



Worship Bulletin

**December 31, 2017
9:00 am Worship**



**"No matter who you are,
no matter where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here."**

Welcome ~ We are glad you are here!

9 am	Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
11 am	Celebration Service in Heritage Hall

Information for friends...new and old.

- **Weekly Sunday morning services ~**
9am Traditional Service with hymns and Children's Church, when your children can go for a lesson after our Children's time & can be picked up after service in the Welcome Center. We also have our family-friendly **11am Celebration Service** with our B Street Band, who play contemporary music. Please feel free to try one or both styles of worship.
- **The Nursery is open during 9 am services.** If the small person who is with you gets wiggly, there are toys & books to enjoy. Please feel free to visit whenever needed!
- Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and large Bibles (in church library) are available .
- **Our Worship Service is broadcast on KSTL-690 AM radio & streamed on Jubilee690.com at 9am Sundays and repeated at 9pm.**
- **Please sign the Pew Pad today.** If you are new to St. Paul UCC, please fill in your contact information and we will happily contact you as you wish.
- **When you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital,** please ask the hospitals to notify the church office. Also please telephone the Church Office regarding hospitalized members of the St. Paul faith family. The pastors will visit church members and their families each week. If you have a new addition to your family, please contact the church office so we can keep our records current. **Your telephone call is crucial to our ministry!**

115 West "B" Street, Belleville (618) 233-3303

www.stpaulucc.org

St. Paul United Church of Christ

New Year's Eve

December 31, 2017 9:00 am

OT = Old Testament NT = New Testament † Please stand if able

PRELUDE

Christmas Day has Come

James Biery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECK the SOULS from Isaiah 61

One: I will sing for joy in God,

Many: And explode in praise from deep in my soul!

One: He dressed me up in a suit of salvation;

Many: He outfitted me in a robe of righteousness!

One: Just like a bridegroom, who puts on a tuxedo,

Many: Or a bride wears a jeweled tiara!

One: For as the earth bursts with spring wildflowers

Many: And a garden cascades with blossoms,

One: So the Master, God, brings into full bloom

Many: And puts righteous praise on display before all!

+CALLING HYMN 313

Joy to the World

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

What Time Is It?

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM *Christ was Born on Christmas Day*

Shaw/Parker

SERMON from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 & Luke 2:25-40

OT p. 581 & NT p. 55

A Time to Renew

A COVENANT RENEWAL

John Wesley

One: I am no longer my own, but thine;
Many: Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
One: Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Many: Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
One: Exalted by thee or brought low by thee.
Many: Let me be full, let me be empty;
One: Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
Many: I freely and heartily yield all things
One: To thy pleasure and disposal.
Many: And now, O glorious and blessed God,
One: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Many: Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
One: And the covenant which I have made on earth,
All: Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen

OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

From Heaven Above to Earth I Came

Paul Kickstat

+DOXOLOGY 356

+DEDICATION PRAYER

+SHARING the PEACE

PRAYERS for the PEOPLE with THE LORD'S PRAYER

NOW and FOREVER from Revelation 21:1-6a

NT p. 244

+SENDING HYMN 94

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

+SENDING PRAYER

Someday, O God, we'll come before you in awe, finally aware of all your best gifts. We'll see them between the wrapping and paper, and at the right time see your glory and love! For now we can dare to believe it is YOU—bringing hope, peace and joy with a time to renew. Thank you for Jesus and the best gifts of all, especially your LOVE that is now and forever! Amen

+POSTLUDE

Tomorrow Shall be Our Dancing Day

James Biery



NEWS & NOTES

Dec 31, 2017

2018

Happy New Year!

ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE

Annual Reports are due in the church office by **January 1, 2018**. Thank you!

St. Paul Culinares will be cooking Next Sunday, Jan 7th !!

Join us in the Activities Center after the Traditional Service for fellowship and fun!



We want to know **YOU** are here!
Please make sure to sign in the pew pad in your pew.



UPCOMING ADULT CHRISTIAN ED CLASSES

LISTEN UP—THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

God's word is alive. God will always have something new to say to us. That's why the purpose of the *LISTEN UP! Bible Study* series is not simply learning information about the Bible. It is hearing God speak. There is a difference. In these Bible studies, you will be encouraged to listen: listen to the Bible, listen to your own questions and responses, and listen to the honest sharing among participants in your study group. Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, we believe that in that mix of biblical text, personal engagement, and honest speaking and listening, God's word may be heard, speaking words of challenge and words of comfort.

