



Understand One Another



Sunday, September 10, 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



September 10, 2023 9:00 am
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian
<i>Music Director</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Kevin Chunko
<i>Liturgist</i>	Lou Ryseff

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Rhosymedre
Ralph Vaughn Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God presents beauty in each individual flower

Many: So that we can understand the splendor of God.

One: God presents beauty in each individual animal

Many: So that we can understand the magnificence of God.

One: God presents beauty in each individual landscape

Many: So that we can understand the grandeur of God.

One: God presents beauty in each individual person

Many: So that we can celebrate the glory of God.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Holy Designer of All Creation,

As we connect with one another through our eyes, hugs, handshakes, and words, may we realize that there is a world in which we don't know. There are dreams and stories of our neighbors that go unsaid. Struggles in each of our lives are buried in order to hide the worst parts of ourselves. May we begin to see beauty in the unique beings that we are: flaws, failings, wrinkles, and all. We are never alone in our struggles as we are with you and our neighbors, God. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

596 Help Us Accept Each Other

Unison G A7 G Cdim G Am7(b5) Gmaj7 G6 A7

1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cept - ance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,

Bm Em Emsus2 Em Cmaj7 Bm7 Am7 D7sus2 D7

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for right - eous - ness and bread,

Bm7 Emsus2 Em Em(#7) Em7 Am9 Bm7 C D C#dim7

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cept - ance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:

G D C#dim7 D Am7 Bm Am C D G

we are *our - selves* ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

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

Loving God, Fountain of Grace,

Others' flaws seem funny to us. We are willing to laugh at them, tease them, and make them feel embarrassed. We don't realize that each day, they sometimes struggle to get out of bed. We don't hear their self-criticism when they wonder why their brains don't work as well in particular ways. They chastise themselves why they can't live up to the expectations of others. They carry around extra shame. But like icebergs, we only see what is above the surface. We aren't willing to admit that no one is perfect, everyone struggles, and everyone functions in their own unique ways. May we be willing to sit in the messiness with one another instead of filling others' lives with extra pain. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Beloved friends, no matter what pain we have created in the past, God has long ago forgiven us. May we continue to extend kindness and love to our neighbors as we celebrate the mercy of God!

STORY SHARING MOMENT

ANTHEM

With a Voice of Singing
by Martin Shaw
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Mark 7:24-37

SERMON

Understand One Another

Rev. Michelle Torigian

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

Our neighbors have not had the lives we had - for better or worse. They have not had bootstraps to pull up their own boots or people to love them when they have fallen down. We have opportunities to share our time, talent, and treasures to be an encouraging source to build their lives. May we give as we are able to usher in the Realm of God here on earth.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

***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)**

**Divine Source of All Hope,
Today we bear love to build a world using kind words, sacred time, and our own unique resources. Bless the gifts we share today and this week - no matter how large or small the offering. Through our giving, we individually and collectively share your love with our world. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN** *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (See pages 6 & 7)

***COMMISSIONING**

May the love of Christ open our minds to our neighbors.
May the strength of the Spirit help us to understand our siblings near and far.
May the grace of God connect us with one another and forgive ourselves.
May we reconnect to the Divine this week, knowing that we journey with God and neighbors during difficult and joyous times.

***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 *Con moto maestoso (from Sonata III in A major)*
Felix Mendelssohn



BL-53009

ST PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BELLEVILLE

HALLOWEEN THEME-COSTUMES ENCOURAGED

Belle Vegas Bingo Hall

Friday, Oct 27, 2023

517 S. Illinois St, Belleville, IL

Doors @ 6pm Bingo @ 7pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT :
GLO-BINGO.COM/EVENTS
(\$2/TICKET NON-REFUNDABLE FEE)
ST. PAUL UCC 618-233-3303



\$25 in Advance-\$30 at the Door
MUST BE 18 OR OLDER TO ATTEND

Includes 6 bingo cards for 10 games
Also includes Glow Hat & Dauber
(\$5 per additional 6 cards)

CASH BAR - BYO SNACKS - BOOZE COOLER & LOTTERY RAFFLES - 50/50



2023 Walk To End Alzheimer's

Saturday, October 7th

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. SWIC



Join Our Team: "St. Paul UCC Belleville"

