

## 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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YouTube: St. Paul Chambersburg



# S t . P a u l

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 8, 2026

8:30 a.m.

**Prelude**

**Were You There? Spiritual**

**arr. D. Wells**

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**Welcome and Announcements:**

**\*Call to Worship:**

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God

**People: Whose light brings hope to a weary world.**

**\*Opening Prayer:**

Leader: Together let us pray.

**People: Our hearts are blessed as we gather before You today, O Lord, for you have given us freedom from all our transgressions and joy in exchange for heavy hearts. You are the refuge we seek when we are troubled and the courage we need when we venture into our days. Bless us today with Your steadfast love as we declare our trust in You. Amen.**

~ posted on the Archives page of the Lectionary Sermons website. [http://](http://www.lectionarysermons.com/ARCH-W.html)

[www.lectionarysermons.com/ARCH-W.html](http://www.lectionarysermons.com/ARCH-W.html)

**\*Hymn of Praise:**

**Christ is the World's Light**

**No. 188**

© Words: 1969 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1927 Oxford University Press

**Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other; born in our darkness, he became our brother. If we have seen him, we have seen the Father: Glory to God on high!**

**Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other; no one can serve him and despise another. Who else unites, one in God the Father? Glory to God on high!**

**Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other; sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother; he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father: Glory to God on high!**

**Give God the glory, God and none other; give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father; give God the glory, God with us, my brother: Glory to God on high!**

**First Lesson: Isaiah 9: 1-2**

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

People: Thanks be to God!

**\*Second Lesson: John 8:12-18**

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to God!

**\*Hymn: In the Cross of Christ I Glory No. 295**

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**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'er take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.**

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**

**Congregational Prayer**

**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: “I AM: The Light of the World“ Seth Baluch**

**The Affirmation of our Stewardship**

**Offertory Peace and Calm Within by S. Scott**

**\* Congregational Response No. 95**

**\* Prayer of Dedication (in unison): Steadfast God of Hope, you have called us to rejoice-not in ease or achievement-but in the grace that sustains us through suffering, the love that meets us in struggle, and the hope that does not disappoint. You pour your Spirit into our hearts, shaping us into people who give not out of obligation, but out of gratitude. As we bring these gifts, may they testify to your presence among us and to the promise of reconciliation you offer the world through Christ. Make us bold in our sharing, joyful in our worship, and confident in your grace. In the name of the one who died for us and lives within us, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn: This Little Light of Mine No. 585**

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**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Everywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, everywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; everywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**All through the night, I'm goin'-a let it shine, all through the night, I'm goin'-a let it shine; all through the night, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**\*The Sending Forth and Benediction**

**\*Postlude: This Little Light of Mine by H. D. Loes arr. M. Hayes**  
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**\*Those who are able please stand.**

**The altar flowers are to the Glory of God  
by Verne & Linda Strickler.**

**Serving in Worship Today**

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Brenda Bailey</b>
<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Joyce Mentzer</b>
<b>Head Usher</b>	<b>Dave Bowers</b>

**Worship Resources: CCLI #1518856, Streaming #20211595, [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org), [re-worship.blogspot.com](http://re-worship.blogspot.com)**

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.