

Celebrate!



***Taste and
see that the
Lord is Good!***

Psalms 34

Sunday, June 9, 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

June 9, 2024 9:00 am

Third 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 AND CELEBRATING GRADUATES

PRELUDE

Voluntary in C
John Stanley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed are the joys in life

Many: Carrying our spirits from one day until the next.

One: Blessed are the senses we have

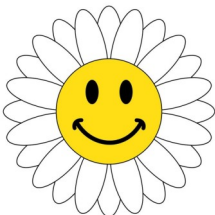
Many: To experience the richness of creation.

One: Blessed are we to delight in God's gifts

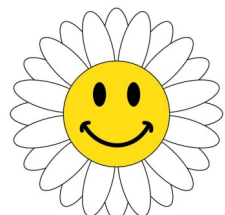
Many: For the Holy One rejoices with us in our elation.

INVOCATION (UNISON) (Inspired by Psalm 34)

Spirit of Bliss, You move around us, breathing colors, sounds, flavors, and textures - even beyond our senses. You saturate our souls with the splashes of illumination. Your light wakes the world again! May we taste and see that your delicious Realm is good and ready for us to celebrate and enjoy. Amen.



BE JOYFUL
always!



*OPENING HYMN

This Is My Father's World

21

Chord progression: Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb9

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears all
 2 This is our Fa-ther's world: O let us not for - get that
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the

Chord progression: Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Eb

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 though the wrong is great and strong, God is the rul - er yet.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me ev-ery-where.

Chord progression: Bb7, Eb, Ab, Bb7/F, Eb, Eb/G, Ab, Ab(4), Ab, Eb, Bb9

This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought of
 He trusts us with his world, to keep it clean and fair— all
 This is my Fa-ther's world: why should my heart be sad? The

Chord progression: Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Eb

rocks and trees, of skies and seas—his hand the won - ders wrought.
 earth and trees, all skies and seas, all crea - tures ev - ery - where.
 Lord is King, let heav - en ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

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

God of All Mirth, As people of faith, we turn towards the serious instead of times of enjoyment. We often choose a life of gray days and dusty roads as we believe we don't deserve moments of joy. As we have a complicated relationship with festivity, we criticize others for their celebration styles as well. Yet you created humanity to experience moments of fun and joy. Help us to live a life of balance, understanding that healthy amounts of levity is needed to fill our souls with hope and peace for the journey ahead. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Leader: God takes joy in our laughter and delight as God's grace helps us to discover moments of levity. May God's mercy lead us to contentment and peace.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Be Thou My Vision*, arr. Paul Johnston
Tom Birkner, trumpet

SCRIPTURE Genesis 18:1-15 & 21:1-7, 2 Samuel 6:12-23,
Ecclesiastes 8:14-15

SERMON Indulge in Joy 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

Sometimes scarcity takes hold of our minds. But God is calling us to look through God's lens of abundance. By seeing a Realm of plenty instead of scarcity, we see how much we have and how much we can release for the good of God's Realm.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

***DOXOLOGY** (Tune: *Old Hundredth*)

**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, Indulgent Spirit, You plant your gifts in our hearts and ask us to scatter the seeds throughout this earth. May all gifts given today and throughout the week bloom throughout this earth and create peace in your Realm. May we seek to transform this world into spaces of equity and prosperity for all. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *For the Beauty of the Earth* (See page 6)

***COMMISSIONING**

In the seasons of plenty, may we feast together.
As our baskets are filled, may we share from the abundance.
When joys flow into our paths, may we dance and laugh with God.
As the Spirit moves us to celebrate, may we shout to God in delight.

***BENEDICTION** By Gail Hamilton; setting by Tom Birkner

Let the words of my mouth bring You praise.
Let the words that I speak be seasoned with Your love and grace.
May the things, o Lord, that I choose to say bring glory not shame to Your Name each day; let the words of my mouth bring You praise.

