

## St. Paul United Church of Christ

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New Bremen, Ohio 45869
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Email <a href="mailto:stpaulnb@nktelco.net">stpaulnb@nktelco.net</a> or <a href="mailto:stpaulnb.org">stpaulnb.org</a>
Visit our website at <a href="mailto:https://stpaulnb.org">https://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
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 30, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter

## **Worship Leaders**

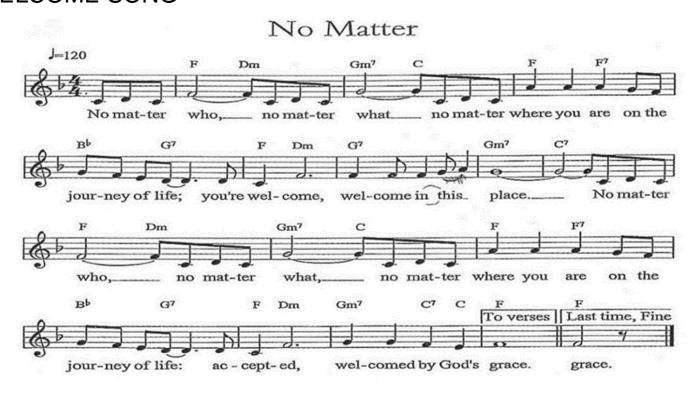
Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Katie Brautigam
Sally Dicke
June Oaks

The Congregation
Senior Pastor
Pianist
Liturgist
Sr. Deacon

#### PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*WELCOME SONG



## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God welcomes us in love.

People: We welcome as God welcomes.

Leader: When we welcome others,

People: We welcome Jesus.

Leader: When we welcome Jesus,

People: We welcome God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

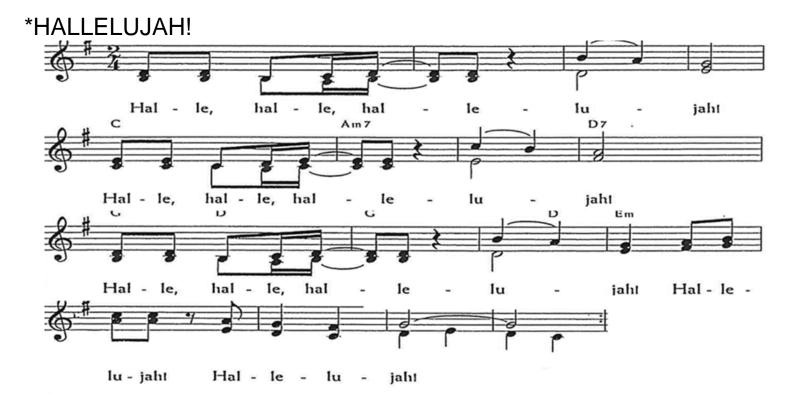
PRAYER & DEVOTION

# 473 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



\*INVOCATION (in unison)

Gracious God, you set aside Paul and Barnabas for the work of sharing the good news. In the same way, call us into service to you and our neighbors near and far, in the name of Jesus. Amen.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Quinton Ryan Springer II Cora Elizabeth Gabel

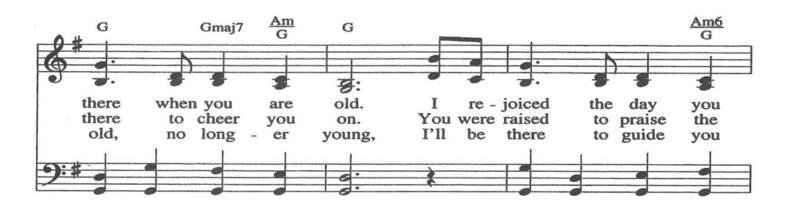
Congregational Response: We promise our love, support and care.