The Gospel of Luke Starting in January
Tuesday mornings facilitated by Kris Mueller

CRAFTY MANIA

Proceeds to Benefit: A Mission of the Church

Are you a Scrapbooker, Card Maker, Jewelry Maker, or like to Sew?
What ever your craft, join us!! Spend the day doing what you like!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!



What: All Day Crafting
When: Saturday - Feb 3rd, 2018
8:30am - 4:00pm
Where: St. Paul UCC
115 West B st (enter on C st)
Belleville, IL

Adults: \$30.00 with lunch / \$25 no lunch

Includes: snacks, vendors, reserved space, attendance prizes,

Extended Hours Available! 9am-10:30pm \$35.00 per person (meals served) / NO meals \$30

Contact Person: Diana Haar @ (618)233-3303

dmhaar@charter.net

**** ENTER RAFFLE TO WIN A CRICUT CARTRIDGE, ACCESSORIES &
other raffle items. Raffle tickets available for purchase.**

***** Early bird registration due January 8th (to be entered in special drawing)**

Reservation Deadline is January 22nd

Make checks payable to: St. Paul UCC
Mail payment & reservation to: St. Paul UCC
115 West B st
Belleville, IL 62221
Attn: Crafty Mania

Name: _____
Phone _____ E-mail (print clearly) _____

I would like to sit by _____

My craft is _____

Enclosed is my payment of (please circle ONE below)

- 1 \$30.00 with lunch / \$25.00 no lunch 9am - 4pm
- 2 \$35.00 with lunch & dinner / \$30.00 no meals 9am - 11pm

**2018 FINE ARTS
CONCERT SEASON**

**UNIVERSITY of ILLINOIS
CHAMBER SINGERS**

Friday, January 12, 2018
at 7:30 pm

**A VALENTINE
DINNER & CONCERT**

FEATURING
Sounds of Harmony Chorus
Saturday, February 10, 2018
Dinner at 6:15 pm
Concert at 7:15 pm
No ticket is required for the concert only

**CELEBRATION OF
AMERICAN POPULAR SONG**

Tom Birkner & Paul Johnson
Sunday, April 20, 2018 at 7:30pm

**RED, WHITE, & BLUE REVUE
& Picnic Supper**

Sunday, June 3, 2018 at 3 pm

In lieu of tickets, a free will offering is received.




**— This week at —
St. Paul UCC**

Please see stpaulucc.org
for full calendar of events!

- Sun, Dec 31 New Year's Eve
9am Traditional Service
11am Celebration Service
- Mon, Jan 1 Church Closed
- Tues, Jan 2 9am Quilters
3pm Gov French
5pm Comm Dinner
7pm Search Comm
- Wed, Jan 3 10:30 Staff Mtg
Band / Bells / Choir
- Thurs, Jan 4 3pm Gov French
4pm Masterworks
6pm Worship Bd-Library
- Fri, Jan 5 3pm Gov French
5pm Basketball

Weekly Attendance	<u>Dec 17, 2017</u>	<u>Dec 16, 2016</u>
9am / 10:45	122/no count	closed-weather

General Fund

Offering for 12/17/2017 - \$17,704	Needed each week \$14,023
Giving to Date  \$704,350	
Budget to..  \$715,173	
Total Budget  \$729,201	

For Our Prayers

Margaret Birkner - Judy Beisiegel
Marilee Black - Janet Heil - Janice King
Marsha McCoy - The Family of Jim Means
The Family of Sue Northern - Deb O'Neill
Larry & Cookie Riblet - Stephen Schmidt - Mary Anne Walton

For Our Pastoral Search

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (*Jeremiah 29:11-13*)

Pray for the search committee and the church to hope in God and seek God's will wholeheartedly, knowing that God has plans for our future.

For Our Thoughts

At Christmas, I am struck by how the "spirit of togetherness" lies at the heart of the Christmas story. Poor shepherds and visitors from afar joined a young mother and a dutiful father with their baby. They came with their gifts to worship the Christ child.

Queen Elizabeth II, 21st century

Each day provides its own gifts.

Marcus Aurelius, 2nd century

One of the greatest strains in life is the strain of waiting for God.

Oswald Chambers, 20th century

Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers.

Garth Brooks, 21st century