

## Mission Statement

St. Paul United Methodist Church exists to honor God by making more disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

### Church Ministry Staff

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# S t . P a u l

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 26, 2025

8:30 a.m.

### Welcome and Announcements:

#### Prelude

**Be Still My Soul**

**arr Wilberg**

#### \*Call to Worship:

Leader: Children of God, we gather to worship, to sing and proclaim with joy the good works God is doing in our midst.

**Unison: We gather to worship, as is our custom.**

Leader: We also gather today to pray for our families, our community, and our world. To name the challenges that press in around us, to lament the suffering in our world, to declare our trust in God in the midst of hardship.

**Unison: We gather to worship, as is our custom.**

Leader: We, like those in Nazareth, gather to hear and receive the Word of God proclaimed among us. To encounter the life-giving message of God's love redeems us to be bearers of love and freedom in this world.

**Unison: We gather to worship, as is our custom.**

Leader: Children of God, listen. Pay attention. Ready your hearts. God is here. Jesus has come among us. The Spirit brings the Word to life in our midst. Are you ready?

**Unison: We gather to worship, as is our custom. Thanks be to God!  
Amen.**

#### \*Opening Prayer:

Leader: Together let us pray.

**Unison: We thank you, O God, for calling us into your church to be your people. We have gathered, God of grace and wisdom, because we have heard your call. You have reached out to us in Jesus Christ; you have**

touched us with your Spirit, and we have turned toward you, seeking to love as we have been loved. We call upon your holy name: empower us to worship and serve you, walking gently on this earth, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing Page 57**  
O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free; his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven; anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven.

**The First Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a**

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

People: Thanks be to God!

**Handbell Choir: All Things Bright and Beautiful arr Kinyon**

**\*Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14-21**

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn: In Christ There is No East or West Page 548**  
In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north; but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free; both male and female heirs are made, and all are kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north; all Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer (in unison):**

"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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.

**Sermon: "As Was His Custom" Pastor Candy Arnold**

**The Affirmation of our Stewardship**

**Offertory What A Friend arr Wood**

**\* Congregational Response Page 95**  
**\* Prayer of Dedication (in unison): Faithful God, who calls us to follow and empowers us by your Spirit, we bring these gifts to you in gratitude and hope. May they be used to proclaim good news, set the oppressed free, and bring**

sight to the blind. Transform our offerings into acts of love and justice that reflect the mission of Jesus in this world. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

**\*Hymn:                      Open My Eyes, That I May See                      Page 454**  
**Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.**

**Refrain**  
**Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine, Spirit divine!**

**Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear; and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. (Refrain)**

**Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere; open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. (Refrain)**

**\*The Sending Forth and Benediction:**

**Postlude:                      O Thou of God the Father                      J.S. Bach**

**\*Those who are able please stand.**

**Welcome Families with young children!** St. Paul UMC values our children. We strive to teach each child who visits with us more about God and Jesus. When you enter the Sanctuary or FLC for church, you will see a white rack in the back of the room. On this rack are "Fruits of the Spirit" cloth bags. Inside each bag is an activity book based on Biblical stories. There is also a small notebook, a pen, and a pack of crayons. Please feel free to borrow one of these Children's Activity bags for the duration of the church service. When the service ends, we kindly ask you to return all of the materials to the cloth bag and hang the bag back on the white rack before you leave to go home. That way, the bags are there for all children to enjoy. Thank you

**The altar flowers are to the Glory of God.**

**Serving in Worship Today**

**Greeter  
Worship Leader  
Head Usher**

**Laura Buehler  
Pam West  
Gary Dull**

During the service, the nursery is staffed and available for your children on the main floor Sharing room (A9).

The Parlor is also available for you to sit with your child and view the service.