

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551
610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org
Worship 9:30am

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*

Then Jesus took the loaves,
and when he had given thanks,
he distributed them to those
who were seated; so also the fish,
as much as they wanted.



John 6:11, NRSV

*Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Online Streaming Worship Service*

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
that will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

+++

Sunday, July 25, 2021
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. by Robert Thygerson

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{To center your hearts and minds,
you are invited to individually offer this prayer silently
during or before the Prelude}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ^②

Loving God, we are seeking after you, for you are our refuge. Your power is at work within and among us, even when we are unaware. We want to respond, not as fools, but as faithful friends of Jesus. We have come to discover the riches we did not know we possessed. We are here to offer our best for the good of all. Use us, we pray, to accomplish in and through this church, far more than we can ask or imagine. All glory be to you, amazing God, in this and every hour, forever and ever. Amen.

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

♪ Red #21

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*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP ^②

Leader: We gather before God, who sees all our deeds.

We open our hearts to One who knows all our thoughts.

People: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

We come together proclaiming, "God is with us!"

Leader: God's presence evokes our joyous worship.

The Holy Spirit empowers our service.

People: To God be highest glory in the church.

To God be endless adoration in the world.

Virtual Worship Service

Online: [Live Stream](#) at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen on [St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel](#) Later

[Facebook Live](#) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later

[Phone Stream](#) at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later


[Zoom](#): Meeting ID: 104 401 368; Passcode: 301301 (or call 1-646-558-8656) - Live Only

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



Adoration and Praise

HENRY VAN DYKE, 1907



8. 7. 8. 7. D.

HYMN TO JOY
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, 1824*With exultation*




1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;


Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Fa - ther love is reign - ing o'er us, Broth - er love binds man to man.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er, All who live in love are Thine;
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the Joy di - vine.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us Sun - ward In the tri - umph song of life. A - MEN.



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We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION[®] (Leader)

The psalmist asserted that all have gone astray, all are alike perverse; there is no one who does good – no, not one. We eat up people as bread and do not call upon God. Before we dismiss these claims as unwarranted exaggeration, let us examine ourselves before God.

*CONFESSION OF SIN[®] (Unison)

O God, you know our secret hearts. You are aware of our distortions, our jealousies, our lust. You observe our unfaithfulness, our treachery, our unwarranted fears. We are corrupted by greed, self-indulgence, and desire to be entertained. We do not take responsibility for our misconduct, our abuse of power, our lack of trust in you. We have little sense of vision to see beyond immediate circumstances or to embrace new possibilities. We miss the signs of your grace and resist the empowerment of your Spirit. Mighty God, still the storms within us with your transforming peace and boundless forgiveness, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON[®] (Leader)

All who truly repent can know the love of Christ that surpasses human knowledge. We are rescued, delivered, and restored to fullness of life in God, our Creator. We are being rooted and grounded in love that we, in turn, might show love to others. We are invited to join the saints in realizing ever fuller dimensions of life centered in faith and trust. **Amen.**

*CALL TO PRAISE[®]

Leader: Let us give thanks and praise to our Triune God.

People: **We sing in praise of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

*PRAISE RESPONSE

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation "

vs 4

♪ Red #324

**Laud and honor to the Father, Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory, While unending ages run!**

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{Please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings.

*We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God."
Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.*

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

First Lesson: [2 Kings 4:42-44](#)

Psalter: **Psalm 145:10-18**

Leader: Let us praise God with the Psalm.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O God,

People: and all your faithful shall bless you.

Leader: They shall speak of the glory of your dominion,

People: and tell of your power,

Leader: to make known to all people your mighty deeds,

People: and the glorious splendor of your dominion.

ALL: I will meditate on your wondrous works.

Leader: Your reign is an everlasting reign,

People: and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Leader: God is faithful in every word,

People: and gracious in every deed.

Leader: God upholds all who are falling,

People: and raises up all who are bowed down.

Leader: The eyes of all look to you,

People: and you give them their food in due season.

Leader: You open your hand to all,

People: satisfying the desire of every living thing.

ALL: I will meditate on your wondrous works.

Leader: In every way God is just,

People: and kind in every action.

Leader: God is near to all who call,

People: to all who call on God in truth.

