

United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

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



*Welcome to our Combined
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*



September 11, 2022
14th Sunday after Pentecost
10:15 a.m.

Welcome

*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.*

Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.

The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.

(Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table).

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For safety, during the COVID pandemic we temporarily ceased having supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, on Sunday, September 11, 2022. In the meantime, parents who would like to do so, are welcome to watch their own children in the nursery, where a closed circuit TV is located, so that you can still see and hear the worship service.

Junior Worship

For safety, during the pandemic we temporarily ceased offering Junior Worship. We will resume Junior Worship on Sunday, September 11, 2022. The option of Junior Worship is offered downstairs, on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, following the children's sermon, for elementary age children to learn about today's scripture lessons.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

More Information....

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: * = if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♫# = Blue Hymnal Page}*



Free WiFi

Virtual Worship Service

Online: **Live Stream** at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel**
Facebook Live (St. Paul's) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

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

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.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP® (Unison)

Lord of Mercy, hear our prayer of thankfulness for the many times we have felt your forgiveness and have found ourselves being drawn close to you. We walk with our noses to the ground and don't realize we have gone astray. With a yank of kindness and mercy we find ourselves in your loving hands. May our world feel this pull of mercy also. Amen.

PRELUDE *“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”* J.S. Bach, arr. for piano by John Carter

{Those who are able, please rise}

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *“Tell Me the Story of Jesus”*

Blue #295

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

*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 - adapted from Psalm 51

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

People: in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Leader: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,

People: and would have me know wisdom deep within.

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me.

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 ⑩ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

*CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison) adapted from the E&R hymnal, page 4

Awesome and most merciful God, we humble ourselves before you. We have erred and strayed like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things we out to have done, and we have done those things we ought not to have done. May you, merciful God, forgive our sins so that our lives may be pleasing to you and to ourselves. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY “Lord, Thy Mercy, Now Entreating”

*Red #216
Public Domain*

**Lord, Thy mercy now entreating,
Low before Thy throne we fall;
Our misdeeds to Thee confessing,
On Thy Name we humbly call.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

Fellow believers, feel the weight that is gone. Where did it go? Where is it now? Feel the soft arms around us now. We want everyone in the whole world to feel this sensation. Is this possible? Will the Father and Jesus cause this to happen or do they expect that some of us will sincerely want that person in Russia or Ukraine or Nigeria or Robesonia to know this feeling and will do something about it?

*CALL TO PRAISE ⑩

Leader: May you be filled with the Holy Spirit.

People: **May we continually gather and sing praise to God.**

*CHORUS OF PRAISE “Lord, Be Glorified” by Bill Kilpatrick

*W&R #465
One License #A-714101*

**In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified today.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified today.**

(Please be seated)

RECEIVING NEW MEMBER
Peggy Trout

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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: [Exodus 32:7-14](#)

Second Lesson: [1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: [Luke 15:1-10](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN *"Blessed Assurance"*

W&R #426

One License #A-714101

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MINI-MESSAGE

CONGREGATION SINGS *"Jesus Loves the Little Children"*

adapted Words of Traditional Chorus

**Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Shy and quiet, glad and bright,
They are treasures in his sight.
Jesus blesses all the children of the world.**

SERMON "Jesus and the World"

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** - from The UCC Statement of Faith (Section Five: The Promise)

**You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and
rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessing and
honor, glory and power be unto you. 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

Leader: God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

Blue #501
George Whelpton
Public Domain

**Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: We bring our offerings to this altar.

People: We do so with gladness.

Leader: In our decision about giving

People: may God inspire us to give from the top

Leader: and trust your guidance for all the rest.

People: We wait with expectation to see your mercy upon us.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Touch the Earth Lightly" A Song for the Environment;
Music by Colin Gibson; text by Shirley Erena Murray

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Sung by Congregation) "All Things Are Yours!"**

W&R #687

Bryan Jeffery Leech
One License #A-714101

**All things are yours! We make that true
when we return our gifts to you.
And so we give, and so we share,
in Christ's strong name expressing care.**

*{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 St. Paul's UCC secure [Online Giving](#) option on our website at [sprucc.org](#). [St. Paul's UCC Click Here](#)
Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul's UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551
or Zion UCC; PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567.*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (Leader) ⑩**

Lord of the kingdom, we bring our offerings with gladness. We trust that you will accept them with joy. What is your plan for the use of this treasure? Help us to know. How might it change the world? In your mercy, direct us. In the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

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 ⑩**

Leader: May the world know God is real!

People: May the world know that God is always with us.

Leader: As we receive the mercy of God each day,

People: let us spread this knowledge

Leader: far and close

People: to people we love and to people we are learning to love.

***BENEDICTION**

***THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN**

Red #558
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***SENDING HYMN "Jesus Saves!"**

Blue #438

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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.}*

7

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Progress on the Naming of the New Congregation

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP



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 Service Resource Credits

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 - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑧ 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
 - ⑨ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑩ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑪ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - ⑫ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - ⑬ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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Zion United Church of Christ

PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.1Zion.org

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Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest

Password (for both): iamheretoserve

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. During this season we focus on how we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called by God to go out into the world and share his Good News through both our deeds and words.

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

Green – symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God’s Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

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 C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

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). The first four books of the NT are called the “Gospels,” which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, September 11, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Exodus

The book of Exodus (OT) is a part of the Pentateuch (first five books of the OT or Torah or one of the five most central books in Judaism), and is named for the exodus (leaving/escape) of the Israelite people from Egyptian slavery through the divine saving providence of God and the leadership of Moses and his brother Aaron.

