



Sunday, February 16, 2025

“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

February 16, 2025 9:00 am

6th Sunday after Epiphany

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian
<i>Music Director</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Peggy Burke

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Impromptu, Op. 142, No. 2

by Franz Schubert

arr. by Franklin Ritter

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is good when we come together to worship as the Body of Christ;

Many: It is good when we are in the presence of one another.

One: It is good when we pray for one another and lift up each other;

Many: It is good when we sing and praise God together.

One: It is good when we remember those who are unable to be with us,

Many: For we know we are together in spirit.

One: Come, may we worship God, opening our hearts to the Spirit:

Many: It is good when we follow Jesus our Savior together.

INVOCATION (Unison)

Righteous God, you create us for community, and you commune with us. May we seek your presence anew this day and in the time to come. Help us to recognize you in the sound and feel of our own breath and in the movement or noise of those around us. Embolden us to embrace a faith that surpasses understanding. Let our worship in song and prayer be a foreshadowing of our worship in action and witness. Transform us from despair to hope, complacency to courage, and indifference to love in your name. Amen.

Come Away from Rush and Hurry 655

Unison

1 Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still-ness of God's peace;
 2 In the pas-tures of God's good-ness we lie down to rest our soul.
 3 Come, then, chil-dren, with your bur - dens—life's con - fu - sions, fears and pain.

from our vain am - bi-tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re - lease.
 From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made whole.
 Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead his king-dom's reign.

Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de-mands and fren-zied pace;
 At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly fed.
 Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them—he a - lone will sat - is - fy.

come to join the peo - ple gath - ered here to seek and find God's face.
 With the oil of God's a - noint - ing in - to ser - vice we are led.
 All our long - ings find at - tain - ment when to self we glad - ly die.

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

Abiding God, you come near to us. We give thanks that you do not turn away from us when our lives reflect messiness, ungraciousness, and complacency. Take us deeper, O God, and help us to confront what needs to be known, addressed, and changed within us, our community, and our world. Forgive us and free us from guilt and shame so that we might embrace a life of transformation for the glory of God and for the hope of humanity. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Good creation of God, the Holy One has begun a good work in you and will see it through to completion. You have power to transform and grace to enter the newness of life. God is near and comes down with us. Receive God's mercy, forgiveness, and grace as the gift that has been given. It is available, yours, and enough.

***STATEMENT OF FAITH**

(See insert)

ANTHEM

The Lord Be Near Us
by Hal Hopson
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:17-26

SERMON

At Our Level

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

Blessed are we when we bring forth our gifts for the needs of the poor, the pursuit of justice, the nurturing of community, the honoring of difference, and the goal of the common good. Woe to us when we mistake abundance as scarcity. God has given enough gifts for all to be well. By sharing, we demonstrate faith and love.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

You Are My All In All

by Dennis Jernigan

Arr. by Marianne Kim

*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, you have planted generosity in our hearts. Receive our gifts as part of your redemptive work to save the world from inequities, pain, and despair. May our resources be renewed and magnified so that all needs are met and your name be praised. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (See page 6)

*COMMISSIONING

As you go into the world, remember that Divine Embodied Love has come down to join you. God's grace has come down to redeem you. The Spirit has come down to empower and equip you and to join a world in need of hope and encouragement, in want of witness and public proclamation that God is good and always with us.

*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

St. Anthony's Chorale

by Franz Josef Haydn

Adapted by Johannes Brahms

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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty 71

F Dm $\frac{C}{E}$ F C Dm Am B \flat F B \flat $\frac{C7}{G}$ Dm B \flat 6 C7

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a
 2 Praise to the Lord, a-bove all things so won-drous-ly reign -
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore

F Dm $\frac{C}{E}$ F C Dm Am B \flat F B \flat $\frac{C7}{G}$ Dm

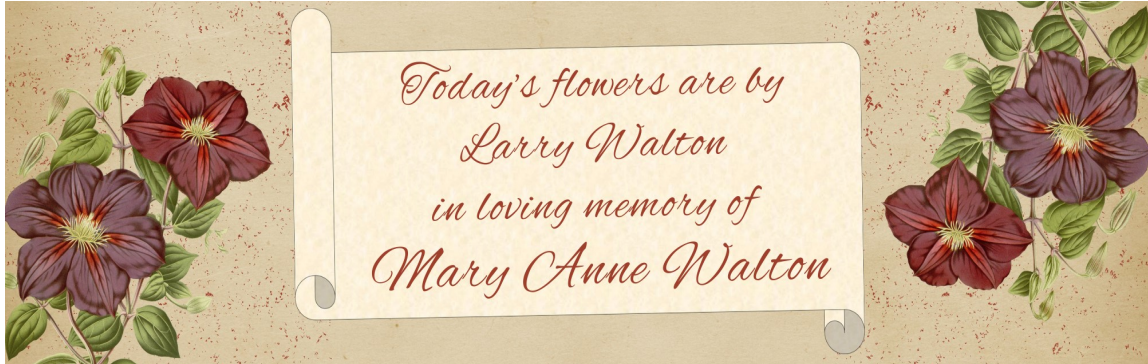
tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal-
 ing; shel-tering you un-der his wings, and so gent-ly sus-
 you: sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy shall dai-ly at-
 him! All that has life and breath, come now with prais-es be-

B \flat 6 C7 F $\frac{C}{E}$ F B \flat F B \flat $\frac{C}{E}$

va tion! Come, all who hear; now to his
 tain - ing! Have you not seen all that is
 tend you. Pon-der a-new what the Al-
 fore him. Let the A-men sound from his

F $\frac{C7}{G}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ C Am B \flat $\frac{C7}{G}$ Dm $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ A $\frac{Gm7}{Bb}$ C7 F

tem-ple draw near, join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
 need-ful has been sent by his gra-cious or-dain-ing?
 might-y can do, if with his love he be-friends you.
 peo-ple a-gain; glad-ly for-ev-er a-dore him.



Today's flowers are by
Larry Walton
in loving memory of
Mary Anne Walton

St. Paul UCC MONDAY FUN-DAY

Everyone is invited to our first monthly
Monday Fun-day on February 24th from 6-8pm!
We can't wait to see you!!!

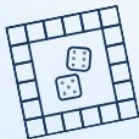


Chair Yoga 6-6:30, Yoga 6:30-7pm - \$10



Pickleball - \$5 (bring your own paddle & ball)

Board Games (bring your own or play Uno!)



115 W. B. St., Belleville



stpaulucc.org



**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

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman
 Carol Hotz
 Marilyn Dinkelman
 Debbie McIntyre, daughter of
 Arline Worms
 Tim Ritter
 Wayne Caughman
 Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy &
 Tim Ritter
 Hector Rivera
 Lou Ann Niemann

Cheryl Cooper
 Debbie Price
 Christopher Mitchell
 Sue Sutherland
 Audrey Krummrich
 Ralph Eckart, brother in-law of
 Marlene Mueller
 James Whitmarsh, nephew of
 Jan Friedrich
 Mike Llamas, brother in law of
 Mimi Llamas

Norma Franke
 Jennifer Wick, daughter of
 Stephenie Bauza
 Jack Snyder
 Venita Jane Rogers
 Dorothy Maiworm
 Jan Friedrich
 Sue Kuether
 Luci Bradley

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



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



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St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

SOUPER-BOWL OF CARING

**Bring in your non-perishable food items
 on Sundays in February!
 February 2, 9, 16 & 23
 for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.**

CANNED ITEMS NEEDED (preferably pull tops):
 Tuna, chicken, ravioli, SpaghettiOs,
 chili with beans, chunky soups!

**Boxes are marked in the Welcome Center to
 cheer on your favorite team with your donations.
 Thank you for participating!**

<u>Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service</u>	
February 2, 2025	90 + Online Participants
February 4, 2024	82 + Online Participants

<u>Weekly Offerings</u>	<u>2/8/2025</u>
Operating	\$ 2,480.00
Building Fund	\$ 5.00
	\$ 2,485.00
Giving YTD	\$ 42,281.25
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 34,713.26
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

St. Paul UCC Annual Meeting
 is February 23, 2025 immediately
 following worship. Annual Reports
 are now available for you to pick up.