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 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

October 15, 2023 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Interim Pastor
Pianist
Liturgist
Sr. Deacon

The Congregation Rev. Ken Locke Arianne Henry Deb Gibson June Oaks

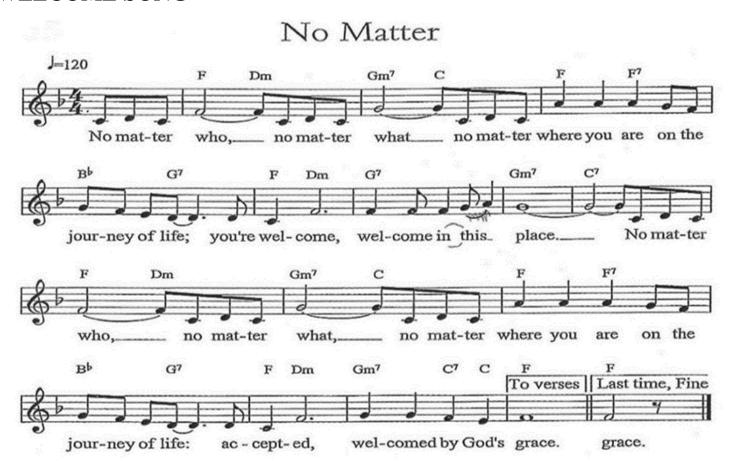
PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

We Gather Together

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

*WELCOME SONG



*CALL TO WORSHIP

<u>Leader</u>: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

<u>Leader</u>: As a loving community, let us journey together with God.

People: We will follow wherever God leads.

<u>Leader</u>: God is faithful to us in all things.

People: Let us be equally faithful to God. Together, we faithfully

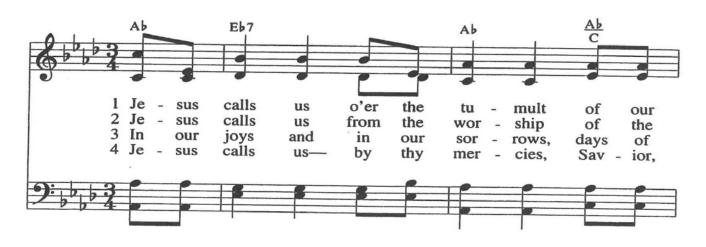
worship our God.

*HYMN

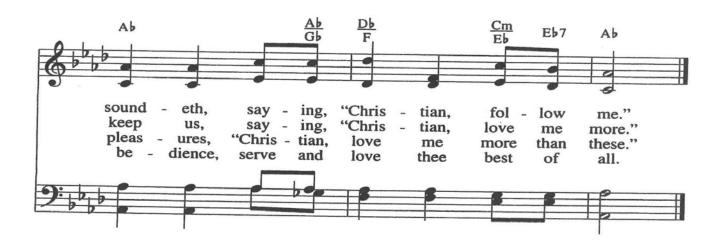
Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

No. 345

Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult







*CALL TO CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: Knowing we have veered off the path, but determined to find it again and follow it faithfully, let us confess our sins to God and one another.

*CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: You call us to travel with you, Inviting God, but our busy lives keep us from responding.

<u>People</u>: You remember every word we utter, every prayer we whisper, but we forget all the little ways you care for us. You would make your gentleness known through us, but we lash out in anger and fear towards others.

<u>Leader</u>: Forgive us, God of all hope, and remember your Servant, Jesus Christ.

<u>People</u>: In him, we can live in your way. Through him, we can learn the dreams you have for us. With him, we can open our arms and embrace all the people we meet. God, forgive us. Lord, hear our prayer.

(TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION)

*PARDON

<u>Leader</u>: Hear the Good News: By the power of the Holy Spirit we are made new creations in Christ Jesus, and through his selfless sacrifice, God forgives us all our sin.

