

Worship Leaders

MAY 24- REV. JOAN H. MIER

MAY 31- CRAIG BIELKE

JUNE 7- REV. JOAN H. MIER

JUNE 14- CRAIG BIELKE



Weekly Offerings	5/9/2026
Operating	\$ 7,823.00
Building Fund	\$ 35.00
	\$ 7,858.00
Giving YTD	\$ 146,017.76
Weekly Budget	\$ 6,974.00
Budget to Date	\$ 125,532.00
Total Budget	\$ 362,648.00

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

May 3, 2026	93	+ Online Participants
May 4, 2025	107	+ Online Participants

For Your Prayers

Carol Hotz & Fred Hotz
The Ritter family, Tim, Sandy & Tim Jr.
Lou Ann Niemann
Mike Llamas, brother in law
of Mimi Llamas
Al Stahl
Audrey Krummrich
Laura Sadler
Alec Zaber
Jane Bonaldi
Ruth Klingel
Synthia Kalinowski
Cathy Blaies and family (Mike's sister)
Our Pastor Search Committee



Please call the office for prayer requests. 618-233-3303

Have you been confirmed?

We are looking for people of all ages who are interested in learning about confirmation at St. Paul UCC.

IF THIS IS YOU

PLEASE CONTACT
Sandy Ritter 618-222-1123 or
Synthia Kalinowski 618-277-3472

Leave a message with your name and contact information and your age group range:

Age groups:
10-20
21-31
32-42
50 & over



St. Paul UCC

Ascension Day of Jesus Christ



www.stpaulucc.org



YouTube



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.



Welcome



Sunday, May 17, 2026 ~ 9am
7th Sunday of Easter - Ascension Day

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Lay Leader	Craig Bielke
Director of Music	Dr. Tristan Frampton
Organist	Cynthia Johnson
Liturgist	Lou Ryseff

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Chorale, from Der Psalter
by Heinrich Schütz

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, we remember the blessings God gives us - The blessings of Resurrection, salvation, and new life in Christ.

We come to praise God for the blessings of Easter.

We share in the blessings of community - of family and friends, of church and home, of help that is given and received.

We come to praise God for the blessings of community!

Easter people, we gather today to remember Christ's ascension marking not the end but the next chapter of God's saving work among us.

We come to bless God with our praise as God continues to bless us with all that we need to live as God's resurrection people. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lord of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your glad tidings. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. For we ask this in the name of our beloved savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE



SHRINERS PARADE
JUNE 5, 2026
PARADE WALKERS & RIDERS NEEDED TO HAND OUT BEADS! FUN EVENING OF COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP REPRESENTING ST PAUL!

St. Paul United Church of Christ
115 West 8 Street, Belleville, IL
www.stpaulucc.org

THE GREAT PUZZLE RACE
Thursday, June 25th - 6:30-9:00PM
Deadline to sign up is June 12th!
Cost is \$10 per person (\$5 for ages 6-11)
2-4 people per table
Attendance prizes and a prize for 1st and 2nd place winners.
Bring your own drinks and snacks! Popcorn & lemonade will be provided.
Sponsored by St Paul UCC Mission and Christian Education teams.
All proceeds will be donated to Beacon who provides low income people in need of furniture and household goods for a new beginning.
RSVP by mailing or dropping off a check or cash to the office!
115 W. 8. St., Belleville, IL 62220
or Scan the Paypal QR Code
(put puzzle race in the memo)
618-233-3303 or email swilhelm@stpaulucc.org

MONDAY FUN-DAY!
4th Monday of every month!
Chair Yoga
Yoga
PICKLEBALL
Puzzles and Board Games Available!
Bring your friends!
CANCELLED FOR MAY
Enrollment at the Activity Center door!
just a free will offering!
618-233-3303
A free will offering is happily accepted.
Free! All are welcome!

Coffee Hour Host Schedule:

- May 17 - Linda & Carol Speichinger
- May 24 - Mona Scheibel
- May 31 - Donna Davis
- June 7 - Zoey Davenport
- June 14 - Al Scharf

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A COFFEE HOUR HOST!

It takes about 15-20 min to set up.
Our guests arrive about 10:00.
Better to have their coffee ready at that time. Last coffee call no later than 11:00, if not sooner.
Takes about 20-25 min to clean up.
Printed instructions are available.
Assistance is always available.
Contact the office to sign up!



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.

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending 318

1 Je - sus comes with clouds de - scend - ing; see the Lamb for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall then be - hold you robed in awe - some
 3 Yes, a - men! Let all a - dore you, high on your e -

sin - ners slain! Thou - sand, thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 maj - es - ty; those who jeered and mocked and sold you,
 ter - nal throne; crowns and em - pires fall be - fore you,

join to sing the glad re - frain: Al - le - lu - ia!
 pierced and nailed you glad to the tree, shamed and griev - ing,
 claim the king - dom for your own. Come, Lord Je - sus,

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign!
 shamed and griev - ing, shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 come, Lord Je - sus, ev - er - last - ing Christ, come down!

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart (1813-1879)

REGENT SQUARE
 8.7.8.7.8.7.

288 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

All cre - a - tion, join to say Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
 MUSIC: Lyræ Davidica, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 7.7.7.7. Alleluias

CALL TO AND UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come, O Lord, on this day of glory to confess our lack of trust. While we sing of your lordship over all creation, we have too often acted as though you are powerless in the face of today's event. Help us to live with confidence in your presence today and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Although you have not stood on the mountaintop to see his ascension to God, yet believe in the love and power of Christ who taught you how to be faithful and joyful disciples. Rejoice, and believe in him who came that you may have abundant life. Amen.

ANTHEM *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*
arr. Kent Newbury
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURES Acts 1:1-11 and Luke 24:44-53 Lou Ryseff

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.

RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS AND OFFERTORY MUSIC

At the Name of Jesus, Every Knee Shall Bow
by Ralph Vaughan Williams
arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.



***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

God of Grace and Glory, as the risen Christ ascended into heaven, the disciples stood looking upward, reminded that your work in the world was not finished, but entrusted to your people. Today, we offer these gifts as part of that holy calling. Receive and bless our offerings, and use them to continue Christ's ministry of compassion, justice, mercy, and reconciliation in the world. Free us from fear and selfishness, and send us out with courage and joy to be your witnesses in all we do. In the name of Jesus, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending* (see page 6)

COMMISSIONING + CHARGE + BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr*
(All Glory Be to God On High)
by Samuel Scheidt



St. Paul Fine Arts presents . . .

RECRUITS
YOUTH CHORUS

Sunday, May 31st @ 2pm

A free will offering is greatly appreciated.