

“And a voice
came from
heaven, “You
are my Son, the
Beloved; with
you I am well
pleased.””
Luke 3



Sunday, January 9, 2022
Baptism of Christ Sunday

“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

January 9, 2022 9:00 am

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian
<i>Music</i>	Jan Spencer
<i>Liturgist</i>	Peggy Burke

WELCOME Rev. Michelle Torigian

PRELUDE *MEDITATION*
Marcel Dupre



INVOCATION (UNISON)

Divine Designer, you constructed creation and called it good. You formed all humans in your image, and you celebrated with joy. Whether we join you here in this place at a time of joy or sorrow, we thank you for your steadfast presence. May we focus our attention to listen to each other's stories, and may we grow to understand one another as Jesus the Christ understood the people of this earth. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven (LAUDA ANIMA)*
Text: Henry Francis Lyte; Music: John Goss
(See next page)



Information about today's service: All St. Paul United Church of Christ services may be recorded and/or streamed. Music is used with permission through Onelicense.net License #A-715913, CCLI #1795791, St. James Press License #17755, or public domain.

Liturgy written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian. Baptism, Statement of Faith from UCC Book of Worship.

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

(Psalm 103)

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 2/4 time. The score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

***PRAYER OF REFLECTION**

There are distracting messages around us which sidetrack our authentic journeys with God. We believe we are not good enough until we change our looks or our socioeconomic status. We constantly compare ourselves to others. We do not follow the Divine's call to be authentic. *How do we pressure ourselves and others to live into society's shallow principles?* Help us to live an authentic life, and nudge us to encourage our neighbors to live true to themselves. We are all made in your image, God. May we allow this genuine picture of ourselves to shine in this world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Michelle

THE BAPTISM OF AVA LYNN HASHEIDER

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH (UNISON)

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

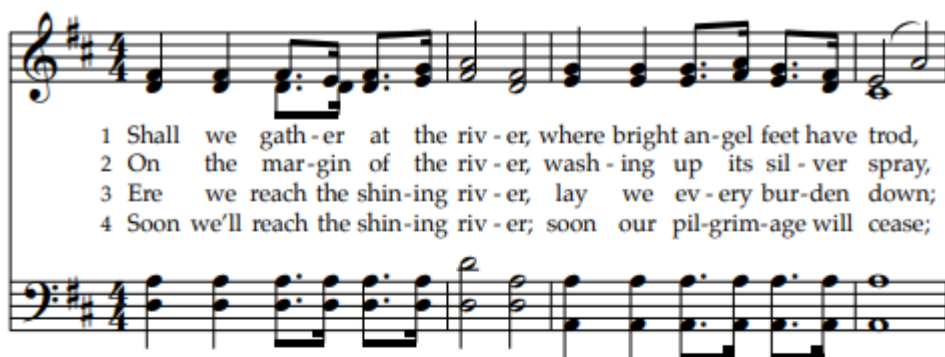
You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

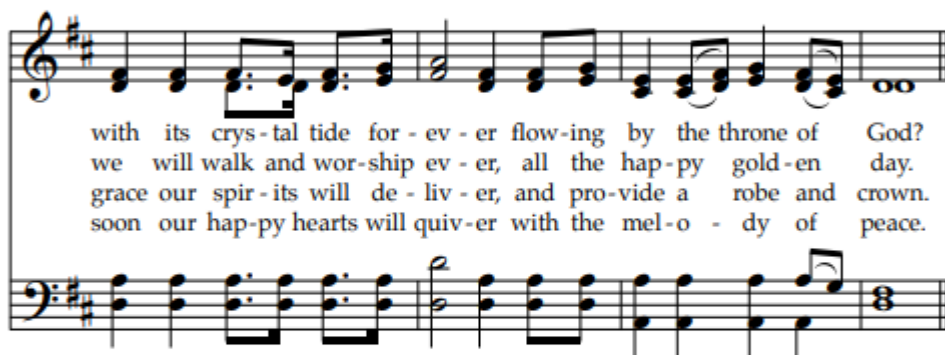
You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Shall We Gather at the River

