

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 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: 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!



World Communion Sunday is October 3

We will take up a special offering for scholarships for national and international graduate and undergraduate students studying in the United States. Your gift can mean so much to someone hoping to do God's work.

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

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

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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."



St. Paul's United Methodist Church A Reconciling Congregation

402 North Aurora Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

607-273-5971

www.stpaulsithaca.org

Find us on Facebook & Twitter @StPaulsIthaca

St. Paul's Wireless Network: **SPUMC-Guest** password: **guest402**



**St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
September 26, 2021 - 10:30 AM Service
Eighteenth 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.
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**Indicates a standing portion of the service. Please stand as you are able.*

*The Tie that Binds
"Poured"*

Gathering as The Beloved Community

Gathering Music Caleb Bates

Greeting & Welcome Pastor Beckie Sweet

***Sharing Love and Peace with All**

Centering Music "The Ringing of the Bells" Festival Chimes

***Call to Worship**

Together, we open our hearts to the sunshine of God's love.
Let us open souls to the gentle wind of God's Spirit.

We have gathered to hear the good news of Jesus Christ,
A Word that challenges and renews us again and again.

Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, who loves, saves, and renews us. Amen.

***Singing Together** "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" FWS #2223

Opening Prayer

Encountering God Through the Word

Scripture Readings Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (NIV) Steve Beyers

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. ²⁶ "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. ²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. ⁵ ¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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 "Kum Ba Yah" Festival Chimes

Message "The Tie That Binds: POURED"

Responding with Joy and Generosity

***Hymn of Response** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #557

Prayers of the People Karen Kaufmann

The Lord's Prayer

Offering our Gifts to God
Offertory

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

May these tithes and offerings, O God, enable ministry through your church in places of need near and far. May the very act of giving be a ministry to us as well, conditioning our hearts to daily generosity of word, spirit, and action. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Going Forth to Serve and to Bless

***Closing Hymn** "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" FWS # 2241

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); Gene Lovelace (Ruth Lovelace's brother); Gina Bakota (Teresa Yatsko's sister); Jackie Warren; John Salzman (LaVerne Snyder's friend); Katherine Herrala (LaVerne Snyder's aunt); Kathleen Jacklin; LaVerne Snyder; Mary Boardman and her son, Matthew; Marilynn 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 of Rev. Nelson Reppert, husband of Joan Reppert and long-time member of St Paul's.

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

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

One of the most treasured Christian hymns is "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." It reminds us that relationships form us, inspire us, heal us. As we gather, we will 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 worshiping community to inspire us to "go and do likewise" in relationship to the world.

For Your Reflection

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30 NRSV) At our baptism, we are marked with the seal of the love of Jesus Christ.

Then, we are charged to pour out that love to others.

Question: How have you been engaged in pouring this week?

Interfaith Community Dinner

This Thursday, Sept. 30, 6-8 pm in Lansing's Meyers Park, Pavilion B. Bring and label a vegetarian dish to pass but all are welcome if you don't have time to cook. Free and open to all faith traditions. Sponsored by Lansing United Methodist Church. More info at AdultMinistries@LansingUnited.org

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 the great ways these intersect. Come on Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 8, 15. Please let Pastor Beckie know to order a book for you.

Make Sandwiches, Make Connections

Local & World Missions is looking for volunteers to make sandwiches and deliver them to the Friendship Center at St. John's Community Services on State St. It's a fun activity to do with your family and friends. You can make the sandwiches at home or gather at the church kitchen. Please email Carolyn Aslan at carolyn.aslan@gmail.com if you are interested in the following Tuesdays: Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14.

Open Doors English Fall Community Dinner: A Door to the World

Reserve now for their take-out community dinner! Meals include a choice of vegetarian entrée (North African Pumpkin Soup or Mexican Vegetable Soup), bread, Asian cabbage salad, and desserts from the Middle East. suggested price: \$20 per meal. Preorder required by Friday, October 8.

Order online at opendoorsenglish.org and pick up at the First Presbyterian Church, 315 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca On Saturday, October 16 between 4:00 and 7:00 PM. Proceeds benefit Ithaca's non-profit ESL school for immigrants, refugees and other adult English language learners.