

ST. PAUL UCC

January 18, 2026



You are welcome here!



St. Paul UCC

Sunday, January 18, 2026 ~ 9:00 am
Second Sunday after the Epiphany



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Visiting Clergy</i>	Craig Bielke
<i>Director of Music</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Donna Davis

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Pastorale
by Iouri Grichetchkine

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, who has God called you to be?

A light to all the nations!

When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

Come! Let us worship God, who gives us a light of good news to all the nations!

We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life to all the world. Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION


Guide our feet, Lord. Show us the light of grace when we would judge others harshly. Warm our hearts with the glow of your love when we would spew icy words of spite. Illumine our souls with joyful delight when sadness tries to take over the day. Shine brightly on us today, Lord, until we reflect your glory as a witness to this world. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

*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 - migh - ty, 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.

CALL TO AND UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, hear our prayer.

We know we do not always live as we ought:

We turn away from you, from our neighbor, and from our true selves.

We know we dim your light within us,

With our pride, our self-righteousness, and our need for control

We know that you love us, that you do not abandon us,

and that again and again you call us back to you,

back to love,

back to grace,

back to your light.

Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Hear then Christ's word of grace to us:

Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM

Here I Am, Lord
arr. Jack Schrader
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 49:1-7
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Donna Davis

SERMON

Craig Bielke

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.

RECEIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY MUSIC

Lamb of God
by Twila Paris
Setting by 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**

DEDICATION PRAYER

Ever-Present and Calling God, knowing us from the beginning, naming us as your own, you have entrusted us with the holy work of bearing your light to the world. Though we often feel unworthy or uncertain, you remind us that your grace goes before us, and your strength works through us. Receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them—and us—to proclaim your justice, to shine your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify your name. In the name of Christ, your Servant and our Savior, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal

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*COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Duo
by Claude Balbastre



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.

Lead On, O King Eternal

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C F C C F C F G

1 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low, not with fears;

G7 C C7 F C G D7 G

hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet A - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

G7 C C7 F A7 D D7 G

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

G F C F C7 F F(2) F C G7 G C

and now, O King E - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest: lead on, O God of might.

WORDS: Ernest W. Shurtleff (1862-1917)
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart (1813-1879)

LANCASHIRE
 7.6.7.6.D.



SOUPER-BOWL OF CARING

Bring in your non-perishable food items

January 18 & 25 and February 1 & 8

for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.

ITEMS NEEDED (preferably pull tops for canned food):

Hamburger & Chicken Helper, 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!

VISITING CLERGY

JANUARY 25 - REV. JOAN MIER

FEBRUARY 1 - REV. DR. CHANCE BEELER

FEBRUARY 8 - REV. JOAN MIER

FEBRUARY 15 - CRAIG BIELKE



Valentine's Craft Day

Save the Date! February 1st

SHARE THE LOVE COFFEE HOUR BEING HELD FEBRUARY 1ST. CHRISTIAN ED WILL PROVIDE THE SUPPLIES FOR THE CRAFT. THE CRAFT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE WITHYOU GROUP TO BE HANDED OUT TO OUR SHUTINS AND NURSING HOME RESIDENTS. SO PLEASE COME TO COFFEE HOUR AND ENJOY OUR COMMUNION AND CONVERSATION TOGETHER AND HELP OUR CHURCH TO BE CREATIVE IN SHARING OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS. BE A PART TO BUILD ST PAUL CHURCH IN 2026. THANKS SYNDY AND SANDY SEE YOU THERE CHRISTIAN ED BOARD.



St. Paul Women's Guild

Please join us at our next meeting to see what we're all about! All ladies are welcome!

We will install our new officers at the January 21st meeting. Lunch is fried chicken.

Just bring a side dish.

Refreshments ~ Fellowship ~ Fun

We help support the community and other missions with proceeds from our Rummage and Bake Sales!

Treat yourself to an afternoon out with old friends & maybe make a new friend. We'd love to have you join us!



Seekers Adult Bible Study!

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m.
Genesis Room

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

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

All are welcome!

Weekly Offerings		1/10/2026
Operating	\$	12,016.00
Building Fund	\$	47.00
	\$	12,063.00
Giving YTD	\$	12,063.00
*Large Donation		
Weekly Budget	\$	6,781.69
Budget to Date	\$	6,781.69
Total Budget	\$	352,648.00

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service	
January 4, 2026	91 + Online Participants
January 5, 2025	SNOW NO SERVICE

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Follow us on ...



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
 Mike Foppe
 Bob Stone, brother of Kathy Birkner
 Alec Zaber
 Nancy Viehman

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



GRIEFWORKS

An LGBTQIA+
 Grief SupportGroup

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

