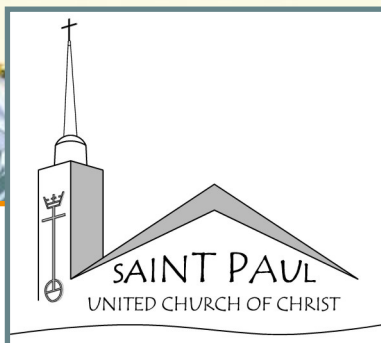


“June 1st

WELCOME!

We start the month with
energy and positivity! ”



**“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**



Sunday, June 1, 2025 ~ 9:00 am
Seventh Sunday of Easter

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Guest Pastor</i>	Rev. Dr. Chance Beeler
<i>Director of Music</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Donna Davis

WELCOME

PRELUDE

A Trumpeter's Lullaby, by Leroy Anderson
Jack Wilson, trumpet

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Creator, today we give you thanks

ALL: for believing we can be born again.

One: Creator, today we give you thanks

ALL: for the diversity of which all of Your creation is birthed.

One: Creator, today we give you thanks

ALL: for the knowledge that we aren't always right and for the capability to change.

One: Creator, today we give you thanks

ALL: for the desire to change structures and institutions that tell us community is less valuable than the individual.

One: Creator, today we give you thanks

ALL: for the positivity, resistance, and beauty in this sometimes ugly world.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Creator, be with us as we live into all that is possible. You sent us a human to show us the value and dignity and beauty of all people. You created the change of seasons as a reminder of the beauty of our planet. We were not made sinful by design as so many interpretations go – You created us in Your image with the capabilities of loving so vastly and so greatly that healing and reconciliation are possible. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

388

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

John 15:12; 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-6, 11-16

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Words Copyright © 1975 by Hope Publishing Company

*PRAYER OF REFLECTION (UNISON)

Creator, we have been led astray by the systems that promote individuality, greed, and absolutism. We know that you forgive us because You invite us into new birth again and again. You invite us to embody new understandings of collectivity and new ways of acting in and towards the world – to be witness to the evils of this world and ask us instead, to give gratitude and love. Be with us as we change to become more of what You ask us to be – joyful in the journey towards true Grace.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

We are indeed capable of opening our minds and our hearts and then to move in the world to live like Jesus had. We are looking up and looking out so that we may love, repent, and forgive one another for we do indeed sense the image of You sprinkled throughout all of Creation.

ANTHEM

Soon and Very Soon
arr. Mark Hayes
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

John 17:20-26

Donna Davis

SERMON

Learning to Listen

Rev. Dr. Chance Beeler

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

***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)**

O God, you offer us wonderful gifts. In these offerings, may we dream of a time that doesn't yet exist and universe that seems so far away. May we celebrate our dreams as we pray with the hope of Christ Jesus. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All the parts of this shared meal together come from the Earth.
The seeds of grain grew with patience, tenderness and love.
They were then gathered and milled into a loaf to be shared communally.
The grapes used on this cup we also grown with patience, tenderness and love.
They were gathered by the hands of migrant workers and pressed into juice to be shared communally.
We were reminded at the start of Lent this year that we, too, are from the Earth and that with patience, tenderness, and love we find ourselves here collectively willing to partake of elements that are meant to spark a new type of living in the world.

Creator be with us all.

Many: We remember
the land from which we came
Lift up your hearts

Many: We remember
the patience and tenderness needed
Lift up our hearts

Many: We remember
the sacrifice You made to help us believe
Lift up our hearts.

On the night Jesus was betrayed, he took the bread and asked the disciples to imagine it as both whole and broken, for in both states, it is a symbol of what was and yet still to come. Take, eat, and remember. He then took the cup asking the disciples to imagine what it feels like to be both empty and then full, for in both states, he shared that G-d is indeed with us. Take, eat, and remember.

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

Here's One ("...talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one.")
Traditional American Spiritual, setting by Mark Hayes

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Holy Creator, we find ourselves in this moment alongside others but really, it is just you and me – help me to live out the life Your son called me live – to be in embodied communion with you and one another. I give you my glory and honor for they are Yours Almighty Creator, now and forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling

(See page 7)

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*Notes where to stand if comfortably able.

*COMMISSIONING

Through these shared rituals, we are shown what it is to be both whole and broken, and empty and full in order for us to embody the hope of abundant life in the presence of death and that we are not in this alone – that G-d came to help us better know what it is to be a healing community and a healed community. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

“Even a wounded world is feeding us. Even a wounded world holds us, giving us moments of wonder and joy. I choose joy over despair. Not because I have my head in the sand, but because joy is what the earth gives me daily and I must return the gift,” — Robin Wall Kimmerer, Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants

POSTLUDE

Sing for Joy!
by Lani Smith

Today's altar flowers are in honor of
Vi Nettleton's birthday!
by Ken Nettleton

THE GREAT PUZZLE RACE

You can be a
puzzle
sponsor for
\$15!

Wednesday, June 18th - 6:30-9:00PM

Cost is \$10 per person max of 4 people per table.

Attendance prizes and a prize for 1st and 2nd place winners.
Bring your own drinks and snacks popcorn will be provided.

Sign up
by
JUNE 9th!

Sponsored by St Paul UCC Mission and Christian Education Teams.

