

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor
 Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music
 Ann Vogel, Organist
 Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors
 Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant
 Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
 Kim Opperman, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
 Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director

Mary Holtzapple, Christian Ed Coordinators
 Cynthia Hanover, Choir Pianist
 Andrea Spencer, Organist
 Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent
 Bob Schumacher, Custodian
 Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
 Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

LiturgistLynda Hadley
 AcolytesDeacons
 Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

The altar flowers today are from Cal and Dianne Caywood – to the Glory of God!

The loose offering today is designated to Agape Pantry as voted on by Consistory

Our Giving to God November 1, 2020
Current - \$4,129.00 and Mission - \$100.00
Attendance – 125

TAKE NOTE

- **Stop in the Elevette Room and take a look at the crafts that the Women's Guild has for sale. Christmas is just around the corner!**
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** – You can dispose of your used bulletin in the trash can (recycle bin) by the Perry Street Entrance/Exit or on the bulletin table at the rear of the sanctuary (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio
 November 8, 2020

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



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"We Shine For All Through Christ"
St. Marys, Ohio

November 8, 2020 **Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost** **10:30a.m.**
Order of Service

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God has promised a new creation.

People: But we live amidst the old and, everywhere, scenes of destruction fill our eyes.

Leader: God is creating that world of equity, plenty, justice, and peace right now.

People: Where can we glimpse it, this new realm of God?

Leader: People, take hope, it's being built around you, and seeds of it lie within you. God nurtures them to life.

All: We will trust in the promise and look now for its fulfillment. We will be people of hope, people of joy.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns of our Church Family

Anniversaries

Introduction of Guests

***THE WAVE** *(Standing if able, and wave to your neighbor)*

OPENING HYMN 480 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UNISON PRAYER

We thank you, Great God, for your steady love for creation, and all you do this day to heal, build, and sustain it in goodness and beauty. May the vision of what you do connect us to you in profound ways. We pray and work for your realm, in and among us, and we sing your praise, now and always. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)
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.

OFFERTORY MUSIC AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 14:19-31

HYMN 476 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

SERMON "Finding Yourself At The Red Sea Place" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

SPECIAL MUSIC Rachel Thornsberry, Soloist

HYMN 747 "Go with Us, Lord"

BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE**

***Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spirit** Depart to serve



AGAPE MISSION: Times are tough right now, but we can't forget those who are in need of toilet paper and soap for the Agape clients. So far this year we have collected **1398 rolls of toilet paper (goal is 2000)** and we have collected **736** bars of soap. Monetary donations are very much encouraged at this time. You can make the check out to Jane Nuss, and she will go and purchase these items. You can mail a check to the church or to Jane Nuss directly at 13458 Howell Rd., St. Marys, Ohio 45885. If you want to purchase you can set items on the bench in the stairwell of the Christian Ed. Building.



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Don't forget that we now have online giving! It is available now by downloading Vanco Payment Solutions onto your mobile device by going to the app store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church". The download is free. We also have a button on our website that will also take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!



- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Janet Keller, Bob Waesch, Verl Gayer, Dot Silver, Cheryl Kline, Deb Perry (daughter-in-law of Ron & Cheryl Kline), Ed Goldenetz, John Long, David Freewalt, and for all of our military and emergency services.
- Please keep the family of Robert Deitsch in your prayers. Robert passed away this past Wednesday.
- Remember to pray for our shut-ins and for their caregivers that take care of them.
- All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.



The **2020** Altar Flower Chart and the Liturgist sign-up sheet are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment. **Liturgists are always needed!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

- ✚ **DUE TO COVID, OFFERING PLATES WILL NOT BE PASSED IN THE PEWS. Please place your offering in the offering plates before service begins.**
- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery.
- ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** rest room is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room and it also contains a baby changing table.
- ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - available if needed (consult an usher).
- ✚ **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** – our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on **cable – Digital channel 1 or non-digital channel 2**, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. There is a one-week delay of the service shown.
- ✚ **WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET** – if you do not have TSC cable, you can watch our service on our church web page at www.spuccsm.com, St. Paul's Facebook page, or on YouTube.
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** – on the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

WELCOME! If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are Here. If you are a returning visitor Welcome Back. Please let our sanctuary doorway greeters know you are visiting and receive a special gift of welcome.



