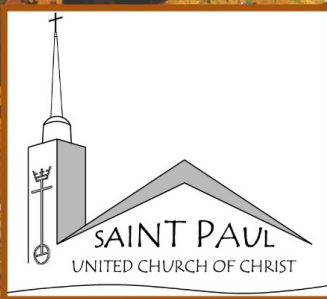


WELCOME TO ST. PAUL UCC



October 26, 2025

stpaulucc.org

All are welcome here!



St. Paul UCC



Sunday, October 26, 2025 ~ 9:00 am
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Visiting Clergy</i>	Rev. Joan Mier
<i>Director of Music</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Dick Erdmann

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Largo, from Voluntary XI in F
by John Keeble

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As we come before our Lord, this day, let us be humble in spirit while exalting the One who has given us life and breath, hope and healing!

People: We are the humble, servant people of the Lord our God, offering our praise to the One most deserving to receive it. May our Lord hear the words of love that come from the depths of our hearts.

Leader: Yes, let our loving words speak full commitment to our Savior, remembering all that He has sacrificed for us, so that we might be forgiven of our sins and renewed by divine grace.

People: Our spirits carry the memory of such sacrificial love and unconditional care for those who truly walk with the Lord.

ALL: We are in awe of all that you do for us, O' Lord our God. Let our worship magnify your holy name, forever and ever. Amen.

*INVOCATION (Unison)

Merciful God, be present with us, people of sinful nature, seeking to humble ourselves and walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit truly be our guide, casting light on the honorable ways that we can serve you and praise you now and in future days. Help us to speak the truth of the Holy Gospel to sojourners that we meet along the way. We pray that we are worthy of such a sacred task. In Jesus' name. Amen

PASSING THE PEACE

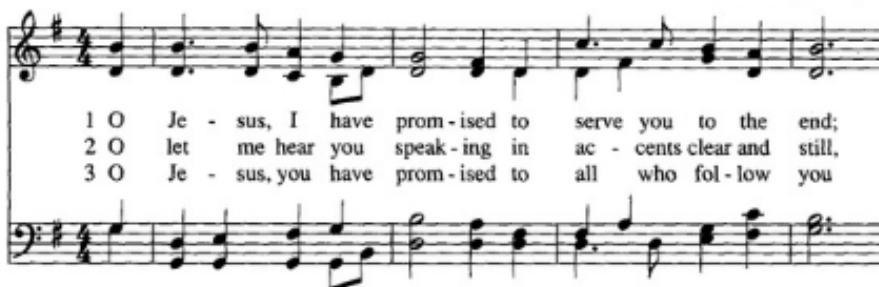
*OPENING HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

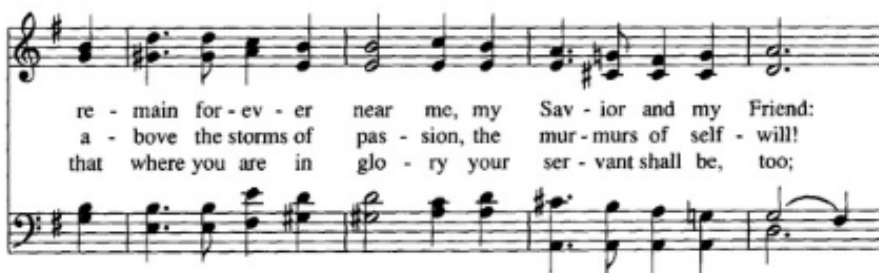
493

John E. Bode, 1868; alt.

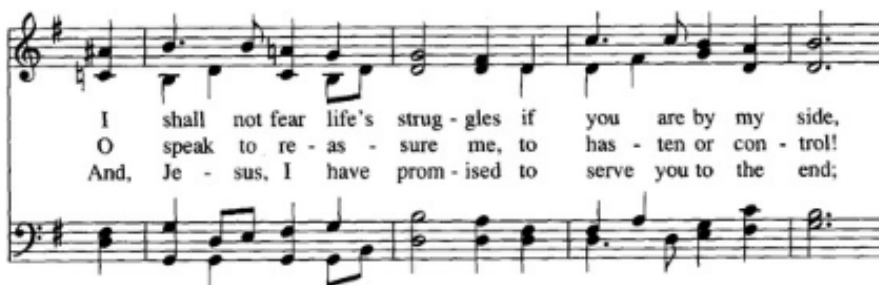
Luke 9:57; John 14:1-4



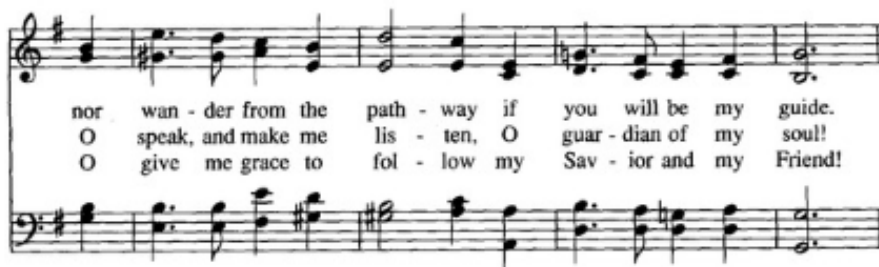
1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 3 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my Sav - ior and my Friend:
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will!
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be, too;



I shall not fear life's strug - gles if you are by my side,
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol!
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, O guar - dian of my soul!
 O give me grace to fol - low my Sav - ior and my Friend!