<u>People</u>: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, and with him we walk a new path in our new life. 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: Ruth 1:1-18

(OT) pg. 241

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." 11But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? 12Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." 14Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from

you!" ¹⁸When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 3:31-35

(NT) pg. 37

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." ³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

TIME WITH CHILDREN

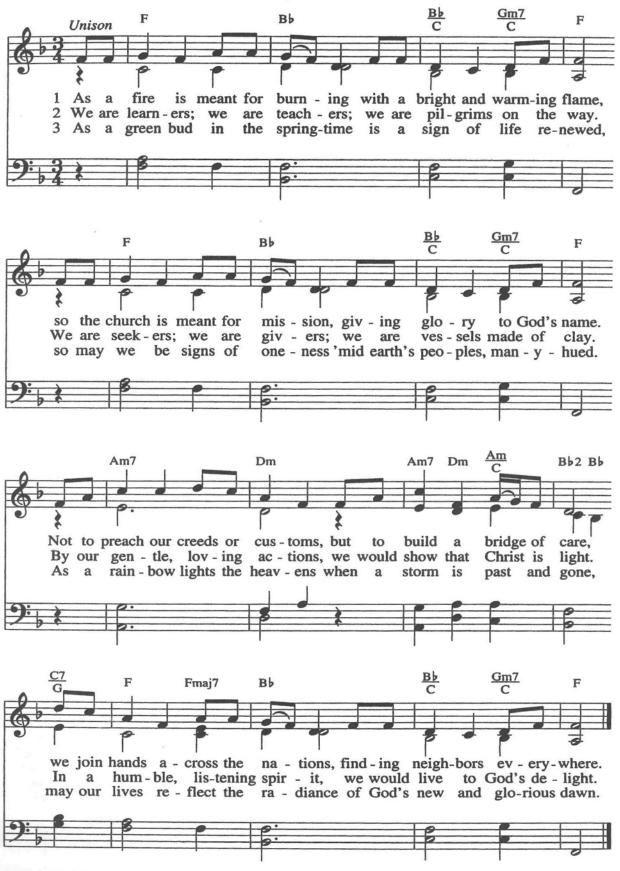
(Our youngest disciples are invited to come to the chancel steps for a special word. Afterwards, they are invited to take a worship bag and return to their seats.)

*HYMN

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

No. 551

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning 551



WORDS: Ruth Duck (1947-)
MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), The Sacred Harp, 1844; arr. Jack Schrader (1942-)
Words © 1992 GIA Publications
Music Arr. © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

<u>Leader:</u> With gratitude for our whole selves, created in your image and made new in Christ, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Steadfast God, inspire us by the example of Ruth to be faithful to one another in your name. Stir up in us the desire to strive for the flourishing of all those in our families, communities, and beyond. Faithful God, **People: In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

<u>Leader</u>: Give all who hold positions of power and influence in our communities and the world a spirit of steadfast faithfulness to those they serve. Give them the humility to set aside their own ends for the sake of the needs of others. Caring God,

People: In your mercy, hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Enfold all who journey with injury, illness, loneliness, or grief into your healing arms, that they might know your presence with them is sure, especially we pray for: Tavi Haastrup, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Terri Mullins, Denise Joyce, Bev Poppe, Ann Hudson, Nancy Moots, and Dee Schroer. Traveling God,

People: In your mercy, hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Our biological humanness has hard-wired us to categorize and compartmentalize for our own comfort, thus we judge others without knowing them, and decide their value is less than ours. Make us to see all people through your loving eyes, that we might see Jesus in one another and commit ourselves to justice and equality for all. Loving God,

People: In your mercy, hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Put us in mind of all those who came before us, whose love and commitment demonstrated their steadfast faithfulness to you and their

communities. Inspire us by the example of the saints to follow in their footsteps. Eternal God,

People: In your mercy, hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: We place in your loving arms these, our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your boundless mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior, 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

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



*OFFERTORY PRAYER: May not only our gifts, but our lives, be the grace and hope which bring healing to the broken, as well as food and nourishment to all who hunger and thirst for justice and peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF SENDING

Go to the World!

No. 553

Go to the World!



