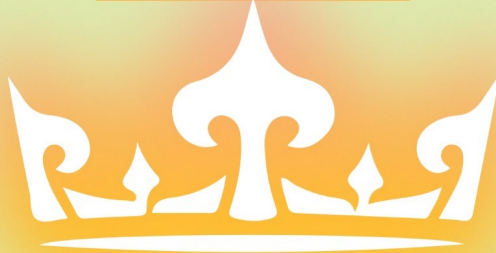


# REIGN OF CHRIST

**SUNDAY**



**Sunday, November 26, 2023**

“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

November 26, 2023 9:00 am

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

*Senior Pastor* ..... Rev. Michelle Torigian

*Music Director* ..... Dr. Tristan Frampton

*Organist* ..... Kevin Chunko

*Liturgist* ..... Roger Harris

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

*Jesus Christ, Our Savior*  
Dietrich Buxtehude

## CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 100)

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship with gladness and singing!

**Many: God is Creator, Sustainer, Keeper, and Shepherd. Bless God's name.**

One: Enjoy the presence of God! Give thanks and praise!

**Many: God is Sovereign and Holy. Bless God's name.**

One: Know that God reigns! God's kin-dom comes!

**Many: God is Healer, Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend. Bless God's name!**

## INVOCATION (UNISON)


**God of Caring and Kindness.**

**We flourish in your compassion. You search for us and find us. You, Holy One, surround us with the power of your abundant love and utmost care. Be present among us as we praise your name, bring our burdens, and give thanks for all that you are and all that you do. Amen.**


## \*OPENING HYMN

MINISTRY & SERVICE

### 575 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service




1 Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,




who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed;  
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness, dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart,  
As, O Lord, your deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat-ing to your pur - pose ev - ery gift that you im-part.  
use the love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.  
stir-ring us to tire-less striv-ing, your a - bun-dant life to share,  
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.



WORDS: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984)

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879); The Sacred Harp, 1844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson (1927- )

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.

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

**Majestic God,**

**Your reign is just and righteous. We go our own way and live according to our own will. Make us ambassadors of your Realm. Let us represent you through words and actions. May we release our need for anything that creates a barrier to loving you and our neighbor. May we know and bear witness that we are all neighbors. Transform us in your image. Amen.**

## **\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Beloved, you are loved unconditionally by the Everlasting One. The Divine Kingdom is yours to embrace and enter with full citizenship. Know that every move toward God transforms you. Every confession of God's sovereignty fortifies. Every moment in the presence of God restores you.

**ANTHEM**    *For All Good Things, by Joseph Martin & Vicki Tucker Courtney*  
Sanctuary Choir

## **SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 25:31-46

## **SERMON**

The Kingdom of God

Rev. Michelle Torigian

## **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**

The Empire and Economy of God challenges us each day as we focus on sharing with our neighbors. God's riches exceed our hopes and expectations when we recognize the glory of the Divine Kingdom. Let us acknowledge the Reign of God as we share the abundance of this glorious inheritance. May we return a portion to support the ministry of Christ's church in the world and among the community of believers.

## COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

### \*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)

Gracious God, thank you for the gifts we have and the blessing of sharing. Use our gifts for your glory and to meet the needs and hopes of your kin-dom. Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN**                      *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*                      (See next page)

### \*COMMISSIONING

As you go, may you recognize God in the stranger. May you extend hospitality and care to your neighbor. And may you trust in the Reign of God forever.

### \*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**                      *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun (Improvisation)*

*Save the date!*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

to discuss the 2024 budget and nominations to council will be  
December 10th immediately after worship.

Copies of the budget and slate  
of officers will be available in  
the Narthex beginning on  
November 26th.



## Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

C  $\frac{G}{B}$  C Am  $\frac{Em}{G}$  F  $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{Bdim}{D}$  C G

1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
 2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
 3 His King - dom can - not fail, he rules both earth and heaven;  
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope for Christ the Judge shall come

C Am  $\frac{G}{B}$  D  $\frac{G}{B}$  C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D7 G

Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:  
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:  
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given:  
 to gath - er all his saints to their e - ter - nal home:

C F  $\frac{Bdim}{D}$  Am  $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{Bdim}{D}$  C  $\frac{F}{A}$

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

C F  $\frac{Bdim}{D}$   $\frac{C}{E}$   $\frac{Dm}{F}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G C

Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!



