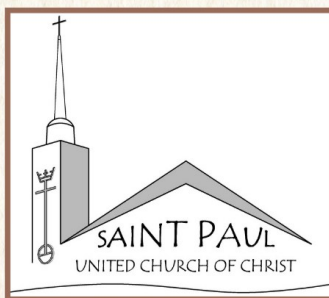




# **WELCOME TO ST. PAUL UCC**



**September 21, 2025**



**[stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)**



# St. Paul UCC



Sunday, September 21, 2025 ~ 9:00 am  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

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

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

*My Prayer Is to Thee*  
by Dennis Eliot

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here we gather as prayerful people, anchored by the Spirit of our risen Savior, Jesus, who taught his disciples to always offer our petitions to God.

**People: Even though our feet are firmly on the ground, let our prayers rise on the winds of Heaven to reach the ears of our God.**

Leader: God invites us to share the joys and concerns of our hearts with the Divine, bringing them into sacred space, seeking God's holy response.

**People: We wait with great patience for the response of our God; trusting that our Divine Restorer can intercede on our behalf, restoring our souls and making all things new.**

**ALL: We humbly and prayerfully come before our God in worship. Amen.**

## INVOCATION (UNISON)

**In this sweet hour of prayer that you have given to us, O' Lord our God, we offer our praise and bring our petitions before you. We pray for your Holy Spirit to help us open up completely to you with all that dwells in our hearts and on our minds. May a sacred connection be ever present with you, in this moment, we truly pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

## PASSING 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 be happy to assist.**

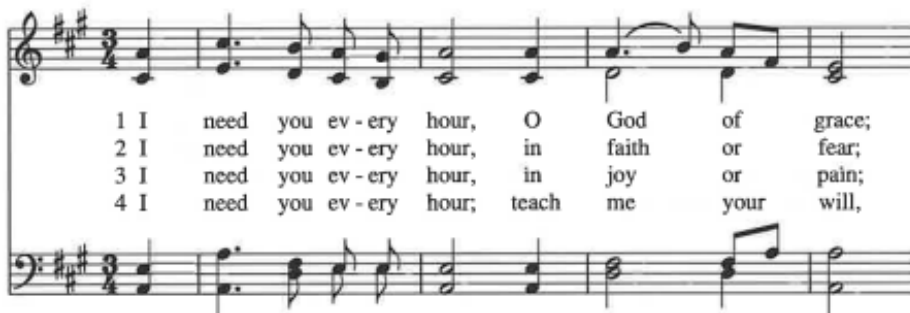
\*OPENING HYMN

517

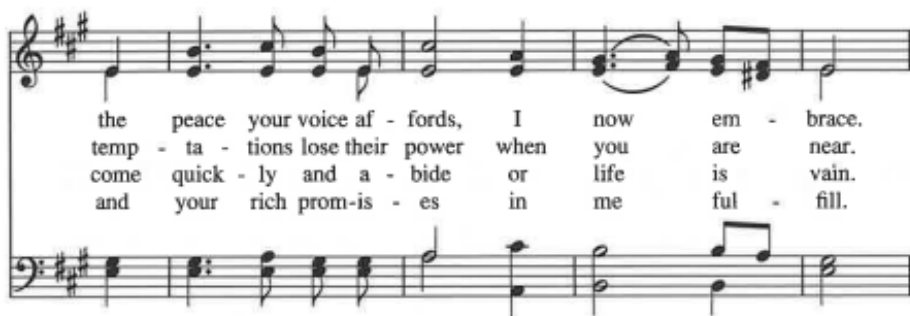
# I Need You Every Hour

Annie S. Hawks, 1872; alt.

Refrain added by Robert Lowry, 1872; alt.

