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

Visit our website at https://stpaulnb.org

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

> Rev. Ken Locke- Interim Pastor stpaulpastor@nktelco.net 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, 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 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

September 2 and 3, 2023 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Interim Pastor

Pianist (Saturday)

Organist (Sunday)

Liturgist

Sr. Deacon

Sr. Elder

The Congregation
Rev. Ken Locke
Arianne Henry
Patty Ruckman
Shelly Zeller
June Oaks
Bryan Trego

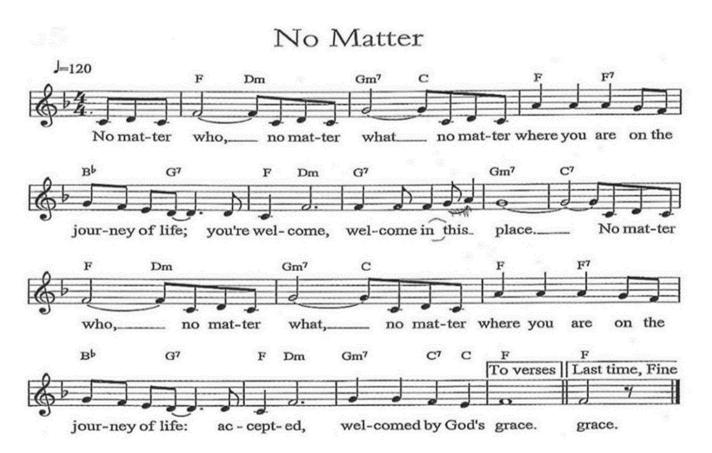
PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

We Gather Together

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

*WELCOME SONG



*CALL TO WORSHIP

<u>Leader</u>: God calls us each by name as we gather on holy ground.

People: We come to this place, seeking to know the great I AM.

Leader: In reverence and awe, let us worship our holy God.

*HYMN Great is the Lord No. 50

Great Is the Lord



*CALL TO CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: The apostle Paul tells us: Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.

<u>People</u>: For the times we have failed to even try, let us confess to God and one another.

*CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: Sometimes it sounds too hard: deny ourselves, take up our crosses, lose our lives?

<u>People</u>: Forgive us, Savior, but we'd rather you do it for us. Forgive us, Christ, but we are overwhelmed with what you are asking of us.

<u>Leader</u>: We long to see you come in glory, but fear the road we must take.

<u>People</u>: Have mercy on our weakness. Be patient with our stumbling. Do not leave us behind, even when we are slow to follow, and lead us in your ways of peace.

Leader: God, forgive us. Lord, hear our prayer.

(TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION)

*PARDON

<u>Leader</u>: Christ does not abandon us, but died for us, was raised for us, and loves us still.

<u>People</u>: This is the good news that prevails! In Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Amen!

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

Glory Be to the Father





God's Word Is Proclaimed

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 3:1-15

(OT) pg. 50

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." ¹³But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

(NT) pg. 162

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SERMON

Love Language

Rev. Ken Locke

We Respond to God's Word

THE 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. Saturday and Sunday communion elements are offered by coming forward or are available on the bulletin/offering table. Grape juice is in the center circle of the tray and wine fills the cups around it.

<u>Leader</u>: May our God of goodness be with you.

People: And also with you.

<u>Leader</u>: We offer our hearts to God and rejoice in hope.

People: We bring them to the One who blesses us with love.

<u>Leader</u>: Join in singing thanksgivings to the One who calls us to this feast.

People: We praise our God who feeds us with peace.

<u>Leader</u>: Reaching into your imagination, God of wonder, you wove that community we call creation:

People: your steadfast love swimming in the waters,

your joy teaching songs to the birds, your peace placing stars in the skies.

<u>Leader</u>: You made ready your guest room for those shaped in your likeness,

People: but we set our minds on sin's things, wanting to walk down the road to death.

<u>Leader</u>: You sent prophets to offer us your words so that they might delight our hearts,

<u>People</u>: but we would not even try a taste, preferring to party with hypocritical temptation.

<u>Leader</u>: You would not wash us away, but sent your Child into our world, to be with us, to save us.

<u>Leader</u>: With all those who cling to goodness, with those who long to live in harmony, we sing aloud our thanksgivings:

<u>People</u>: Holy, holy, holy are you, God who knows us. All creation rejoices in your hope. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who walks in integrity. Hosanna in the highest!

<u>Leader</u>: In Jesus, you walked faithfully toward us, God of holiness,

<u>People</u>: so we might see your love wherever and whenever we looked.

<u>Leader</u>: In Jesus, you sat down with those who are worthless in the world's eyes,

People: so we might feast on your words of mercy and hope.

Leader: In Jesus, your reached out

People: to pry us out of Wicked's hands, to break Ruthless's grip on us.

<u>Leader</u>: In Jesus, you showed us the cost of delivering us, as he lost his life so we could be saved by grace.

<u>Leader</u>: Because we want to follow Jesus, because we want to be your people, we would proclaim our faith:

<u>People</u>: Taking up his cross, Christ died for us; overcoming death with life, you raised Christ from the grave; Christ will come with the angels, to reveal your glory.