Second Lesson: [Ephesians 3:14-21](#)

Gospel Lesson: [John 6:1-21](#)

HYMN

"We Are Called to Be God's People"

♫Blue #415

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We Are Called to Be God's People 415

You are a chosen people, a people belonging to God. 1 Peter 2:9

E \flat E \flat ⁴ E \flat B \flat B \flat ⁷ D \flat ⁷ E \flat B \flat ⁷ E \flat A \flat E \flat B \flat ⁷ D \flat E \flat F \flat C \flat B \flat

1. We are called to be God's peo - ple, Show - ing by our lives His grace,
 2. We are called to be God's ser - vants, Work - ing in His world to - day;
 3. We are called to be God's proph - ets, Speak - ing for the truth and right;

1 2 3 4

E \flat E \flat ⁴ E \flat B \flat B \flat ⁷ D \flat ⁷ E \flat B \flat ⁷ E \flat A \flat E \flat B \flat ⁷ D \flat E \flat F \flat C \flat B \flat

One in heart and one in spir - it, Sign of hope for all the race.
 Tak - ing His own task up - on us, All His sa - cred words o - bey.
 Stand - ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, Bring - ing e - vil in - to light.

5 6 7 8

B \flat E \flat B \flat B \flat ⁷ E \flat B \flat B \flat A \flat E \flat F \flat C \flat F \flat B \flat

Let us show how He has changed us And re - made us as His own;
 Let us rise, then, to His sum - mons, Ded - i - cate to Him our all,
 Let us seek the cour - age need - ed, Our high call - ing to ful - fill,

9 10 11 12

E \flat E \flat ^{M7} A \flat E \flat A \flat E \flat B \flat D \flat E \flat B \flat B \flat ⁷ E \flat A \flat E \flat G \flat B \flat ⁷ E \flat

Let us share our life to - geth - er As we shall a - round His throne.
 That we may be faith - ful ser - vants, Quick to an - swer now His call.
 That we all may know the bless - ing Of the do - ing of God's will.

13 14 15 16

TEXT: Thomas A. Jackson
 MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn

AUSTRIAN HYMN
 8.7.8.7.D.

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We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have
learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and
giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and buried;
he descended to the dead;
on the third day he rose again,
ascended into heaven,
and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,[†]
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

[†]The word "catholic" means "the universal church" and was the word used in the original version of the Creed. It does not refer here to the particular denomination of the Roman Catholic Church, but rather the whole Christian church of all denominations, the body of Christ, as a universal fellowship.

{Please be seated}

OFFERTORY INVITATION ^②

Leader: We have gladly taken more than our share of the world's good.

People: Let us give in proportion to the blessings we have received.

Leader: May the church be at the forefront of feeding, healing, caring for, and loving God's people.

People: We are the church, the body of Christ, making a difference in the world.

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

*{As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.
A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed
when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.*

*Whether worshipping in person or online,
the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church
is through our secure [Online Giving](https://sprucc.org) option on our website at sprucc.org. [Click Here](#)
Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul's UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.*

OFFERTORY

Soloist: Terry Pastor

{Those who are able, please rise}

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

‡ NCH #283

**Giving, loving, holy God, receive our gifts we pray.
Giving, loving, holy God, receive our gifts we pray.
Take them, bless them, use them, grow them.
Giving, loving, holy God, receive our gifts we pray.**

Text: Benjamin Motz
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***OFFERTORY PRAYER** [®] (Leader)

Gracious God, we join with Jesus in giving thanks for the little things we can see, that our eyes may be opened to the great possibilities we had not imagined. May our efforts be multiplied by your grace so there is more than enough for all—more comfort in sorrow, more relief from pain, more mercy to meet our treachery, more sense of presence amid our loneliness, more strength to overcome our weakness, more joy and enthusiasm to erase our apathy. **Amen.**

{Please be seated}

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray....

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

“The Missionary Work of the Church”

♪ Red #9 pg 536-537

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God for his tender mercy, whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

People: to give light unto them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Leader: Jesus said: They shall come from the east and west, and from the north and south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

People: Thanks be to thee, O Christ, for thy Holy Gospel.

Leader: Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also must I bring and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock, one shepherd.

People: Thanks be to thee, O Christ, for thy Holy Gospel.

Leader: Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you.

People: Thanks be to thee, O Christ, for thy Holy Gospel.

Leader: Ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth.

