



Sunday, October 29, 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

October 29, 2023 9:00 am
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday



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>	Brett White

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Resounding Joy, by John F. Wilson
Glory Ringers

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O Sing to God a song of joy,

Many: For we have been greeted by our God.

One: O Dance for God a waltz of welcome,

Many: For we have been embraced by our God.

One: O Create for God a portrait of hope,

Many: For we have been inspired by our God.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

We know that through your magnificent creative Spirit our world and our lives came into being. And yet, you are not completely finished with creation. You continue to speak. As you nudge us to newness, grant us renewal as we observe creation with refreshed souls. Help us to appreciate the boldness of Jesus, Martin Luther, and other reformers throughout history. Give us the courage to change what needs to be transformed in order for your Church to grow. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

C G Em Am D7 G Am Em F C Am Dm G C

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er fail - ing;
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

C G Em Am D7 G Am Em F C Am Dm G7 C

our help - er he, a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing.
 we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri - umph through us.
 the Spir - it and the gifts are ours thro' him who with us sid - eth.

C Am $\frac{G}{B}$ D7 G C $\frac{G}{B}$ C F $\frac{Bdim}{D}$ Am $\frac{E}{G\#}$ Am $\frac{E}{B}$ $\frac{Am}{C}$ D7

For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his
 The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en -
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

G F $\frac{F}{A}$ C7 $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Dm E Am Em F C Am Dm G7 C

great, and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 name, from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 dure, for lo, his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 kill: God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

WORDS: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Frederick H. Hedge (1805-1890)
 MUSIC: Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Ein' feste Burg
 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.

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

Divine Gale of Change,

Just as the world continues to revolve and evolve, we are called to move in new directions. Yet we place brakes on change and silence newness. The winds of the Holy Spirit are still blowing in our direction, nudging us to move forward, but sometimes we have chosen to close doors, shut windows, and ignore its urging. God, we too often place you and your ideas into boxes. Open our souls to the expansiveness of faith. May we incorporate the new winds and bold ideas even when we are set in our old ways and content with our repetitive routines. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

God continues to welcome us into the Divine Realm even when we walk past its doorway. God's magnificent grace will refresh our hearts, inspiring us to return again. Amen.

ANTHEM

Many Gifts, One Spirit,
by Mary Lynn Lightfoot
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7 & 16-21
Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON

Something Old, Something New

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.



***UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH (UNISON)**

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ
and our God, and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set
before each one the ways of life and death.**

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through
prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you
have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and
death and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of
Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues,
and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be
your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the
world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and
eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial
and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

REFLECTION ON GIVING

The Realm of God asks for us to care for our neighbors: from the children who are thirsty to the prophets and other caregivers who need a place to rest. This is our opportunity to use our treasures, talents, and time to ensure all have what they need. May we reflect on the ways we can share and give as we are able.

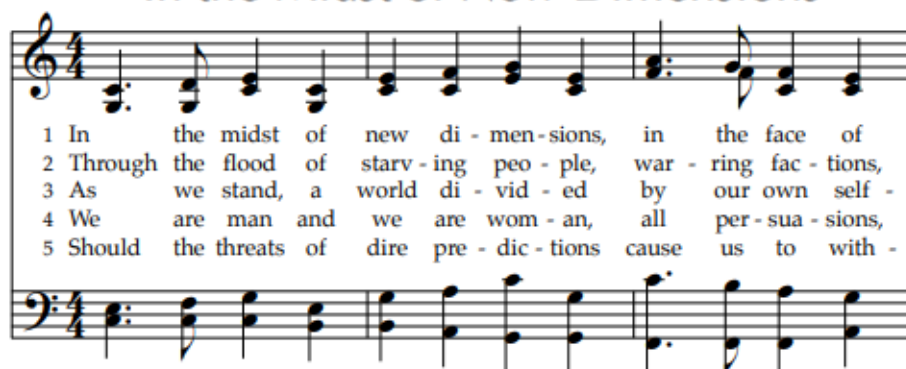
COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

