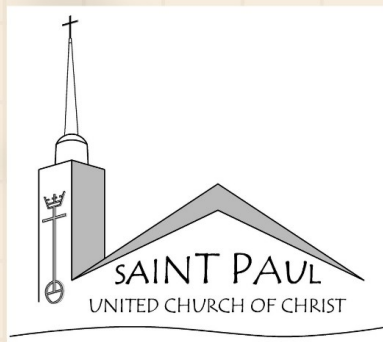




WELCOME TO ST. PAUL UCC



August 24, 2025

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

STPAULUCC.ORG





St. Paul UCC



Sunday, August 24, 2025 ~ 9:00 am
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Guest Pastor.....	Rev. Joan Mier
Director of Music	Dr. Tristan Frampton
Organist	Cynthia Johnson
Liturgist	Roger Harris

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Morning Reverie

by Jules Massenet, Arr. by Chester Nordman

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made, beloved of Christ, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

People: Yes, let us rejoice! Let us rejoice in hearing the Holy Word of God offered to us! Let us rejoice in singing songs of praise! Let us rejoice being with Christian brothers and sisters! Let it be so that our joy overflows in this sacred time!

Leader: Let it be known among the faithful who have gathered together this day that God loves a joyful heart. For where there is true joy, there is active movement of the Spirit of God!

People: Our spirits our elevated, rejoicing in the presence of the Divine Spirit among us!

ALL: Let us embrace the joy of the Lord! Let us feel renewed in the Spirit! Let it be so! Amen.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Holy Spirit be among us now, know that we have opened our hearts and minds to this time of worshipping our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ. Help us to feel so refreshed and renewed in our spirits that our joy is overflowing like a fountain, we pray in His Holy name. Amen.

Parents: if you have a child with you this morning, we have activity bags with coloring pages in the Narthex along with fidget toys (for all ages). There is a Family Room just off of the Welcome Center if you need a quiet place at any time during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance. They will be happy to assist.

*OPENING HYMN

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Blessed Assurance

Acts 17:30-31; Rev. 7:9-14

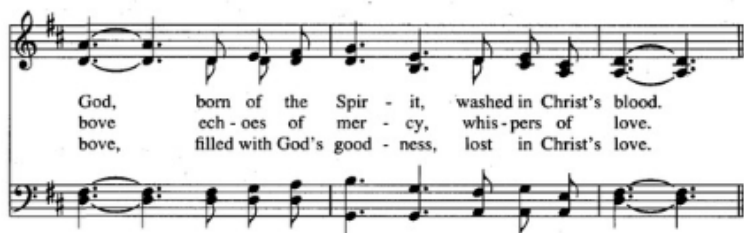
Fanny Crosby, 1873; alt.



1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my

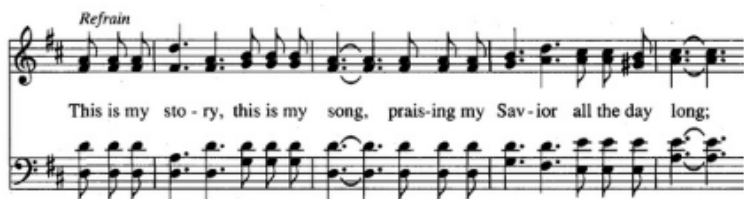


fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

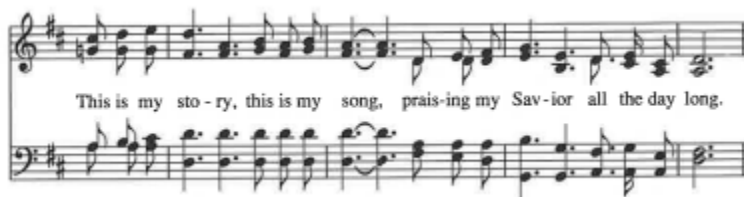


God, born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 bobe ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 bobe, filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

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

One: The Spirit of God is open and ready to listen to all we have to share in regard to the ways we have distanced ourselves from divine mercy and grace. So now is the time, beloved ones, to be open and completely honest with your Creator. As I cannot put words into your mouth in regard to what you need to say to God, I welcome you into a time of silent confession and reconciliation, and then I will offer the Words of Assurance:

Silent Confession and Reconciliation

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Our God is an awesome God: Our God is loving and merciful, ever present in the moments when the ways of the world want to overtake us. When we open ourselves completely to the one who has given us life and breath, seeking forgiveness for the ways we have separated ourselves from divine grace, God sees us and hears us and is ever merciful, bringing joy to the most downtrodden heart. Let us receive God's amazing grace and forgiveness this day. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

Dubois, Donna Davis

SPECIAL MUSIC

Come, Let Us Worship

Based on the hymn tunes:

SPANISH HYMN, NICAIA, BUNESSAN, HYFRYDOL, and DUKE STREET
Mary Lu Bretsch, handbells and Janie Bloomer, piano

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 58:9-14 & Psalm 103:1-8

Roger Harris

Luke 13:10-17

Rev. Joan Mier

SERMON

Be Set Free-Stand Up Straight

Rev. Joan Mier

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER AND THE 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

