# WELCOME TO ST. PAUL UCC

## "WILLINGNESS TO BE FAITHFUL"

### **BALCONY WINDOW**





August 31, 2025

STPAULUCC.ORG

# St. Paul UCC

## Sunday, August 31, 2025 ~ 9:00 am Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

## 

#### **WELCOME**

PRELUDE To Delight in the Lord
By Gerald Peterson

## **CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 100)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People: Serve the LORD with gladness!
Leader: Come into his presence with singing!
People: Know that the LORD, he is God!
Leader: It is he who made us, and we are his;

People: We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, **People: and his courts with praise!**Leader: Give thanks to him; bless his name!

People: For the LORD is good:

Leader: His steadfast love endures forever,

People: and his faithfulness to all generations. Amen

## **\*SHARING THE PEACE**

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 we happy to assist.

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This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

## \*OPENING HYMN





**1ST SCRIPTURE READING:** St. Phillip John 1:43-51 Roger Relfe St. Phillip, one of the Twelve Apostles, is known for his calling by Jesus, his role in the early church, and his significant interactions with Jesus and others. (See photo on page 6)

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

People: In times of conflict and division, we turn to prayer for strength and wisdom. Heavenly Father, we come before You seeking reconciliation. Heal the wounds that have separated us from one another, and help us to forgive as You have forgiven. Grant us patience and wisdom to understand each other's hearts. As we seek, let our actions reflect Your truth, leading us toward unity and love. Amen

2ND SCRIPTURE READING: St. Stephen Acts 6:1-6 8-15 Steve Schmidt St. Stephen became the first martyr for the Christian faith.

(See photo on page 6)

SPECIAL MUSIC

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Traditional Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan
Tristan Frampton, soloist

**3RD SCRIPTURE READING**: St. Paul Acts 9:1-22 Brett White Paul the Apostle, formerly known as Saul, was one of the most significant leaders of the early Christian church. He played a vital role in spreading the gospel.

(See photo on page 6)

SERMON A

Audio Recording from February 13, 2005 Rev. Drew Kramer

#### MORNING 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

Dana Rosenzeig

In 1 Timothy 6:17, Paul "Commands those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share." Let us now share those gifts through our morning offering.

### **COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC**

Supplication
By Lani Smith

\*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

People: Bless these gifts, and let them be a sign of our love for others. Help us to recognize the many gifts and talents you have given to each of us, and teach us to use them for your honor and for the good of all people. Amen!

\*CLOSING HYMN This Is a Day of New Beginnings

(See page 7)

WORDS FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Roger Harris

### BENEDICTION

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. -Romans 15:5-6

**POSTLUDE** 

Processional for a Joyful Day
By Dale Wood

St. Phillip

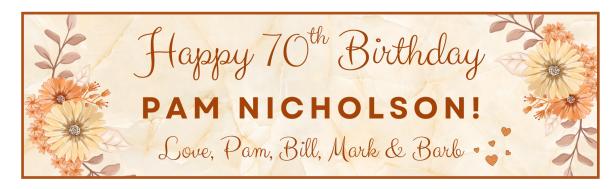


St. Paul

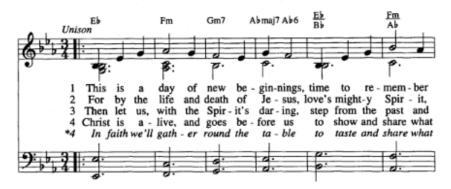


St. Stephen





## 355 This Is a Day of New Beginnings







\*Alternate text for Holy Communion

WORDS: Brian Ween (1936-) MUSIC: Carlton R. Young (1926-) Words © 1963, 1967 Hope Publishing Company Maris © 1967 Hope Publishing Company

## For Your Prayers

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 Gay Eckert of Marlene Mueller Mike Llamas, brother in law John Hoehn of Mimi Llamas Jennifer Wick, daughter of Stephenie Bauza

Venita Jane Rogers Gene Buxton



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

Weekly Offerings	8/23/2025
Operating	\$ 1,910.00
Building Fund	\$ 15.00
	\$ 1,925.00
Giving YTD	\$ 228,539.09
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 229,107.51
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service			
August 17, 2025	80	+ Online Participants	
August 18, 2024	78	+ Online Participants	



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



Like us on Facebook St Paul UCC. Belleville, Il

The Christian Education team believes every child deserves to start the school year feeling prepared and hopeful. From your generous support, we were able to help many children at Franklin school do that. Children are stepping into the classroom with confidence. YOU were able to provide school supplies which encouraged them to have a successful school year. Thank you for your ongoing support of our projects with the youth of this community!

St. Paul will be hosting the 2025 Annual Meeting of the IL South Conference on Oct. 18th! We are asking for prepacked snack donations for the hospitality room. Please bring your donations to the church office or drop off on Sundays in the Welcome Center. Chips, pretzels, granola bars, trailmix, breakfast bars, etc.