People: Thanks be to thee, O Christ, for thy Holy Gospel.

Leader: Thanks be to thee, most glorious God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the revelation of thyself in this our world, and for thy commission to thy Church to proclaim the gospel of Christ to every creature.

People: Thanks be to thee, O God.

Leader: For the early disciples who were sent forth by Christ to proclaim the coming of the kingdom,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For the apostles of the nations, who in obedience to his Word carried the gospel throughout the world,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For those missionaries, known and unknown, who first brought the gospel to these shores,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For all those who, in the ages of darkness, kept alive the light, and who, while all slumbered and slept, were faithful to their Lord's command,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For all who at any time have recalled the Church to her great task of evangelizing the world,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For those who have gone to the ends of the world with the joyful news, and have sought out the dark places of the earth to bring light to them that dwell in the shadow of death,

People: we praise thee, O God.

Leader: For thy missionary servants who have joined the noble army of martyrs, and for all witnesses to the faith who have sealed their testimony with their blood,
People: we praise thee, O God.
 Leader: For the innumerable company who now praise thy Name out of every kindred and nation and tongue,
People: we praise thee, O God.
 Leader: O God, hasten the time when the gospel shall have been preached to all nations, thy kingdom shall have come on earth, and the whole world shall be filled with the knowledge of thy Name.
People: Hear us, we beseech thee.
 Leader: O thou, who art the light of the world, the desire of all nations, and the shepherd of our souls, let thy light shine in the darkness, that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God. By the lifting up of thy cross gather the peoples to thine obedience, to whom alone belongeth the sceptre and the crown. Let thy sheep hear thy voice and be brought home to thy fold, so that there may be one flock, one shepherd; one holy kingdom of righteousness and peace; one God and Father of us all, above all, and through all, and in all.
People: Amen.

THE AGAPÉ FEAST (LOVE FEAST) ®

The Agapé Feast is a simple meal included as a part of a worship service based on the first gatherings of Christians after Pentecost (Acts 2:42) and continued to be practiced by the Christians of the early church (Jude 1:12). Agapé is the Greek word for the self-sacrificial love of Christ that reconciles us to God and unifies us as Christians. This meal demonstrates our desire to be in fellowship with one another as equal children of God (Galatians 3: 26-29). It involves a common food and a common drink, but not to be confused with the sacrament of Holy Communion. The modern use of the Love Feast as a part of worship began in the 1700s in Germany by the Moravian Church, and then slowly spread to other denominations. In the early American settlements congregations were often served the sacraments by an occasional visit of a traveling pastor, and therefore the Love Feast became a common alternative to communion for those times when no pastor was available to consecrate the communion elements. The use of the Love Feast has become increasingly practiced during the COVID-19 pandemic as alternative meal to communion, as a way to share in a meal of community with God and with one another, through virtual electronic means, without the need to have consecrated bread and wine/grape juice.

*{For the following Love Feast,
we invite you to share in a simple meal together
virtually over the live stream and in spirit through Christ}.*

{Both the food and the drink is your choice, but should be something common and simple.

Examples of food include: a pastry, doughnut, pancake, French toast, biscuit, muffin, cookie, cracker, dinner roll, or sticky bun.

Examples of drink include: water, coffee, tea, orange juice, or lemonade}.

*{Bread cubes, wafers, wine, and grape juice are ok, but are generally not used,
so as not to confuse the Love Feast with the Lord's Supper}.*

GREETING (Leader)

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have all come to this place frail and broken. In a world of violence, hate, greed, and isolation, we come together as a church searching to find the way forward, we look for healing through this restorative service of old. It is in this Agapé Feast where adversaries become friends, friends become neighbors, and the Christian family embraces all.

The history of the feast, as a celebration born simply out of love, generosity, and fellowship is beautiful. At its most basic, the love feast is an experience of warmth and sharing, a commemoration of the early church. At its most symbolic, the love feast is a means of God's grace that is experienced in the fellowship with each other and with God. But the simplest explanation of the love feast, to which one can respond when asked, is that it is a way to remember Christ's presence on earth, and to celebrate with gratitude the spirit of God's love.

