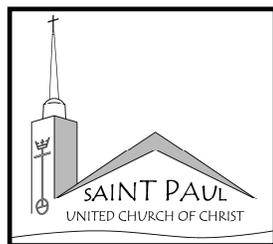
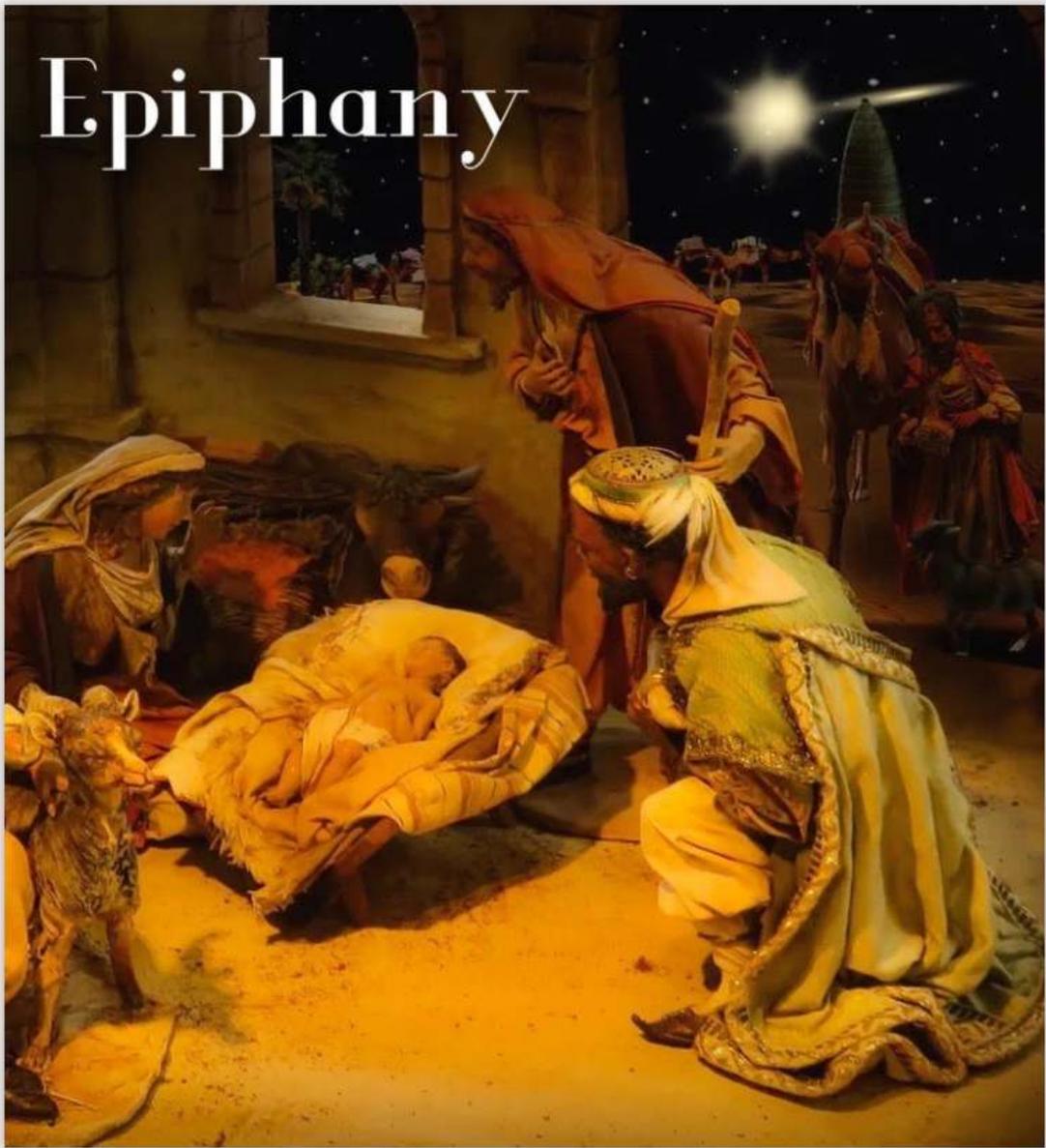


Epiphany



“No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
on life’s journey,
You are welcome here.”

Welcome to Worship

at St. Paul UCC

We are glad you are here!