Rejoice with Gladness,

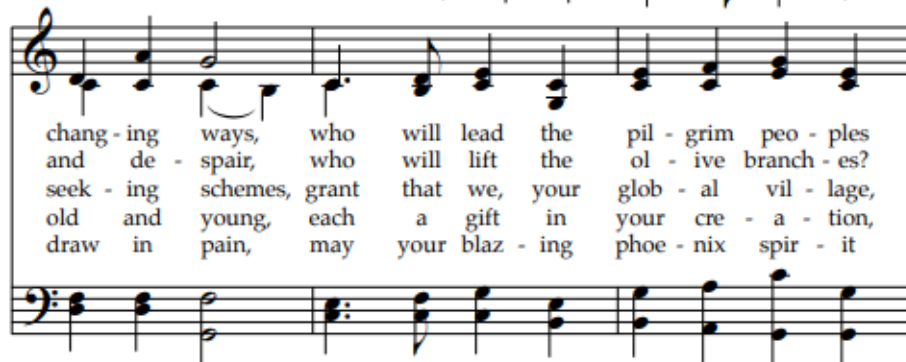
by Susan Geschke

Glory Ringers


In the Midst of New Dimensions



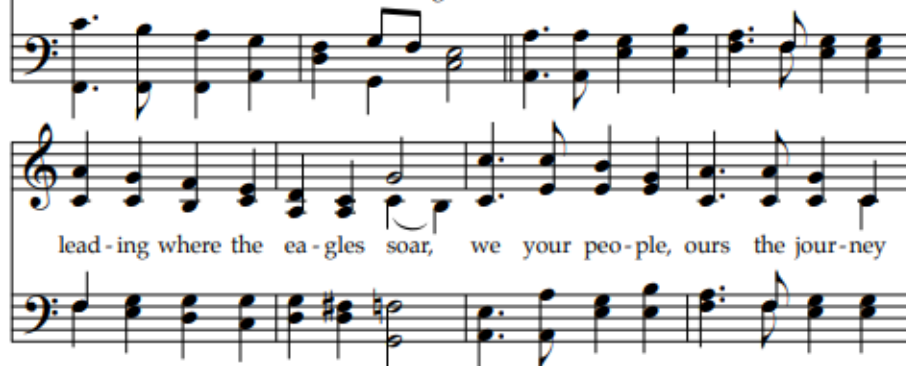
1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -



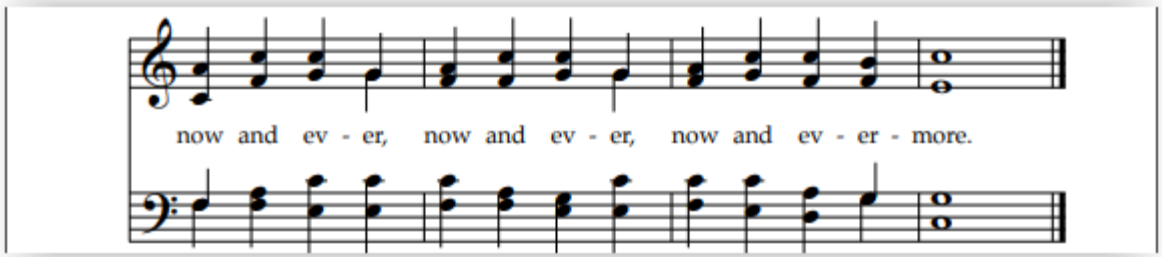
chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it



Refrain
wan - der - ing in their sep - a - rate ways?
Who will light the flame of care?
might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
each a love song to be sung.
res - ur - rect the church a - gain.



lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney



***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)**

Through the gifts of treasures and the offerings of our time and talents, we seek to grow the Church, God. Let us continue to find creative ways to contribute. And may our Still Speaking God's call entice us to not only build but reform Christ's church. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *In the Midst of New Dimensions* (See pages 6 & 7)

***COMMISSIONING**

May we leave this place understanding that this is the beginning.
May we depart today knowing that the best of our faith is yet to come.
And may the exhilarating mystery of God, the courage of the Great Reformer Jesus, and the dynamic nudging of the Spirit excite us as we become reformers for the Divine. Amen!

***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 *Improvisation on "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*



IT'S TIME TO ORDER
POINSETTIA'S
IN HONOR/MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

COST IS | \$12.00

EACH 6.5" POT COVERED WITH FOIL WILL HAVE
10 OR MORE BLOOMS. ORDER BY 12/1/23

YOU MAY MAIL OR DROP OFF YOUR ORDER
TO THE OFFICE.

In Honor or Memory of _____

By: _____

How many: _____ Amount enclosed: _____



Hanging of the Greens

December 3rd
3-6 p.m.
In the
Sanctuary

Senior Pickle Ball

Mondays & Wednesdays
@ 9-11am,
Fridays 9:15-11:15
Beginners Wednesdays
@ 11:30

St Paul UCC ACTIVITY CENTER

For information call
St. Clair County
Office on Aging:
618-234-4410 ext. 7034



Hot Mess Express

COFFEE TRUCK @
ST. PAUL UCC ON
NOVEMBER 1ST & 15TH
7AM - 11AM

Pick up your drink and
head to The Mosaic
Room for Coffee &
Conversation with
Pastor Michelle!
9am-11am

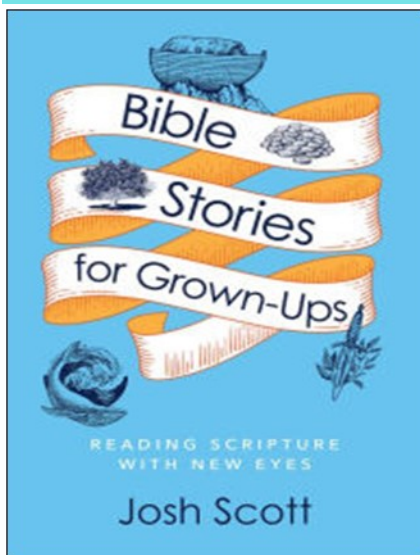


hotmessexpresscoffee.com



MATS FOR COMMUNITY COMFORT

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday, November 21st
from 1-3pm
in the craft room.
Please join us!



