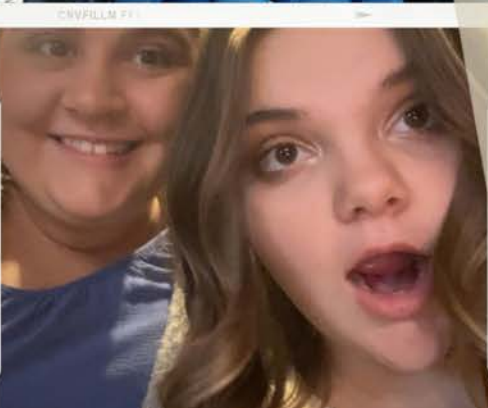
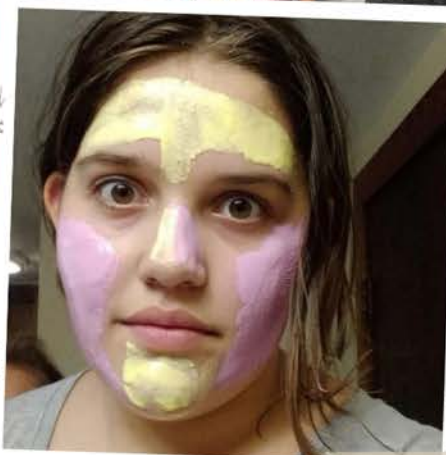




HOLY HUMOR



GOD HAS MADE LAUGHTER FOR ME



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 or stpaulnb@gmail.com

Visit our website at <https://stpaulnb.org>

Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ – New Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky Erb Strang-Senior Pastor

Myra Hanenkratt-Council President

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

April 16, 2023
Holy Humor Sunday
Children's Worship

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Katie Brautigam
Sunday School/Youth
June Oaks

The Congregation
Senior Pastor
Pianist
Worship Leaders
Sr. Deacon

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WELCOME SONG

No Matter

♩=120

F Dm Gm7 C F F7

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

B^b G7 F Dm G7 Gm7 C7

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

F Dm Gm7 C F F7

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

B^b G7 F Dm Gm7 C7 C F F

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

[To verses] [Last time, Fine]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the good news—the grave is empty; Christ is risen!

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: This is the good news—the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

People: Hallelujah!

15 C^9 1, 2. F^7 3. F^7 D.C. al Coda

My new life has begun! me!
 God's in charge! Spread the word!
 Life's exciting to

18 \oplus Coda $B\flat$ F^7 $B\flat$ F^7

Ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn-ing,
 ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn-ing,

22 $B\flat$ F^7

ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn - ing,

24 Cm F^7 $B\flat$

from now on!

*SERVICE OF CONFESSION

Leader: With all the signs of new life in Christ around us, we still cling to our old ways. Let us confess our sin to God and to one another.

People: When we do not accept as our sisters and brothers in Christ those who are different from us, forgive us, O God. When we oppose you by opposing those who disrupt our routines and challenge our assumptions, forgive us, O God. God, in your mercy, restore us to newness of life. Bind together your church universal through the coming of your Holy Spirit. Empower us to witness with courage to the presence of Jesus Christ among us. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Take heart: God's Spirit empowers us to move from the ways of death to the ways of new life. Our sins are forgiven. Let us forgive one another and give ourselves to one another in the joyful community of the risen Christ. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

No. 734

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in E-flat major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system covers the lyrics: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the". The second system covers: "Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is". The third system covers: "now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men." Above the vocal lines, various chords are indicated, such as Eb, Bb7sus, Bb7, Eb, Bb, Bb, Eb, Bb, Eb6, Bb, F, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb, Ab, Eb, G, Eb, Ab, Eb, Gm, Bb7, and Eb.

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

GREATOREX
Irregular

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

BAPTISM OF LYNDEN DIETRICH (**Congregational Response: We promise our love, support and care.**)

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Children leading worship!

