



**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

“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

January 21, 2024 9:00 am

Third Sunday after Epiphany

## 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> .....	Karen Keuss

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

*Allegro moderato (op. 65, no. 3)*  
Felix Mendelssohn

## CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 62)

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our Mighty Rock. We will not be shaken.**

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our hope. We place our trust in you.**

One: Everlasting God, our souls wait for you.

**Many: You are our refuge. We rest in your abiding love.**

## INVOCATION (UNISON)

**God of Many Seasons, we enter into your presence with joy and thanksgiving. We acknowledge all the ways that you meet us as we gather in your name. May our songs and prayers be a sweet sound in your ears. May we demonstrate our trust in you through both praise and lament. May our hearts yearn, our spirits stir, and our souls wait in holy hope and expectation. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

344 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

*Unison*

The musical score is written for a unison voice part and a bass line. The key signature is C major, and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence. The lyrics are arranged in four parts, with the first part starting at measure 1 and the others following in subsequent measures. The bass line provides a simple harmonic accompaniment.

1 I have de-cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-  
 2 The world be-hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-  
 3 Though none go with me, I still will fol-low, though none go  
 4 Will you de-cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-

cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-cid-ed to fol-low  
 hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-hind me, the cross be-  
 with me, I still will fol-low, though none go with me, I still will  
 cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-cide now to fol-low

Je - sus— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
 fore me— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
 fol - low— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.  
 Je - sus?— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.

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

**Holy One, we can be so impatient. We have become used to instant gratification and have forgotten the holiness of the waiting. Help us to rest in your timing. Encourage us to persevere through struggles and storms. Reveal the unfolding of your Realm before our eyes and empower us to be agents of transformation in the world as you infuse us with new life. Amen.**

## **\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Beloved ones, while we wait, we have grace to love fully, pursue liberty, and seek a just world. The Holy One has given us the blueprint and invitation to the path of new life. Follow Jesus with grace and in understanding.

## **ANTHEM**

*Ain'-a That Good News!*  
by William Dawson  
Sanctuary Choir

## **SCRIPTURE**

Mark 1:14-20

## **SERMON**

Dropping Everything

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.**

## **REFLECTION ON GIVING**

Gestures of gratitude are a demonstration that a blessing or benefit has been received. We heard a call, dropped our nets, and came to this place to find new life. The gifts we give today are but tokens of the blessings of the new life we live in Christ. Bring your gifts with joy for they remind us of just how blessed we are to know this love that flows so generously from the spirit of God.

## **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)**

**May these gifts, given to these ministries of grace, be a blessing to friends and strangers, those like us and those not, those deserving and those not, for in this way the love of God reaches all of God's beloved.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**      *God of Grace and God of Glory*      (See next page)

**\*COMMISSIONING**

Now may the One who is faithful to all be with us all as we depart this blessed place. May we be a blessing to every place we go, until we gather again.

**\*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 "Cwm Rhondda"*



**Friday, February 9th**

**7:30 pm**

**St. Paul UCC Sanctuary**

**Come celebrate Valentine's Day with the Greenleaf Singers! Enjoy an evening of Renaissance music on themes of love, presented by a vocal ensemble in full period costume. There will be a champagne and dessert reception following the concert. You won't want to miss this event!**

**Remember St. Paul UCC as you  
prepare your will or trust!**

[StPaulUCC.org](http://StPaulUCC.org)

Contact the church to learn more:  
**618.233.3303**



# 569 God of Grace and God of Glory

G C  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{G}{A}$  G  $\frac{D}{A}$   $\frac{G}{B}$  C6  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G  $\frac{C}{E}$  C Am7

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn your Christ, as -  
 3 Heal your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

$\frac{G}{D}$  D7 G C  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{G}{A}$  G  $\frac{D}{A}$   $\frac{G}{B}$  C6  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G  $\frac{C}{E}$

pour your power; crown your an - cient Church's sto - ry, bring its  
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us— free our  
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion be our

