



Sunday, September 17, 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 17, 2023 9:00 am
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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>	Fred Hotz

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship (Holy Manna)*
arr. Don Hustad

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God, the Holy Foundation of All will give us strength

Many: When the gales of trouble wind around us.

One: Jesus the Christ, the firm Roadway of Faith, will lead us forward

Many: When we feel lost on the journey.

One: The Holy Spirit, the Sacred Fastening holding all together will bring us peace

Many: When the structures of life crash around us.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Holy God, Divine Bedrock-

At times, our foundation lacks security. From losses and health struggles to conflicts in the world around us, we wonder what tomorrow will bring. We often feel as if quicksand is swallowing us. As our world shakes, you bring us stability. As the storms rage against us, you give us shelter. We feel as if we can take a step in faith when the future is uncertain. Bless the community surrounding us, the ones who bring us comfort during the floods of life. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

615

Community of Christ

N.C. Em G B Em Am C B Em Am C G B Am7 D G

1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the cross your own,
 2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church - 's door
 3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
 4 When men - ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,

D G B $\text{F}\sharp\text{dim}$ A G C G B D7 Em Am7 G D G

live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
 and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
 cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world round:
 the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its sun;

G G B $\text{C}\sharp\text{m7}(\flat 5)$ D G B C G Am7 Bsus B

the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
 Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
 dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
 our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,

B Em G B Em D G Am7 C Am Em G Em B B Em

whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
 take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
 turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
 our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

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

Divine Source of Strength,

As the earth turns, we see injustices surrounding us. We notice the ones near us hurting. But we are too afraid of how we will sound when comforting them. We are fearful of what others will think of us when we voice unpopular opinions as we advocate for marginalized ones. Strength is needed in our souls. May we look to you for courage as we work to heal the lives of our neighbors. May we focus on building a world of kindness - even when our voices tremble. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

God's gift to us is the peace that goes beyond all understanding and grace that fills our souls with joy. May we see each moment as an opportunity of growth with God and neighbor.

STORY SHARING MOMENT

ANTHEM

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

arr. Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Joshua 1:1-9

SERMON

Embody Courage

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

The talents, treasures, and time we share paint the world with hope. Sometimes, we must go outside of our comfort zones to deliver our gifts. When we are able to set aside worry to use our gifts, we see the presence of God even more clearly! May Divine Courage settle our spirits as we contribute our offerings and escape the anxieties that confine us.

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)**

**Holy Palette of Gifts,
Our hearts are overflowing with the hope that we can decorate our world
with the colors of kindness. Our minds are overflowing with the dreams that
we can share what we have with our congregation and community. May our
spirits celebrate the ways we contribute to build the Realm of God here on
earth. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN** *We Are Called to Be God's People* (See page 6)

***COMMISSIONING**

May the God of All Strength fill our minds with peace,
May Christ the Companion be our light when the shadows lengthen,
May the Spirit of Peace quell our anxieties as we share our gifts.
The One who travels with us is our foundation in times of trouble, our friend in
times of joy, and our hope when the journey is long.

***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 *Sent Forth By God's Blessing (The Ash Grove)*
arr. John A. Behnke

We Are Called to Be God's People 580

1 We are called to be God's peo - ple, show-ing by our lives his grace,
 2 We are called to be God's ser - vants, work-ing in his world to - day;
 3 We are called to be God's proph-ets, speak-ing for the truth and right,

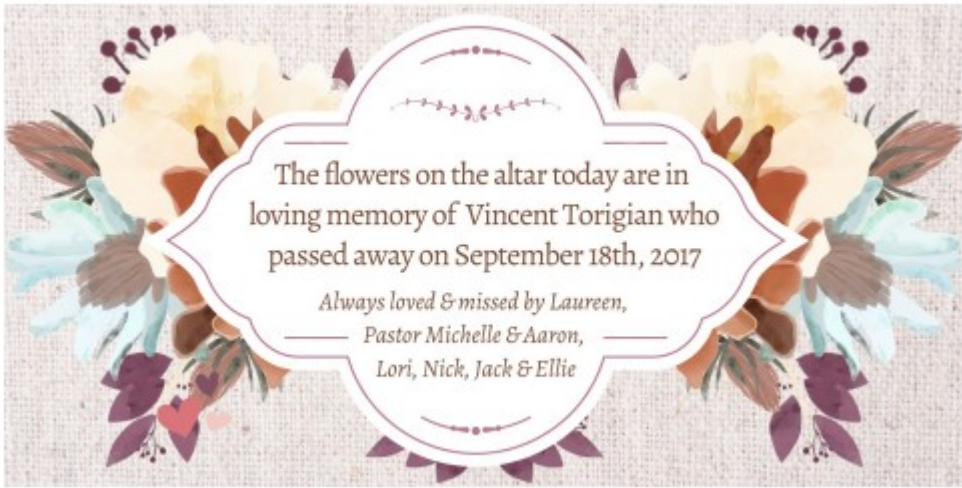
one in heart and one in spir - it, sign of hope for all the race.
 tak - ing his own task up - on us, all his sa - cred words o - bey.
 stand-ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, bring-ing e - vil things to light.

Let us show how he has changed us, and re - made us as his own,
 Let us rise, then, to his sum - mons, ded-i - cate to him our all,
 Let us seek the cour-age need - ed, our high call-ing to ful - fill,

let us share our life to - geth - er as we shall a - round his throne.
 that we may be faith - ful ser - vants, quick to an - swer now his call.
 that the world may know the bless-ing of the do - ing of God's will.

WORDS: Thomas A. Jackson (1931-), alt.
 MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

AUSTRIAN HYMN
 8.7.8.7.D.





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

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





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



At the St. Paul UCC Booth at Metro East Pride





September 30 from 11:30am-5:30pm
help get the word out about our church!

Join us downtown following the rummage sale. Contact Pastor Michelle for more information or to RSVP!







Crafty Mania

Saturday October 14, 2023

9:00am-4:00pm
Cost: \$35.00

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

In 1973, the Senior High Fellowship held a fundraiser where someone could order an item in time for Christmas. The item sold for \$3.75. What was it?

Upcoming Events

Culinaires 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 (At Fletcher's Swansea on Sept. 20th!)
Personnel Meeting-2nd Thursday of the month @ 7pm
Church Council meeting-3rd Thursday of the month-6pm
BUILDING CLOSED Sept 18-20-for electrical panel installation.
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	Betty Rieso
Rev. Gus Kuether	Clarence Wolf
Tim Ritter	Linda Mentzer
Laura Howie, daughter of Jeanette & Elgee Phillips	Doug Bush
Alec Zaber	The family of Rose Hoy
	The family of Jeanette Phillips

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: The "world-famous" Benton Christmas Fruit Cake. (P.S. Henke hates those things.)

Weekly Attendance

9am **August 27, 2023** 83 + Online Participants **August 28, 2022** 83+ Online Participants

Offering for 9/2/2023 \$4,638

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to...  \$251,282

Budget to...  \$266,187

Total Budget  \$395,479