9 am Worship ~ online

Information for our friends ~

- Our **9am Virtual Worship Service** is inspired with hymns, scripture and a uplifting, theological based sermon and can be seen on Facebook live, on stpauluccorg (our website - and watched at your convenience), and heard on KSTL-690 AM radio & streamed on Jubilee690.com at 9am Sundays and repeated at 9pm.
- Please send prayer requests by email to tlakehopper@stpaulucc.org or call the church office at 618-233-3303.
- We want to know that you are listening / watching online!
Please call, email or message us!
- If you would like a call or know someone who might need a call, please let us know.
- To continue your offering during this difficult time, go to stpaulucc.org for online giving or contact the church office to set up automatic withdrawal.
- When you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital, please ask the hospital to notify the church office. If you have a new addition to your family, if your address or phone changes, please contact the church office so we can keep our records current.

WORSHIP LEADERS

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| <i>Senior Pastor</i> | Rev. Michelle Torigian |
| <i>Director of Faith Formation & Care</i> | Craig Bielke |
| <i>Music Director</i> | Dr. Bill Wade |
| <i>Director of Non-Traditional Music</i> | John Posth |



Like us on --
*St Paul United Church of Christ,
Belleville, Illinois*



Watch videos on YouTube:
[https://www.youtube.com/
stpauluccbelleville](https://www.youtube.com/stpauluccbelleville)

OT = Old Testament NT = New Testament † Please stand if able

St. Paul
United Church of Christ
Epiphany Sunday

January 3, 2021 9:00 am

WELCOME

PRELUDE

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen

Traditional English Melody, arr. by Barbara Owen

ENTRY INTO WORSHIP

The light shines in shadows
And shadows did not overtake the light.
The light shines in each space.
No gloom, no despair will overtake it.
The light shines in our souls.
The shadows of life did not shade Divine light.
We celebrate the light of Christ
A steadfast presence from the beginning
Which will shine through the end of time.

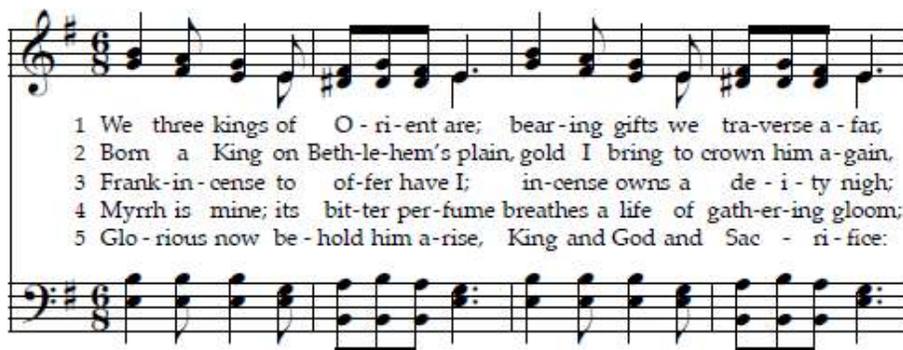
INVOCATION

Holy Lamplighter, as night prematurely encroaches upon us each day, may your illumination brighten our souls. As we wait for dawn's first glimmer, may the warmth you carry radiate across this community. Kindle our hearts made cold by the world's frostiness, and brighten the road ahead as we ponder what is most important in our lives. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

We Three Kings of Orient Are (KINGS OF ORIENT)

Verses 1, 2, and 5 Text and Music by John Henry Hopkins Jr.



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain.
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

continued

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Spirit of God, we have blocked your light and love from our neighbors. We have barricaded the Divine glow which enlightens and empowers all of us. We have turned our backs on the gleam of your wisdom, God.

Yet no matter how far we flee, your light still flows near. You will never hide your light from us. Encourage us to open doors and shutters to your brilliance so that your illumination will reach our souls. May this enlightenment bring us closer to your intentions for this earth. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God's warmth melts our hardened hearts. God's brilliance lights the path on which we will start again. May we embrace God's luminosity as we start on this new year journey. Amen!

CHILDREN'S CHAT with Craig Bielke

ANTHEM

God of Mercy, God of Grace

Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) Music by Jerry F. Davidson (b. 1942) St. James Music Press (License #17755)

God of Mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of Thy face;
Shine upon us, Savior, shine,
Fill Thy Church with light divine
And Thy saving health extend,
Unto earth's remotest end.

Let thy people praise Thee, Lord
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to their Savior King;
Let all below, above,
One in joy, and light, and love.
One in joy, and light, and love.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:22-40 Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

Getting Unstuck

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RELECTION OF GIVING

As we seek the presence of God in our lives, we will begin to sense how God is calling us to use our gifts to build our church, our community, and our world. It is a privilege to share what we have been given to love and light this earth.