Words of Institution

Leader: Pour out your Spirit upon
the gifts of the Table,
and on the people being woven
into your community in this place.
As we eat of the bread,
may we find that life of serving
the poor, the hungry,
the lost, the hopeless.
As we drink from the cup,
may we find the strength
to lose our selves
in sharing your peace,
in giving water to the thirsty,
in becoming friends with the oppressed.

As we set aside this bread and this cup, using them to share your love, we celebrate the death of our risen Lord until he comes again.

<u>People</u>: When this journey through life has ended, and we gather in your house around your table with those of every place, and of every time, we will sing your praises forever, God in Community, Holy in One.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT

<u>Leader</u>: Loving God, you graciously feed us, who have received these holy mysteries, with the bread of life and cup of eternal salvation.

<u>People</u>: May we who have received this sacrament be strengthened in your service;

we who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kingdom.

May we who have experienced the joy of your presence be a joyful presence to others.

<u>Leader</u>: Especially may we be a blessing to those in our fellowship who need a double portion of your strength, love and joy: Tavi Haastrup, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jerry Newman, Karen Vornholt, Terri Mullins, Denise Joyce, Bev Poppe, Ann Hudson, Nancy Moots, and Dee Schroer.

<u>People</u>: For you have made us your own people by the life-giving power of your Spirit and by the death and resurrection of your Son our Lord, who taught us when we pray to say... 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.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS OFFERTORY SENTENCES

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* No.34 (Tune is the same but words have changed)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures high and low. Praise God, in Jesus fully known. Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Amen.

592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

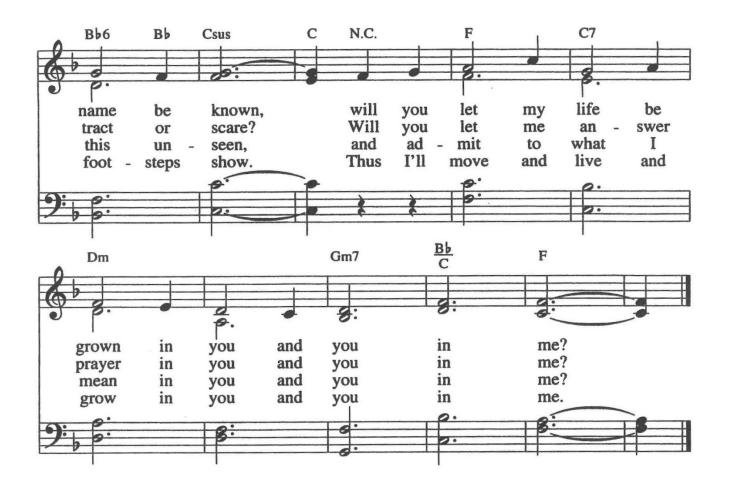


*HYMN OF SENDING The Summons (Will You Come and Follow Me?)
No. 350

350

The Summons

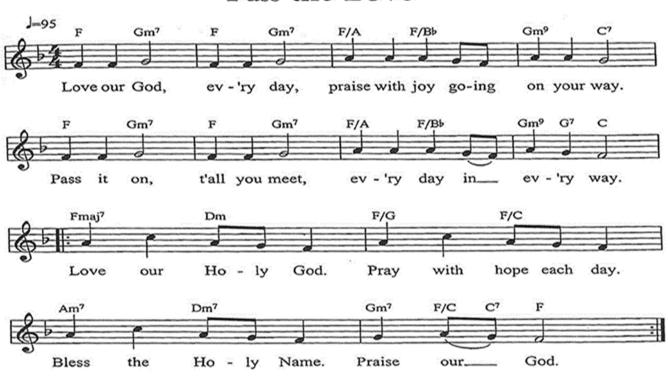




*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Pass the Love

Pass the Love



*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

<u>Leader</u>: 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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in memory of Freda Voress by Judy Voress, George & Karen Voress, and John & Gin Voress.

After Sunday's worship, please take home your altar flowers. They will be kept in the church office after Sunday.

Circle of Friends Cards for you to sign are for Lowell Quellhorst (South door), Don Kettler (East door), and Ann Young (North door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- August 27 | Worship In-Person-77, Online-67

Online number comes from the "1 minute views" through Facebook's insights.

2023 Financial Information as of August 23, 2023

Operating Fund

Endowment Trans \$24,586.64(ytd)

Income \$201,817.80 (ytd)

Expenses \$191,390.90(ytd)

Balance \$10,426.90(ytd)

Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$56,920.53

Income \$13,194.90(ytd)

Endowment Inc.\$34,102.58(ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$9,977.49

Income \$10,807.20(ytd)

Expenses \$12,179.06(ytd)

Balance \$8,625.63(ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$35,371.23

Income \$10,306.00(ytd)

Expenses \$13,075.36(ytd)

[&]quot;Pass the Love" Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.

