



Sunday, April 27, 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

April 27, 2025 ~ 9:00 am

Second Sunday of Easter



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian
<i>Director of Music</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Fred Hotz

WELCOME

Rev. Michelle Torigian

PRELUDE

Sarabande from Partita 1 in B flat, BWV 825
by J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Coming on the clouds or walking on the roads,

Many: The Christ is in our midst.

One: Inside of sanctuaries or outside of church buildings,

Many: The Christ is in our midst.

One: In heaven's realm or the cyber universe,

Many: The Christ is in our midst.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

God of the visible and invisible-

We gaze upon roads ahead knowing that you are ahead of us. We seek your presence when the fog is heavy and our hearts are hurting. In the moments of haze, clear the path before us. In the moments of clarity, show your face to us. Allow us to hear your voice in the depths of night as we search for your presence and call. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Christ Is Alive

C G7 C F G7 C G C
 D E D D E

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live and comes to bring good news to

G7 C G7 C G7 C G G B D G G B
 D F E D G B D G B

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age; till earth and sky and

C G D7 G G F C C Dm7 Dm6 C Dm C G7 C
 D D F E F G F G

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

***PRAYER OF REFLECTION (UNISON)**

Spirit of Serenity-

You tell us “peace be with you,” but we set that peace aside to live with drama and chaos. We are drawn to highly emotional situations instead of the peace that only comes from you. How can we set aside turmoil to live within your realm of peace? When we cannot sense your holy tranquility surrounding us, open our souls to your warm and calming presence. May we embrace your peace and scatter serenity into our world. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Even when doubts creep into our minds and take root in our souls, you give us the peace and grace we need to continue on the journey. For your love and mercy, we give you thanks!

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

(See page 8)

MISSION MOMENT

Pastor Michelle’s Sabbatical

ANTHEM

Alleluia! Sing Praise - Chorale from Cantata No. 142
by J.S. Bach, adapted by Charles Hirt
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-31

SERMON

Hope and Faith

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

We hold many gifts in our hearts and minds. As we sense your presence surrounding us, Holy One, may we discern ways to use our talents and treasures for the health of your realm.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

Promised Land

Traditional American Spiritual, arr. by Jan Sanborn

***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)**

Holy God, Holy Light: Even when our surroundings are murky, you shine around us. Even in the long nights of discernment and wonder, you make your presence known, calling us to use all of our gifts to enhance this world. May the gifts we share today and each day hereafter create a Church of grace and a Community of love. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

He Lives

(See pages 6 &7)

Hymn Tune: ACKLEY

***COMMISSIONING**

No matter the brightness of the day or the clear skies of night, our God is moving with us, the Christ is calling to us "Peace be with you," and the Holy Spirit is surrounding us. May Divine Serenity be our companion as we build the realm of God on earth. 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

Minuets 1 and 2 from Partita 1
by Ludwig van Beethoven

(See Prelude)

He Lives

1 I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
2 In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
3 Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in G major, 6/8 time. The treble staff contains the vocal melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in three numbered lines corresponding to the three verses.

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er some may say;
and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting with a capital 'I' and the second line starting with a lowercase 'and'.

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting with a capital 'I' and the second line starting with a lowercase 'I'.

and just the time I need him he's al - ways near.
the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

The fourth system concludes the hymn. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting with a lowercase 'and' and the second line starting with a lowercase 'the'.

Refrain

He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
he lives, he lives,

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.

He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
he lives, he lives,

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.

Liturgy written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian for UCC Worship Ways. Benediction and UCC Statement of Faith from UCC Book of Worship. 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.

This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

*Notes where to stand if comfortably able.

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

**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.**



St. Paul Friends announces the annual observance of,
Kentucky Derby Day: **The Run for The Roses**

Saturday, May 3

Start Time 3:00 P.M.

At the home of Lyn and Kris Mueller
429 Weatherstone Dr.
Belleville 62221

Bring a favorite beverage, an appetizer to share and \$10.00
for "The Good of the Cause."

St. Paul UCC

MONDAY FUN-DAY

Our next Monday Fun-Day is April 28, from 6-8pm!
We hope to see you!!! Everyone is welcome!
Building a better community!

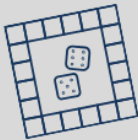


Chair Yoga 6-6:30, Yoga 6:30-7pm - \$10



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

Board Games (bring your own or play Uno!)



