

AUGUST

Worship Leaders

August 2 - Rev. Joan H. Mier

August 9 - Rev. Joan H. Mier

August 16 - Craig Bielke

August 23 - Craig Bielke

August 30 - Craig Bielke

Weekly Offerings 8/15/2026

Operating \$ 9,066.00

Building Fund \$ 45.00

\$ 9,111.00

Giving YTD \$ 251,297.43

Weekly Budget \$ 6,974.00

Budget to Date \$ 223,168.00

Total Budget \$ 362,648.00

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

August 9, 2026 81 + Online Participants

August 10, 2025 86 + Online Participants

For Your Prayers

Carol Hotz & Fred Hotz
The Ritter family, Tim, Sandy & Tim Jr.

Lou Ann Niemann

Al Stahl

Laura Sadler

Alec Zaber

Jane Bonaldi

Paul Sutherland

Our Pastor Search Committee

Cathy Blaies and family (Mike's sister)

Sylvia, sister of Luci Bradley

Rich Wilburn and his family,

son-in-law of Stephenie Bauza

Stephen Agnew, son of

Carolyn Hazelip

Gay Eckert

Larry Walton

Jennifer Wick,

daughter of Stephenie Bauza

Dave Muskopf, close friend of

Tom & Kathy Birkner

Jane Peters, sister of Jerry Pierce

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

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.

618-233-3303

Cost is \$35.00.

St. Paul UCC



No matter who you are,
No matter where you
are on life's journey,
You are welcome here."



stpaulucc.org



YouTube



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This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

Welcome

Sunday, August 23, 2026 ~ 9am
13th Sunday after Pentecost



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Lay Leader Craig Bielke
Director of Music Dr. Tristan Frampton
Guest Organists/Pianists Lisa Cleveland & Lynda Marshall
Liturgist Stephenie Bauza

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*
Tune: Madrid
by Christian H. Bateman, arr. Mark Hayes

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth,
We belong to God.
When we feel overwhelmed,
God is on our side.
When we are afraid,
God will keep us safe.
Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth,
Blessed be the Lord!

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We thank you, O Lord, that we are not alone. You watch over us, guide us, and lead us in your righteous pathways. When we stumble and fall, you lift us up and gently place us on that pathway again. When we doubt, you surround us with your mercy and peace, reassuring us of your presence through the love of others and of our savior Jesus Christ. Keep our hearts and minds open and ready to serve you, for we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE



Coffee hour hosts needed!

August

Coffee Hour Host Schedule:
August 2 - Bruce & Pam Elser
August 9 - Al Scharf
August 16 - Linda & Carol Speichinger
August 23 - Mona Scheibel
August 30 - Donna Davis

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.
~Printed instructions & Assistance are always available.
Contact the office or Donna D. to sign up!

Crafty Mania

Saturday, September 26, 2026 - 9am-8pm

Join us for a full day of crafting fun! Bring your favorite projects, share ideas with other crafters, and enjoy hours of creativity, inspiration, and handmade creations.

 **Raffle Baskets and 50/50** 

Cost: \$45 for the day: lunch is included.
Dinner will be available for an additional \$10.
St. Paul UCC - 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220
(Enter on C. St. through the Activity Center)

Register by sending in a check with your information to St. Paul UCC!

Proceeds to benefit organizations outside our church in the greater Belleville area.

Name & address: _____
Phone & email: _____
I want to sit by: _____

Call for questions or more information: 618-233-3303
Reservations and payment are due by: September 15th!

Save THE DATE!

FRIDAY, OCT. 23RD @ 6 PM

 **BIG PAPA G'S MUSIC TRIVIA @ ST. PAUL UCC**

- ROUND SPONSORS NEEDED - \$100!
- AUCTION BASKET RAFFLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
- ROUND JUDGE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220 (618) 233-3303 www.stpaulucc.org

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Please contact the church office to be added to the Confirmation list.