And we pray together:

Divine Lamplighter, in gratitude, we share our treasures, our talents, and our time with this congregation. We humbly ask that you illuminate our minds and hearts as we use all our resources to craft a just world for all. Amen.

Information about today's service: All St. Paul United Church of Christ services may be recorded. Hymns used with permission through OneLicense.net License #A-715913 Worship service written by Rev. Michelle Torigian. God of Mercy God of Grace-St. James Music Press (License #17755).

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Here at this table, let the Divine Spark enter our lives.
Let the Holy Light aid us in seeing the Christ in our midst.
The Brightness of Jesus the Christ will illuminate our way.
The Radiance of the Christ will warm our hearts.
God is shining upon you!
And God's light streams upon you!
Open your hearts. We open them to the brilliance of God.
Let us give thanks for the light and love of God.
We praise our Creator with joy and thanksgiving.

Prayer

We abide in our individual spaces eager to experience the presence of the Christ. The Christ is gleaming in each of our homes, in our neighborhoods, and as we interact online, summoning us to share love and light as we share love and kindness across this earth.

On the night before Jesus died, when some were plotting to extinguish the Holy Light, warmth was shared between friends. Jesus took bread. In his blessing, he passed the Divine Glow to his followers. As he broke the bread, he reminded them to eat in remembrance of him.

Later that same evening, Jesus took the cup. He blessed it and invited his friends to taste from the cup of grace. "Do this, as often as you drink of this, for the remembrance of me."

Holy Spirit, may your Divine Glow bless this bread and cup. Warm our hearts made cold by a chilled world. May this meal inspire us to carry your warmth into our world. Amen.

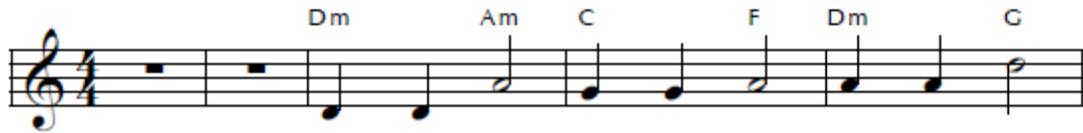
Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of Light and Love, we cherish this table in this season when the nights are long and cold. Through this meal, the Christ, and our neighbors, our hearts have warmed. May the comfort in our souls sustain us through winter and nudge us to love our neighbors. With gratitude, we leave here energized to kindle your love in this world. Amen.

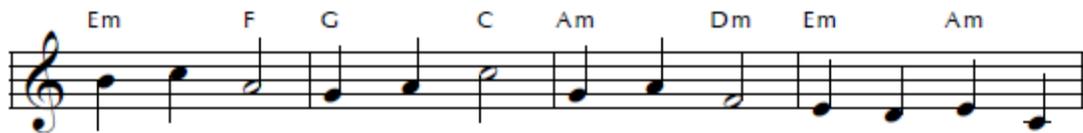
CLOSING HYMN *On This Day Earth Shall Ring* (PERSONENT HODIE)

Verses 1,3, and 4

Text: *Piae Cantiones*, 1582 Music: arr. Gustav Holst, 1917



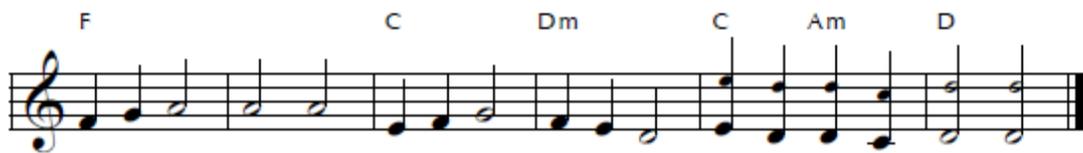
1 On this day earth shall ring with the song
2 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came
3 God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three
4 On this day an - gels sing; with their song



chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to
down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth; ox and ass be -
to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be -
earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, born on earth to



save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.
side him from the cold would hide him. *Id - e - o - o - o,
fore him, praise him and a - dore him.
save us; peace and love he gave us.



id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

BENEDICTION

As we travel dim spaces during this new year, God,
Be our Divine Lamplighter.
May your light shine on the road ahead of us.
May the warmth from your flame melt the frost covering our hearts.
May our souls come alive at the sight of your brilliance.
And may your light draw us closer to our neighbors
as we begin this season together.
Amen!

