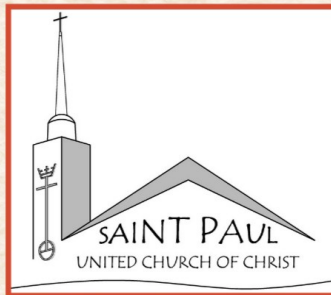


WELCOME TO ST. PAUL UCC



September 28, 2025

stpaulucc.org



St. Paul UCC



Sunday, September 28, 2025 ~ 9:00 am
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Guest Pastor..... The Rev. Jeremy Lopez
Director of Music Dr. Tristan Frampton
Organist Cynthia Johnson
Liturgist Stephenie Bauza

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Prayer
by Noel Goemanne

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

All: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

One: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

All: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

One: Come now, all who thirst,

All: and drink the water of life.

One: Come now, all who hunger,

All: and be filled with good things.

One: Come now, all who seek,

All: and be warmed by the fire of love.

INVOCATION (UNISON)

Gracious God, You call us to open our eyes to the suffering at our gates, to listen to Your Word with hearts ready to be changed, and to live with compassion and justice. As we gather in worship, awaken us to Your presence, stir us by Your Spirit, and guide us in the way of Christ, so that in this place, and in all our lives, Your kingdom of love may come near. 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

48 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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



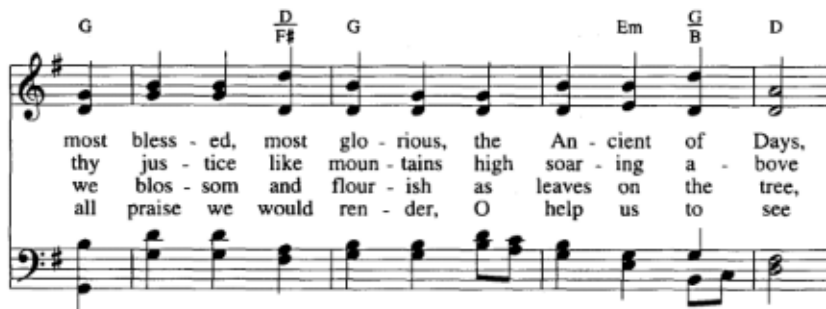
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

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



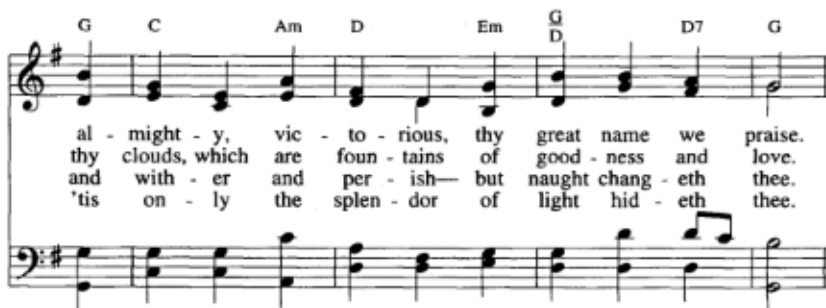
in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G Em $\frac{G}{B}$ D



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all praise we would ren - der, O help us to see

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



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish— but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

***PRAYER OF REFLECTION & RECONCILIATION**

Merciful God, we confess that we have often walked past the needs at our gates. We have been slow to notice the pain of our neighbors, quick to protect our own comfort, and reluctant to share Your abundance. Forgive us, Lord. Open our eyes to see as You see, open our hearts to love as You love, and lead us into the joy of compassion and justice. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

One: Hear the good news: God's mercy is wider than our sin, and God's compassion is deeper than our failures.

All: In Christ, what was broken is restored, and what was lost is found.