Profits will be used to support, St. Pauls UCC Community Dinner, Kindercottage, Hoyleton, Beacon Ministries, Dubois Center.

RSVP by mailing or dropping off a check or cash to the office!

115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220

**or Scan the Paypal QR Code
(put puzzle race in the memo)**



618-233-3303 or email swilhelm@stpaulucc.org




**STARTING JUNE 10TH
THE SHUFFLERS ARE
RESHUFFLING!**

Those who like to play cards
and have good conversation,
come on the 2nd Tuesday of
the month at 1:00 p.m to
Pastor Kuether's house.

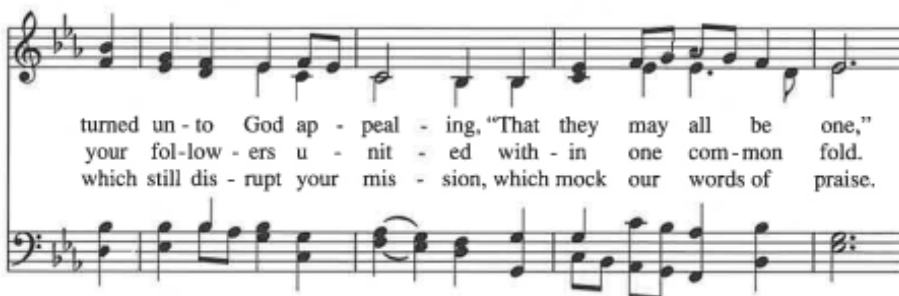
For directions,
call 618-616-0077.

John 17:20-23

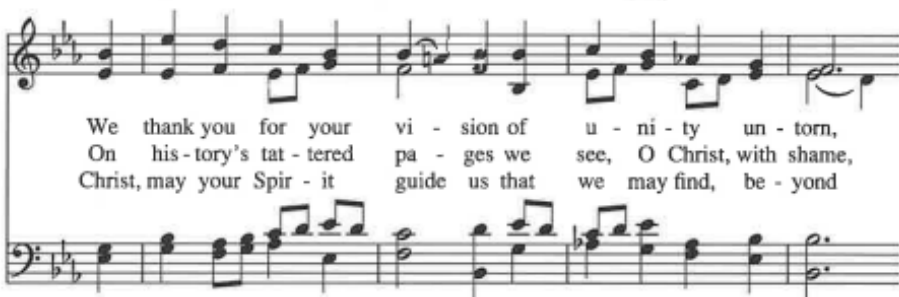
William W. Reid, Jr., 1976; alt.



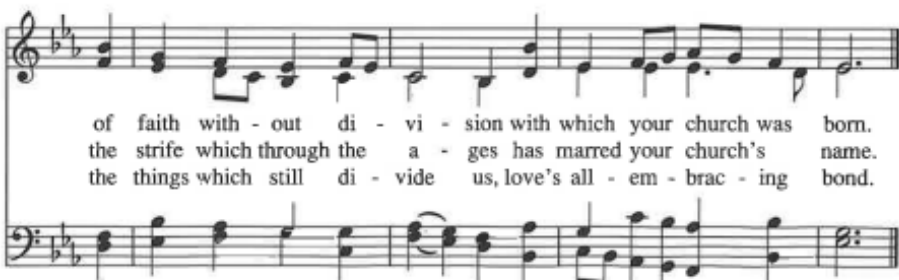
1 E - ter - nal Christ, who, kneel - ing when earth - ly tasks were done,
 2 But we have of - ten slight - ed the ties de - signed to hold
 3 Ac - cept our deep con - tri - tion for all our sun - dering ways



turned un - to God ap - peal - ing, "That they may all be one,"
 your fol - low - ers u - nit - ed with - in one com - mon fold.
 which still dis - rupt your mis - sion, which mock our words of praise.



We thank you for your vi - sion of u - ni - ty un - torn,
 On his - tory's tat - tered pa - ges we see, O Christ, with shame,
 Christ, may your Spir - it guide us that we may find, be - yond



of faith with - out di - vi - sion with which your church was born.
 the strife which through the a - ges has marred your church's name.
 the things which still di - vide us, love's all - em - brac - ing bond.

William Watkins Reid, Jr., is a pastor, author, hymnwriter, and past member of the executive committee of The Hymn Society. He takes an active part in politics at all levels, and his hymns are often written as responses to current events.

Tune: NYLAND 7.6.7.6.D.
 Finnish hymn melody
 Harm. David Evans, 1927

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman
Carol Hotz
Tim Ritter
Wayne Caughman
Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy &
Tim Ritter
Lou Ann Niemann

Debbie Price
Christopher Mitchell
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
Bette Rotert Bennett



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

Weekly Offerings	5/25/2025
Operating	\$ 2,762.00
Building Fund	\$ 305.00
	\$ 3,067.00
Giving YTD	\$ 157,202.25
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 138,853.03
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

May 18, 2025 106 + Online Participants
May 19, 2024 104 + Online Participants



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



Like us on Facebook
St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

St. Paul UCC

MONDAY FUN-DAY

Our next Monday Fun-Day is **June 23rd**, from 6-8pm!
We hope to see you!!! Everyone is welcome!
Building a better community!



NO YOGA THIS MONTH ONLY!



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

PLEASE JOIN US . . .

CULINAIRE'S Breakfast

**SUNDAY
JUNE 22**



A FREE WILL OFFERING IS SUGGESTED.