**BRING YOUR
FRIENDS!!!**



115 W. B. St., Belleville

stpaulucc.org



GRIEFWORKS

An LGBTQIA+
Grief Support Group

Announcing a new Grief Support Group
For anyone (18+) in the LGBTQIA+ Community
Who has experienced loss and is struggling with grief

INTRODUCTORY MEETING

Monday, April 28, 2025

6:30-8:00 pm

St. Paul UCC

115 West B Street

Belleville, IL 62220

(Use side entrance under portico)

Contact griefworks2025@gmail.com for more information

St. Paul Fine Arts Concert Series
presents

Early Music Missouri
Vivaldi's Four Seasons



Daniel Lee, violin soloist

Early Music Missouri Chamber Orchestra
Timothy Esbing, viola d'amore soloist & Baroque viola
Edmond Chan & Celina Boldrey, Baroque violins
Sarah Berezga, harpsichord

Stephanie Hunt, Baroque cello
Jeffrey Noonan, theorbo

Anita Hagerman, bass
Patrick Rafferty, Baroque guitar

The Early Music Missouri Chamber Orchestra

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
115 West B Street
Belleville, IL 62220
May 2, 2025
7:00 pm
Free Admission
More information at www.stpaulucc.org



Seekers Bible Study



Tuesdays @ 10am

St. Paul UCC Genesis Room
115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220
618-233-3303



MOTHER'S DAY HONOR ROLL

The Mission Board invites you to honor your Mother (or any special woman in your life) on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11th! Give a donation in her name and she will be placed on the Mother's Day Honor Roll in the bulletin on Mother's Day! This year the Mission Board will focus these contributions to Camp Dubois and Kindercottage.

Please place this form with your donation in the offering box or mail/drop off to the church office by May 4th.

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CIRCLE ONE: IN MEMORY OF OR IN HONOR OF

MOTHER / LOVED ONE'S NAME

YOUR NAME

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 | Lou Ann Niemann
Debbie Price
Christopher Mitchell
Sue Sutherland
Audrey Krummrich
Ralph Eckart, brother in-law of Marlene Mueller
Mike Llamas, brother in law of Mimi Llamas | Jennifer Wick, daughter of Stephenie Bauza
Venita Jane Rogers
Dorothy Maiworm
Luci Bradley
JoAnn Elmore
Nancy Davis |
|---|--|--|



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



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



Like us on Facebook
St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

CAMP DUBOIS WORK WEEK

May 12-16

TO DO LIST:

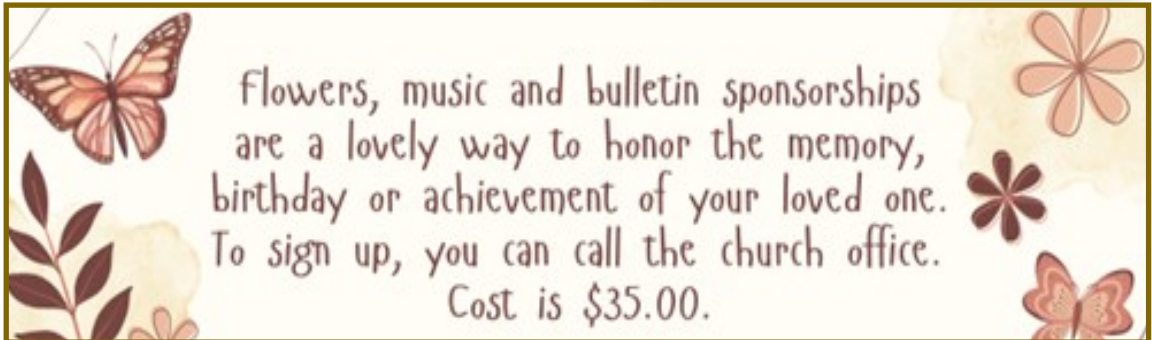
- Build a climbing wall
- Dismantle a deck
- Painting




If you can help, please
 call Roger Harris 618-631-4502.

Weekly Offerings	4/19/2025
Operating	\$ 3,914.00
Building Fund	\$ 152.00
	\$ 4,066.00
Giving YTD	\$ 123,580.25
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 104,139.78
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service	
April 13, 2025	90 + Online Participants
April 14, 2024	85 + Online Participants



Flowers, music and bulletin sponsorships
 are a lovely way to honor the memory,
 birthday or achievement of your loved one.
 To sign up, you can call the church office.
 Cost is \$35.00.