

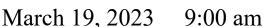
Sunday, March 19, 2023

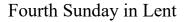
"No matter who you are, No matter where you are on life's journey, You are welcome here."



Welcome to Worship

at St. Paul UCC







TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS	
Senior Pastor	Rev. Michelle Torigian
Music Director	Dr. Tristan Frampton
Guest Organist	
Liturgist	

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



*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.

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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



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

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Given by:		

Flower choice(s)_

In Memory or Honor of:





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!



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, sonin-law of Mary Blaies Jim Blaiess, father-inlaw of Mary Blaies Family of Janet Abel Pat Culley, sister-inlaw 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