John Ernest Bode wrote these words when his daughter and two sons were confirmed. Although the Oxford scholar and rector wrote books of hymns, this is the only one to achieve lasting fame.

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6.D.
 A. H. Mann, 1883
 Alternate tune: MUNICH

PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND RECONCILIATION

One: It is time to humble ourselves before the Lord our God, to speak truthfully from the depths of our hearts to the deep recesses of the Spirit of the One who carries all that is Divine. 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

Humble servants of the most High God, feel the touch of mercy, feel wrapped in divine grace, and know that the Lord our God forgives those who truly seek the sacred presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives; who yearn to walk in his footsteps, and live as his servant people. Receive this Good News in the holy name of Jesus. Amen

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision
arr. Alice Parker
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 65:1-8
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Dick Erdmann
Dick Erdmann
Rev. Joan Mier

SERMON

Exalting Oneself, Humbling Oneself

Rev. Joan Mier

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 right and just to offer the gifts that we can to further the ministry of Jesus Christ in the world—a world so in need of people who follow the path of the Savior; people who open their hands and hearts with divine love; people who speak words of trust and justice. Amen.

RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

(Tune: Converse)

By John Turner



*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 pray, O' Lord our God, that the gifts offered, this day, in tremendous love and humble presentation, will be multiplied by you for the furtherance of the ministry of your divine son, Jesus the Christ. May it be guided by your Holy Spirit as it helps our community, the greater community, and the world. Let it be so in your holy name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

I Would Be True

(See page 6)

*COMMISSIONING

You are the humble servants of Christ; go forth and serve well. Speak the truth of the Gospel that Jesus gave his life for the sins of the world, so that people might be reconciled to the divine Spirit of God, and that we know true freedom through the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Let it be so. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

Now, go forth, beloved ones, humbling yourself as you serve the Lord our God, forever growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ. May this be so now and for all the days of your life. Amen and amen.

POSTLUDE

Sortie

by Benedetto Marcello



Phil. 4:8-9

St. 1, 2, Howard Arnold Walter, 1917

St. 3, anon.; alt.

1 I would be true, for there are those who trust me; I would be
 2 I would be friend of all, the foe, the friend-less; I would be
 3 I would be prayer-ful through each bus-y mo-ment; I would be

pure, for there are those who care; I would be strong, for
 giv-ing, and for-get the gift; I would be hum-ble,
 con-stant-ly in touch with God; I would be tuned to

there is much to suf-fer; I would be brave, for
 for I know my weak-ness; I would look up, and
 sense God's slight-est whis-per; I would have faith to

there is much to dare, I would be brave, for there is much to dare.
 laugh, and love, and live, I would look up, and laugh, and love, and live.
 keep the path Christ trod, I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

The first two stanzas of this hymn are from "My Creed," a poem that Howard Walter sent to his mother from Japan, where he taught English before becoming a Congregational minister. Walter died at the age of thirty-five while working for the Y.M.C.A. in India.

Tune: PEEK 11.10.11.10.10.

Joseph Y. Peck, 1911

TOTENFEST SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2



SUNDAY WORSHIP LEADERS!

November 2 - Rev. Dr. Chance Beeler

November 9 - Rev. Joan Mier

November 16 - Rev. Joan Mier

November 23 - Rev. Joan Mier

November 30 - Rev. Carole Barner

St. Paul UCC MONDAY FUN-DAY

Every 4th Monday - 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!



BRING YOUR
FRIENDS!!!



115 W. B. St., Belleville

stpaulucc.org



MUSIC TRIVIA

@ ST. PAUL UCC

FRIDAY, NOV. 21 @ 6 PM

ACCEPTING SILENT AUCTION BASKETS!

\$30 PER PERSON OR
a PREPAID TABLE OF 8 FOR \$200

GUARANTEED TO BE A FUN NIGHT!

RAFFLE BASKETS!

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220

(618) 233-3303

www.stpaulucc.org



GRIEFWORKS

An LGBTQIA+

Grief Support Group

A peer support group for anyone in the LGBTQIA+ community
who has experienced loss and is struggling with grief.

MEETINGS HELD

4TH MONDAY

EVERY MONTH

6:30-8:00 pm

St. Paul UCC

115 W. B Street

Belleville, IL 62220

griefworks2025@gmail.com



For Your Prayers

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

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
Gene Buxton
Al Stahl
The loved ones of
Judith Beisiegel



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

Weekly Offerings		10/18/2025
Operating	\$	4,333.00
Building Fund	\$	252.00
	\$	4,585.00
Giving YTD	\$	286,417.09
Weekly Budget	\$	6,942.65
Budget to Date	\$	284,648.72
Total Budget	\$	361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

October 12, 2025	79 + Online Participants
October 13, 2024	97 + Online Participants

PUMPKIN POT

50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS!

TICKETS: \$1 EACH OR 6 FOR \$5

DRAWING: OCTOBER 30, 2025



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.

Follow us on ...



All St. Paul United Church of Christ services may be recorded and/or streamed. Music is used with permission through Onelicense.net License #A-715913, CCLI #1795791, St. James Press License #17755, or public domain.

This worship service is live streamed and recorded.