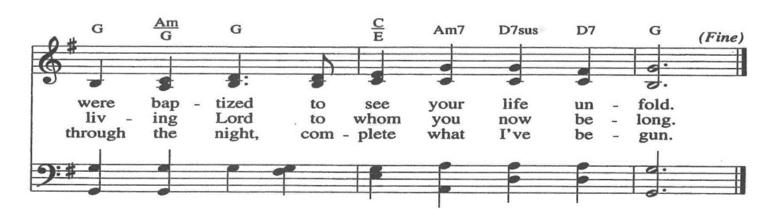
BAPTISMAL HYMN

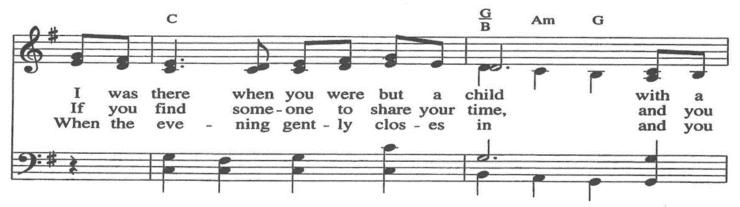
**Borning Cry** 

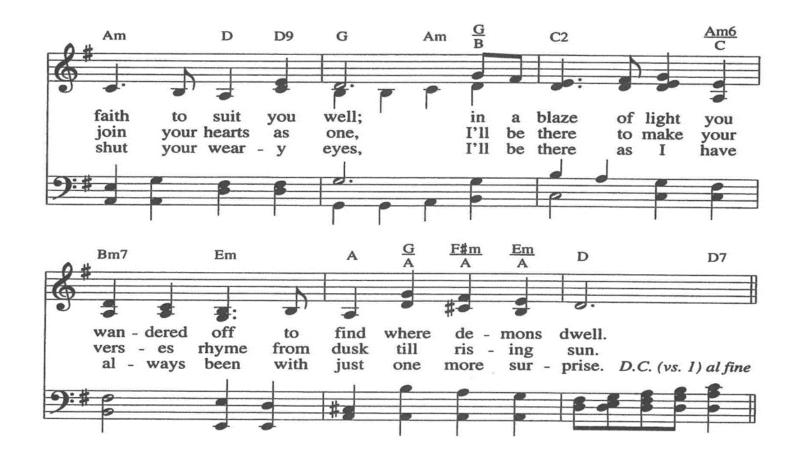
# Borning Cry











## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Welcoming Children Through Baptism

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, Julia Paul (Joint Township), Janice Howell, Nancy Moots, and Dee Schroer.

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

Leader: Let us pray. Standing in awe of your unfathomable grace, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

## SILENT PRAYER

Leader: God, Paul and Barnabas were not tempted to let the people treat them as gods, but were quick to give you credit for all things. Make us likewise humble, that we might point to you in gratitude for all that we accomplish. God of life,

# People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Make us to walk gently upon the earth and keep us from placing too great a burden on its resources. Instill in us a passionate commitment to the flourishing of all creation. God of life,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: You set aside Paul and Barnabas for your service. Strengthen those we have set apart as elected leaders, that they might work for your justice and mercy in the world. God of life,

# People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: As Paul healed the man in Lystra, heal all those who suffer from torment, imprisonment, addiction, grief, or illness of any kind. God of life,

# People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Help us to listen to those who see the world differently than we do and to recognize where our way isn't the only way, so that we might live in peace with all the children of the earth. God of life,

# People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift up all the saints who have gone before us, who have taught us to open our eyes and our hearts to receive you. God of life,

# People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Confident in the promise of resurrection, we lift all these prayers to you in the name of your son, Jesus the Anointed One, 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.

## **ANTHEM**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18 (The Message)

The congregation in Antioch was blessed with a number of prophetpreachers and teachers:

Barnabas, Simon, nicknamed Niger, Lucius the Cyrenian, Manaen, an advisor to the ruler Herod, Saul. One day as they were worshiping God—they were also fasting as they waited for guidance—the Holy Spirit spoke: "Take Barnabas and Saul and commission them for the work I have called them to do."

<sup>3</sup> So they commissioned them. In that circle of intensity and obedience, of fasting and praying, they laid hands on their heads and sent them off.

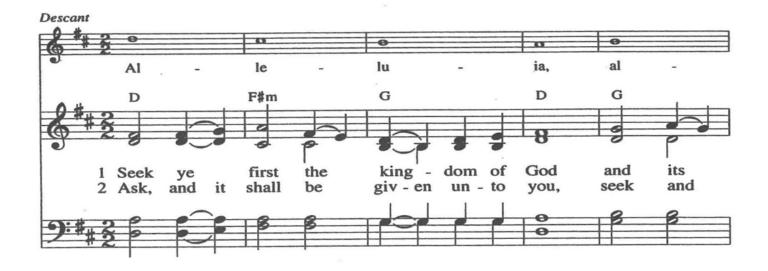
There was a man in Lystra who couldn't walk. He sat there, crippled since the day of his birth. He heard Paul talking, and Paul, looking him in the eye, saw that he was ripe for God's work, ready to believe. So he said, loud enough for everyone to hear, "Up on your feet!" The man was up in a flash—jumped up and walked around as if he'd been walking all his life.