Extra order forms are located in the Narthex!

IT'S TIME TO ORDER  
**POINSETTIA'S**  
IN HONOR/MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

COST IS	\$12.00
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EACH 6.5" POT COVERED WITH FOIL WILL HAVE  
10 OR MORE BLOOMS. ORDER BY 12/1/23

YOU MAY MAIL OR DROP OFF YOUR ORDER  
TO THE OFFICE.

Everyone is invited to attend the St. Paul Friends Annual Christmas Party on Friday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Heritage Hall. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share and your adult beverage of choice. Soft drinks and paper goods will be provided. Please RSVP to Judy Koch ([judithkoch@att.net](mailto:judithkoch@att.net)) or Sandy Wagner ([skwagner51@gmail.com](mailto:skwagner51@gmail.com))  
RSVP is appreciated but not required for attendance. Come celebrate the season with your St. Paul Friends!

St. Paul UCC Mission Board is  
accepting monetary donations for  
**FRANKLIN NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION**

Money collected will be given to  
Franklin Neighborhood Association  
to purchase holiday food baskets for those in need.

Please consider donating and help others have a  
blessed holiday. Please send in your donations to  
St. Paul UCC by December 8th.

Please make checks payable to their  
full name of Franklin Neighborhood Association.



## Blue Christmas

Tuesday, December 19th  
7 p.m.  
Heritage Hall

**Star Tree**

The Star Tree is here!  
Please take one or more stars. We have 63 kids who will love to receive a Christmas gift this year. To be sure each child receives a similarly valued gift we recommend a gift value of \$30. If you prefer to donate, we will have elves who shop. Wrapped gifts will need to be returned to the church by Wednesday, December 13th. Thanks for making a difference in these kids lives!!

## Hanging of the Greens

December 3rd  
3-6 p.m.  
In the  
Sanctuary



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

In January of 2000, who assumed the role as Minister of Visitation at St. Paul church?

### Upcoming Events

**Church Council meeting**-3rd Thursday @ 6pm  
**Community Dinner**-every Tuesday @ 5pm  
**Culinaires Breakfast**-every 3rd Sunday  
**Executive Council**-3rd Monday @ 7pm  
**Mats for Community**-3rd Tuesday @ 1pm  
**Mission Meeting**-2nd Sunday after service  
**Personnel Meeting**-2nd Thursday @ 7pm  
**Quilters**-every Tuesday @ 9am  
**Seekers Adult Bible Study** –Tuesdays @ 10am  
**Shufflers**-2nd Tuesday of the month @ 12pm  
**Wednesdays**-Bells (6pm) & Choir (7:15pm)  
**With You group**-1st Wednesday @ 1pm  
**Women's Guild**-3rd Wednesday @ 1pm  
**Hanging of the Greens**-December 3 @ 3-6pm  
**Metro East Chorale Concert**-December 3 @ 3pm  
**St. Paul Friends Christmas Party**-December 15 @ 6:30pm

**ANSWER:** Pastor Herbert Schatale

### For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman	Scott Martin, son of
Carol Hotz	Shirley Martin
Marilyn Dinkelmann	Betty Rieso
Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline	Linda Mentzer
Worms	Linda Minton
Tim Ritter	Wayne Caughman
Laura Howie, daughter of Elgee Phillips	Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter
Alec Zaber	Jerry Hough
Hector Rivera	Peggy Mejas -friend of Mimi Llamas
Dawson Anderson	

Please call the church for prayer requests:  
618-233-3303 [stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)



Like us on Facebook  
*St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL*



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

#### Weekly Attendance

9AM

October 29, 2023 84 + Online Participants October 30, 2022 82 + Online Participants

#### Weekly Attendance

9AM

November 5, 2023 124 + Online Participants November 6, 2022 103 + Online Participants

Offering 11/04/2023 \$10,211

### General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to..	\$293,369
Budget to..	\$334,635
Total Budget	\$395,479

Offering 11/11/2023 \$5,844

### General Fund

Needed each week \$7,605

Giving to..	\$299,213
Budget to..	\$342,241
Total Budget	\$395,479