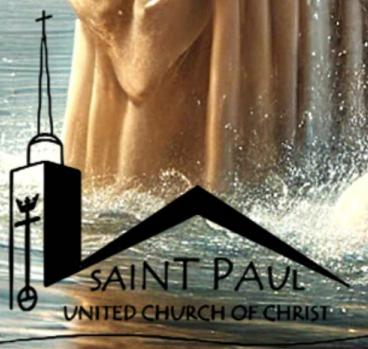


BAPTISM OF CHRIST



Welcome to St. Paul UCC



Sunday, January 11, 2026 ~ 9:00 am
Baptism of Christ



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>	Stephenie Bauza

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Fairest Lord Jesus
Hymn Tune: St Elizabeth
Setting by Larry Shackley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today is a most special day—the day we remember the baptism of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is a moment God called Him the Beloved Son of God.

People: We remember God's words spoken at Christ's baptism and how the Holy Spirit alighted upon him like a Dove—anointing Him for his ministry.

Leader: A ministry that has

reached out to God's people for two-thousand years and continues to reach out to us today. Let us feel the touch of the Holy Spirit now.

People: Let us remember our own baptisms, the promises that we made to our Lord on this Baptism of Christ Sunday, so that we will feel ever united with Him.

ALL: Let this be a time of remembering and rejoicing, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*INVOCATION (Unison)

On this day, we remember your baptism precious Jesus, how the Holy Spirit alighted upon you as a dove and the words spoken by God, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We pray that this same Spirit will be among us now as we, also, remember our baptisms. Let us be so according to your Holy Will. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

*OPENING HYMN

68

God Is Truly with Us

Matt. 1:23; 2 Cor. 9:8; Rev. 4:8-11

Gerhard Tersteegen, 1729

Transl. Frederick W. Foster and others; alt.



1 God is truly with us; sing we and a - dore now: praise the One we
 2 God is truly with us; loud our praise re - sound - ing! Ech - oes of the
 3 Source of ev - ery bless - ing, bless the ones who name you, let our words and



come be - fore now. Here with-in this tem - ple, here in sound and
 saints sur - round - ing! "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," hear the hymn as -
 deeds pro - claim you. Like the saints and an - gels prais-ing you in



si - lence, wor-ship God in deep-est rev - erence. You a - lone,
 cend - ing, an - gels, saints, their voic - es blend - ing! Bow your ear
 glo - ry, may your ser - vants sing your sto - ry. And in all,



God, we own, you, our God and Sav - ior; praise to you for - ev - er.
 to us here; hear, O Christ, the prais - es that your Church now rais - es.
 great and small, may we do most near - ly what you love most dear - ly.



Gerhard Tersteegen, an important German hymnwriter of the Reformed Church, began preaching at prayer meetings and gained a considerable following. He devoted his life to praying, preaching, visiting the poor, and writing and translating devotional material.

Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG 6.6.8.6.8.3.3.6.6.
*Joachim Neander, in A und Ω,
 Glaubund Liebesübung, Bremen, 1680*

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Pastor: Today, on this Baptism of Christ Sunday, we will renew our baptismal vows to the Lord. I will present the questions and guide you in the answers if you so choose to reaffirm your baptismal promises. Then, we will enter into a time of silent prayer and reconciliation with our God. As I cannot put words into your mouth in regard to what you need to say to God, I can only welcome you into this sacred moment and then, afterward, I will offer the Words of Grace.

Silent Confession and Reconciliation

***WORDS OF GRACE**

In our baptisms, we were welcomed into the Christian family, touched by the Holy Spirit, and embraced by God, the very giver of our lives. God always wants the very best for us, and the very best means that we stay in close communion with God. Whether it be in good times or bad times, God always invites us to come closer, speak truthfully, and listen for the whispers of God's grace-filled words and offerings of forgiveness. Thanks be to God. **Amen**

ANTHEM

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart
arr. Lloyd Larson
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

SERMON

Let It Be-Spirit of God

Rev. Joan Mier

PASTORAL 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 remembering our baptisms and reaffirming our vows made to our Lord, we, also, remember the commitments we have spoken to support Christ's church and to care for God's people. This is a time of commitment, a giving from our hearts and hands to the very heart of God. Amen.