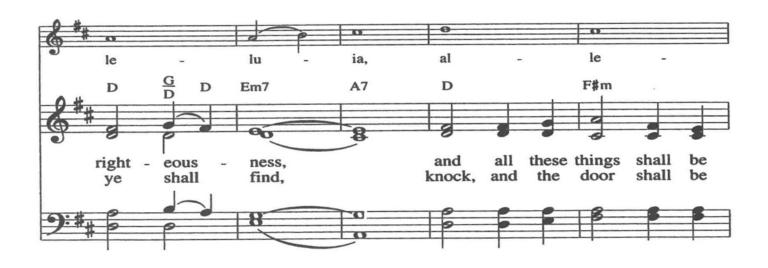
11-13 When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they went wild, calling out in their Lyconian dialect, "The gods have come down! These men are gods!" They called Barnabas "Zeus" and Paul "Hermes" (since Paul did most of the speaking). The priest of the local Zeus shrine got up a parade—bulls and banners and people lined right up to the gates, ready for the ritual of sacrifice.

<sup>14-15</sup> When Barnabas and Paul finally realized what was going on, they stopped them. Waving their arms, they interrupted the parade, calling out, "What do you think you're doing! We're not gods! We are men just like you, and we're here to bring you the Message, to persuade you to abandon these silly god-superstitions and embrace God himself, the living God. We don't make God; he makes us, and all of this—sky, earth, sea, and everything in them.

"In the generations before us, God let all the different nations go their own way. But even then he didn't leave them without a clue, for he made a good creation, poured down rain and gave bumper crops. When your bellies were full and your hearts happy, there was evidence of good beyond your doing." Talking fast and hard like this, they prevented them from carrying out the sacrifice that would have honored them as gods—but just barely.

# Seek Ye First







SERMON Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words.
-(Probably not) St. Francis

#### RESPONSIVE LITANY

Leader: The Holy Spirit said,

People: "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul Leader: For the work to which I have called them."

People: Then, after praying and fasting,

Leader: They laid their hands on them

People: And sent them off.

Leader: So, now, the Holy Spirit says,

People: We have been set apart—made holy— Leader: For the work to which God has called us.

People: The work of justice and peace. Leader: The work of caring for all creation.

People: The work of living the gospel in all we do.

Leader: Lay your hands on us in blessing, O God, People: And send us out to do your will. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

No. 344

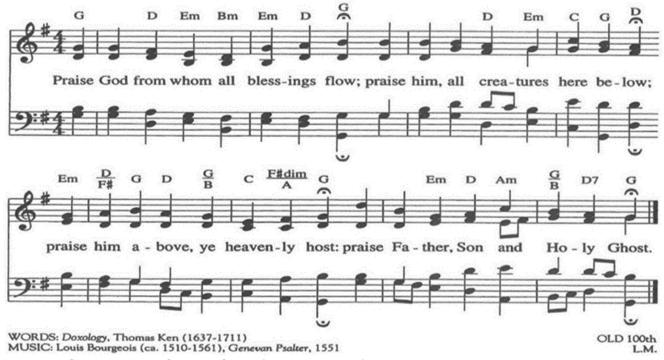
# I Have Decided to Follow Jesus 344



# WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS OFFERING INVITATION

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

# Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34



\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

God, you provide all that we need. Give us generous hearts that we might offer ourselves, our efforts, and our resources to your good work in the world. Accept now these gifts for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

\*HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

No. 559

## 559

# Here I Am, Lord



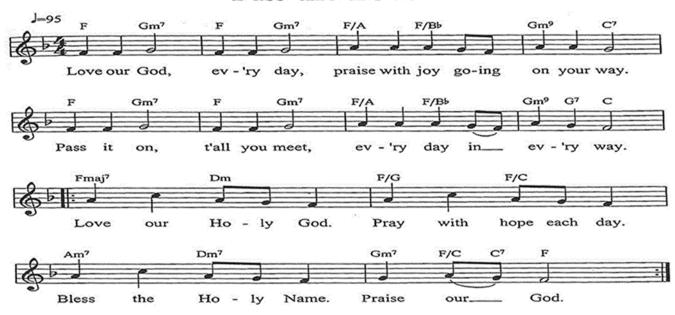
WORDS: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-); para. Isaiah 6:8
MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-); arr. Michael Pope (20th c.), Daniel L. Schutte (1947-), John Weissrock (20th c.)
Words and Music © 1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music



### \*BENEDICTION

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Pass the Love

#### Pass the Love



## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

## \*POSTLUDE

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Altar Flowers** are in honor of Chancel/ Bell Choir, Accompanists, and our Director by Amy Scheer.