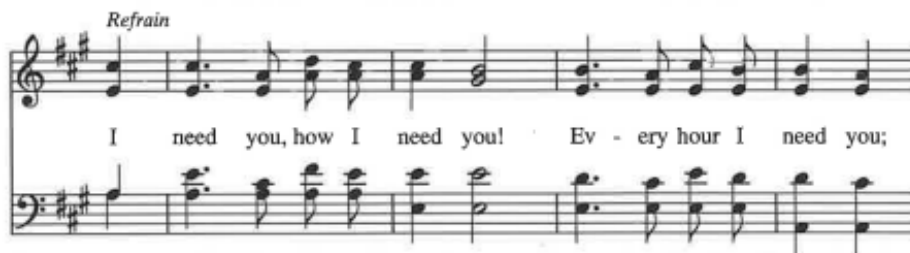


1 I need you ev - ery hour, O God of grace;  
 2 I need you ev - ery hour, in faith or fear;  
 3 I need you ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;  
 4 I need you ev - ery hour; teach me your will,

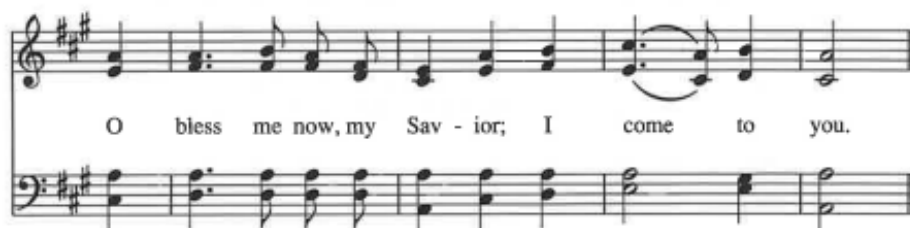


the peace your voice af - fords, I now em - brace.  
 temp - ta - tions lose their power when you are near.  
 come quick - ly and a - bide or life is vain.  
 and your rich prom - is - es in me ful - fill.

*Refrain*



I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;



O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

Tune: NEED 6.4.6.4. with refrain  
 Robert Lowry, 1872

## **\*PRAYER OF REFLECTION & RECONCILIATION**

One: Our prayers are sacred communication with God, communication that moves from the depths of our souls to the Spirit of God. Our prayers are powerful, especially when we are seeking genuine reconciliation with God. It is time now, beloved of Christ, for sacred communication with God. 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**

Holy scripture shares these words, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." God has heard the genuine words from the very heart and soul of who we are as disciples of Christ, therefore the door of forgiveness and reconciliation has been opened to us! Praises be to our loving God! Amen

## **MISSION MOMENT**

Fine Arts

Sandy Wagner

## **ANTHEM**

*This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made!*

by John Carter  
Sanctuary Choir

## **SCRIPTURE**

Psalms 113  
1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Luke 16:1-13

Lou Ryseff

## **SERMON**

The Need for Prayer

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**

In this sacred moment, let us prayerfully offer our Love gifts to the Lord, to further Christ's ministry here and all around the world. Let it be so in his holy name. Amen.

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

*I Know Whom I Have Believed*

by J. McGranahan, arr. By Daeyoun Kim

### **\*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 need you in this time, most loving God, to bless the gifts that we have offered. Guide us with your holy wisdom to use them wisely and to live as faithful servants of Christ. We pray that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is pleased by how we use these gifts to care for his people. In his name, we pray. Amen.**

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

(See next page)

### **\*COMMISSIONING**

Go forth, beloved of Christ, be strong in your prayer life. Be an example for others that communication with God is important and necessary for spiritual balance and well-being. Invite others to pray with you, for we know that where two or three are gathered, especially in prayer, the Spirit of the Lord is with them.

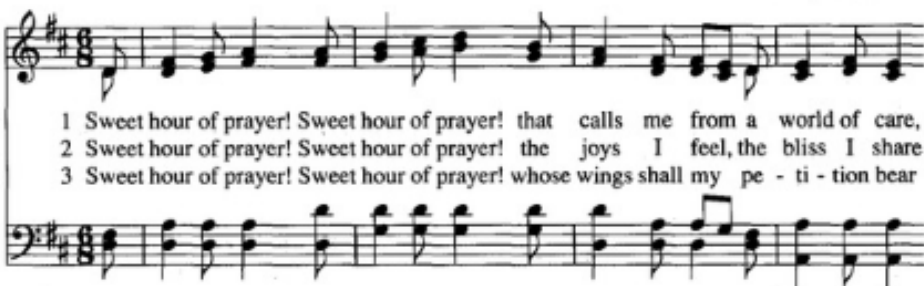
### **\*BENEDICTION**

May God bless you and keep you until we see one another again. As you pray for others, may you know that others are also praying for you—for your health, your well-being, for spiritual renewal and refreshment of your souls. Feel lovingly held in such beauty and grace. Amen

