

St. Paul's United Methodist Church April 21, 2024 - 10:30 AM Service Fourth Sunday of Easter



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.

Gathering as The Beloved Community

Gathering Music

"Pavan" by W.Byrd "Kommt Zu Mir, Sprecht Gottes Sohn" by J. Pachelbel

Greeting & Welcome

Rev. Beckie Sweet, senior pastor

*Sharing Love and Peace with All

Centering Music

" The 23rd Psalm" arr. by Bobby McFerrin IC Jazz Vocal Ensemble Dr. John White, director

Sondra Wayman, organ

*Call to Worship

Though the way seems long and the road rough,
Yet will we trust the One who leads us.
Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome,
Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care.
It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls.
It is Christ who gives us hope and peace.

*Singing Together

"Christ Has Risen"

FWS #2115

Opening Prayer

Encountering God Through the Word

Scripture ReadingPsalm 23 (KJV)UnisonThe LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for
thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

John 10:11-18 (NRSVue)

Lorraine Miner "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes^[a] it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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

A Message for All God's Children

Following this, children ages 4-11 may go to "Curious with Christ."

| Special Music | "The Prayer of St. Francis" arr. by The Burns Sisters | IC Jazz Vocal Ensemble Dr. John White, director |
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| Message | "They Smell Like Sheep!" | Rev. Beckie Sweet |
| Responding with Joy and Generosity | | |
| *Hymn of Response | "The Church's One Foundation" | UMH #545 |
| Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer | | Jami Breedlove-Crouch |
| Offering Our Gifts to God | | |
| Offertory | "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Arr. by J. Denton | Sondra Wayman, organ |
| *Doxology | "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" | UMH #94 |
| *Prayer of Dedication How can we express our thanks, O God, for the one who laid down life itself in witness to your love for all people? We are aware that many have not experienced that love. We see the need, and we want to respond. Use what we offer today to bring healing and peace where they are most needed. Draw us together as one flock in the care of one shepherd, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. <u>Going Forth to Serve and to Bless</u> | | |
| *Closing Hymn | "We Are All One in Mission" | FWS #2243 |

Announcements

Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude

Sondra Wayman, organ

PSALM PRAYER FOR HEALING AND RESTORATION

The Lord is (*Name's*) shepherd, they shall not want. God makes (*Name*) lie down in green pastures, Leads (*Name*) beside still waters; God restores (*Name's*) soul. God leads (*Name*) in right paths for God's own name's sake.

Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we fear no evil; For you, God, are with us; your rod and your staff – they comfort us.

You prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies; You anoint (*Name's*) head with oil; their cup of blessings overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow (*Name*) all the days of their lives, And we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long. Amen.

-----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: Tricia Barnes-Garback (Gorham); Kathleen Jacklin; Todd Smith (brother of Linda Yetter); Mary and Matthew Boardman; Kevin Harvey. Pray for healing within the United Methodist Church, especially for those who are excluded because of sexual orientation and gender identification. Pray for those preparing for General Conference.

Prayer requests will be published in the bulletin for four weeks. If you would like someone to remain on the list, contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch at lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org or 607-269- 5509. Please remember that we also need permission from the person listed.

St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of April 21, 2024

Sunday, April 21– Fourth Sunday of Easter 10:30am – Worship and "Curious with Christ." 11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time in Memorial Room 12:30pm – 1:30pm – Fire and Evac Training -Sanctuary Monday, April 22

<u>Tuesday, April 23</u> 10:00am – Fiber Arts Group – Memorial Room

Wednesday, April 24

Thursday, April 25

6:00pm – Festival Chimes rehearsal – Sanctuary 7:15pm – Choir rehearsal – Dining Room

Friday, April 26 Church Offices Closed

Saturday, April 27

<u>Sunday, April 28 – Fifth Sunday of Easter</u> 10:30am – Worship and "Curious with Christ." 11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time in Memorial Room *Children and Worship* – Children are always welcome in worship! To help keep hands busy, we have books and toys on the black cart near the main sanctuary door. *Children ages 4-11 are invited to attend "Curious with Christ."*

It's Hanging Basket Time

Festival Chimes is once again selling (mainly) hanging baskets as a fundraiser during the month of April. The plants are locally grown in a green house, not from a big box store! Consider the beauty of a hanging basket of Fuchsia, Million Bells, Geranium, Petunia or perhaps you and a friend would like to share a flat (48 plants) of Begonia, Impatiens or Coleus. To order, please go to https://stpaulsithaca.org/music/ or pick up a form in the hallway near the Festival Chimes Poster Display, returning it with payment to the church office by April 28. Flowers are to be picked up on Saturday May 18th from 10-12pm. Phone 607-277-0759 if you would like to order a different color basket or type of flat.

St. Paul's Seeks Sunday Childcare Provider

Our Staff/Parish Relations Committee is seeking a Child Care Provider to staff our nursery (Newborn through three) during Sunday worship and rehearsal time. The candidate must be willing to receive Safe Sanctuaries Training, pass a background check, and work with an adult volunteer from the congregation. Please spread the word and encourage all candidates to contact Pastor Beckie at <u>pastor@stpaulsithaca.org</u> or Alice Mehlman at <u>alicemeilman@gmail.com</u>

Village At Ithaca Update

Thanks to everyone who so generously donated toilet paper--we've already met our goal for the month! All we need now is sixteen bottles of laundry detergent...please help if you can. Thanks!

Our Staff

Rev. Rebekah (Pastor Beckie) Sweet / Senior Pastor / pastor@stpaulsithaca.org Jami Breedlove-Crouch / Loving Care Ministries Coordinator / lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org Deirdre Levine / Church Administrative Assistant & Communications / office@stpaulsithaca.org Michelle Eells / Business & Building Ministries Coordinator / business@stpaulsithaca.org Maia Finkel / Choral and Ensembles Director / choirdirector@stpaulsithaca.org Molly MacMillan / Pianist / pianist@stpaulsithaca.org David Kingsley / Technical Director / dkingsley@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
> Find us at <u>www.stpaulsithaca.org</u>, Facebook and Instagram
> Church Office Hours are 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Sunday – Thursday
> Office Phone: 607-273-5971 Pastoral Care Phone: 607-269-5509

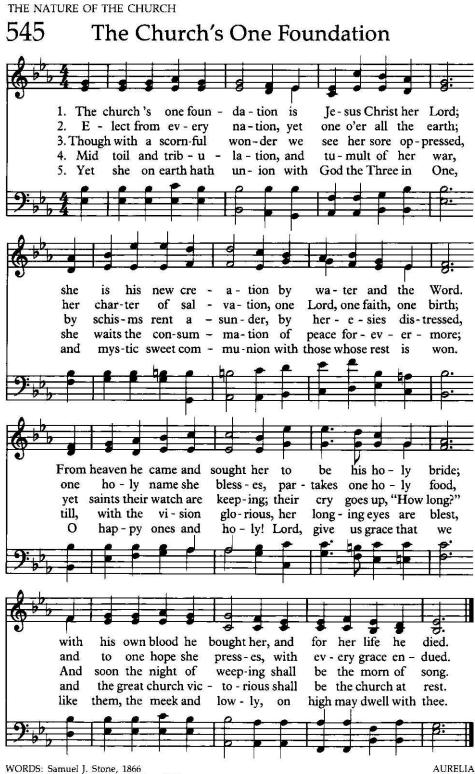
THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST



HOLY MANNA 87.87 D

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MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow





WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978 L. MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN 88.44.88 with Refrain

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We All Are One in Mission

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