One: Trust in the promise of the gospel: you are forgiven, renewed, and set free.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

IL South Annual Meeting

Synthia Kalinowski

ANTHEM

Poor Man Lazarus
arr. Jester Hairston
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Luke 16:19-31

Stephenie Bauza

SERMON

Who Will Convince Us? The Rev. Jeremy Lopez

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 Jesus' parable, the rich man failed to notice Lazarus right outside his door. Our offering is a chance to do the opposite—to open our eyes, to see the needs around us, and to respond with compassion. As we give, we join God's work of mercy, so that no one is left unseen or forgotten. Let us bring our gifts with grateful hearts.

RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

Near to the Heart of God

arr. Lloyd Larson

*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, bless these gifts we offer, that they may bring comfort to the hungry, hope to the forgotten, and Your love to all who are in need. May what we give be multiplied in mercy and justice, and may our hearts be opened to see and serve as Christ calls us. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath* (See next page)

*COMMISSIONING

May you go from this place with eyes open to the needs around you, with hearts ready to share God's mercy, and with hands willing to serve, so that what is lost may be found, and God's love may shine through you all your days. Amen.

*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

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

By Robert Graham

UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP LEADERS!

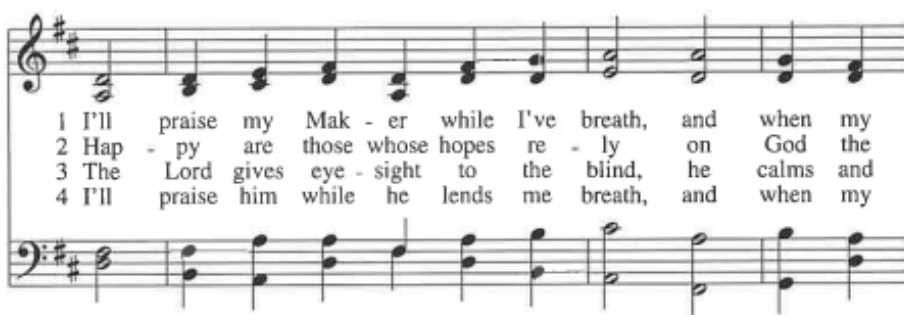
October 5 - Rev. Dr. Chance Beeler

October 12 - Craig Bielk

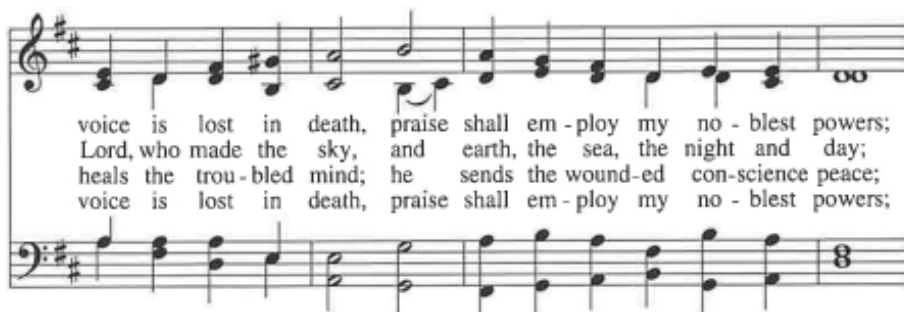
October 19 - Rev. Joan Mier

October 26 - Rev. Joan Mier

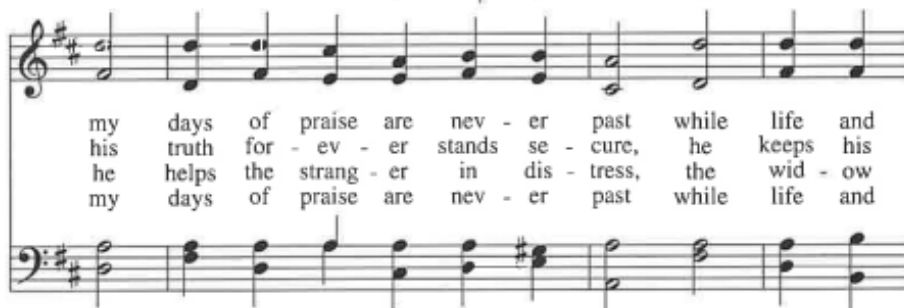
79 I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath



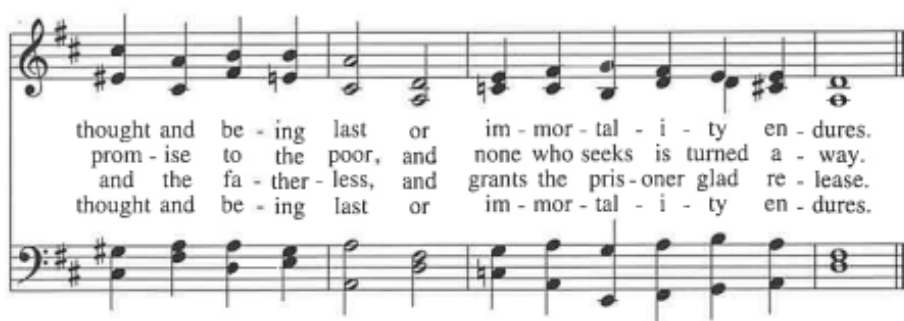
1 I'll praise my Mak - er while I've breath, and when my
2 Hap - py are those whose hopes re - ly on God the
3 The Lord gives eye - sight to the blind, he calms and
4 I'll praise him while he lends me breath, and when my



voice is lost in death, praise shall em - ploy my no - blest powers;
Lord, who made the sky, and earth, the sea, the night and day;
heals the trou - bled mind; he sends the wound - ed con - science peace;
voice is lost in death, praise shall em - ploy my no - blest powers;



my days of praise are nev - er past while life and
his truth for - ev - er stands se - cure, he keeps his
he helps the strang - er in dis - tress, the wid - ow
my days of praise are nev - er past while life and



thought and be - ing last or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.
prom - ise to the poor, and none who seeks is turned a - way.
and the fa - ther - less, and grants the pris - oner glad re - lease.
thought and be - ing last or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); adapt. John Wesley (1703-1791), alt.; para. Psalm 146
MUSIC: Straubinger Kirchenamt, 1525; attr. Matthäus Greiter (ca. 1500-1550); harm. V. Earle Copes (1921-)

OLD 113th
8.8.8.8.8.8.

ST. PAUL UCC RUMMAGE SALE

115 W. B Street
Belleville, IL
Activity Center (Gym)
(Across from Franklin School)
INSIDE RAIN OR SHINE!



Bake Sale!

*Donations of
baked goods accepted!*

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

**CONTACT SUSAN RELFE
IF YOU CAN HELP!**

SUSANREFE@OUTLOOK.COM



Donations are accepted **starting on September 29.**
Drop off hours: Monday & Wednesday from 10-4pm!
or if you do not need help unloading, you can place your
items in the garage by the activity center door Mon-Thurs.
*****PLEASE CALL before you come!*** 618-233-3303**

ACCEPTING SILENT AUCTION BASKETS!



MUSIC TRIVIA

@ ST. PAUL UCC

SAVE THE DATE!
NOV. 21 - 6 PM



Please stop by the
Welcome Center
to pick up your
Pumpkin Pot
50/50
raffle tickets!

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
The loved ones of
Christopher Mitchell



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

Weekly Offerings		9/20/2025
Operating	\$	3,510.00
Building Fund	\$	10.00
	\$	3,520.00
Giving YTD	\$	241,940.09
Weekly Budget	\$	6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$	256,878.11
Total Budget	\$	361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

September 14, 2025 97 + Online Participants
September 15, 2024 85 + Online Participants

Join Pastor Michelle for a

SERVICE OF FAREWELL & RECEPTION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025
3PM
ST. PAUL UCC'S
SANCTUARY
115 WEST B STREET, BELLEVILLE

**To St. Paul UCC,
thank you for seven years
of mutual ministry!
Blessings,
Pastor Michelle**

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