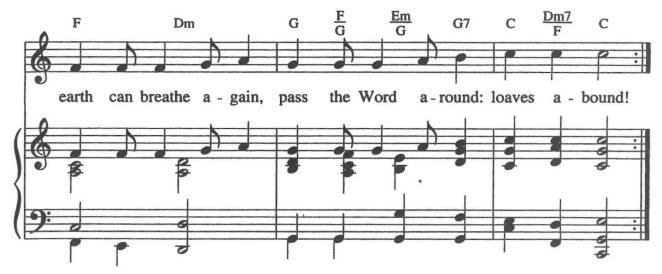
\*HYMN OF SENDING Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ No. 698

# 698 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ









#### \*BENEDICTION

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed! Leader: Go now as risen people.

People: Alive in the spirit and way of Christ!

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Pass the Love

Pass the Love



### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*POSTLUDE

You have turned mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

--Psalm 30:11

"No Matter" Words and music by Roger P. Miller ©2007 All rights reserved.
"Halle Halle Halle" Words and music by Hal H. Hobson ©1998 Hope Publishing Company
"Pass the Love" Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.
This arrangement by Rodney Milton, Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.
Used by Permission. CCLI License #3095528

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Altar Flowers are in memory of Rodney R. Miller by Bev Plattner.

**Circle of Friends Cards** for you to sign are for Karen Fox (North door), Doris Blanke (South door), and a sympathy card for the family of Jo Ann Schweissguth (East door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- April 1| Worship In-Person-18; April 2| Sunday School-27, Teachers-6; Worship Online-185, In-Person-182

**Sundays in April-Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Easter Sunday, April 9-Worship** will be at 7:00am and 10:15am.

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

**May Book Club-** We will be reading *Little Princes: One Man's Promise* to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal by Conor Grennan. Books are available to pick up from the table outside Pastor Becky's office. This event will be offered via Zoom and in-person on Sunday, May 7, following worship in the Zoom Room.

Widow and Widower Luncheon-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30am on Wednesday, April 12th. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

Women's Service Group- will meet at 11:30am on April 13, 2023 at Casa Lupita for a luncheon with Pastor Becky. After the luncheon, we will return to the assembly room at St. Paul UCC and prepare the fifty school kit bags for shipping to Church World Service. While there, a video of this project will be taken to send to the Heartland Conference Make a Difference grant committee for the \$250 grant that was given to us. All are invited to join us. Please contact Joyce Gilberg at 419-629-2947 if you can attend.

**Disaster Relief Buckets-** It's time once again to collect disaster relief items! At the front of the church there are clean up buckets you can use to put your collected items in. The lists of items needed are in the buckets. There is always a continuous need for these buckets which go to the Church World Service. Please set them in the front of the church by April 28th. Thank you for your help!

**Cottage Meetings-** all are welcome to join for the opportunity to say goodbye to Rev. Becky Erb Strang in a small group setting. Snacks will be provided.

These will be held in the Chapel:

Monday April 17. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 19. 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Thursday April 20. 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 26. 10:00-Noon

Thursday April 27. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Also Planned:

Family Fun Night. Saturday April 15. 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Pastor Porch Party. Sunday May 7. 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Brain Longevity Class-** A class on how to prevent or slow Alzheimer's Disease. Class will be held on Saturday April 29th from 9am-noon in the theater room. The cost per participant is \$30 a person/\$45 a couple. Register by calling Kimberly Oen at 419-500-4935.

Volunteers for 60th Northwest Ohio Association Annual Meeting-The Northwest Ohio Association Heartland Conference UCC is looking for breakfast food contributions and volunteers to assist with parking, set up, or clean up on April 29th in Wapakoneta. Please call 419-303-0325 if you would like to help.

## **April Monthly Mission: Temple Hills**

The Hills are Alive!! Nestled in the rolling landscape of Central Ohio, Temple Hills offers a sacred space beloved by generations, a place for spiritual growth and fun. Stewarded by the churches of the Heartland Conference, Temple Hills is a place for people of all ages to be able to connect with God in nature. As our April mission project for the month, we would like you to prayerfully consider donating to "The Hills are Alive" campaign to give our current and future generations a special place to learn and grow.

Thank you, The Mission Team

**2023 Altar Flower Chart** has open dates: July 2, 30, August 27. 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.

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- Kleenex, Women's Body Wash, Shampoo, Razors, Shaving Cream, Garbage Bags, Bandages, Cotton Balls, Vaseline, Sunscreen, Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo, Diaper Cream/Desitan. 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**. 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 <a href="mailto:irpaul@nktelco.net">irpaul@nktelco.net</a> or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

## Calendar-Week of April 9, 2023

Calendar-Week of April 9, 2025		
Sunday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	7:00am &	Happy Easter! Services
	10:15am	w/ Holy Communion
Monday		Office Closed
		Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
Tuesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
•	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	7:00pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Thursday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	11:30am	Women's Service Group
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	Noon	Office Closed
Saturday	6:00pm-7:30pm	Family Fun Night

## E-Giving @ St. Paul

Online – Make a donation on our website: stpaulnb.org

Text – Make a donation to our Number: 833-308-0048

How To Give by Text (Example - my amount for the example is \$25

(minimum amount is \$5.00))

- > For general fund giving: Send 25 gl (hit send)
- > For building & property fund giving: Send 25 bp (hit send)
  - > For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 pantry (hit send)
  - > For project of the year giving: Send 25 poy (hit send)

## Once a text amount is sent:

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

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

## **2023 Easter Flower Memorials**

In Memory of Robert Wilson by Carol Wilson and Family

In Memory of Becky Quellhorst by Tom Quellhorst

In Memory of Ron Hittepole, Andrea Hittepole, and Katie Utz by Marlene Hittepole

In Memory of Loved Ones by the Allen Bushman Family

In Memory of Don R. Miller, Rodney Miller, and Ralph Plattner by Bev Plattner

In Memory of deceased members of the Miller's, Rump's, and Plattner's Families. A gift for Dale Schaefer by Bev Plattner

In Memory of Larry Kuhn. A gift for Ann Kuhn by Greg, Caleb, and Jayden Felver

In Memory of Paul and Pauline Gilberg by John and Joyce Gilberg

In Memory of Willis and Leta Quellhorst by John and Joyce Gilberg

In Memory of Linda Bushman and Greg Bushman by James and Diane Gilberg

In Memory of Jacqui Broerman by June Oaks

In Memory of Levi Oaks by June Oaks

In Memory of Stan and Dorothy Hertenstein by June Oaks

In Memory of Angela Lynne Bushman by Dennis and Gert Bushman

In Memory of Topp and Stueve Families by Carla and Erin Topp

Our sincere appreciation to those purchasing Easter Flowers to beautify our sanctuary this wonderful Easter Day! Donors may take their flowers at the conclusion of the 10:15am worship service. Thank you!!





All are welcome to join Pastor Becky in the chapel for a special time set aside for fellowship,

Bible readings, prayers, a time to say good-bye and look to the future.

Monday, April 17, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday, April 19, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Thursday, April 20, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Wednesday, April 26, 10:00 am - 12 noon
Thursday, April 27, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Family Fun Night with Pastor Becky
Saturday, April 15, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm