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

November 19, 2023 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Interim Pastor
Organist
Liturgist
Sr. Deacon

The Congregation Rev. Ken Locke Patty Ruckman Hayden Zeller June Oaks

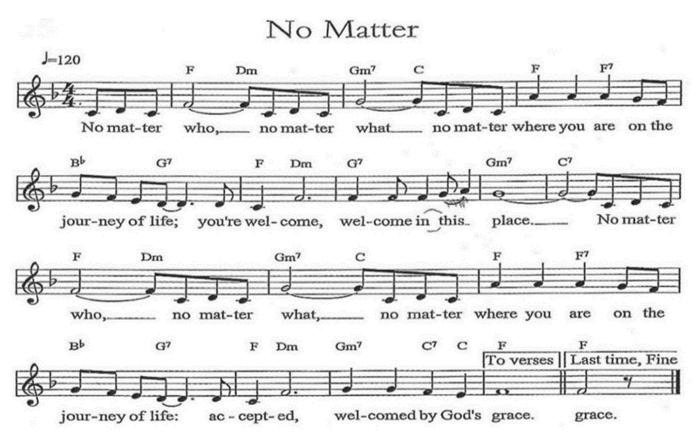
PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

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>: Let us lift up our hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

<u>Leader</u>: Our God is the planter of the vineyard.

People: We are the vines God lovingly tends.

<u>Leader</u>: God gives us all we need to thrive. <u>People</u>: Let us bear fruit that honors God,

Let us bear the fruit of good worship now and always!

*HYMN Gather Us In No. 649

Gather Us In





*CALL TO CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: Beloved, we come together trembling for our sins yet joyful that God forgives us.

<u>People</u>: With the boldness born of love, we confess our sins before God and one another.

*CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: God of our nurturing, we confess that we have sinned by what we have done and what we have failed to do.

People: We have been complicit in the oppression of others.

<u>Leader</u>: We have taken advantage of the advantages we have received, without first thinking of how to share them.

<u>People</u>: We have worked for human flourishing, but only of the most narrow kind.

<u>Leader</u>: Forgive us for being afraid of not having enough. Keep us from having to always be in control. Guide us away from ourselves and to the needs of others.

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

(TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION)

*PARDON

<u>Leader</u>: Rejoice. I say again, rejoice! In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, the reign of God has come near to us, and we have been forgiven for all our sins.

People: In Jesus Christ 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: Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

(OT) pg.634

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 12:1-9

(NT) pg.48

Then he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ²When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. ⁵Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. ⁶He had still one

other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.

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

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

No. 243

243 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



WORDS: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885); rev. Jubilate Hymns, 1982 MUSIC: George J. Elvey (1816-1893)

7.7.7.7.D.

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

<u>Leader</u>: With confidence that God's justice is sure, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God who plants and tends us, you have given us all we need to bear the fruits of your justice and peace, yet we stubbornly refuse to follow in your way. Do not abandon us, but continue nurturing us in our growth toward you.

People: God of justice, in mercy hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Give wisdom to all who lead at any level, that they will be careful stewards of the communities they serve. Do not let them discriminate against anyone in such matters as wealth, education, physical and mental abilities, gender-identification or orientation, age or even social status.

<u>People</u>: God of all people in every condition or life, in mercy hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Strengthen all who journey with long-term illness, those in need of or recovering from surgery, and the people who care for them. Today we especially lift up to you Tavi Haastrup, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Terri Mullins, Denise Joyce, Bev Poppe, Ann Hudson, Nancy Moots, Dee Schroer, and Virginia Voress.

People: God of healing love, in mercy hear our prayer.

<u>Leader</u>: Merciful God, we turn over all our concerns, both those shared aloud and those nurtured in the silence of our hearts, to your tender care, trusting that you hear and answer all, 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.

SERVICE MUSIC

592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



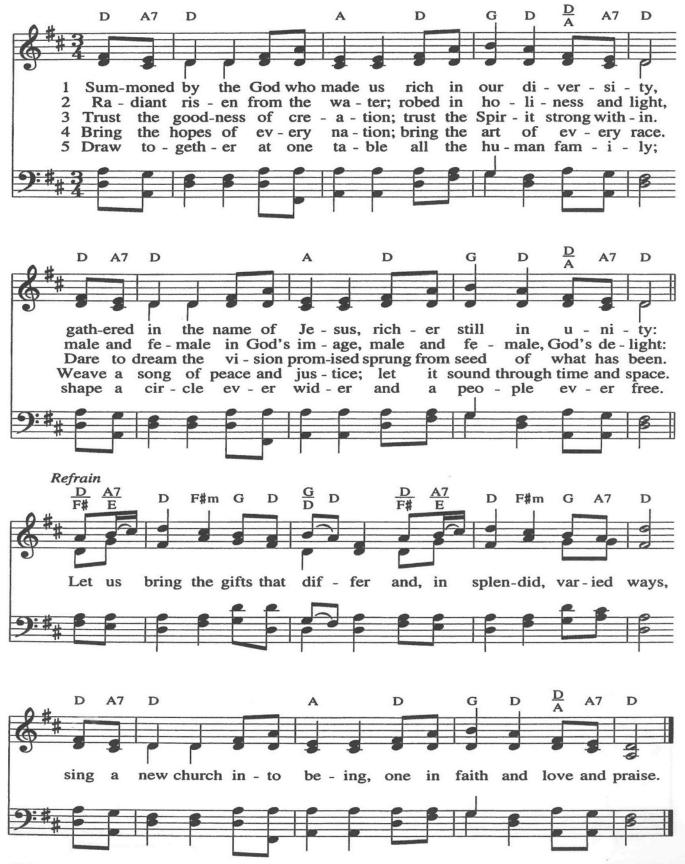
*OFFERTORY PRAYER: God of the vineyard, in gratitude for your tireless care and provision, we return to you these gifts, the fruits of both your labor and ours. Use them for the sake of all who are in need. Today we present to you our pledges of thankfulness and sharing in 2024. We were once an alien people, wandering in an alien land, but you have blessed us. We have more than we could possibly need, and so we offer the best of our time, our energy, our money and our other resources for the doing of your will here on earth as it is in heaven.

