



**Sunday, February 9, 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 9, 2025 9:00 am

5th 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> .....	Fred Hotz

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

*Aria*

by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In this place, we seek the presence of God.

**Many: In this space, we yearn to discover companionship from the Divine.**

One: In our lives, we cast our hopes upon an all-loving God

**Many: Knowing that our Creator dreams with us.**

One: Throughout each season, our Divine Partner of Endurance sustains us

**Many: Giving us the strength, the patience, and the desire to live into our callings.**

## INVOCATION (Unison)

**Spirit of Love, as you hover above us, dance below us, encircle us, and energize us, our souls find transformation. No longer do we believe that we are on our own; we belong to you. We are not without companions; we have the love of neighbor sustaining us. In this season of hearts and flowers, open us to new ways of showering love in our world. With gratitude, we celebrate the love of our neighbors when we hurt. With thanksgiving, we celebrate your steadfast love. Allow us to share this love and light with all who ache and all who are lonely. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

# For the Beauty of the Earth

40

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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: Folliot S. Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt.

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

## **\*PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND RECONCILIATION**

One: We often refuse to read the world through your Divine Lens, God. We prefer to find a complete picture of the world through our own scratched, muddied monocle instead of your loving glasses. When we choose our own angles of people, we act out of a partial picture. We refuse to embrace God's detailed depiction of the world and God's people.

**All: We prefer to gaze at your people through the lens of our preconceived notions instead of the spotless spectacles of God offers to us. However we see the world, may we attempt to see others' lives through the perspective of God. May God's steadfast love transform our hearts and reawaken our souls. Amen.**

## **\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

One: Our Divine Partner of Endurance weathers the storms with us and warms our hearts made bitter by hatred. Let us celebrate that God is always traveling with us, sharing grace and love along the way. Amen!

## **ANTHEM**

*Grace*  
by Mark Hayes  
Sanctuary Choir

## **SCRIPTURE**

1 Corinthians 13

## **SERMON**

Love!

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.**

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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. Dr. Cheryl Lindsay for the UCC Worship Ways and Rev. Michelle L. Torigian. Benediction and Installation from the UCC Book of Worship.

## **REFLECTION ON GIVING**

The generous life responds to the love of God and the needs of the world. There is no need that our collective human resources cannot meet because of the abundance of creation. May we celebrate and honor the creation by giving without fear as an act of faith, trust, and love in the Holy One and in one another.

## **COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

Hymn Tune: Maryton

Setting by Dale Wood

### **\*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)**

**Giver of Good Gifts, may the gifts we give reflect your abundance and generosity. Use our time, talent, and treasure to serve our faith community and the world. May each offering be a seed that will grow, spread, and perfume the atmosphere with faith, hope, and love. Amen**

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*      *(See page 6)*

### **\*COMMISSIONING**

Beloved, be amazed and amazing in the world. Be amazed that God goes with you. Be amazed that the Holy One is Rock, Safety, and Trust. Be amazed that you reflect the image of God. Be amazing in your love of neighbor, be amazing in your hope for the world, and be amazing in your faith in the presence of the Holy One at work in you, through you, and with you.

### **\*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**

*The Vision of Isaiah*  
by Martin Luther  
Setting by Ellen Jane Lorenz

# 358 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

B $\flat$  Eb B $\flat$  B $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$  F Eb Eb B $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;  
 3 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;

E $\flat$  B $\flat$  F7 F $\sharp$ dim7 Gm E $\flat$  B $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.  
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:

Gm G $\flat$  G $\flat$  D7 G $\flat$  D B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  F C C7 F7

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  F7 F $\sharp$ dim7 Gm E $\flat$  B $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
 MUSIC: John Zundel (1815-1882)

BEECHER  
 8.7.8.7.D.

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



Today's altar flowers are in memory of  
Vincent Torigian's birthday on Feb. 7th!

by Pastor Michelle

## 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!)**



**BRING  
FRIENDS!!!**



115 W. B. St., Belleville



[stpaulucc.org](http://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  
 The loved ones of Lynn Bradley

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



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



Like us on Facebook  
*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>	
January 26, 2025	90 + Online Participants
January 28, 2024	84 + Online Participants

<b>Weekly Offerings</b>	<b>2/1/2025</b>
*Operating	\$ 20,510.00
Building Fund	\$ 425.00
	<u>\$ 20,935.00</u>
<b>Giving YTD</b>	<b>\$ 39,796.25</b>
<b>*2 large donations</b>	
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 27,770.61
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 361,017.89</b>