Circle of Friends Cards for you to sign are for Dale Schaefer (North door), Janice Howell (South door), and Julia Paul (East door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

**Participants-** April 23| Sunday School-17, Teachers-5; Worship Online-98, In-Person-62

**Sundays in May-Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Saturday, May 6- Worship** will be in the chapel at 5:00pm with Holy Communion.

**Funeral Pall Missing-** Dear friends, our funeral pall is missing. If you have seen it and know where it is please let Rev. Becky or the church office know. It is an important part in our Celebrations of Life.

**Elmwood Worship-**Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

**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.

**Pastor Porch Party**- Pastor Becky and Jim Strang invite you to the parsonage and greenspace on Sunday, May 7 from 6:00-8:00p.m. for Pastor Porch Party. Becky and Jim will provide the main dish and paper products. We invite all attendees to bring lawn chairs and a side dish or dessert to share. All are welcome!

Widow and Widower Luncheon-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30am on Wednesday, May 10. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

**Women's Service Group-** will meet on May 11, 2023 at noon for a luncheon and a planning meeting for 2023-2024 at Phyllis Fledderjohann's house.

Last day of Sunday School- will be Sunday, May 14th at 9am.

Mother's Day & Seniors/Teachers/Youth Leaders Recognitions- We hope you can attend the 10:15am worship service on May 14<sup>th</sup> to help celebrate our Mothers, and to honor the Seniors' accomplishments, as well as thanking our teachers and youth leaders. Seniors-please RSVP to the church office if you are able to attend.

**Rev. Becky Erb Strang's Last Day-** Please join us on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the 10:15am worship service to show our gratitude and support for everything Becky has done for our church and congregation over the past 13 years. Retirement Celebration will follow worship.

**Rev. Dan Busch Preaching-** All are welcome on Pentecost Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am worship to hear Rev. Dan Busch's message.

**Art Camp Festival 2023-** will be Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm. Mark your calendars! Theme: Happy Birthday, St. Paul!

**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.

# **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

**St Paul UCC Job Openings-**The following positions are or will be available in the near future: 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.

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.

**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.

May/June 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.

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

Want to be part of the Prayer Chain? Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul at <u>irpaul@nktelco.net</u> or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

## Calendar-Week of April 30, 2023

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
-	10:15am	Worship
		In Person & via Facebook Live
	11:15am	190 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting
	5:30pm	Staff Dinner
Monday	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
Tuesday	2:00pm	Worship at Elmwood
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:00pm	Chancel/Bell Choir Dinner
Thursday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed
Saturday	8:00am	Men's Club- Speedway Lanes
-	5:00pm	Worship w/ Holy Communion

# E-Giving @ St. Paul

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

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

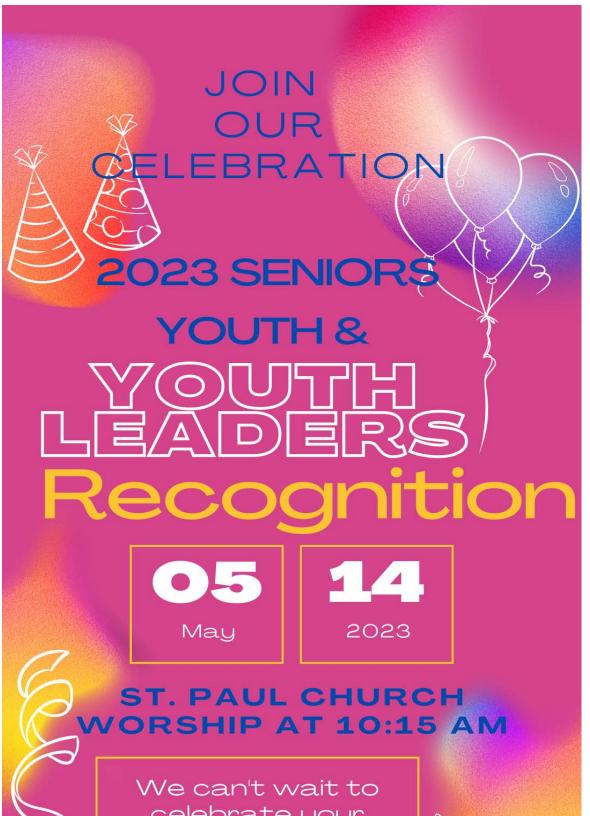
**How To Give by Text (Example -** my amount for the example is \$25 (minimum amount is \$5.00))

- > 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



We can't wait to celebrate your accomplishments together!