



Ascension Sunday

Sunday, May 16, 2021

“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

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 stpaulucc.org (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 dyoung@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 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.

ST. PAUL WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Michelle Torigian
Music Director Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Non-Traditional Music..... John Posth



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*St Paul United Church of Christ, org
Belleville, Illinois*



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

St. Paul
United Church of Christ
Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021 9:00 am

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Michelle Torigian
Music Director Dr. Bill Wade
Liturgist..... Roger Harris

PRELUDE *Nun freut euch, lieben Christen g'mein (Dear Christians, one and all rejoice) BWV 734*
Tune: Martin Luther (1481-1546) setting by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME Pastor Michelle

ENTRY INTO WORSHIP *(based on Ps 68, The Inclusive Bible translation)*

We shout for joy to God who rides upon the clouds!
We sing praises to our awe-inspiring God, before whom the earth quakes, and whose abundant blessings provide for all in need!
God is Sovereign over the earth, Defender of the defenseless, and Parent to orphans; God creates families for those who are alone.
God leads captives to freedom and breaks the yoke of oppression.
God goes forth before the people, marching through the wilderness of their lives, bringing forth restoration and justice.
Sing praise to God, Rider of the ancient skies, who dwells in holiness.
Proclaim the power of God!
O God, how awesome you are in your sanctuary!
You give power and strength to your people.
Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN *Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! (HYFRYDOL)*

Text: William C. Dix; Music: Rowland H. Prichard - arr: Ralph Vaughn Williams

1) Alleluia! Gracious Jesus! Yours the
scepter, yours the throne! Alleluia! Yours the
triumph, yours the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus, out of
Every nation you've redeemed us by your blood.

2) Alleluia! Not as orphans are we
left in sorrow now. Alleluia! You are
near us; faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received you
When the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts for-
get your promise, "I am with you evermore."

3) Alleluia! Bread of angels, you on
earth our food, our stay. Alleluia! Here the
sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me, and the songs that
Sound in heaven will repeat your gracious plea.

4) Alleluia! Christ eternal, nothing
can disrupt your reign; Alleluia! Born of
Mary, heaven and earth are your domain
Human life you fully entered
Tending those we count the least, serving both as
Priest and Victim in the eucharistic feast.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Creator God, we confess that at times we are stuck. We are unable to move forward, and only can look back on what once was. We wonder where You are leading us, as it seems we are alone. Help us to become unstuck. Help us to move by faith, to trust that You are with us, guiding us along the way. Call to us so we will follow Your ways. Encourage us to live into hope instead of frozen in fear. Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, help us in this journey of life and faith, now and always. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE *(from Philippians 4:7)*

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” Know that the peace of God is with you. You are loved by God. Sink into that knowledge, and allow God’s wisdom and insight to fill your mind so that you might live into faith. Go in peace. Amen.

CHILDREN’S CHAT with Pastor Michelle

PRESENTATION OF SCULPTURE Roger Relfe

ANTHEM

Christ is Alive! (TRURO)

Arranged by Mark Schweizer (1956-2019), Trumpets: Garrett Schmidt, Robert Endicott, Tom Birkner (Music from St. James Music Press license #17755)

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:44-53, Acts 1:1-11

SERMON

Ascending

Pastor Michelle



PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

CLOSING HYMN *Hail the Day that Sees Christ Rise! (GWALCHMAI)*

Text : Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: J.D. Jones (1827-1870)

- 1) Hail the day that sees Christ rise, Alleluia!
 To a throne in paradise; Alleluia!
 Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
 Enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!
- 2) Christ, for you high triumph waits, Alleluia!
 Lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!
 You have conquered death and sin; Alleluia!
 You, our Sovereign, enter in! Alleluia!
- 5) Now, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
 In the depths of starry night, Alleluia!
 May our souls with you arise, Alleluia!
 Seeking wholeness at your side. Alleluia!
- 6) There we will with you remain, Alleluia!
 Heirs in your eternal reign; Alleluia!
 In the presence of your face, Alleluia!
 We will dwell in heaven's grace. Alleluia!

BLESSING OF GIFTS AND BENEDICTION

Ever-present and loving God, your Word tells us to cast our cares on you because you care for us. In faith and trust we present these gifts, and ourselves, to you. Bless and multiply them to meet the needs, both hidden and apparent, of your beloved ones. Each day, inspire each of us to live as Christ's witnesses by sharing our stories of faith. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Continue to be faithful, remain committed, be witnesses for Christ. For the God of all grace has called you to eternal glory through Jesus Christ, and will fulfill, restore, strengthen, and establish you through suffering and struggle. Go forth from this place, empowered by Christ's love, with Christ's name on your lips, the Wisdom of the Holy Spirit in your mind, God's love in your hearts, God's beloved ones always in your sight, and God's still-speaking voice in your ear. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Christ is Alive!* Setting by J. Wayne Kerr (b.1958)



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

Prayer of Reconciliation, Assurance of Grace from <http://rev-o-lution.org/>; Entry Into Worship, Blessing of the Gifts and Benediction from Worship Service from Witnesses to Hope: Service Prayers for the 7th Sunday of Easter written by the Rev. Renee C. Jackson, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

Archives Artifacts ~ St. Paul trivia from the desk of Roger Henke

Question: A St. Paul pastor was originally ordained in 1952. His father was the ordaining Minister. Who was this?

This Week

Sundays

9am Traditional Worship
10:30am Zoom Social Hour
4pm Non-Traditional 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

For Your Prayers

The family of Marilyn Young

The family of Paul Travous,
brother of Sue Hoffmann

Gary Loeffler, brother of Sandy Loeffler

Phil McClary nephew of Lynn Koehler

Al Stahl

Luci Bradley

Lynn Koehler

Larry Walton

Bev Juenger

Billy Ruth Pelc

Lori Coleman

Betty Rieso

Aaron Coleman

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to

pastomichelle@stpaulucc.org

Or call 618-233-3303



Answer: Reverend Marvin Engelsdorfer!

Weekly Attendance

9am / 4pm May 2, 2021 23/16

May 3, 2020 All Virtual

Offering for 5/2/2021 - \$9,436

General Fund

Needed each week \$8,082

Giving to Date  \$141,481

Budget to...  \$145,476

Total Budget  \$420,256