CHARGE & BENEDICTION

<u>Leader</u>: Now let us leave this place, to live and serve those not here,

People: to share the hope of God,

to live in love with all creation.

<u>Leader</u>: Now let us leave this place

to offer the gifts of life and grace with all,

People: to bring joy to those who mourn,

to offer the heart of Christ to everyone.

<u>Leader</u>: Now let us leave this place

to fill our neighborhoods with peace,

People: to walk the Spirit's path with strangers,

to serve all as if they were family.

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in honor of birth of grandson, Connor Whetstone, by Myra Hanenkratt.

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 Joyce Gilberg (East door), Joyce Ruedebusch (South door), and Deb Lear (North door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- October 7 | Worship In-Person-23; October 8 | Bible Study-19, Sunday School Youth-24, Teachers-6, Worship In-Person-80, Online-28; October 11 | Wednesday's Youth-32, Adults-6 Online number comes from the "1 minute views" through Facebook's insights.

2024 Offering Envelopes- 2024 Offering Envelope Boxes have been placed in the South West Corner of the sanctuary, in front of the pews. Only those members who are currently using their offering envelopes and/or who have indicated wishing to continue to have an offering box have been assigned an offering envelope box for 2024.

All other members who are giving online or giving without using envelopes have been assigned a "giving" number that is not linked to an envelope box. If you are not on the list of "Envelope Box Numbers" – and you wish to receive an "Envelope Box" – Please contact the church office (419-629-2502) or Janet Eilerman (419-733-7161). I will then assign an Envelope Box number for you and you will be able to pick the box up in the church office.

Thank you, Janet Eilerman Financial Secretary **E-votional-** Seeking a meaningful spiritual touchpoint throughout your week? Join our weekly Wednesday devotionals, kindly reach out to us at stpaulnb@nktelco.net, providing us with your name. Reminder: Don't forget to check your spam folder and 'allow sender'. For the complete experience, remember to 'download pictures'.

October Monthly Mission: Neighbors in Need

In 2023, the Neighbors in Need "Behold!" theme continues. This year's focus is on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills. As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet!

Let's join together to promote this year's NIN "Behold!" campaign at our church. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

The Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering will be collected throughout the month of October here at St. Paul UCC in New Bremen. You may donate by placing your money or check in an envelope marked NIN and place it in the offering plate, or online at <u>stpaulnb.org</u>. Thank you for your generosity.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Today | Mission Team Meeting- following worship in the assembly room.

October 16 | Budget Meeting- will take place at 7pm in the assembly room.

October 16th | Deadline for Monthly Mailer Submissions- Please submit any information you would like included in the November mailer to the church office email stpaulnb@nktelco.net by Monday, October 16. Thank you!

October 18th | Youth Fall Outing- please join us at Van Demark Farm at 6pm for The Lost Land and Corn Maze, mini golf, petting zoo, hay rides, giant swing, and bonfire!

OTHER NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

2024 Council Candidates- We are looking for council candidates to fill these positions: Vice President, Jr. Elder, Jr. Deacon, Treasurer, and a Youth Representative. If you feel God is laying this on your heart or you would like to nominate someone, please reach out to the church office or Myra Hanenkratt.

2024 Altar Flower Chart is posted (January-June). Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You may also call the church office to sign up. 2024 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: 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.

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. 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. All Donations Welcome—Blessing Pantry Needs- Paper Towels, Kleenex, Laundry Soap, Toothpaste-Adult, Deodorant (Men's and

Women's), Shaving Cream, Vaseline, Softener Sheets, Shampoo, Conditioner, Dish Soap, Sanitary Napkins/Tampons, Diaper Cream/Desitan, Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo, Diapers (Sizes: Newborn and 1-6). Thank you! There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

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 October 15, 2023

200-2-0-0		
Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship
		In Person & via Facebook Live
	11:30am	Mission Team Meeting
Monday	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
	7:00pm	Budget Meeting
Tuesday	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:00pm	Youth Fall Outing
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.*