Expenses \$7,599.34(ytd)
Balance \$96,618.67 (ytd) **Project of the Year**Income \$1,482.00

Balance \$32,601.87(ytd) **Our Church Wider Mission**Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$16,157.10(ytd)

Volunteers Needed & Office Hours Update – Urgently looking for volunteers to be in the office to answer the phone, M-Th 1-3:30pm. If interested, please contact the office.

For this fall semester only, Leah has a hybrid work schedule (working inoffice and remotely). Her in-office hours are M,W,F: 8-10am and T & Th: 8amnoon. She is still able to communicate through email stpaulnb@nktelco.net when working remotely. If you need to drop something off to the office while it's closed, please put it in the office's safe box mail slot & attach a note with it if needed. Thank you!

St. Paul Church Nursery Announcement-The St. Paul Church Nursery is open on Communion Sunday (First Sunday of each month). If you would like to volunteer, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion, at 937-658-1770.

September Monthly Mission: Local Aid

The mission for the month of September is Local Aid. As the name implies, local aid helps individuals and families in our surrounding communities, meet the needs of daily life. Aid can come in the form of gas cards, rent money, and other miscellaneous repairs and expenses that may occur in our daily living. To give towards Local Aid, please mark your giving envelope accordingly or bring to the church office in an envelope labeled "Local Aid". Thank you!

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 10th | **Kick-Off Sunday-** Please join us as we "kick-off" the start of our youth programs and Sunday School, as well as gathering for our 190th Anniversary!

September 10th | 190th Anniversary- We will be celebrating St. Paul's 190th Anniversary! Following worship, there will be a congregation picture taken and then a church celebration. Sandwiches and water/coffee will be provided. Please

bring a side dish- a sign-up sheet will be out later in August. Crafts will be available for kids! If you have something you would like to share/contribute to our Church History table for viewing, please bring it on that Sunday, September 10th to the assembly room. We hope to see you there as we rejoice in this exciting time!

September 12th | **Elmwood Worship-**All are welcome to assist Jeff Paul with this wonderful service at 2:00pm. Please meet him by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

September 13th | Widow and Widower's Luncheon- Will be from 11:30am – 12:30pm. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter at Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall in Kettlersville.

September 13th | Youth Programs Start- They will be held every Wednesday: Splash (4th-5th grade) at 5:30pm, Confirmation Class (8th grade) at 7pm, Youth Group (6th -12th grade) at 7pm. All are welcome to join. The permission form is available for download on our website **stpaulnb.org.** Just click the yellow **YOUTH MINISTRIES-PERMISSION FORM** box along the top of the website.

September 14th | Deadline for Council Report Submissions- Please email your reports for the council meeting to the church office by Thursday, September 14. Thank you!

September 14th | Women's Service Group/Auglaize Recycling Event- Will be from 1:00-3:00pm in the assembly room. The Auglaize Recycling event will have District Office Coordinator & Environmental Educator, Alexa Schwaderer, as our guide. ALL ARE INVITED.

September 17th | **Worship Team-** Will meet following worship in the assembly room.

September 18th | Deadline for Monthly Mailer Submissions- Please submit any information you would like included in the October mailer to the church office email stpaulnb@nktelco.net by Monday, September 18. Thank you!

September 19th | Church Council Meeting- will be in the assembly room at 7:00pm.

September 24th | **September Book Club-** We will be reading *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Books are available to pick up from the table outside the pastor's office. This event will be offered via Zoom and in-person following worship in the Zoom Room.

September 29th & 30th | **The Heartland Conference-** The 2023 Annual Gathering of the Heartland Conference is approaching. You will want to save the dates on your calendar and make plans to attend this event, which promises to be one of the most informative and inspiring ever.

This year's Annual Gathering will be held at a new location: Gender Road Christian Church, 5336 Gender Rd. in Canal Winchester, Ohio (southeast of Columbus). Registration information and hotel recommendations for those with greater travel distances will be sent out shortly and will be included on the website: heartlanducc.org.

The highlight of the Annual Gathering will be the keynote address given by Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson, the newly-installed General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

St Paul UCC Job Openings-The following positions are or will be available in the near future: Office Administrator, 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 Office Administrator is a part-time position which includes bulletin creation, keeper of vital church records, and phone answering among other tasks.

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 open during these hours - Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm. The Pantry will be closed Mondays and Fridays.

September/October Upper Rooms-are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. 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 <u>jrpaul@nktelco.net</u> or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

Calendar-Week of September 3, 2023

	•	•
Sunday	10:15am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
		In Person & via Facebook Live
Monday	Labor Day	Office Closed
Tuesday	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Thursday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	10:00am	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.*



Join us for worship, lunch, and celebration!! Sunday, September 10th Celebrating 190 Years!



St. Paul United Church of Christ 1833-2023

Please look under the "September Events" section of the bulletin for more details.



WELCOME BACK YOUTH!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

9AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

10:15 AM YOUTH WORSHIP BIRTHDAY

CELEBRATION!

YOUTH BIBLE PRESENTATION

LUNCH TO FOLLOW WORSHIP!