COLLECTION OF THE GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth, from Messiah
by George Frideric Handel
Tristan Frampton, cornetto

*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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (Unison)

In the name of the One who was called Beloved Son of God; in the name of the One who received Baptism by the Holy Spirit, we give our gifts of love to you O' Lord our God. We pray that offering these gifts in the name of Jesus and for His ministry, you will bless them and guide us with them, so all decisions made will be filled with your wisdom. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *Mark How the Lamb of God's Self Offering* (pages 6 & 7)

*COMMISSIONING

Go forth beloved and baptized of Christ, continue to live out your devout promises made to your Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Live your lives in close communion with the divine and let others know of the many blessings that come from a life in Christ Jesus. Go forth feeling refreshed in the renewing of your baptismal vows this day. Let it be so. **Amen**

*BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess. 5:23) **Amen**

POSTLUDE

Chorale
by Johannes Brahms
Setting by Bob Moore



167 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

1 Mark how the Lamb of God's self - of - fering our hu - man
 2 From this as - sur - ance of God's fa - vor Je - sus goes
 3 Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age to live the

sin - ful-ness takes on In the birth - wa - ters of the Jor - dan
 to the wil - der - ness, There to en - dure a time of test - ing
 faith our lips de - clare; Bless us in our bap - tis - mal call - ing;

as Je - sus is bap - tized by John. Hear how the voice from heav - en
 that read - ied him to teach and bless. So we, by wa - ter and the
 Christ's roy - al priest - hood help us share. Turn us from ev - ery false al -

thun - ders, "Lo, this is my be - lov - ed Son." See how in
 Spir - it bap - tized in - to Christ's min - is - try, 'Are of - ten
 le - giance, that we may trust in Christ a - lone: Raise up in

dove-like form the led to paths of us a cho-sen Spir - it ser - vice peo - ple de - scends on God's A-noint-ed One, through maz - es of ad-ver - si - ty. trans - formed by love to be your own.

Tune: RENDEZ À DIEU 9.8.9.8.D.
Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510-c. 1561)
Trente quatre Psaeumes, Geneva, 1551

TRÉS CHAMBER MUSIC TRIO
SAT JAN 17 3PM
 ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 115 W B STREET | BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

SOUPER-BOWL OF CARING

Bring in your non-perishable food items
 January 18 & 25 and February 1 & 8
 for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.

CANNED ITEMS NEEDED (preferably pull tops):
 Tuna, chicken, ravioli, SpaghettiOs,
 chili with beans, chunky soups!

Boxes are marked in the Welcome Center to
 cheer on your favorite team with your
 donations. Thank you for participating!

MONDAY FUN-DAY!
 4th Monday of every month!
 Chair Yoga 6-6:30pm
 Yoga 6:30-7pm
 Pickleball 6-8pm

IF PICKLEBALL AND YOGA AREN'T YOUR THING - WE HAVE PUZZLES OR YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN BOARD GAME!

St. Paul UCC
 115 W. B. Street, Belleville
 Enter on 2nd St. at the Activity Center door!
 No cost - just a free will offering!
 618-233-3303

Bring your friends!

All are welcome!

Seekers Adult Bible Study!

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m.
 Genesis Room

VISITING CLERGY

JANUARY 11 - REV. JOAN MIER

JANUARY 18 - CRAIG BIELKE

JANUARY 25 - REV. JOAN MIER

FEBRUARY 1 - REV. DR. CHANCE BEELER



Weekly Offerings 1/3/2026

Operating \$ 4,943.00

Building Fund \$ 87.00

\$ 5,030.00

Giving YTD \$ 355,170.04

Weekly Budget \$ 6,942.65

Budget to Date \$ 361,017.89

Total Budget \$ 361,017.89

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

December 28, 2025 91 + Online Participants

December 29, 2024 124 + Online Participants

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facebook.

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

Gene Buxton

Al Stahl

Audrey Krummrich

Rosie Keller

Laura Sadler

Janie Bloomer

Jerry Pierce-Heisler

Mike Foppe

Bob Stone, brother of Kathy Birkner

Alec Zaber

Nancy Viehman

The loved ones of Jerry Messick

**Please call the church for
prayer requests:**

618-233-3303 stpaulucc.org

**Flowers, Music and Bulletin
sponsorships are a lovely way
to honor the memory, birthday
or achievement of your loved
one. To sign up, call the
church office.
Cost is \$35.00.**