WEEKLY CLASSES

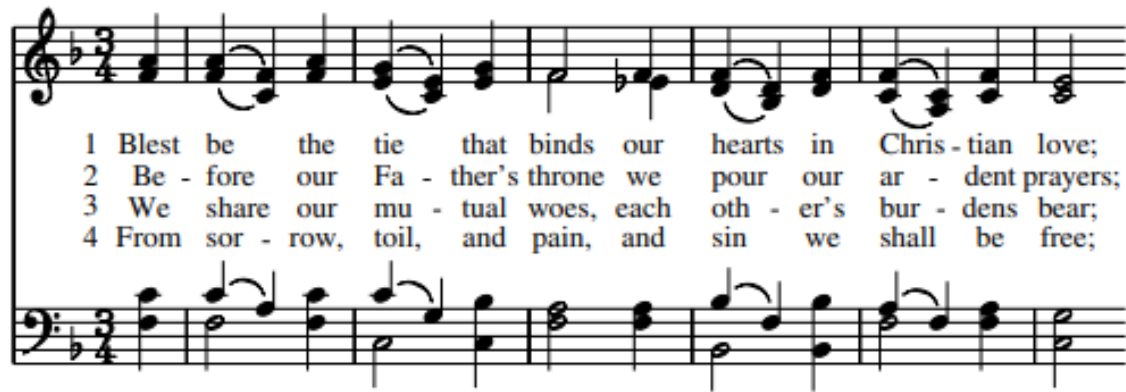
6:00 p.m.

September 21 to March 15th

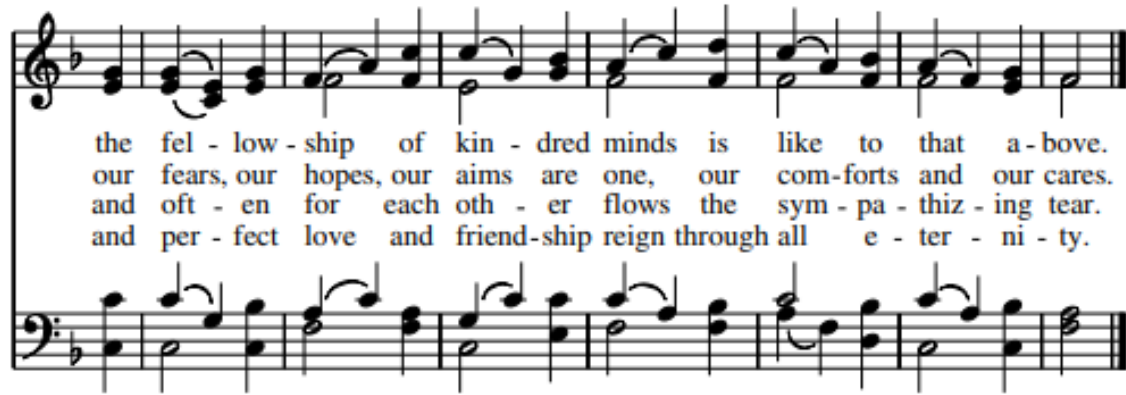
Confirmation Ceremony
Palm Sunday March 21st.

618-233-3303

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 393



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
 2 Be-fore our Fa-ther's throne we pour our ar-dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu-tual woes, each oth-er's bur-dens bear;
 4 From sor-row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



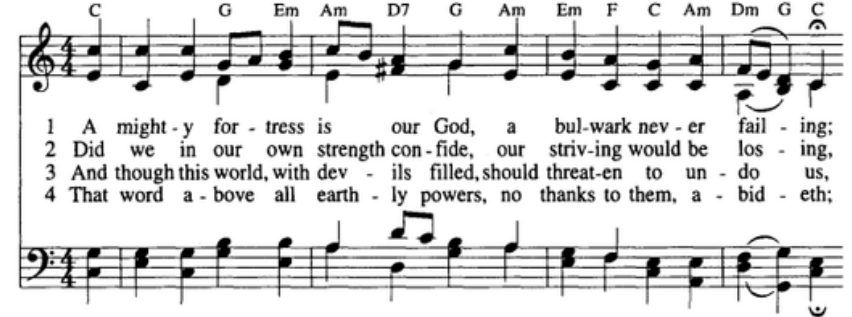
the fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds is like to that a-bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
 and oft-en for each oth-er flows the sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.
 and per-fect love and friend-ship reign through all e-ter-ni-ty.

WORDS: John Fawcett (1740-1817), alt.
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli (1773-1836); arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

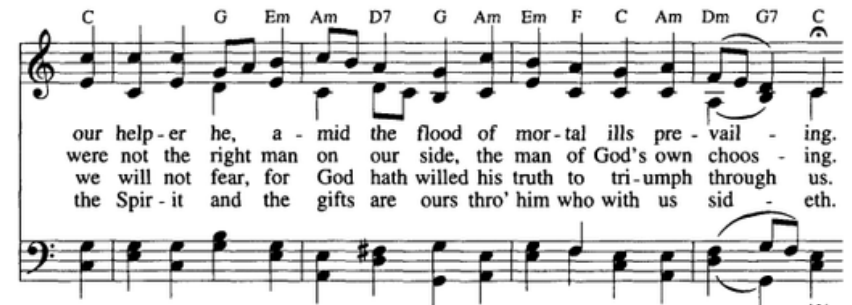
DENNIS
 S.M.

