

Mandatory Safety Protocols:

- **Please cover your mouth and nose with a mask at all times inside the building.**
- Two seating options: **Safely Distanced**, for the unvaccinated and those needing more space such as families; and **Sit Where You Like**, for the fully vaccinated and those no longer in need of distancing.
- Everyone may sing hymns softly with masks but please not at full voice just yet.
- **Exiting: Please remain appropriately distanced from one another when exiting the sanctuary after our worship service.**
- Enjoy fellowship on the playground, chat with members and visitors. Unvaccinated need to wear masks, unless sipping. Thank you for keeping one another safe & for loving your neighbor!



October Worship Series: Faithful Stewardship following Christ's Commands

The worship services in October will share the theme of how we respond to God's call to be faithful stewards of all resources. We will begin this series with Jesus acknowledging how challenging it can be for humans to live as those within the reign of God on earth. Then we will be challenged to live and serve humbly that we may glorify God. We will observe gratitude for miracles, and lastly, we will be challenged to love our neighbors ~ all of our neighbors. You are invited to worship and journey with us as we explore Faithful Stewardship following Christ's Commands.

Church Office Hours

9:00 AM-12:00 PM Sunday through Thursday

Please note: We will be closed Monday, October 11 to observe Indigenous People's Day

Office Phone: 607-273-5971

Pastoral Care Phone: 607-269-5509

Please call ahead if you plan to visit the church in person

Our Staff

Rev. Rebekah (Pastor Beckie) Sweet / Senior Pastor / pastor@stpaulsithaca.org

Jami Breedlove / Loving Care Ministries Coordinator / lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org

Maude Rith / Church Administrative Assistant & Communications / office@stpaulsithaca.org

Michelle Eells / Business & Building Ministries Coordinator / business@stpaulsithaca.org

Anne Horst / Hospitality and Connections Ministries Coordinator / ahorst@stpaulsithaca.org

Kayla Eells / Children's Ministries Coordinator / family@stpaulsithaca.org

Emily Preston / Choral and Ensembles Director / epreston@stpaulsithaca.org

Caleb Bates / Organist/Pianist / cbates@stpaulsithaca.org

David Kingsley / Technical Director / dkingsley@stpaulsithaca.org

Jessa Dauria & Emily Plummer / Children's Music Group Directors / childrensmusic@stpaulsithaca.org

Dorothy Preston / Festival Chimes Director / dpreston@stpaulsithaca.org

Sue Orzel / Custodian

"St. Paul's is a compassionate community led and transformed by the Spirit."



St. Paul's United Methodist Church
A Reconciling Congregation

402 North Aurora Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

www.stpaulsithaca.org



**St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
October 10, 2021 - 10:30 AM Service
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

We welcome you, trusting that this time of worship will open our hearts to experience the Spirit's movement among us. Together, we seek peace, health, and wholeness as we gather in God's presence.
Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license # A-728210.
Movie and video permission with CVLI License #504298777.

**Indicates a standing portion of the service. Please stand as you are able.*

*Faithful Stewardship following Christ's Commands
"Camels and Needles"*

Gathering as The Beloved Community

Gathering Music

Caleb Bates

Greeting & Welcome

Pastor Beckie Sweet

***Sharing Love and Peace with All**

Centering Music

***Call to Worship**

(by Z. Susanne Aikman, Eastern Cherokee, adapted)

In worship, in relationship, in life, we share our stories.

Each of us brings a unique story and gifts from the Creator.

Our stories are about journeys of faith.

We walk a path of righteousness.

We share our path with all creation.

We are related. We worship and praise.

***Singing Together**

"The Summons"

FWS # 2130

Opening Prayer

(from Liturgy for Celebrating Indigenous Peoples Day)

Encountering God Through the Word

Scripture Readings

Mark 10: 17-31 (The Message)

Barbara Eshelman

¹⁷ As he went out into the street, a man came running up, greeted him with great reverence, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to get eternal life?"

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Jesus said, "Why are you calling me good? No one is good, only God. You know the commandments: Don't murder, don't commit adultery, don't steal, don't lie, don't cheat, honor your father and mother."

²⁰ He said, “Teacher, I have—from my youth—kept them all!”

²¹ Jesus looked him hard in the eye—and loved him! He said, “There’s one thing left: Go sell whatever you own and give it to the poor. All your wealth will then be heavenly wealth. And come follow me.”