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, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Jesus Christ, Savior and Friend, we rejoice in your resurrection! That through you, God has done the extraordinary and unimaginable. That through you, we experience new life. Easter Jesus,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless us now. Shine your love on this world so greatly in need of healing. Hear our songs of thanksgiving for your abundant grace. Listen to our worries as we turn over to you that which we cannot manage on our own, trusting in your goodness. Help us to love you with lives committed to serving others in your name. Easter Jesus,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We ask that you pour out the abundance of your blessings on this gathered Body of Christ—that we might share your grace, peace, and love with others. We ask you to challenge us to hear your word in new ways. We ask that your healing wind blow mightily through our hardened hearts. Easter Jesus,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: In this Easter Season, we celebrate your resurrection promises fulfilled in Christ Jesus. We celebrate the new life that surrounds us in births, in the blossoming of the trees, in the sound of the birds in the air. Open our hearts and our minds to your resurrection glory, O God, that we might be Easter People from this day forward. Easter Jesus,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: In this Easter Season, we lift up to you all who are sick, recuperating, and grieving. Pour the abundance of your new life upon each. Challenge us to offer Easter's hope to all. Easter Jesus,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: God of grace and God of glory, hear us now as we lift up to you the prayers of our hearts.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: Holy One, we thank you for hearing our prayers. We thank you for the gift of Christ Jesus. We thank you for the gift of your presence in our lives.

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. 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: Psalm 150

(The Message)

Hallelujah!

*Praise God in his holy house of worship,
praise him under the open skies;*

*Praise him for his acts of power,
praise him for his magnificent greatness;*

*Praise with a blast on the trumpet,
praise by strumming soft strings;*

*Praise him with castanets and dance,
praise him with banjo and flute;*

*Praise him with cymbals and a big bass drum,
praise him with fiddles and mandolin.*

*Let every living, breathing creature praise God!
Hallelujah!*

BOOKS OF BIBLE SONG

Youth

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 28:16-20

(The Message)

Meanwhile, the eleven disciples were on their way to Galilee, headed for the mountain Jesus had set for their reunion. The moment they saw him they worshiped him. Some, though, held back, not sure about worship, about risking themselves totally.

¹⁸⁻²⁰ Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

RESPONSE

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

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

SERMON

Easter Laughter

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION

Leader: Knock, Knock!

People: Who's there?

Leader: Philip

People: Philip, who?

Leader: Fill up the offering plates before you leave worship today!

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

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system covers the lyrics: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be-low;". The second system covers: "praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost." Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line, and the bass line provides a harmonic accompaniment.

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

OLD 100th
L.M.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)**

Receive these gifts, O God, offered in gratitude for all the gifts of life and for your love, and use them to serve the cause of your mission in this world. May these offerings point to Jesus' way of lovingly serving all in need. Bless us as we give, and bless your world with a renewed awareness that you hold us all in your loving hands. Amen.

***HYMN**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

No. 289

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven 289

G G₂ G G/D D7 G/D D/C G/B D/A G G/D D

1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise:
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
 3 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Set your hearts on things a - bove;
 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:

G C/G G7 G7/C C Cmaj7 Am/C G/D D7 G/D D7 G

sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
 see the an - cient powers of e - vil in con - fu - sion and re - treat;
 there in all the Fa - ther's glo - ry lives and reigns our King of love;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who has gained the vic - to - ry;

D G/D D G/D D B/D# B7 Em A D

he who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled—
 once he died, and once was bur - ied: now he lives for - ev - er - more,
 hear the word of peace he brings us, see his wound - ed hands and side!
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!

G C/G G7 G7/C C Cmaj7 Am/C G/D D7 G/D D7 G

Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, whom we wor - ship and a - dore.
 Now let ev - ery wrong be end - ed, ev - ery sin be cru - ci - fied.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia to the Tri - une Maj - es - ty!

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

Musical score for "Pass the Love" in G major, 4/4 time, tempo 95. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics and guitar chords. 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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*POSTLUDE

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in memory of Sally and Roland Meckstroth by Sher, Jeff, and Greg Meckstroth.

Circle of Friends Cards for you to sign are for Mary Hespe (North door), Bev Poppe (South door), and Alice Hartwig (East door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- April 6| Worship Online-169, In-Person-45; April 7| Worship Online-188, In-Person-48; April 9| Worship Online-347, In-Person-215

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

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 good-bye 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:

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

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.

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.

Seniors Recognition- Please mark your calendars for May 14th to honor the Seniors' accomplishments during the 10:15am worship. Seniors-please RSVP to the church office if you are able to attend.

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.

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 jrpaul@nktelco.net or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

Calendar-Week of April 16, 2023

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Children's Worship
	11:15am	Worship Team Meeting
Monday	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
	6:30pm-8:00pm	Cottage Meeting
Tuesday	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Discipleship Team Meeting
Wednesday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Cottage Meeting
Thursday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Cottage Meeting
Friday	Noon	Office Closed

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

Cottage Meetings with Pastor Becky

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

