

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

December 7, 2025
8:30 a.m.

Prelude **In the Bleak Midwinter/Away in the Manger** **arr Perkins**

Welcome and Announcements:

Advent Wreath Lighting: **David & Teresa Crider**
the calf and the lion will feed together, and little child shall lead them

All: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.

***Opening Prayer:**
Leader: Together let us pray.
Unison: Together let us pray: Loving God, be to us as a bulldozer of the spirit. Clear your road in us; clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions. Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games. Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride. Make a highway on which Christ may come and take possession of the whole territory of our being. To the glory of your name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise:** **I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light** **Page 206**
I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain
In him there is no darkness at all, The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

**And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil
along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now! for glad and**

golden hours come swiftly on the wing. O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

*The Sending Forth and Benediction

Postlude: Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella arr Schaumburg

*Those who are able please stand.

The altar flowers are in loving memory of Timothy O’Sullivan
by Jim & Linda Bruckart.

Serving in Worship Today

Greeter	Dave & Judy Bowers
Worship Leader	Chris Buhrman
Head Usher	Dave Bowers

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

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