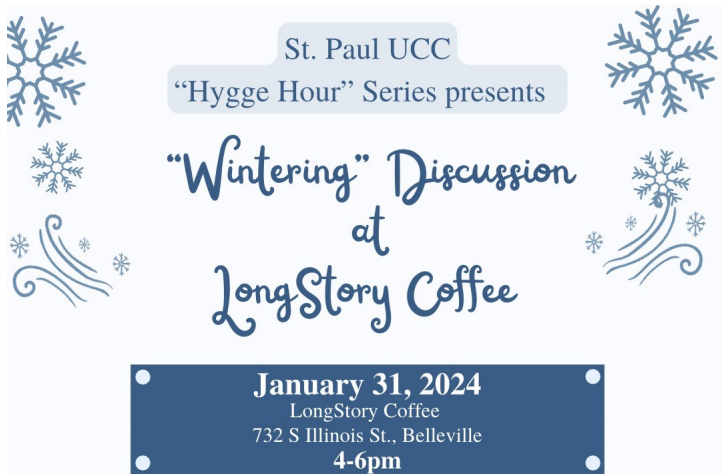
$\frac{G}{B}$  C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G D  $\frac{G}{D}$  D7  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G D7 G  $\frac{G}{B}$

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

$\frac{G}{B}$  D7  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G Em7 D  $\frac{G}{B}$  D7  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D7 G

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.





St. Paul UCC  
 “Hygge Hour” Series presents  
**“Wintering” Discussion**  
 at  
**LongStory Coffee**


**January 31, 2024**  
 LongStory Coffee  
 732 S Illinois St., Belleville  
 4-6pm

**Please join us today!**

**Culinaires' Breakfast**

**January 21st**

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE!**



**Souper-Bowl of Caring**

Bring in your non-perishable food items on January 28th & February 4th & 11th for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.

**CANNED ITEMS NEEDED (preferably pull tops):**  
 Tuna, chicken, ravioli, SpaghettiO's, chili with beans, Chunky soups!

Use your canned items to vote for your favorite football team in the big game as part of the fun. There will be three choices. NFC, AFC and Don't Care until the final teams are determined.

Separate boxes will be available in the Welcome Center to place your bet with your food. Feel free to grab one of the bags in the basket in the Welcome Center to help remember to purchase your items as well as carry them. There should be a list of items in these bags too. Thank you for participating in this fun activity to collect food for our neighbors. Remember no matter what team wins, the Food Pantry is the real winner.

**Flowers, Music and Bulletin sponsorships are available! Cost is \$35.00. Contact the church office for more info!**



**St. Paul Board Game Night**

**Jan 26 6:30-9pm**

**St. Paul UCC**  
 115 West B St., Belleville

**Free Entry**  
 Bring your favorite snack to share!

Call the church at 618.233.3303 for info or to RSVP

**StPaulUCC.org**

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

On May 21, 2000, at a congregational meeting we accepted the challenge of “expanding God’s love by serving one another and the world.” What was the nature of this challenge?

### Upcoming Events

**Church Council meeting**-3rd Thursday @ 6pm  
**Community Dinner**-every Tuesday @ 5pm  
**Culinaires Breakfast**-every 3rd Sunday  
**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

### For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman	Scott Martin, son of
Carol Hotz	Shirley Martin
Marilyn Dinkelmann	Linda Minton
Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline Worms	Wayne Caughman
Tim Ritter	Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter
Laura Howie, daughter of Elgee Phillips	Jerry Hough
Alec Zaber	Peggy Mejias, friend of Mimi Llamas
Hector Rivera	Lou Ann Niemann
Dawson Anderson	Bernice Sperino, mother of Pam Elser
Betty Riesio	

Please call the church for prayer requests:  
 618-233-3303 [stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)



Like us on Facebook  
*St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL*



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

ANSWER: Funding the costs of a building project to expand our church campus.

### Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

<b>December 31, 2023</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>+ Online Participants</b>
<b>January 2, 2022</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>+ Online Participants</b>

Offering 1/6/2023 \$ 1,791

### General Fund

Needed each week \$7,638

Giving to... \$1,791

Budget to... \$7,638

Total... \$397,200