POSTLUDEFantasia on "*We Three Kings*"

arr. by John S. Dixon



W
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We're glad
you're here!

News & Notes

stpaulucc.org

Items Needed:
Cleaning supplies such as: bleach, clorox wipes, etc.
PPE: masks, gloves, kids masks.

Cleaning Supplies for Kindercottage

Bring to church drop boxes or call for 618-233-3303

**St. Paul
United Church of Christ**

ONLINE giving

It's easy & only takes a few minutes!
We also offer Auto Withdrawal from your checking account!

For more info:
contact **Stephanie** in the church office at 233-3303 or bauzas@stpaulucc.org

acionlinegiving.com/4828

If donating online, please consider increasing your donation by 25% to cover the costs involved with processing online giving. Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



METRO EAST COMMUNITY WELLNESS

**BECAUSE YOU ARE AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF
THE COMMUNITY – AND YOUR HEALTH MATTERS!**

- Health Assessment
- Healthy Living Tools
- Education
- Teaching Materials

All services and materials will be provided free of charge to community residents age 60 and over by a nurse from Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association.

**CALL 618-444-2936 FOR REFERRAL OR MORE
INFORMATION. HOURS: MON-FRI 8 TO 4**

Contact Susan Relfe for further information
618-698-5176 susanrelfe@att.net

Flamingo Flock Fundraiser Christmas Edition

Here is a fun way to give some holiday cheer, & maybe a little grief, to your neighbors & friends is the Flamingo Flock Fundraiser - Christmas Edition! Here is how you can help support St. Paul students and keep the flamingos moving along their journey south.

- 🦩 Flock Stop - Make sure the flock stops in someone's yard - \$10 suggested donation
- 🦩 Flock Unfrock - Removal fee to keep flock from moving on to the next yard - \$10 suggested donation
- 🦩 Flock Block - Insurance to make sure that not matter how many times the flock stops in your yard, you never have to pay for them to move on - \$5 suggested donation

Contact Craig Bielke, Director of Faith Formation & Care, 210-383-0385 or email cbielke@stpaulucc.org to schedule a Flock Stop for your friends and neighbors, schedule a Flock Unfrock, or purchase Flock Block.

Funds raised will go to support the St. Paul Students Ministry. If you would like to support St. Paul Students by making a donation, or do not want to participate in this game, just give Craig a call.

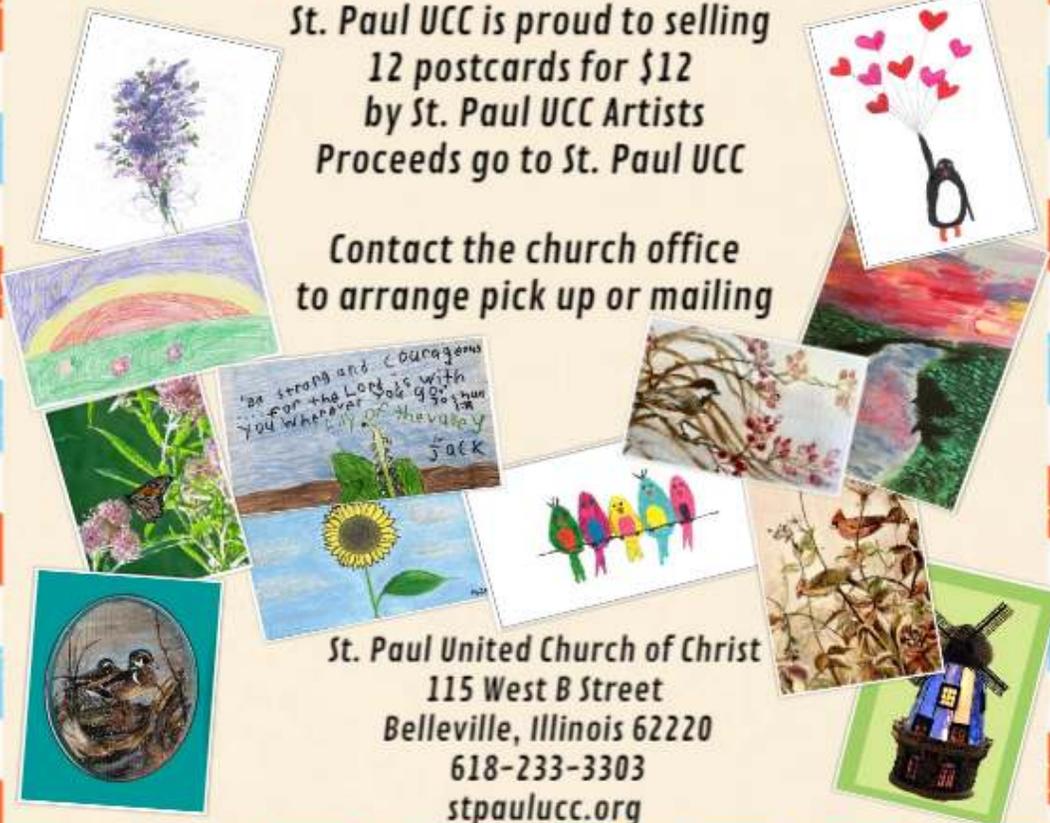
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St. Paul Postcards