The Seekers will begin studying Bible Stories for Grown-Ups by Josh Scott 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 26 in Genesis Room.

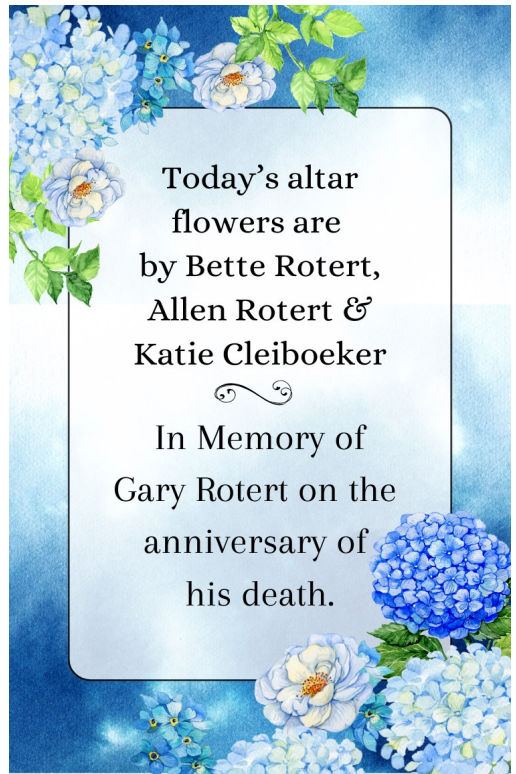
Pastor Michelle is the facilitator.
 It is a book (purchase optional) and DVD.
 A discussion will follow.

The book can be found online at Barnes and Noble, Amazon and Thrift Books.
 All members and nonmembers are welcome. No prior Biblical knowledge necessary.

Please contact the office if you have a family member who you would like added to the Totenfest list. 618-233-3303



TOTENFEST SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5



Light Lunch! St Paul Shufflers and Gamers

It's time to eat and have some fun. Bring your favorite game or join in with others. It can be a card game or board game. Or you can just be a kibbitzer and become a part of the party.

Who: Members and friends are welcome to break bread and have fun and conversation.

Where: Heritage Hall

When: 12:00 noon – until you're tired of having fun and conversation. 2ND Tuesday of the month

What: A light lunch of soup or salad will be provided. Free for first timers and those supplying paper products, utensils or anything else you want with your soup or salad; i.e. crackers, bread, butter. \$5 thereafter. Bring your own beverage.

IMPORTANT

Please let us know by the 2nd Sunday if you are coming so we have enough food. If possible, we will try to accommodate special needs.

Contact: Donna Davis—food facilitator

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

In December of 1999, the St. Paul website was recognized by the Dintinctive Church Collection Hall of Fame for content and creativity of it's technology. Who was the chair person of the site's technology team?

Upcoming Events

Church Council meeting-3rd Thursday @ 6pm
Community Dinner-every Tuesday @ 5pm
Culinaires Breakfast-every 3rd Sunday
Executive Council-3rd Monday @ 7pm
Mats for Community-3rd Tuesday @ 1pm
Mission Meeting-2nd Sunday after service
Personnel Meeting-2nd Thursday @ 7pm
Quilters-every Tuesday @ 9am
Seekers Adult Bible Study -Tuesdays @ 10am
Shufflers-2nd Tuesday of the month @ 12pm
Wednesdays-Bells (6pm) & Choir (7:15pm)
With You group-1st Wednesday @ 1pm
Women's Guild-3rd Wednesday @ 1pm
Hanging of the Greens-December 3 @ 3-6pm
Hotmess Express Coffee Truck-November 1 & 15
Office Closed for Thanksgiving-November 23 & 24



For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman	Scott Martin, son of
Carol Hotz	Shirley Martin
Marilyn Dinkelmann	Betty Rieso
Debbie McIntyre,	Linda Mentzer
daughter of Arline	Linda Minton
Worms	Wayne Caughman
Tim Ritter	Tim Ritter Jr., son of
Laura Howie, daughter	Sandy & Tim Ritter
of Elgee Phillips	
Alec Zaber	
Hector Rivera	

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: William (Bill) Whicher

Weekly Attendance

9AM

October 8, 2023 85 + Online Participants October 9, 2022 77 + Online Participants

Offering 10/13/2023 \$5,078

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to... \$275,660

Budget to... \$311,819

Total Budget... \$395,479