



Sunday, December 4, 2022
2nd Sunday of Advent

“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

December 4, 2022 ~ 9:00 am

2nd Sunday of Advent

Communion Sunday



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian
<i>Director of Music</i>	Tristan Frampton
<i>Guest Organist</i>	Robert Chamberlin
<i>Liturgist</i>	Roger Harris

WELCOME

Rev. Michelle Torigian

PRELUDE

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Tune: Picardy)
Setting by Robert Chamberlin

CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Isaiah 11:1-10 and Romans 15:4-13)

One: A shoot comes from Jesse's stump, and a branch shall spring from roots.

All: Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

One: A leader comes who will lift the poor with righteousness around his waist.

All: Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

One: A child comes from an innocent place, with wisdom and might he'll lead the way.

All: Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

INVOCATION (UNISON) (Inspired by Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19)

God of the waiting wanderers in the wilderness-

We enter this moment of worship expecting that when we leave this hour of prayer, we will be full of the courage needed to stand as a signal. We come to the mountain to feel closer to your presence, O God. May the mountains yield prosperity for your people. May righteousness flourish and peace abound. You, alone, are the God who does wondrous things. May your glory fill this place as we worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

153 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F F A Gm Dm C F
F E F A G Bb

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

F C F Gm C7 F C Dm C F C7 F F A Gm Dm C F
F E F A G Bb

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.

Am Dm Gm7 C7 Dm7 C7 F F E Dm F A G# Gm Bbmaj7 Csus C
E E A

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

F F6 Gm C7 F F Bm7(b5) C7 Bb C7 F F7 Bb F A Bb F C7 F
A E F E D E D E A Bb A Bb C

dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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

Holy Vessel of Peace, we admit that we do not always stand as a signal for your righteousness. In the hustle and bustle of our lives, we have left little room to share the Good News. We have little energy to be your hands and feet in a world that needs us now more than ever. In the warm belly of comfort, many of us have relaxed in the ways we are privileged and forgot the needs of the least of these. Forgive us, O God. Give us the courage to stand tall, to follow in the footsteps of the one who came to secure justice for the poor, bring equity to the meek, and create a realm of loving-kindness. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND HOPE**

Beloved, know that God's grace and mercy abound, and in God and Christ, we are forgiven. Let us live into this gift. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Pastor Michelle

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10

ANTHEM

A Shoot Shall Come Forth, by Richard Horn
Sanctuary Choir

SERMON

Peace Under the Branch

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.

Today's music is sponsored by Ruth Klingel
in loving memory of David Klingel
who passed away on November 30, 2016



REFLECTION ON GIVING

We believe in the God of mercy, justice, and righteousness, and God believes in us to carry forth the mission of loving and caring for community. As we share our gifts and resources so that we may continue to walk humbly with God and with neighbors.

*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)

We dedicate our gifts that have been shared for the fortification of the beloved community. Let our gifts transform the world. Let them be a signal to the people that there is a God who loves, heals, and sets free. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sentences of Invitation

One: May you know that the God of comfort is with you.

Many: And may you see the God of hope with you.

One: Open wide our anxious hearts!

Many: We open them to God's peace.

One: Let us give thanks and share our joy.

Many: In this space and time, we offer God our love and praise.

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

For the nourishment of spirit, mind, and body, for hope that we begin to see, and for comfort from the Prince of Peace, we share our gratitude, Gracious God. Encourage us in these shortened days. Through the long nights of this season, may your hope carry us until dawn arrives again. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

TRURO

(see page 7)

*COMMISSIONING

Let us go forth knowing that we are led by God, that we are held by God, that we are loved by God. Let us know that God empowers us as God holds and leads and loves us; and knowing all that, let us stand as a signal that the glory of God dwells with us now and forever more.

*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

Hark, the Glad Sound! (Tune: Chesterfield)

Setting by Paul Manz



SAVE THE DATE:
St. Paul UCC
Congregational
Meeting to discuss the
2023 budget and
nominations to council
is December 11
immediately after
worship.
Copies of the budget
and nominations in
the Narthex.

176 Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

1 Lift up your heads, O might - y gates; be - hold, the
2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
4 So come, my Sov - ereign, en - ter in! Let new and

King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
you: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me your in - ner
no - bler life be - gin! Your Ho - ly Spir - it

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
pres - ence feel: your grace and love in me re - veal.
guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

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This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

*Notes where to stand if comfortably able.

Liturgy written by Rev. Mia M. McClain. Communion liturgy written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigion. Advent Candle Lighting written by Sonja Ingebritsen for the book *From the Psalms to the Clouds: Connecting to the Digital Age*. Benediction 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.

Archives Artifacts - St. Paul trivia from the desk of Roger Henke

On October 10, 1981, our church held several performances of the sanctuary organ and carillon bells as well as tours on the sanctuary windows and architecture. Why?

This Week

Sundays

- 9am Traditional Worship
10am Coffee Hour after worship
Culinaire's Breakfast 3rd
Sunday of the month.

Here is how to stay in touch with St. Paul

1) **Watch the services and check for event updates on FACBOOK -**

Like us at *St. Paul United Church of Christ Belleville, IL*

2) **Go to stpaulucc.org**

-and you will find: videos of services, sermons, archives, and much more!!

3) **Listen to the radio! 690am**

9am Live Sundays & repeat at 9pm

4) **Sign up for the eNews (Newsletter)!**



Like us on Facebook
*St Paul United Church of Christ,
Belleville, Illinois*



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

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman
Carol Hotz
Shirley Martin
Marilyn

Dinkelmann

Debbie McIntyre,
daughter of Arline
Worms

Scott Schmidt, brother
of Steve Schmidt

Brian Sample, nephew
of Kathy Birkner

Christopher Mitchell

Steve Schmidt

Darwin Bretsch

Otto Christopher
Kennedy, great
nephew of Scott Lana
Gentry

Laura Howie, daughter
of Jeanette & Elgee
Phillips

Betty Rieso

Ethel Klasing, aunt of
Jerry Pierce-Heisler

Alec Zaber

Vicky Decker, daughter
of Ron Dill

Lynwood Mueller

Please send prayer requests to
pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org
or call 618-233-3303

**ANSWER: We hosted as part of the Arts
Walk in downtown Belleville in conjunction
with the Illinois Arts Council.**

Weekly Attendance

9am November 13, 2022 74 + Online Participants November 14, 2021 74 + Online Participants

Offering for 11/19/2022 - \$4,117.00

General Fund

Needed each week \$7,696

Giving to..  \$358,909

Budget to..  \$354,016

Total Budget  \$400,199