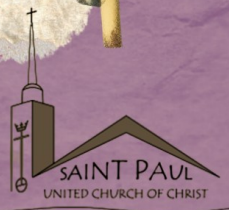




**Welcome to
St. Paul UCC**





St. Paul UCC

Sunday, April 19, 2026 ~ 9:00 am
Third Sunday of Easter



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Lay Leader</i>	Craig Bielke
<i>Director of Music</i>	Dr. Tristan Frampton
<i>Organist</i>	Cynthia Johnson
<i>Liturgist</i>	Peggy Burke

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Christ lag in Todesbanden

by Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

(Christ lay in death's bonds ... He is risen again, Alleluia!)

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, we gather today as people who spent the week inundated with news reports, social media posts, and reels that inundated us with information, worry, and stress.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we carry the weight of being overwhelmed and anxious, wondering who we can believe.

Easter people, we gather as people who long for peace, for God to break through and bring us clarity and hope.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we don't always recognize when the Risen One comes alongside us, showing us the way where there seems to be no way.

Easter people, we gather as people hoping to catch a glimmer of Resurrection, ready for our hearts to burn with the truth of the resurrected Christ.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to the possibility that God's Resurrection life is closer than we think.

Easter people, God knows the burdens we carry, and God is faithful to meet us where we are with good news.

May the good news of the Resurrection astound us today as we come to worship God! Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

O risen Christ, On the road to Emmaus, you were the disciples' companion. Be at our side on the journey of faith on life's pathways and at every encounter so that we may welcome others and listen to their stories. Kindle anew the desire to proclaim your Word. May it illumine us, and may our hearts burn to bear witness to it. May your Holy Spirit teach us the art of explaining scripture and open our hearts to recognize you. Grant us the courage to become vulnerable so that our siblings may know you through us and that we may know you through them. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

Come Christians, Join to Sing

(see page 5)

CALL TO AND UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sometimes our hearts ache within us, O Lord. Like those travelers on the Emmaus road, we feel the deep sadness about losing Jesus. Our sadness finds its roots in many things and we feel as though we cannot escape it. It becomes part and parcel of our conversations. Deep within, our spirits long for release and we silently cry. Forgive us when we close our eyes to your presence. Heal our brokenness. Bind up our wounds. Place us on the path of healing and help us to be people who will bring compassionate caring to others, for we ask these things In Jesus' name. AMEN

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Dear friends, let your hearts be healed. God forgives you, and is here with you right now and walks with you into the world. Do not fear! Peace be with you all. AMEN.

ANTHEM

The Risen Christ
by Tom Fettke
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Luke 24:13-35

Peggy Burke

SERMON

Craig Bielke

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

MISSION MOMENT

Women's Guild, Linda Speichinger

RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS AND OFFERTORY MUSIC

Meditation on "Land of Rest"

(I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord, Forgiven, Loved, and Free)
arr. Robert Lau

***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

Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don't recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us. You break the bread, and our eyes are opened. Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news. Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. We give because we've seen you—alive, loving, and leading us still. In Jesus' name, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

He Lives

(see pages 6 & 7)

COMMISSIONING, CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

He is Risen, He is Risen!
(Unser Herrscher)
arr. Roger C. Wilson

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

87

1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;
 Christ is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

1 I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2 In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3 Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er some may say;
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,

and just the time I need him he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

Refrain

He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
 he lives, he lives,

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.

He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
 he lives, he lives,

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.



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 or email the church office. 618-233-3303 ~ swilhelm@stpaulucc.org Cost is \$35.00.



Worship Leaders

APRIL 19 - CRAIG BIELKE
 APRIL 26 - REV. JOAN H. MIER
 MAY 3 - REV. JOAN H. MIER
 MAY 10 - CRAIG BIELKE

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
 Al Stahl
 Audrey Krummrich
 Laura Sadler
 Alec Zaber
 Jane Bonaldi
 Ruth Klingel
 Sandy Ritter
 Cathy Blaies and family (Mike's sister)



Upcoming EVENTS

at St. Paul UCC

- April 25 (7:30PM) – SWIC Fine Arts Concert
- April 27 (6 – 8PM) Monday Funday
- May 3 (3:00PM) – Metro East Chorale Concert
- May 9 (7:30PM) – Belleville Philharmonic Concert
- May 25 – (6-8PM) Monday Funday
- June 25–Great Puzzle Race (6:30-9PM)
- September 26 – Craftymania (9am – 8pm)

www.stpaulucc.org
 618-233-3303

**Please call for prayer requests:
 618-233-3303
 STPAULUCC.ORG**

Weekly Offerings	4/11/2026
Operating	\$ 12,545.00
Building Fund	\$ 352.00
	\$ 12,897.00
Giving YTD	\$ 119,517.76
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,974.00
Budget to Date	\$ 97,636.00
Total Budget	\$ 362,648.00

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 .

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service		
April 5, 2026	143	+ Online Participants
April 6, 2025	112	+ Online Participants

Follow us on ...