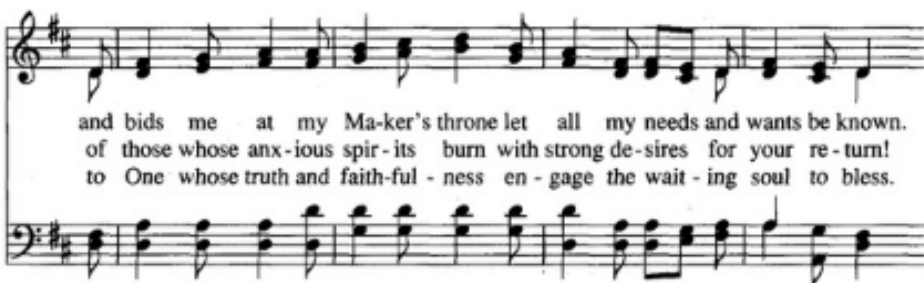
### **POSTLUDE**

*Prelude and Fugue in a minor*  
by William Boyce

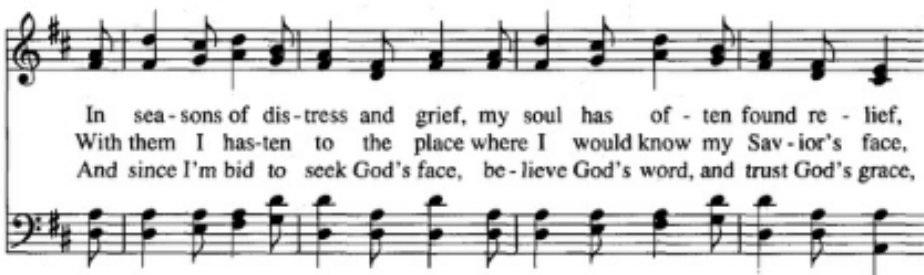
## Sweet Hour of Prayer

*William Wolford, 1845; alt.*


1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,  
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.  
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re - turn!  
 to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea-sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,  
 With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face,  
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!  
 And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!  
 I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.  
*William B. Bradbury, 1861*



St. Paul UCC  
**MONDAY FUN-DAY**

Our next Monday Fun-Day is September 22nd, 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](http://stpaulucc.org)

**VENDOR FAIR AT  
ST. PAUL UCC**

**SEPTEMBER 27 - 12-5 PM**

**Our vendors include:**

- THREADS OF HOPE QUILTERS
- LILLA ROSE
- CARDS BY DEBBY
- SO SEW FUN CREATIONS
- SUGAR RUSH EXPRESS
- SCENTSY
- WASTE NOT, WANT NOT
- KIMS CREATIONS
- PAMPERED CHEF
- STAMPIN' UP
- AND MORE!



[stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)

618-233-3303

115 W. B. Street, Belleville, IL

**ACCEPTING SILENT AUCTION BASKETS!**



**MUSIC TRIVIA**

**@ ST. PAUL UCC**

**save the Date!**  
**NOV. 21 - 6 PM**



## For Your Prayers

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

Christopher Mitchell  
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  
Gene Buxton

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

<b>Weekly Offerings</b>	<b>9/13/2025</b>
Operating	\$ 6,678.00
Building Fund	\$ 227.00
	<b>\$ 6,905.00</b>
<b>Giving YTD</b>	<b>\$ 238,420.09</b>
 Weekly Budget	 \$ 6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$ 249,935.46
Total Budget	\$ 361,017.89

### Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

September 7, 2025	80 + Online Participants
September 8, 2024	77 + Online Participants

St. Paul Fine Arts presents ...



**Sunday, September 21st @ 4:00 p.m.**

(Doors open at 3:30 p.m.)

*A free will offering is much appreciated!*

St. Paul UCC

115 W. B. Street, Belleville, IL 62220



**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.**

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