St. Paul UCC is proud to selling
12 postcards for \$12
by St. Paul UCC Artists
Proceeds go to St. Paul UCC

Contact the church office
to arrange pick up or mailing



St. Paul United Church of Christ
115 West B Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220
618-233-3303
stpaulucc.org

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ST PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon Smile is a way to support their favorite St. Paul UCC every time you shop with Amazon. Shoppers who start at smile.amazon.com will find the same Amazon they know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice.

Signing up Is easy!

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose 'St Paul United Church Belleville, IL' to receive donations.
4. Start shopping!
5. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return to Amazon Smile. Thank you!

Please **JOIN** Our St Paul Community **on ZOOM**

for comradery and friendship

Sundays
Time: 10:30 AM
Meeting ID: 867-605-6534
Meeting Link: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/8676056534>
Phone: 1-312-626-6799

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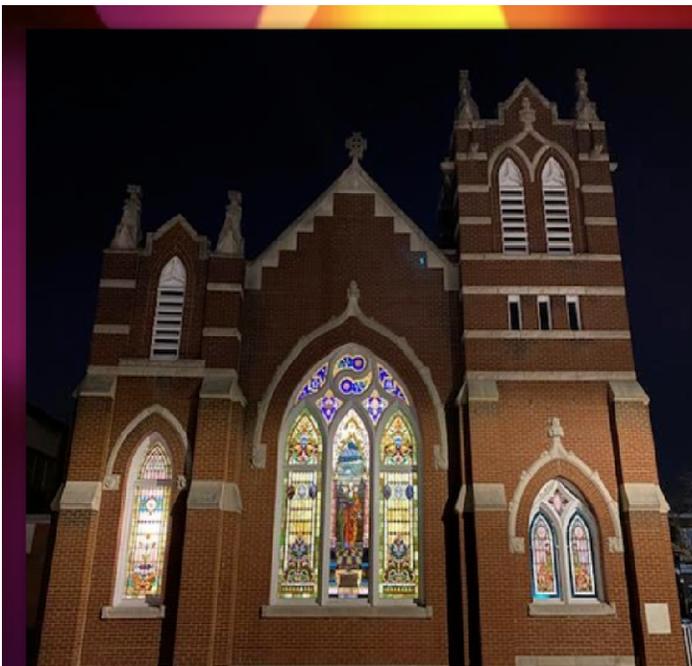
St Paul United Church of Christ
**Heritage Hall
 Bookmark**

On sale through the
 St. Paul Church Office
 \$3 each or 2 for \$5

Bookmark comes in plastic sleeve with blue tassel

stpaulucc.org 618-233-3303

115 West B Street, Belleville, IL 62220



St. Paul United Church of Christ

**Lights of
 Heritage Hall**

5:30pm - 10pm
 nightly through Jan 6th

Drive by Heritage Hall on
 'B' Street and view the beauty
 of the front stained glass
 windows lit up at night

Question : How many confirmation classes were celebrated in Heritage Hall?

Answer: 98

This Week

Sundays 9am Worship-online
10:30am Zoom Social Hour
4pm Online Worship

Here is how to stay in touch with St. Paul!!

1) **Watch the services and check for event updates on FACEBOOK -**

Like us at *St. Paul United Church of Christ Belleville, IL*

2) **Go to stpaulucc.org**

- and you will find: videos of services, sermons, archives, and much more!!

3) **Listen to the radio! 690am**

9am Live Sundays & repeat at 9pm

4) **Sign up for the eNews (Newsletter)!**

Call the church office or email tlakehopper@stpaulucc.org

Praying for your health and well-being!

For Your Prayers

The family of Joan Sackmann

Donna Thomas

James, Kevin, & Chaz

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to tlakehopper@stpaulucc.org or call 618-233-3303 /580-4440

Thank you!