



Mind the Gap



**Sunday, September 25, 2022
16th Sunday after Pentecost**

“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

September 25, 2022 ~ 9:00 am

16th Sunday after Pentecost



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor	Rev. Michelle Torigian
Director of Music	Tristan Frampton
Guest Organist	Robert Chamberlin
Liturgist	Fred Hotz

WELCOME

Rev. Michelle Torigian

PRELUDE

Aria
Noel Rawsthorne

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come before the Fountain of Life whose waters refresh us.

Many: Earth is filled with the presentness of God.

One: The cosmos is filled with the God's abundant love.

Many: Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with the presentness of God.

One: Let us celebrate God's gifts with resounding excitement.

Many: And celebrate the fullness of God's presence.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Divine Bridge, Loving God: you span rivers, borders, conflicts, and places of wilderness. Through your companionship, we learn to reach across the chasms of our lives. Through your love, gaps begin to close. May your realm become our reality. May the winds of justice close the great abyss between people of privilege and our neighbors on the margins. Amen.



*OPENING HYMN

Christ for the World! We Sing 561

F Am Dm Gm E C F Dm C F Gm Gm E Csus C
 C E F E A C F C7 E F C7 F F Gm D Gm
 A A7 Dm F Dm C F Bb F Gm E C7 F
 C# Bb C

1 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring
 2 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring
 3 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring
 4 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring

with lov - ing zeal— the poor and them that mourn, the faint and
 with fer - vent prayer— the way - ward and the lost, by rest - less
 with one ac - cord— with us the work to share, with us re -
 with joy - ful song— the new - born souls whose days, re - claimed from

o - ver - borne, sin - sick and sor - row - worn, for Christ to heal.
 pas - sions tossed, re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
 proach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
 er - ror's ways, in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

WORDS: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886)
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); arr. Russell Schulz-Widmar (1944-)
 Music Arr. © 2001 Hope Publishing Company

ITALIAN HYMN
 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.

***PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION AND REFLECTION (UNISON)**

The deep chasms which reside between us and our neighbors continue to expand. The rifts are overflowing with extreme pain. We feel as if these spiritual canyons will never heal. Give us the strength and courage we need to work with our estranged neighbors to fill the gaps. May the great abyss of pain and resentment heal. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND HOPE**

God will continue to call us to fill the chasms which abide between our neighbors and us. Through God's grace we heal. We give thanks to God's steadfast loving presence!

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Pastor Michelle

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

All: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Address and Question about Participation

Welcome and Reception

Unison Welcoming Statement

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Greeting of Christian Love



SCRIPTURE

Luke 16:19-31

ANTHEM

Poor Man Lazrus, arr. Jester Hairston
Sanctuary Choir



SERMON

Mind the Gap

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.**

REFLECTION ON GIVING

Siblings in faith, the Spirit of truth is with us! Each week we take time to acknowledge the many ways that God continues to bless us with treasures, talents, and time. May we share with joy and thanksgiving, returning to God a portion of what God has given us.

***DOXOLOGY** (Tune: *Old Hundreth*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ in whom God's grace we know;
Praise Spirit, with us evermore;
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

***BLESSING OF THE GIFTS (UNISON)**

We give thanks, O God, for all that you have given us. Pour out your blessing on these offerings, that they might be a source of blessing in our church, in our community, and in our world. Through this act of sharing, may we counter fear with hope and transform scarcity through generosity. We offer this prayer in the name of the Creator, the Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

(see page 6)

719 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me;
 4 I, the Lord, will bless and keep you and give you peace;

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.
 I, the Lord, will smile up-on you and give you peace:

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here his ten-der com-fort
 I, the Lord, will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing— you are my own.
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free.
 Broth-er. Go, my chil-dren, I will keep you and give you peace.

WORDS: Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919-)
 MUSIC: Welsh melody

AR HYD Y NOS
 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4.

*BENEDICTION

May God's love bridge the rifts in our relationships. May the love of Christ unite us as one body to serve our world. May the love of the Spirit connect each faction to create the realm of God. Let us flow with the winds of God as Divine justice fills each fracture and heals each abyss. Amen!

POSTLUDE

*Improvisation on the Welsh
tune "Ar Hyd y Nos"*
Setting by Michael Burkhardt



St. Paul Fine Arts Series presents

EQUINOX CHAMBER PLAYERS

Sunday, September 25 at 3pm

**St. Paul United Church of Christ Heritage Hall
115 West B Street, Belleville**

**Concert is free and open to the public.
A free-will offering will be taken.**

**Please Join Pastor Michelle for conversation
at Joe & Onie's.
Food and drinks are BYO.
September 29 from 9-11am**

2022 Walk To End Alzheimer's

Saturday, October 1st
9:00 am – 11:00 a.m. at SWIC

Join Our Team:
"St. Paul UCC Belleville"

And/or donate to fund
Alzheimer's Research.

Go To: 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's
Belleville → Walk Details
Register/Donate → St Paul UCC Belleville

St. Paul Trivia Night

With host Michael Wagner

Saturday, November 19, 2022
St. Paul UCC Activity Center
115 West "B" – Belleville, IL

Doors open 6:00pm
Questions start at 6:30pm

\$25 per person –
8 person teams

Free mulligans with purchase
of a table of 8 - \$200

Cash Prizes for 1st-3rd place.
Basket Raffle & 50/50

Bring your own food and
drinks of choice.

Table theme: Teams, Tunes,
Tomes, Talkies & TV
Prize for best dressed
table/team!

This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

*Notes where to stand if comfortably able.

Liturgy from https://www.rexaehuntprogressive.com/liturgy_collection/year_c_liturgy_collection/year_c_liturgies_-_pentecos/creation5pent16c2992019.html; Invocation, Prayer of Reconciliation, Assurance of Grace, and Benediction written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian; Reflection on Giving and Blessing of the Gifts written by the Rev. Heather A. Moody. New Member liturgy from the UCC Book of Worship. 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.

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

Upon completion of the Church Council Terms, members were invited to join another church group. What was the name?

This Week

Sundays

9am Traditional Worship
10am Coffee Hour after worship
Culinaire's Breakfast 3rd
Sunday of the month.

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

For Your Prayers

Karen Boeschen	Christopher Mitchell
Lori Coleman	Otto Christopher
Carol Hotz	Kennedy, great
Shirley Martin	nephew of Scott &
Marilyn	Lana Gentry
Dinkelmann	Laura Howie,
Debbie McIntyre,	daughter of Jeanette
daughter of Arline	& Elgee Phillips
Worms	Jane Rogers
Scott Schmidt,	Betty Rieso
brother of Steve	Ethel Klasing, aunt
Schmidt	of Jerry Pierce-
Mona McAllister	Heisler
Brian Sample,	Colleen Igou, Roger
nephew of Kathy	Henke's fiancé
Birkner	Al Stahl



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



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



ANSWER: *The Elders Society*

Weekly Attendance

9am September 11, 2022 72 + Online Participants September 12, 2021 72

Offering for 9/17/2022 - \$3,699.00

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,696

Giving to...  \$278,155

Budget to...  \$277,056

Total Budget  \$400,199