The setting of this benediction is written as a dedication to Pastor Gus Kuether. Without question, he and his wife, Sue, have been the best role models for children, Scott, Lynda, and Lori, and their wonderful families. Ordained in 1963 at Emanuel United Church of Christ in Manchester, Michigan, Pastor Kuether served to inspire the best in all of us as a husband, father, and pastor. And since 1995, it has been our great fortune to work with Pastor Kuether at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Belleville, Illinois. As a leader and friend to all, his inspiration and integrity will never be forgotten.

POSTLUDE *In Thee Is Gladness*
J.S. Bach

For the Beauty of the Earth

40

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 4 For the church that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our race so free - ly given;
 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
 hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
 of - fering up on ev - ery shore her pure sac - ri - fice of love,
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

WORDS: Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William H. Monk (1823-1889)

DIX

7.7.7.7.7.7.

Information about today's service: All St. Paul United Church of Christ services may be recorded and/or streamed. Music is used with permission through Onelicense.net License #A-715913, CCLI #1795791, St. James Press License #17755, or public domain. Liturgy written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian. Benediction written by Dr. Tom Birkner in honor of Rev. Gus Kuether's ministry.



ST. PAUL UCC & TRINITY UCC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

FREE event
for ages
Pre-k through
6th grade!

June 24-27 from 6-8pm
held at St. Paul UCC 115 West 'B' St., Belleville

Call 618.233.3303 or go to StPaulUCC.org
for more information or to register.

Register Here



**JUNE 14
6:30 PM**

St. Paul UCC Belleville

GAME NIGHT

**WITH
Pickleball**

**FUN
TIMES**

115 WEST B ST. BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62220

**A Season of
JOY**

- *Kindness & Joy
- *Indulge in Joy
- *Communal Joy
- *Justice, Mercy, & Joy
- *Weird, Messy Joy
- *Gratitude for Joy
- *Transformational Joy
- *Embrace the Joy!

StPaulUCC.org

JOIN
US

ST PAUL UCC BELLEVILLE
PRESENTS

The

INCLUSION

Discussion Series

with

Rev. Michelle
Torigian



Rev. Tim
Powers-Reed

June 12

Disability,
Mental Health &
Neurodivergence

July 10

Family Structures &
Marital Status

August 14

LGBTQIA+
& Race

@Eckerts

951 S Green Mt Rd, Belleville, IL

6pm

StPaulUCC.org



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

In 1867, a general meeting of the congregation approved a plan for something. What was the purpose of that plan?

Upcoming Events


Church Council meeting-3rd Thursday @ 6pm
Community Dinner-every Tuesday @ 5pm
Culinaires Breakfast-ON HOLD until fall
Finance Meeting-every 2nd Tuesday @ 5pm
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
 (on summer break) resumes Sept. 3rd
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	Wayne Caughman
Carol Hotz	Tim Ritter Jr., son of
Marilyn Dinkelmann	Sandy & Tim Ritter
Debbie McIntyre,	Jerry Hough
daughter of Arline	Lou Ann Niemann
Worms	Cheryl Cooper
Tim Ritter	Debbie Price
Laura (Phillips) Howie	Christopher Mitchell
Alec Zaber	Audrey Krummrich
Hector Rivera	Ralph Eckart, brother in-
Betty Rieso	law of Marlene Mueller
Larry Walton	


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

ANSWER: To build a schoolhouse and a parsonage.



Find out more how your required minimum distribution (RMD) can benefit St. Paul UCC and save you on taxes!

Contact the church to learn more:
618.233.3303



StPaulUCC.org

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

May 19, 2024	90 + Online Participants
May 21, 2023	90 + Online Participants



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



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St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

Weekly Offerings		5/25/2024
Operating	\$	6,074.00
Building Fund	\$	345.00
	\$	6,419.00
Giving YTD	\$	149,247.14
Weekly Budget	\$	7,638.47
Budget to Date	\$	160,407.87
Total Budget	\$	397,200.29