OPENING HYMN

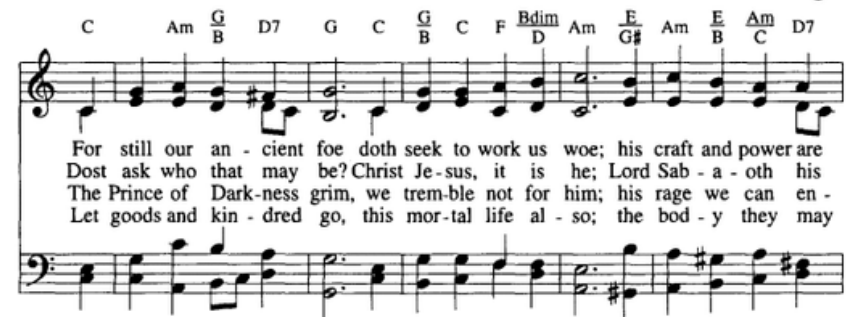
507 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



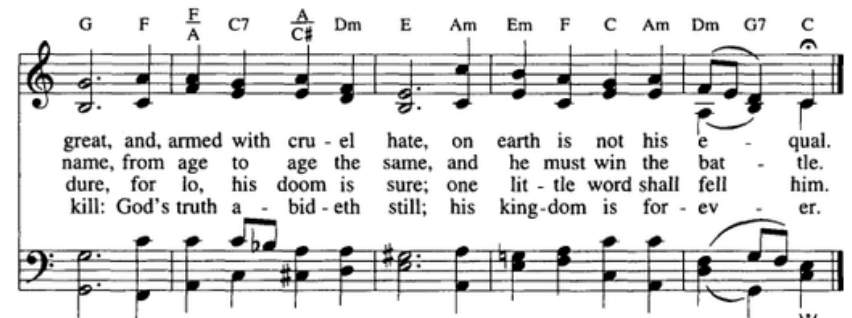
1 A might-y for-ress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;
 2 Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los-ing,
 3 And though this world, with dev-ils filled, should threat-en to un-do us,
 4 That word a-bove all earth-ly powers, no thanks to them, a-bid-eth;



our help-er he, a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.
 were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos-ing.
 we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri-umph through us.
 the Spir-it and the gifts are ours thro' him who with us sid-eth.



For still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is he; Lord Sab-a-oth his
 The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we trem-ble not for him; his rage we can en-
 Let goods and kin-dred go, this mor-tal life al-so; the bod-y they may



great, and, armed with cru-el hate, on earth is not his e-qual.
 name, from age to age the same, and he must win the bat-tle.
 dure, for lo, his doom is sure; one lit-tle word shall fell him.
 kill: God's truth a-bid-eth still; his king-dom is for-ev-er.

WORDS: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Frederick H. Hedge (1805-1890)
 MUSIC: Martin Luther (1483-1546)

EIN' FESTE BURG
 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.



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! 618-233-3303)

A free will offering is happily accepted.



CALL TO AND UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Caring God, you call us to be the body of Christ. To live in community. To care for one another. To use our different gifts. Instead of working to sustain community, we follow our desires. Instead of trusting in your care, we think we can do it alone. Forgive our neglect of others. Give us obedient spirits, that we may care for one another, depend on your love, and use our gifts for your gospel. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Just a Closer Walk
arr. Jack Schrader
St. Paul Women's Ensemble

SCRIPTURES

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

Stephenie Bauza

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

I Need Thee Every Hour
by Robert Lowry, arr. Joel Raney

*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

Faithful God, you reveal true power not through fear or force, but through love that gives life and builds community. You call us to know who we are because we know whose we are. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your way of life over the ways of death, of courage over control, of welcome over exclusion. Use what we offer to strengthen your church as a living witness to your grace, that through our sharing and serving, others may discover the identity of Christ and the hope found in him. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* (see page 6)

COMMISSIONING + CHARGE + BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Tune: Hymn to Joy
by Ludwig Van Beethoven, arr. Mark Hayes

ST. PAUL UCC RUMMAGE SALE

115 W. B Street
Belleville, IL
Activity Center (Gym)
(Across from Franklin School)
INSIDE RAIN OR SHINE!

SALE DATES
Fri., Oct. 9th
4-7pm &
Sat., Oct. 10th
9am-12pm

Bake Sale!
Donations of
baked goods accepted!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

CONTACT SUSAN RELFE
IF YOU CAN HELP!
SUSANRELFE@OUTLOOK.COM

Donations will be accepted starting September 28th!
Drop off hours: Monday-Thursday. If you need help
unloading ***PLEASE CALL before you come!***
618-233-3303