Psalm 51:1-10

This OT song was composed by King David when the prophet Nathan confronted him with his sin in Bathsheba. This is a prayer for help, offered by one who is deeply aware of their sin and guilt, knowing the need for God’s forgiveness.

Timothy

This epistle (letter) is attributed to the Apostle Paul and is dated around the 60’s A.D. Timothy is a minister appointed by Paul. Paul writes from prison to encourage Timothy and the rest of the church to endure suffering for the Gospel. 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 Gospel According to Luke

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke “the beloved physician,” written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of “investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write and orderly account” of Jesus Christ, “so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.”

Next Sunday, September 18, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13



September 11, 2022

Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints

1 hour curriculum tutorial

Lucinda McGill Legendre, on behalf of the Racial Justice Initiative of the PSEC, will be offering a curriculum tutorial/ training **Wednesday, September 21 at 7p.m.** via Zoom. Registration is free.

Register at : psehollytrouble.eventbrite.com



This 12-lesson digital companion curriculum are designed for middle-grade children with activity options for younger and older participants. The lessons are designed to introduce children to the concepts of holy troublemaking as modeled by the people profiled in the book, *Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints*, from diverse faiths, who worked for love, compassion, and justice, even when that rocked the religious boat. These lessons ask questions such as: What is holy and good trouble? What is not? What lessons can we learn from those who have gone before on this path? How do we keep our joy and inner peace while working for a world where all can flourish? What might my contribution be?

Some of the thirty-six "Holy Troublemakers" featured in the book range from Rumi, Harriet Tubman, Florence Nightingale to more modern folks like Thich Nhat Hanh, Rachel Held Evans, Brian McLaren, Rev. Wil Gafney and Fred Rogers, just to name a few.

There are three licenses available with corresponding pricing based on the size of your congregation. The lessons are written for either in-person or online, in church settings, or at home. They even offer a free digital version for whom funds are a challenge. The hardcover book, e-book and curriculum are published by Watchfire Media and are available on the following website <https://www.hollytroublemakers.com>

From the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce: Step Twelve

Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The Steps lead to an awakening of the spirit and this is evidenced by changes in our lives. We live by spiritual principles and carry a message of hope to suffering addicts. We realize that we keep what has been given to us by sharing what we have learned with others. This sharing is referred to as carrying the message and can be accomplished in a variety of ways.

We share our experience, strength, and hope; make new people feel welcome and help them learn the principles of recovery. The spiritual principle of Step Twelve is our selfless service to others. We received our recovery through God and we allow ourselves to be used by Him to help others who seek it.

The power of example by what we practice may be what is needed to enable a suffering addict to ask for help. God gives us the ability to help another addict when no one else can. We share our personal recovery experience but avoid offering our advice, because it can confuse our message. Carrying a simple and honest message of recovery from addiction proves to be the most powerful.

The first way we carry a message is to stay clean. We attend meetings, get involved in service work and others notice the changes happening within us. Our lives become worthwhile. We are happy to be alive because we are living and not just surviving. Honesty, humility, and open-mindedness are essential in our new lives.

God helps us as we help each other. We carry the message of hope as examples of the program working. We live clean and happy lives. The steps do not end here, they are a new beginning.

295 Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. Acts 8:35

1. Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus; Write on my heart ev - ery word.
 2. Fast - ing a - lone in the des - ert, Tell of the days that are past,
 3. Tell of the cross where they nailed Him, Writh - ing in an - guish and pain;
 Refrain: Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus; Write on my heart ev - ery word.

Tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, Sweet - est that ev - er was heard.
 How for our sins He was tempt - ed, Yet was tri - um - phant at last.
 Tell of the grave where they laid Him. Tell how He liv - eth a - gain.
 Tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, Sweet - est that ev - er was heard.

Tell how the an - gels in cho - rus Sang as they wel - comed His birth:
 Tell of the years of His la - bor; Tell of the sor - row He bore.
 Love in that sto - ry so ten - der, Clear - er than ev - er I see.

D.C. for Refrain

"Glo - ry to God in the high - est! Peace and good tid - ings to earth."
 He was de - spised and af - flict - ed, Home - less, re - ject - ed and poor.
 Stay, let me weep while you whis - per, Love paid the ran - som for me.

Blessed Assurance

426

D G/D D A/E

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav-ior am

E7 A D G/D D

glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,
 burst on my sight; an-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove
 hap-py and blest, watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,

D G Em/G D/A A7 D Refrain

born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. This is my sto-ry,
 filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

G D G D/F# A/E E A A7

this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long; this is my

D G/D D D7 Em/G D/A A7 D

sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Jesus Saves! 438

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

G D

1. We have heard the joy - ful sound: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 2. Waft it on the roll - ing tide: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 3. Sing a - bove the bat - tle strife: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 4. Give the winds a might - y voice: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!

1 2 3 4

D7 G D D7 G

Spread the tid - ings all a - round: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 Tell to sin - ners far and wide: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 By His death and end - less life, Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 Let the na - tions now re - joice: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!

5 6 7 8

G/B C G/B G D

Bear the news to ev - ery land; Climb the steeps and cross the waves.
 Sing, ye is - lands of the sea! Ech - o back, ye o - cean caves!
 Sing it soft - ly thro' the gloom When the heart for mer - cy craves;
 Shout sal - va - tion full and free, High - est hills and deep - est caves;

9 10 11 12

D G G/F C/E C G/D D D7 G

On - ward! 'tis our Lord's com - mand. Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 Earth shall keep her ju - bi - lee. Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 Sing in tri - umph o'er the tomb: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!
 This our song of vic - to - ry: Je - sus saves! Je - sus saves!

13 14 15 16