



Sunday, March 19, 2023

“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

March 19, 2023 9:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Senior Pastor</i> | Rev. Michelle Torigian |
| <i>Music Director</i> | Dr. Tristan Frampton |
| <i>Guest Organist</i> | Robert Chamberlin |
| <i>Liturgist</i> | Sandy Wagner |

WELCOME

Rev. Michelle Torigian

PRELUDE

The Lord's My Shepherd

TUNE: Brother James' Air

Setting by Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Kindred of God, a new vision of leadership is called forth and God calls upon the least likely, the unheard of, and the humble of heart to assemble to receive anointing.

All: In peace, we anoint the forgotten, the youngest, smallest, and unlikeliest of siblings whom God has raised up to serve.

One: Though the call may involve risk and danger, we are called to listen, obey, and live a love unwavering.

All: In peace, we anoint the disinherited and dismissed.

One: God's call does not depend on our outward appearance or our earthly achievements.

All: In peace, we anoint neighbor and kin alike, knowing God looks upon the heart. Let us open our hearts to God this day.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Anointed One, your love comes peaceably into our lives if we allow it. We are so fixated on the gold standard, the familiar, and the safe choice that we often lose sight of what you are raising up right in our very midst. Enliven us with your Spirit this day so that we might get a glimpse of your peace. Take what we might imagine as too small for your realm and use it to open the world to your overflowing abundance and provision for all that you have created. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 440

D A G D F# A7 E D A D A7 D A A7 D

1 Sav - ior, like a Shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2 We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;

D A G D F# A7 E D A D A7 D A A7 D

in thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre-pare:
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray:
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free:
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos-oms fill:

G D A Bm7 A7 C# D

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee;
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;

G D A7 D

bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee.
 bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

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

God of surprises, we know that we do not often perceive the world as you do. We look to the flashy fame, the grand gestures, optimal achievements, and unreachable standards. We justify illnesses and misfortunes as sins in one's ways of living. Yet, in spite of our misguided expectations towards perfection, you give us glimpses of your grandeur and grace. Surprise us yet again this day, O God, that in our complacency we still may be transformed anew. Provide us with a new cup of oil that we may be anointed by your love so that we may anoint others with kindness and love. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Friends, receive the anointing of God's tender love and forgiveness this day. For God's care and compassion for you abides in your heart today and always.

AN INTERACTIVE SERMON

Pastor Michelle

MISSION MOMENT

Beacon Ministry

Mike Stidham

ANTHEM

Amazing Grace
arr. Jack Schrader
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-41 & Psalm 23

SERMON

Justifying

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.**

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.

Worship written by Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott for the UCC Worship Ways. Benediction from the UCC Book of Worship.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

REFLECTION ON GIVING

It is not the outward appearance or size of the gifts we have to share that matters to God. It is the loving generosity of our hearts that God cherishes most. We are invited to give this day out of the abundance of our lives, from our heart, knowing that no matter the size of the gift that God knows our hearts.

***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)**

Generous God, you remind us that you “anoint our heads with oil” and that our “cup overflows” with your abundance. We do not take for granted all that you provide. Take these gifts and use them for the healing and tender care of your hurting world. May your cup of love overflow and abide with the hurting and heartbroken, forgotten and despised, so that we may all be made whole. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Love Us Into Fullness

(See page 6)

***COMMISSIONING**

Kindred, set out from this place not to anoint power, prestige, and the outer appearances of grandiosity. Rather, set out from this place to anoint healing, renewal, and raise up those unexpected places and people that God has set apart for the transformation of the world. Open yourselves to the surprising and unexpected movements of the Holy Spirit, for around the corner of every assumption we carry and every community we live in, is a small shepherd among us waiting to lead with God's help. Go forth in peace to lead, to love, and be renewed by God.

***BENEDICTION**

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace. Amen!

POSTLUDE

Prelude in d minor
Alexander Boëly

Love Us Into Fullness

$\text{♩} = 80$

1 Love us in - to full - - ness,
2 Love us in - to full - - ness,
3 Love us in - to full - - ness

touch us with your grace; Je - sus, in your
hold us in your care; cheer us with your
and we will be strong; Je - sus, walk be -

mer - cy, draw us to your face.
pre - sence here and ev - ery - where.
side us, fill our hearts with song.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 2002

BURLINGAME

6.5.6.5

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Easter Celebration

There are two ways in which you can share in the Easter celebration. We will be decorating the altar area with assorted spring flowers. You may purchase a spring flower for \$10 each and/or make a memorial gift donation. All Easter gifts will be listed in the Easter bulletin.

You may email swilhelm@stpaulucc.org
or call 618-233-3303

Please mail your information by March 31st.



Please include the following information with your check:

In memory or honor of _____

Given by and Memorial or Spring Flower

Flower choice(s): Lilies, Daffodils, Hyacinth & Tulips

You may take your flowers home after the 9:00am service of worship on
Easter Sunday, April 9th

In Memory or Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Flower choice(s) _____

Sponsored by the Foundation of Southwestern Illinois College
and the Fine Arts Series of St. Paul United Church of Christ

SWIC JAZZ BAND

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26
4 P.M.**

**ST. PAUL UCC
115 West B Street
Belleville, Illinois**

A program of traditional and contemporary
music for the jazz band; with guest studio
orchestra musicians from the St. Louis area.

www.swicarts.edu



**WOMEN'S GUILD
RUMMAGE SALE**

Friday, March 31st
4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 1st
9:00 a.m. – noon

It's time to clean out the closets and share your past treasures! Proceeds from this traditional event go to our church missions.
We are also looking for help to set up on Wed, March 29 & Thurs, March 30.
THANK YOU!

Join us!



**Hot Mess Express
Coffee Truck
@ St. Paul UCC
Wed March 22
7-11am**

**And come over to
Coffee & Conversation in Heritage Hall
with Pastor Michelle
9-11am**

Flowers, Music and Bulletin sponsorships are available!

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

The church had a group that was open to people between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six. The year was 1955. What was the name of the group?



This Week

Sundays

9am Traditional Worship
10am Coffee Hour &
Culinaire's breakfast

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)!**

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman

Carol Hotz

Shirley Martin

Marilyn Dinkelmann

Debbie McIntyre,
daughter of Arline
Worms

Scott Schmidt, brother
of Steve Schmidt

Christopher Mitchell

Steve Schmidt

Mark Eckert

Rev. Gus Kuether

Ellen Keck

Betty Rieso

Tim Ritter

Otto Christopher

Kennedy, great
nephew of Scott &
Lana Gentry

Laura Howie, daughter
of Jeanette & Elgee
Phillips

Alec Zaber

Rev. Shana Johnson

Kurt Westerfield, son-
in-law of Mary Blaies

Jim Blaies, father-in-
law of Mary Blaies

Family of Janet Abel

Pat Culley, sister-in-
law of Jane Bonaldi

Please call the church for prayer requests:
618-233-3303.



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



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

ANSWER: Young Adult Group

Weekly Attendance

9am March 5, 2023 92 + Online Participants March 6, 2022 79 + Online Participants

Offering for 3/11/2023 - \$5,958.00

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to...  \$76,833

Budget to...  \$76,054

Total Budget  \$395,479