In times and places when Christians are unable to partake of Holy Communion, many people share in a tradition called the Love Feast. Sisters and brothers, we are always hungry and thirsty for Christ's love. One thing we know about Jesus is how he intentionally gathered at a table or in a field or even along the seashore to break bread, to nourish both body and spirit. This is what Jesus did on that final night before his passion. He gathered in love with those who would betray him, those who would deny him, those who would abandon him. He held together this humble community with the steadfast love of God in him. Jesus gathered them to share his love and to encourage them.

Today we gather at a distance, united in Christ's love. We all need food; we all need drink. We are equal before God; we are equal as we share in this meal of love together. This simple food and drink unite us as sisters and brothers in Christ. May this service and this meal not only nourish our bodies, but also our spirits and the bonds of love between us.

OPENING PRAYER (*Unison*)

Leader: We thank you, O God, for the life, love, and knowledge which you have revealed through Jesus, your child and our brother. To you be glory forever.

ALL: Be present at our table, Lord; *(by John Cennick)*
Be here and everywhere adored;
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in paradise with Thee. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (*Leader*)

(NRSV)

Galatians 3: 26-29 (Equals in Christ)

²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Ephesians 4: 1-6 (Unity in the Body of Christ)

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling
to which you have been called,

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

John 13:34-35 (Jesus' "New Commandment" to love one another)

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

BLESSING (*Unison*)

(a meal prayer believed to have originated in the Moravians)

**Come Lord Jesus be our guest,
and let these gifts to us be blessed.
Like manna in the desert given,
the Bread of life, sent down from Heaven. Amen.**

MEAL

Leader: I now invite you to eat and drink together, united by love in fellowship and in spirit by Christ.

HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

♪ *Red #272*

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Love and Fellowship

CHARLES WESLEY, 1747

8.7.8.7.D.

BEECHER
JOHN ZUNDEL, 1870*In moderate time*

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown:
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest;
 Gra - cious - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place,



Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - MEN.



LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

**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.**

{Those who are able, please rise}

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

***COMMISSION** ②

Leader: Go out to share what you have received.
God will multiply the gifts that you give away.
People: **We will turn away from fears of scarcity.
We will celebrate and share our abundance.**
Leader: May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith.
May the Holy Spirit strengthen your inner being.
People: **To God be glory in the church forever.
May Christ be honored in all we say and do.**
ALL: **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION** ①

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Savior Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

***THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN**

♪ **Red #558**
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***SENDING HYMN**

"Break Now the Bread of Life"

♯ **NCH #321**
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*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

321

Break Now the Bread of Life

*Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44**Mary A. Lathbury, 1877; alt.*

1 Break now the bread of life, Sav - ior, to me, as you once
2 Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me, as you once

broke the loaves be - side the sea; Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee; Then shall all bond-age cease,

I seek you, Lord; my spir-it . yearns for you, O Liv - ing Word.
all shack-les fall, and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Mary Lathbury, "poet laureate of Chautauqua," wrote her prayer hymn to enrich the lives of those gathered for summer study at the lakeside conferences near Jamestown, New York. The tune was written for it by the chorus director of Chautauqua that same season.

Tune: BREAD OF LIFE 6.4.6.4.D.
William F. Sherwin, 1877



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② *Taught By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1998). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.

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⑥ scouting.org - resources for Boy Scouts of America

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⑧ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.

⑨ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way: Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press

⑩ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.

⑪ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.

⑫ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

⑬ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).

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⑭ The Love Feast liturgy was primarily designed and written by United Methodist pastor, the Rev. Dr. Cynthia A. Wilson (2018) at umcdiscipleship.org, with adaptations from: the Rev. Tamie Sealise, Richard Stowe (author of *The Love Feast*), moravianmusic.org, moravian.org, and the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz. *Resources are edited and adapted for use in this worship service.*



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshipping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others

††† **Worship Participants** †††

Thank you to all who have made this worship experience possible.

	<u>Today</u> July 25 th	<u>Next Sunday</u> August 1 st
Greeter/Usher	Denise U.	Georgi H.
Greeter/Usher	Carl U.	Marianne M.
Greeter/Usher	-	-
Acolyte	Geri G.	Geri G.
Welcome	Brian K.	Jon H.
Layreader/Lector #1	Brian K.	Jon H.
Layreader/Lector #2	Sheri R./Terry P.	-
Children's Message	Geri G.	Elsa W.
Cantor	Terry P.	Brian K.
AV Tech	Kirk A.	Kirk A.

