



Sunday, April 6, 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 6, 2025 9:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

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>	Donna Davis

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Meditation

by Fernand de la Tombelle

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 130)

Now in this time as you gave your Son, grant us thy peace.

All: Now in this time as you gave your Son, grant us thy peace.

Choir: My soul waits for the Lord, and in His word I hope, for with the Lord there is steadfast love.

All: Now in this time as you gave your Son, grant us thy peace.

INVOCATION (Unison)

Holy One, whether we are eager to draw near to you, or we are cautious, whether we are certain of your guidance, or we are unsure how you call to us, you are present. Open our senses and open our hearts to experience your fullness. Amen.

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. Ruth Garwood for UCC Worship Ways. Communion liturgy written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian. Benediction from the UCC Book of Worship.

*OPENING HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

E \flat Cm F \flat B \flat E \flat E \flat Cm C F \flat B \flat E \flat
 A \flat D B \flat A \flat

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

E \flat A \flat A \flat E \flat E \flat E \flat B \flat 7 E \flat B \flat
 C D

O thou of God and man the Son,
 robbed in the bloom - ing garb of spring:
 and all the twin - kling, star - ry host:
 Son of God and Son of man!

E \flat A \flat E \flat C7 F \flat C7 F \flat B \flat 7 E \flat
 G B \flat G A \flat A \flat

thee will I cher - ish, thee will I hon - or,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

E \flat G7 Cm E \flat 7 A \flat E \flat B \flat 7 E \flat
 D G B \flat

thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown!
 who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

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

Holy Jesus, you call us to follow you. We want to respond, but our attention flutters. One day we are steady disciples and another day we are distracted by the clamors of the world or by our own needs. Forgive our wavering commitment and make us more reliable disciples. May we each day respond when you beckon, becoming ever more faithful. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

God is continually creating, doing a new thing in us. Where we have erred, God brings us back into God's embrace. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

ANTHEM

Hymn of Creation
by Dan Forrest
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

John 12:1-8

SERMON

The Focus

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

As we determine how to use our resources, let us consider what we have received and how sharing both supports others and enlarges us. Let us offer our tithes and offerings to God through the work of this church.

***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)**

Holy One, bless these gifts and our lives, that we and our offerings may serve your purposes. May they honor your Divine Love as seen through Christ, and may all of our gifts build your Realm on this earth. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sentences of Invitation

One: God is with you!

Many: And God is with us all.

One: Open wide your hearts.

Many: We open them completely to the Spirit of God.

One: May God's love nurture your wandering spirits each day.

Many: May God's light sustain your souls each night.

Communion Prayer and Words of Remembrance

Distribution of the Elements

All are welcome at the Table of Christ! Ushers will release the pews to come forward. Gluten free communion will be in the basket on the table. If you would like white grape juice or wine please take a cup. Bread will be served in your cupped hand, then select grape juice (white juice) in outer ring, wine (red) in inner two rings. Consume the elements and place cup in tray before returning to the pew. If you need service in the pew, please raise your hand.

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Lord's Prayer

by Albert Hay Malotte, Bill Guthrie, soloist

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Divine Light of Our Journey-

In a spirit of gratitude we give thanks for this time at your Holy Meal. This time at the Table filled us with strength, knowing that as we continue on this Lenten journey, we will find your peace surrounding us. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

How Firm a Foundation

(See next page)

***COMMISSIONING**

Friends, as you choose each day to follow Jesus, may each next step be clear. May you trust that the blessings of God are with you this day and always. 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

To God All Praise and Glory

(Mit Freuden Zart)

Setting by Roger C. Wilson

411 How Firm a Foundation

G C $\frac{G}{B}$ G D

1 How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
 3 "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fier-y tri-als your path-way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je-sus still leans for re- pose,

G C $\frac{G}{B}$ Em $\frac{G}{D}$ D G

is laid for your faith in his ex-cel-lent Word!
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
 the riv-ers of sor-row shall not o-ver-flow;
 my grace, all suf-fi-cient, shall be your sup-ply;
 I will not, I will not de-sert to its foes;

G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ Em C G D

What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength-en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be with you in trou-ble to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you, I on-ly de-sign
 that soul, though all hell should en-deav-or to shake,

G C $\frac{G}{B}$ Em $\frac{G}{D}$ D G

to you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?
 up-held by my right-eous, om-nip-o-tent hand.
 and sanc-ti-fy to you your deep-est dis-tress.
 your dross to con-sume, and your gold to re-fine.
 I'll nev-er, no, nev-er, no, nev-er for-sake!"

SAVE THE DATE

SPIFF UP ST. PAUL DAY

**Saturday, April 12, 2025
9:00 a.m. until noon**

A variety of tasks to be completed both inside and out (weather permitting).

Donuts provided to give you extra energy!



We hope to see you there!



ST. PAUL UCC

WEBMASTER VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Our current webmaster is ready to turn the responsibility over to someone new. If you have web skills or are willing to learn, please contact Roger Harris @ 618-631-4502

STPAULUCC.ORG

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

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday
April 17th @ 7pm
Dinner @ 5:30pm

Good Friday
April 18th @ 7pm

Easter Sunday
April 20th @ 9am

Please join us in person, live on facebook or on youtube!

St. Paul UCC
115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL
618-233-3303 ~ stpaulucc.org



ECUMENICAL MAUNDY THURSDAY

**APRIL
17**

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
115 WEST B STREET, BELLEVILLE
Dinner in Heritage Hall at 5:30pm
Worship in the Sanctuary at 7pm

**Sign up sheet
located in the
Welcome Center**

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman
 Carol Hotz
 Marilyn Dinkelmann
 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
 The loved ones of Cheryl Cooper

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

Flowers *and* Fascinator's Tea

Please Join Us
 Sunday, April 27
 2 - 4 p.m. in Heritage Hall
 For Our
 Mother, Daughter, Friend:
 Flowers *and* Fascinator's Tea

Reservations are \$10.
 Children under 12, free!
 Reservations can be made on Sunday
 mornings in the Welcome Center,
 or through the church office.
 Payment is due when the reservation is made.
 Hats & fascinators are encouraged
 but not required.

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

Weekly Offerings	3/29/2025
Operating	\$ 1,645.00
Building Fund	\$ 10.00
	\$ 1,655.00
Giving YTD	\$ 95,247.25
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 83,311.82
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service	
March 23, 2025	80 + Online Participants
March 24, 2024	127 + 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.