And/Or Donate

Go To: 2023 Alzheimer's Walk Belleville

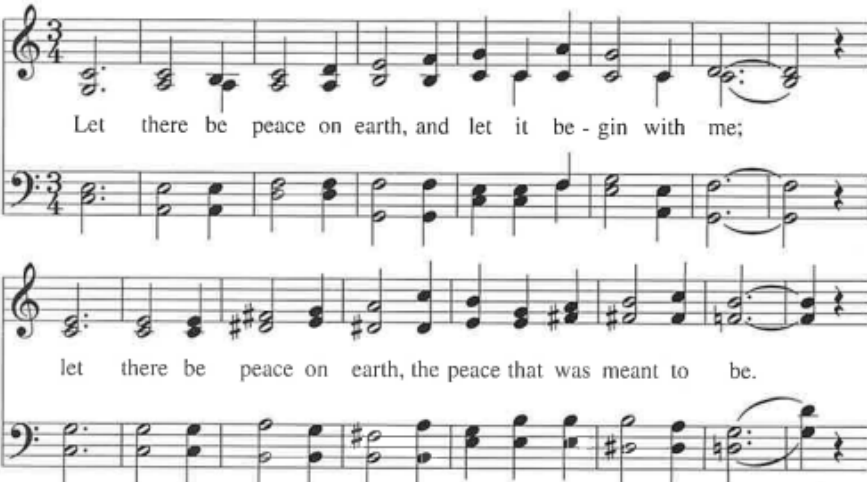
WOMEN'S GUILD

Please join us on September 20th @ 1:00 p.m.
for a luncheon at
Fletcher's Kitchen & Tap
1524 Clinton Hills Pkwy Swansea, IL 62226

614

Let There Be Peace on Earth



Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me;

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

WORDS: Sy Miller (1908-1971) and Jill Jackson (1913-1995), alt.

MUSIC: Sy Miller (1908-1971) and Jill Jackson (1913-1995); harm. Charles H. Webb (1933-)

With God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we,

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny,

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now,

With ev - ery step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow;

to take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

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

For years, on the fourth Sunday in Lent, St. Paul collected a special offering during church service. Monies collected went to refugees and victims of natural disasters, self-help programs in other countries, and ministries to isolated Christians in Eastern Europe. What was the name of this offering?

Upcoming Events

Culinares Breakfast-3rd Sunday starting September 17
Executive Council-3rd Monday of the month @ 7pm
Quilters-every Tuesday @ 9am
Seekers Adult Bible Study –Tuesdays @ 10am starting September 26th
Community Dinner-every Tuesday @ 5pm
Mats for Community-3rd Tuesday @ 1pm
Shufflers-2nd Tuesday of the month @ 1pm
Wednesdays-Bells (6pm) & Choir (7:15pm)
With You group-1st Wednesday of the Month @ 1pm
Women's Guild-3rd Wednesday of the month @ 1pm
Personnel Meeting-2nd Thursday of the month @ 7pm
Church Council meeting-3rd Thursday of the month-6pm
September 6 & 13-Hotmess Express/Lizzies
September 7-Yoga Gold
September 7-Worship Meeting @ 10am
Mission Meeting-September 10th after worship
Rummage Sale-Sept 29 (4-8pm) & 30th (9-12)

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman	Jo Ann Purdy-Elmore
Carol Hotz	Hector Rivera
Marilyn Dinkelmann	Scott Martin, son of Shirley Martin
Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline Worms	Jeanette Phillips
Rev. Gus Kuether	Betty Ries
Tim Ritter	Rose Hoy
Laura Howie, daughter of Jeanette & Elgee Phillips	Clarence Wolf
Alec Zaber	Linda Mentzer
	Sherry Stepp
	Doug Bush

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



Like us on Facebook
St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL



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

ANSWER: One Great Hour of Sharing

Weekly Attendance

9am **August 20, 2023** 89 + Online Participants **August 21, 2022** 75+ Online Participants

Offering for 8/26/2023 \$3,671

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to... \$243,420

Budget to... \$258,582

Total Budget \$395,479