† Prayer List †

*Please lift up those listed here in your prayers this week.
“Pray for one another, so that you may be healed.
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” ~ James 5:16b*

Medical Concerns & Healing:

Sam B.
Norman B.
Lori & Ryan B.
Rich D.
Jacob E.
Jaden G.
Ann H.
Leigh H.
Rev. David K.
Jim & Donna K.
Janice L.
Ella L.
Edmund L.

Medical Concerns & Healing:

Amy M.
Diane M.
George M.
Starr M.
Gary N.
Terry O.
Paul P.
Fred R.
Julie R.
Jim S.
Rob & Jodi S.
Spencer Family
Martha W.

Mourning:

Family & Friends of Sandra B.
Family & Friends of Joyce R.
Family & Friends of Jason R.
Family & Friends of Ron S.
Family & Friends of Sarah S.

Social Concerns:

Those impacted by COVID-19
Those working on a vaccine
for COVID-19

*Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you.
All are welcome to add names to the prayer list.*

*Names are generally left on the list for about four weeks.
Please let us know if you would like a name to remain longer or shorter.
If you would like someone's name added to the prayer list,
please contact the church office at 610-621-5770 or office@sprucc.org.*

Visitation Care Team

Our Visitation Care Team (VCT) is composed of lay members who have been trained for visitation. If you are in need of prayer, a visit, or just a listening ear, they are here to be of support to you. To contact the Visitation Care Team with a visitation request or to share information about a potential care need email the VCT at CareTeam@sprucc.org. For more information, go to our “[Visitation Care Ministries](#)” page at www.sprucc.org under the “ministries” tab.

Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest
Password (for both): iamheretoserve

††† General Announcements †††

Welcome!

We are glad that you are here to worship with us. May you find the worship and message meaningful and satisfying to your soul. May your week be blessed.

The Agapé Feast (Love Feast)

Welcome to our Love Feast. A Love Feast is a communal meal that takes place during a worship service. It is not Holy Communion; there is no consecration of the elements by an ordained minister. For this worship service, we invite you, from the comfort of your home, to have a simple food (such as a pastry, donut, cracker, or bun) and a simple drink (such as coffee, tea, water, or lemonade). For those here at church, you will give a bread wafer and small cup of juice for our shared meal. During the worship service, you will be directed to eat and drink of our communal meal together.

Sunday School Materials

Sunday school music, videos, and an assortment of other materials are available for downloading over the summer. Click on this link for [Sunday school for youth](#).

Devotional Music

Devotional music for all ages, courtesy of Pastor Bob, is available on our website. Click on this link for [Devotional Music](#).

Thank You!

Thank you to those who were able to help trim shrubs these last two Thursdays. We may not always have been able to worship at St. Paul's this past year, but the church still looks good. Thank you to the Property Committee and all those who have assisted in keeping the church building and property in order. Good job!

August Newsletter Preparation

If anyone would like to help prepare the newsletter for mailing, please come to the fellowship hall on Thursday, July 29 at 10:00am. Help is needed to collate, apply labels, and stuff envelopes. With enough people it will take about 1 or 1 ½ hours. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

Soup & Such: 4:00-6:00pm

This Thursday, July 29, will be Soup & Such. This will be a dine-in event for those comfortable with staying, as well as a take-out event for those who would just like to pick-up and go. The hours are the same, 4:00-6:00pm. Those who would like to take-out their meal will need to park in the church lot and walk in. There will be NO drive-thru. Help is always needed. Please contact the church office or Steve Miller (717-933-5097) if you have questions. Those helping usually arrive around 3:00pm. Hope to see you there!

Youth Group Meeting

The youth will be meeting after Soup & Such at 6:00pm. All youth 5th grade and up are welcome to come!

Neighborhood Mission Work

We are planning a stay-near-home Mission trip with Zion UCC (Womelsdorf) on Saturday, September 18. We are looking for local projects to consider - ways in which we can assist people in our local area. If you have a project request or suggestion, please contact the church office. We also need people to help on that day. **Please respond by Sunday, August 1st so that the projects and the availability of help may be firmed up.** More information will be on our website, in the August newsletter, and in a special mailing. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 18, with a rain date of Saturday, September 25.

Sunday, August 1st Guest Speaker

Next Sunday our guest speaker for the worship service will be Pastor Bob Masenheimer. Pastor Bob will be giving us a lesson in the role that music has played in the church. We hope you will join us to hear just how music has impacted the church.

