

Updated 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 family; and **Sit Where You Like**, for the fully vaccinated and those no longer in need of distancing.
- Everyone may sing hymns softly with masks (not at full voice just yet).
- Exiting: Hospitality Ministers will guide worshipers; Socially Distanced will leave first, then Sit Where You Like.
- Fellowship Time on the Playground! Enjoy the playground for chatting with members and visitors. Unvaccinated need to wear masks, unless sipping.

Thank you for keeping one another safe & for loving your neighbor!



Back to School Ice Cream Social Sunday, September 19 at 1:00 pm

Calling all children and your families! Join on the St Paul's playground for food with friends and learn about future plans for Family Ministries.

Church Office Hours

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

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

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

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

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

Alexa Allmann / Youth Ministries & Communications Support Coordinator / communications@stpaulsithaca.org

Kayla Eells / Children's Ministries Coordinator / keells@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

Rev. Dr. Robert J. McCune / Pastor Emeritus

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

402 N Aurora St, Ithaca 14850

www.stpaulsithaca.org

Find us on Facebook and Twitter @StPaulsithaca





**St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
September 12, 2021 - 10:30 AM Service
Sixteenth 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.*

*The Tie that Binds
"Formed"*

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**

Holy and Living God, you are . . .

The tie that binds!

We give you thanks that you have brought us together in order to create . . .

The tie that binds!

Be with us in our learning, our worshiping, our fellowshiping that leads to . . .

The tie that binds!

We are yours, walking in the way of Jesus, living in the Spirit
so that we might be for the world . . .

The tie that binds! Alleluia!

***Singing Together**

"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"

FWS # 2060

***Opening Prayer – Remembering 9/11**

Encountering God Through the Word

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 64:8-9 (NRSV)

Amy Robinson

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Jeremiah 18: 1-4, 6 (NRSV)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So, I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. . . .

Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

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 "Hymn to St. Francis" Chancel Choir

Message "FORMED"

Responding with Joy and Generosity

***Hymn of Response** "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" # 382

Prayers of the People Jami Breedlove

The Lord's Prayer

Offering our Gifts to God

Offertory

***Doxology** "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise" FWS # 2031

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of grace, it is our delight to express our devotion as we offer and dedicate these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love. Use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world. Amen.

Going Forth to Serve and to Bless

***Hymn** "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" # 152

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; Bob McCune; 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); Jackie Warren; John Salzman (LaVerne Snyder's friend); Katherine Herrala (LaVerne Snyder's aunt); Kathleen Jacklin; Kitty Wasson (Ruth Lovelace's sister); LaVerne Snyder; Mary Boardman and her son Matthew Boardman; Marilynn Peterson (Lynn Martin's mother); Michael Russell (Sue Orzel's neighbor); Nelson Reppert; Randy Hausner; Raymond Snyder (LaVerne's uncle); and Robert Deming (Melissa Gould's nephew) Sheila Hall.

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

Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Sven Olof Andersson, long-time friend of Allison Chatrchyan and to Marian Van de Veld and family and friends on the loss of her son-in-law, Lloyd Baker.

Worship Series for September 12-October 3: The Tie That Binds

One of the most treasured hymns of Christianity in the last century is "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." It reminds us that relationships form us, inspire us, heal us. As we gather for worship, we will be invited to consider how our relationships with the Holy and with each other form and transform us. And we will affirm the power of God's presence in our worshipping community to inspire us to "go and do likewise" in relationship to the world.

For Your Reflection

"The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him." (Jer. 18:4 NRSV) Question: Have I allowed God to rework me into a more pleasing vessel for the Holy Spirit?

Families first!

With the start of a new school year and return to in-person worship Family Ministries had a new space in the sanctuary. Starting today we designate the first row of pews for families. Children who wish to mark their own area can place a hula hoop on the carpet. We'll have quiet activities such as coloring pages and fidget devices under the pews. We hope you'll see this as a giant welcome—your presence and participation is vital to the life of the Church.

Faith in Action--Men's Retreat

Friday, October 1, 4:00pm – 10:00 pm and Saturday, October 2, 8:00 am to 2:30 pm. The retreat will be at beautiful Camp Casowasco and feature Pastor Steve McKnight as the keynote speaker. Register and get the agenda at <https://files.constantcontact.com/482f4e31501/980fbe4d-9b8f-451c-920d-c31096b1994b.pdf>

Studying Scripture, Art, and Social Justice

This fall we will be reading The Shout: Finding the Prophetic Voice in Unexpected Places by Hannah Adair Bonner. On Monday evenings 7:00-8:15 Pastor Beckie will lead our exploration of the surprising ways these three intersect. Come learn on October 4, 11, 18, 25 and November 1, 8, 15. Please let Pastor Beckie know that you are interested so that she can order a book for you.

Donations for UMCOR Disaster Relief

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, connects United Methodists and churches to with persons in need around the world. Of each donation 100% goes to the area stipulated, or if not designated, goes to the area of greatest need. To give online go to <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-641-umcor-international-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx>; you can attribute your donation to St. Paul's. Or mail a check to St. Paul's designating your donation to UMCOR, Haiti Relief, or Henri Relief in the memo line.