

## 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

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](mailto:pastor@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Jami Breedlove** / Loving Care Ministries Coordinator / [lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org)  
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**Dorothy Preston** / Festival Chimes Director / [dpreston@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto: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](http://www.stpaulsithaca.org)



**St. Paul's  
United Methodist Church  
October 17, 2021 - 10:30 AM Service  
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**

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

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*Faithful Stewardship following Christ's Commands  
"Serving with Humble Passion"*

**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**

Psalm 104:1-6, 24, 35C NRSV

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**O Lord my God, you are very great!**

You are clothed with honor and majesty,  
and cover yourself with light as with a garment;

**You have stretched out the heavens like a tent,  
and have laid the beams of your chambers on the waters;**

You make the clouds your chariot, and ride on the wings of the wind;

**You make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.**

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken.

**You covered it with the deep as with a garment;  
the waters stood above the mountains.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**Praise the Lord!**

**\*Singing Together**

"O Worship the King"

FWS # 2130

**Opening Prayer**

## Encountering God Through the Word

### Scripture Readings

Mark 10:35-45 (IB)

Gary Rith

Zebedee's children James and John approached Jesus. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to grant our request."

"What is it?" Jesus asked.

They replied, "See to it that we sit next to you, one at your right and one at your left, when you come into your glory."

Jesus told them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup I will drink or be baptized in the same baptism as I?"

"We can," they replied. Jesus said in response, "From the cup I drink of, you will drink; the baptism I am immersed in, you will share. But as for sitting at my right or my left, that is not mine to give; it is for those to whom it has been reserved."

The other ten, on hearing this, became indignant at James and John.

Jesus called them together and said, "You know how among the Gentiles those who exercise authority are domineering and arrogant; those 'great ones' know how to make their own importance felt. But it can't be like that with you. Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all. The Promised One has come not to be served, but to serve—to give one life in ransom for the many."

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

"A Jubilant Song"

Chancel Choir

#### Message

"Serving with Humble Passion"

### Responding with Joy and Generosity

#### \*Hymn of Response

"The Servant Song"

# 2222

#### Prayers of the People

Paul Jennette

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### Offering our Gifts to God

#### Offertory

#### \*Doxology

"Holy, Holy" verse 1

FWS # 2039

#### Prayer of Dedication

**We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all you have allowed us to experience. By your love, we have survived and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts that more people may be brought to the feet of Jesus, who is the eternal source of salvation. Equip us to be an inviting, caring community in which all your people find a genuine welcome and are lifted up to new understanding and joy. Amen.**

## Going Forth to Serve and to Bless

### \*Closing Hymn

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

# 581

### Announcements

### \*Dismissal with Blessing

### \*Postlude

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#### -----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](mailto: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 community for the loss of Pat Pryor; and also to the family and friends 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. 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 8, 15. If you have registered and need the meeting number and code, please contact Pastor Beckie.

#### **For Your Reflection**

Jesus said while teaching, *“Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all.” (Mark 10:43)* While our aspirations and desires may not be to attain “top of the heap” status, many of us long to be a success. In Christ’s eyes, that involves humble service.  
How are you engaging in humble service this week?

### **Thanks and Joy to all of you who helped on the Trustee Workdays!**

A tremendous amount of much-needed maintenance has been accomplished in tidying garden beds, enhancing the playground, replacing light bulbs, renovating a bathroom, removing VERY tenacious ivy from the garage wall, painting in the bell choir room, and so much more! Gratitude goes to Andy, Anne, Barbara, Carolina, Carolyn, Cynthia, Dave, Dwight, Gary, Jackson, Jacob, Jen, Kim, Pam, Paul, Robert, Sara, Sergey, Tim, and Wendy.