Come Worship at Knoebel's Amusement Park - August 8

All are welcome to come to Knoebel's Amusement Park on Sunday, August 8 for worship. We will begin gathering at Pavilion Tent #4 at around 10:00am. At 10:30am worship will begin. The rides and water park will open at 11:00am. The pavilion will be available to us for the whole day. Please bring a lunch or you may purchase food at the park. There is NO park admission fee. There is NO parking fee. You need only to pay for ride tickets (for whatever rides you may wish). Invite your family and friends. If you are not able to join us at Knoebel's park, worship will take place at St. Paul's, but it will be virtual only.

Annual Car Show - Saturday, August 14

Please join us for St. Paul's Annual Car Show to be held rain or shine on Saturday, August 14 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. If you can help that day, please contact Rob Seifrit or the church office. If you would like to register a car you may print out the [registration form](#) (click the link) and send it to Rob, or contact the church office for a print out of the form. The cost is \$10/car to register.

Telephone Live Streaming & Playback Worship

This service is being offered to those who do not have internet access. You may call us at our toll free number **1-888-649-5770** and listen to the worship service live using a landline or cell phone. (No internet, smartphone, tablet, or computer is necessary - this works with a standard corded phone, cell phone, or even with a rotary phone). You also have the option for the church to automatically call you when the live stream worship begins (rather than you calling the church); which you can sign up for at the above toll free number, or you can call the church office, and we can add you to the call list. If you have any questions, difficulties, or issues, please let us know by calling the office at 610-621-5770. There is no charge to you for this service. If you know of someone who does not have internet access, please let them know of this feature.



Link to Website's
Upcoming Events

About Today

Church Season: Pentecost -which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Green - symbolizing the life God brings, especially through our mission work.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year B**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Mark.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church).

This Sunday, July 25, 2021, Lectionary Reading for Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15 *and* Psalm 14; 2 Kings 4:42-44 *and* Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21;
John 6:1-21

The Second Book of Samuel

This OT book, bears the name of the prophet Samuel. This book takes place during the rule of the second king of Israel, David (ruling from 1000-961 B.C.). Two important themes within this book are that of the a nation's relationship with God and good rule of people; and secondly, the complexity of individual relationships with God. Samuel was the prophet anointed King David. In Hebrew, the word prophet literally means "spokesperson." A prophet is one who acts as an intermediary, called by God to speak to God's people, usually to bring those people back in line with God's will.

Psalm 14

In this OT song, we hear that it is fools who say there is no God. We express our confidence in the providence of God, as God helps to protect the poor and innocent in the face of evil.

The Book of Second Kings

During the Middle Ages, the Book of Kings was divided into two parts. The first book provides a history of the Israelite people and their theological struggles from the death of King David (970 B.C.). The first book continues through the reign of King Solomon; to the division of Israel into the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah; and to the death of King Ahab and the beginning of the rule of his son Ahaziah. The second book begins with Ahaziah's rule (850-849 BC); to the Assyrian's destruction of Samaria (721 B.C.), which was the capital of the Northern Kingdom; to the invasion of the Babylonians and the fall of Jerusalem (586 B.C.), which was the capital of the Southern Kingdom, resulting in a period of Jewish exile.

Psalm 145

This OT song attributed to David, gives praise for the greatness and goodness of God. In its original Hebrew, it has an alphabetic acrostic form, which means that every other verse begins with a successive letter of the alphabet.

The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

The Epistle (letter) to the Gentile church in Ephesus is attributed to the Apostle Paul, written in the first century A.D. This is an open letter to many churches in response for the life-changing radical transformation in our personal and social life as we become a part of Christ's family. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and leader in the Christian church, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. He wrote more of the NT than any other person. The title of this letter "Hebrews" presumably refers to the original audience of this letter as primarily Jewish-Christian.

The Gospel According to John

John is the latest of the four Gospels, written around 80-90 A.D. probably in Ephesus, and attributed to John the son of Zebedee, the beloved disciple of Jesus. This Gospel was "written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and through believing you may have life in his name" (20:31).

Next Sunday, August 1, 2021, Lectionary Reading for Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a *and* Psalm 51:1-12; Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 *and* Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16;
John 6:24-35