It is a great joy to give our gifts to the Lord! As our hearts and hands are outstretched in all that we can offer, know that they reach out beyond the walls of this church to the greater community, bringing the joy of the Lord to many who need to receive his Holy Word and amazing grace. Amen.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

Fairest Lord Jesus

Hymn Tune: St. Elizabeth, Arr. by Erinn Schwarz

***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**

O' Lord our God, bless these gifts that are before you, this day, that they may be used for the great ministry of Jesus Christ from this church home into the community. Know that the gifts we offer come directly from our hearts, hearts aligned with your will for the world. By the touch of the Holy Spirit, may they be multiplied ten-fold for the great works we are called to do in the name of our divine Savior, Jesus. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

God's Eye Is On the Sparrow

(See page 6 & 7)

***COMMISSIONING**

Go forth with the joy of the Lord in your hearts. Take time to share that joy with others; bring a smile to someone else's face this day, and let someone know that they are divinely loved. For the joy and the love of the Lord are not to be held but to be shared! Let it be so. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, so that you may be by walking on the straight path, following the footsteps of our Savior. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Sing for Joy
by Lani Smith

Matt. 10:26-30; Luke 12:4-7

Civilla D. Martin, c. 1905; alt.

Stanzas, in unison

1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged, why should the shad-ows come,
 2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," Christ's ten-der word I hear,
 3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,

Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and
 And rest-ing on God's good-ness, I lose my doubts and
 When song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me

home, When God is ev-er my por-tion? My
 fears; Though by the path . . . God leads me but
 dies, I then draw close to my Sav-ior, from

con-stant friend will be: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I
 one step I may see: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I
 care I am set free: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I

Civilla Martin, a native of Nova Scotia, assisted her husband in his evangelistic campaigns. Charles Gabriel was editor for Rodeheaver Publishing Company, Chicago, and one of the most popular gospel songwriters of the early 1900s.

Tune: SPARROW Irr.
 Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

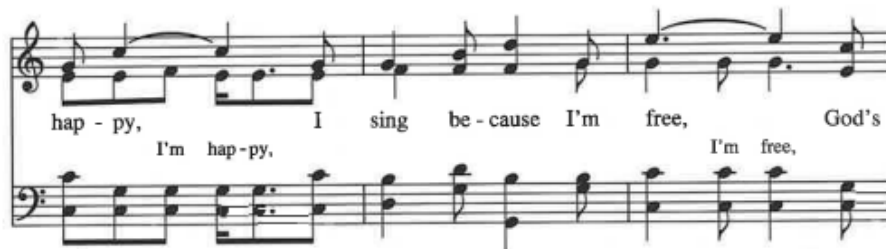


know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I

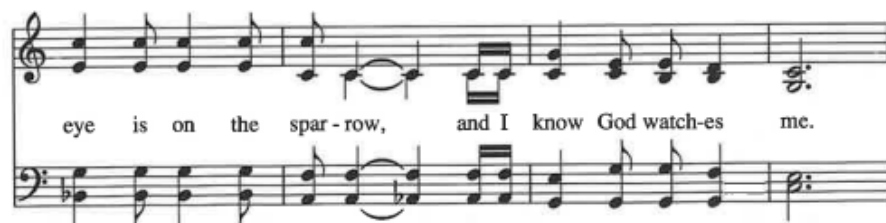
Refrain, in harmony



know God watch-es me. I sing be - cause I'm
 know God watch-es me.
 know God watch-es me.



hap - py, I sing be - cause I'm free, God's
 I'm hap - py, I'm free,



eye is on the spar - row, and I know God watch-es me.



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.

For Your Prayers

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

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
Gay Eckert



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

Weekly Offerings	8/16/2025
Operating	\$ 3,109.00
Building Fund	\$ 240.00
	\$ 3,349.00
Giving YTD	\$ 226,614.09
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 222,164.86
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

August 10, 2025	86 + Online Participants
August 11, 2024	83 + Online Participants



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



Like us on Facebook
St Paul UCC, Belleville, IL

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



WE NEED CARING ADULTS TO STAFF OUR NURSERY DURING WORSHIP SERVICES! TWO VOLUNTEERS (NOT FROM THE SAME HOUSEHOLD) ARE NEEDED EACH SUNDAY. A BACKGROUND CHECK AND ONLINE COURSE TRAINING ARE REQUIRED. YOU WILL NEED TO READ AND SIGN OFF ON THE "SAFE CHURCH POLICY". THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE WELCOME CENTER OR YOU CAN CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE SEE BRETT WHITE OR CALL SHERRY AT THE CHURCH MON. - THUR.



618-233-3303



St. Paul UCC MONDAY FUN-DAY

Our next Monday Fun-Day is August 25th, from 6-8pm!
We hope to see you!!! Everyone is welcome!
Building a better community!



Chair Yoga 6-6:30. Yoga 6:30-7



Pickleball (bring your own paddle & ball)

Board Games (bring your own or play Uno!)

FREE WILL OFFERING!



115 W. B. St., Belleville

stpaulucc.org

Stop by the Welcome Center today and place your Pampered Chef order to benefit the Community Interfaith Food Pantry!