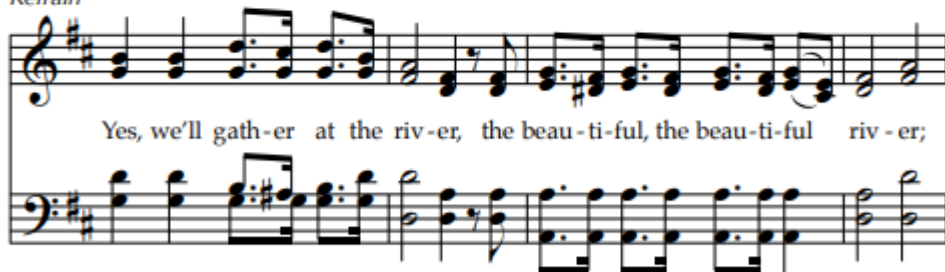


1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

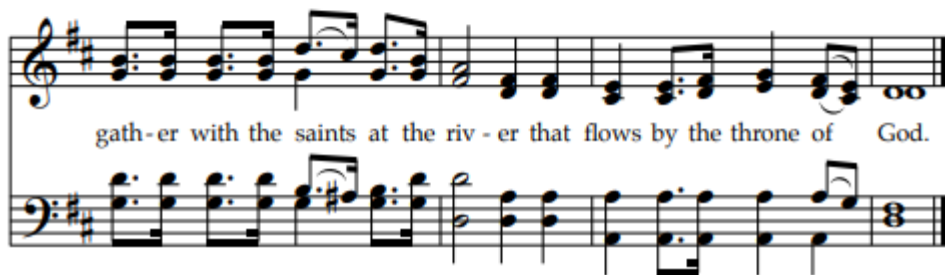


with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

A Covid-19 Guidelines Update for St. Paul United Church of Christ Updated January 3, 2022

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the St. Paul United Church of Christ leadership has taken this virus seriously and has followed local, state, and federal guidelines as well as listened to the science informing the public on the need for mitigations.

Due to increasing cases and the Omicron variant, we have made some adjustments to our guidelines.

First of all, we will be canceling all Sunday coffee hours throughout January and February, and the Culinaires' Breakfast will also be canceled on January 16 and February 20.

Secondly, previously scheduled events such as the Trivia Night and Valentine's Day Dinner (both in February) have been canceled for the time being. Our choir and bells will not practice during the month of January and February. Christian Education for all ages will not be held in January. All team meetings in January will be held on Zoom.

Third, we will be reinstating physical distancing in the sanctuary for worship and wherever possible in our building. We ask that our congregants be seated every-other pew where the blue cushions have been placed.

Masks are mandated at all times while in the St. Paul UCC building (per state guidelines). If you are unable to wear masks over both your nose and mouth, you can watch our service online on Facebook, YouTube, or on our website (stpaulucc.org). Sunday morning services are also broadcast live on Jubilee 690AM.

It is important that we can continue to have worship in person if possible. By instituting these practices, we believe we can continue to do so safely.

Thank you for your help in keeping the St. Paul United Church of Christ community safe in this new year!

Blessings,

Dr. Steve Schmidt, Council President

Mimi Llamas, Safety Team

Dave Hoffmann, Safety Team

Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor

Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager & Safety Coordinator

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

2006 saw a church sponsored adult mission trip to New Orleans area. Why did we go?



This Week

Sundays

9am Traditional Worship
 10am Coffee Hour & Culinaire's
 breakfast cancelled until
 further notice.

Here is how to stay in touch with St. Paul

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

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)!**



Watch videos on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/>



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

For Your Prayers

Gus Kuether Bev Juenger
 Lori Coleman Karen Zaber
 Al Stahl Audrey Krummrich
 Carol Hotz Joyce Maurer
 Shirley Martin Wayne Caughman
 Scott Schmidt, brother of Steve Schmidt
 The family of Norma Boyd (Sandy Ritter's
 mother)
 The family of Rev. Lev Reynolds (Rev.
 Linda Reynolds' husband)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to
pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org

ANSWER:
**To help rebuild after hurricane
 Katrina.**

Weekly Attendance

9am Dec 26, 2021 53 + Online Participants Dec 20, 2020 All Virtual

Offering for 12/26/2021 - \$4,941

General Fund

Needed each week \$8,082

Giving to Date		\$391,105
Budget to...		\$420,264
Total Budget		\$420,256