²² The man’s face clouded over. This was the last thing he expected to hear, and he walked off with a heavy heart. He was holding on tight to a lot of things, and not about to let go.

²³⁻²⁵ Looking at his disciples, Jesus said, “Do you have any idea how difficult it is for people who ‘have it all’ to enter God’s kingdom?” The disciples couldn’t believe what they were hearing, but Jesus kept on: “You can’t imagine how difficult. I’d say it’s easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for the rich to get into God’s kingdom.”

²⁶ *That* got their attention. “Then who has any chance at all?” they asked.

²⁷ Jesus was blunt: “No chance at all if you think you can pull it off by yourself. Every chance in the world if you let God do it.”

²⁸ Peter tried another angle: “We left everything and followed you.”

²⁹⁻³¹ Jesus said, “Mark my words, no one who sacrifices house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, land—whatever—because of me and the Message will lose out. They’ll get it all back, but multiplied many times in homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land—but also in troubles. And then the bonus of eternal life! This is once again the Great Reversal: Many who are first will end up last, and the last first.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!
Thanks be to God!

A Message for All God’s Children (Children’s Time)

Special Music

“Imagine the People of God”

Emily Preston

Message

“Camels and Needles”

Responding with Joy and Generosity

***Hymn of Response**

“Lord, I Want To Be a Christian”

402

Prayers of the People

Jami Breedlove

The Lord’s Prayer

Offering our Gifts to God

Offertory

***Doxology**

“Holly, Holy” verse 1

FWS # 2039

Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, we give you thanks for creating all people in your image, and for calling us together this day in humble hope that our offerings, witness, prayers, songs and stories may serve to heal, transform and bind us together in your compassionate wisdom and love. May we continue in the risen life of Christ, the one who comes that all people might live with dignity and in peace. Amen.

Going Forth to Serve and to Bless

*Closing Hymn

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

399

Announcements

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude

-----PRAYERS-----

For **Prayer Chain Requests**, confidential concerns seen only by those who participate in the Prayer Chain, please contact Pastor Beckie at pastor@stpaulsithaca.org.

Prayer Requests: A.J. Sapp; Ann Mathews; Ann Shumate (friends of Nancy Potter); Anya Kyong; Ardie Bennett; Daniel Minor (son of Betty Windstein’s neighbor); David Bell; David Hall (brother of Joyce Turner and Sheila Hall); David Hays (Barbara Wernham’s son-in-law); David McElrath; Eliesha Lovell (Nancy and Jeff Lovell’s daughter); Gina Bakota (Teresa Yatsko’s sister); Greg Corbit; Jackie Warren; John Salzman (LaVerne Snyder’s friend); Katherine Herrala (LaVerne Snyder’s aunt); Kathleen Jacklin; LaVerne Snyder; Mary Boardman and her son, Matthew; Marilyn Peterson (Lynn Martin’s mother); Michael Russell (Sue Orzel’s neighbor); Randy Hausner; Raymond Snyder (LaVerne’s uncle); Robert Deming (Melissa Gould’s nephew); Sheila Hall and the Zheng family.

Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) McCune; to Ruth Lovelace for the loss of her sister, Kitty Wasson; the family of Mae Dockstader; the family of Pat Pryor; and also to the family of Robert Nobles.

Pray for healing within the United Methodist Church, especially for those who are excluded because of sexual orientation and gender identification.

Studying Scripture, Art, and Social Justice

We will be reading The Shout: Finding the Prophetic Voice in Unexpected Places by Hannah Adair Bonner. On Mondays 7:00-8:15 pm Pastor Beckie will lead our exploration of how these intersect. Come via Zoom on Oct. 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 8, 15. If you have registered and need the meeting number and code, please contact Pastor Beckie.

Celebrations of Life and Resurrection

For **Rev. Nelson Reppert** will be held on Friday, October 15 at 2:00 pm in the Large Pavilion at Stewart Park.

We will celebrate **Rev. Dr. Robert McCune** on Saturday, October 16 at 10:30 am at St Paul’s.

For Your Reflection

Jesus said to the man inquiring about gaining eternal life, “Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” (Mark 10:21) How will you divest of possessions that hold you back from following Jesus? What does “treasure in heaven” mean to you?