To you be glory this day and forever. Amen.

MINISTRY & SERVICE

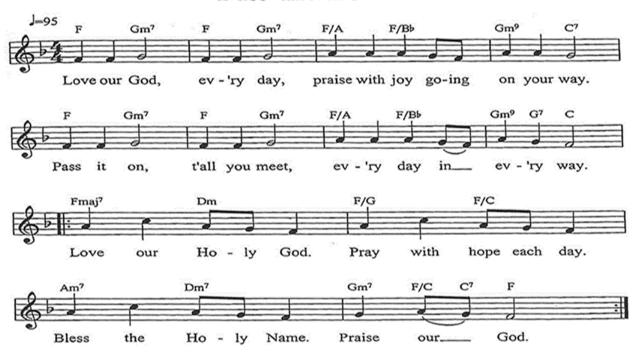
577

Sing a New Church



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Pass the Love

Pass the Love



*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another!

*POSTLUDE

[&]quot;No Matter" Words and music by Roger P. Miller ©2007 All rights reserved.

[&]quot;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 Ralph and Richard Plattner by Bev Plattner. 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 Tom Wenning (South door), Carol Stauffer (North door), and Virginia Voress (East door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- November 12th | Sunday School Youth-25, Teachers-7, Worship In-Person-134, Online-30

Church Nursery Champion- We are looking for a nursery champion. If you feel called to be that person, please contact the church office. In the meantime, if you would like to volunteer on a Communion Sunday (First Sunday of each month) to help in the nursery, please contact the church office until a champion is found.

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

November Monthly Mission: Gifts to the Manger

Our November mission once again is Christmas gifts for the children of Washington UCC and surrounding families in Cincinnati. Our donations will be going towards their program called "Gifts to the Manger" in which parents

come to the church to pick out clothes and toys so they can give their children gifts at Christmas. This program will provide gifts to approximately 350 children of the neighborhoods surrounding Washington UCC.

There is a Christmas tree in the Narthex of the sanctuary with ornaments. Each ornament will have gift ideas for a specific age of boy or girl. We ask that you shop for that child and bring your gifts back to church unwrapped and place them under the tree by Sunday, December 3rd. No violent toys or games, please. We are also accepting monetary donations as well which will also go to the "Gifts to the Manger" event. Last year we gave over \$1,000 along with all the gifts to the children. The gifts and money will then be delivered to Washington UCC for their scheduled "Gifts to the Manger" event. Thank you for your generous gifts to this mission!

NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 20th | Deadline for Monthly Mailer Submissions- Please submit any information you would like included in the December mailer to the church office email stpaulnb@nktelco.net by Monday, November 20. Thank you!

November 21st | **Stewardship Meeting-** will be held in the assembly room at 6:30pm.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

School Kit Bags- In April of this year, the Women's Service Group was able to send fifty school kit bags to the Church World Service. Shortly after sending these kits, they received word that they were awarded a grant of \$250 from the Heartland Conference to send fifty more. With the aid of members of our congregation volunteering to sew, we are happy to announce that 50 more School Kit Bags will arrive at a CWS warehouse before the end of this year. A video of our packing for this project was recorded and sent to the Heartland Conference where it was shown on a big screen at their meeting in September. We have been blessed!

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. 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, 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 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. All Donations Welcome-Blessing Pantry Needs- Paper Towels, Kleenex, Laundry Soap, Toothpaste-Adult, Deodorant (Men's and Cream, Vaseline, Shaving Softener Sheets, Shampoo, Women's), Soap, Sanitary Napkins/Tampons, Conditioner, **Dish** 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 November 19, 2023

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
·	10:15am	Worship
		In Person & via Facebook Live
Monday	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
Tuesday	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Stewardship Meeting
Wednesday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Thursday	Office Closed	Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday	Office Closed	Happy Thanksgiving!

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.*





It is time to place your orders for the poinsettia plants that grace our sanctuary during the Christmas season. The poinsettias are 8-inch wrapped in foil with a drip pan. We are offering the choice of Red or White and the cost per plant will be \$17.50. The plants may be picked up <u>after the 11pm Christmas Eve Candlelight</u> Service.

(<u>Please</u> be sure to pick up the color you ordered so that everyone will be able to enjoy the color of the plant that each chose.)

Red ____ Qty White ____ Qty
In memory/honor of _____

A gift for _____

By _____

Poinsettia color choice and quantity:

I wish to contribute \$_____to the Christmas Decorating Fund.

Please place payment along with the order form in the offering plate or drop off in the church office. Checks should be payable to St. Paul UCC.

Please have poinsettia order in by December 10th.

Every year at this time we also ask for and accept donations to the Decorating Fund. This money will be used toward decorations for the Church and Educational Building.

Please include payment with this order form.

Thank you for helping make our sanctuary even more beautiful as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.