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum Sunday School in Heritage Hall
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Tues.	10:00 am	Hannah Circle
	6:30 pm	5 Love Languages - Sanctuary
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Consistory
Thurs	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread – Drive Thru Only
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum Sunday School in Heritage Hall



Hope For The Holidays



For some, November, and December are the most difficult, emotionally-loaded months of the year. More than any other time, this particular string of holidays and seasonal changes doesn't end up feeling like the most wonderful time of the year after all. Instead, it can trigger difficult feelings like sadness, stress, anxiety, and depression. Grief from loved ones lost, trauma from holidays past, the cold dark weather, the lasting effect of COVID-19, there are many factors that make the holiday season hard for people. Join us for one free workshop led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, which will address the reasons why the holidays are hard. Learn strategies to cope with the season's blues, and make the holidays a hopeful time again. **There is no charge for these workshops. Please wear a mask.**

➤ **So, You Wanna Make A Resolution:** Thursday, December 3rd, 3:00 pm-4:30 pm in Heritage Hall, will help to create a resolution success plan, as we look toward the new year ahead.

THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES

Continuing November 10th and 17th - 6:30-7:30p in the Sanctuary

Join Pastor Rhonda as we continue to identify our love languages which can help us better understand ourselves as well as our marriages, our friendships and strengthen our work relationships as we learn to communicate more effectively. **There is no charge for these workshops. Please wear a mask.**

GIVING THANKS COMMUNITY MEAL: This year will be a little different because of COVID-19. We will be doing carry out only, no eating in. It will be on Thursday, November 26, 2020, from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. Instead of coming in the east entrance at the Memorial High School commons area, we will be handing out meals on the east side but the next door south of the commons area. No need to get out of car.

I am asking for any donations of desserts from each church, so that everyone can enjoy a true Thanksgiving meal. You can drop off desserts from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Wayne Street United Methodist Church. Then from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Memorial High School, again at

the door south of the commons area on the east side of the school. Please **no Jell-O or soft desserts** for they are too hard to pack for carry out.

MISSION MOMENT

Tending God's Light

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this..."
Whenever Jesus begins a story this way, we have a clue that a truth about the reality of the world that God dreams for us is about to be revealed.

Today we learn that the kingdom of heaven will be like ten young women, five of whom have enough oil to keep their lamps burning through the night and five of whom run out of oil, leaving their lamps in darkness.

As with any parable, there are many lenses through which to look at this story. But in the year 2020, one helpful way to look at this parable is as a story about being prepared.

Maybe through this parable, Jesus was giving us some clues about wrong ways and right ways to be prepared. The wrong way was not to anticipate all that might lead to needing a little extra. But it was also the wrong way to keep too much, to have more than was needed.

See, the wise bridesmaids did not bring too much. They did not hoard, did not stock up, clearing the shelves of all the oil and leaving none for their neighbors. They did not come to the evening with more than they would need. They brought enough to be prepared for the night ahead.

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is the importance of being prepared in the right way.

On this Stewardship Sunday especially, the parable of the ten bridesmaids (as it is sometimes called) gives us the opportunity to look ahead, asking ourselves what it means to be prepared enough, but not to accumulate. The wisdom of the parable teaches us that it is wise to have all that we might need. But it does not advise squirreling away a treasure hoard. What we have is to be used to make light in the world. Let us do so!

Exodus 14:19-31

19Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, **20**coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

21Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, **22**and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

23The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. **24**During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. **25**He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

26Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." **27**Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. **28**The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

29But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. **30**That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. **31**And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.