

Let us gather up everything that we ever
were or are or will be.
Let us be Shapers,
Creators,
Makers,
of Some Thing.
Some World,
Some Living.
Let us dare to succeed at it,
Dare to fail at it,
Dare to fly on the wings of this moment.
Let us improvise our dreams.
Let us leap boldly from the shoulders of our
lives,
Our histories,
Our loves,
Our disasters.

2: Here's an idea.
Let us play ourselves out!
(The real work)
Let us do nothing at all.
It may not matter.
Let us run the risk of naked individuality.
Let us go out wildly
Not just as one,
But as a union, an ensemble.

3: Here is an idea.
When we make our worlds
Let us commit to them
hold still with them
let them go when it is time.
Let us breathe,
Let us sing,
Let us laugh,
Let us dance,
Let us see what will be
when we invoke

1: God
2: Creativity
3: and Power.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25: 24-30 (CEB)

Katrina Carpenter

²⁴ “Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, ‘Master, I knew that you are a hard man. You harvest grain where you haven’t sown. You gather crops where you haven’t spread seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what’s yours.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven’t sown and that I gather crops where I haven’t spread seed? ²⁷ In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged

to me with interest. ²⁸ Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. ²⁹ Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. ³⁰ Now take the worthless servant and throw him out into the farthest darkness.' "People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church!
Thanks be to God!

Message

"Risky Business"

Pastor Alicia Wood

Responding with Joy and Generosity

***Hymn of Response**

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

UMH #133

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Jami Breedlove-Crouch

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory

"Adagio from *Toccata Undecima*"
by G. Muffat

Sondra Wayman, organ

***Doxology**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #94

Prayer of Dedication

Going Forth to Serve and Bless

***Closing Hymn**

"Living Spirit, Holy Fire"

W&S # 3109

Announcements

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Postlude**

"Agincourt Hymn"
by J. Dunstable

Sondra Wayman, organ

St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of August 17th, 2025

Sunday, August 17th

10:30am – Worship - Sanctuary
12:00pm – Lunch and Conversation w/Pastor Alicia –
Downstairs Dining Room

Thursday, August 21st

Monday, August 18th

Contributions Due for Fall Newsletter

Friday, August 22nd

Church offices closed

Tuesday, August 19th

10:00am – Staff Meeting - ZOOM

Saturday, August 23rd

Wednesday, August 20th

5:30pm – Reconciling Meeting – Memorial Room
7:00pm – Small Groups Meetings – Durham Room

Sunday, August 24th

10:30am – Worship - Sanctuary
11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time – Memorial
Room

-----PRAYERS-----

For **Prayer Chain Requests**, confidential concerns seen only by those who participate in the Prayer Chain, please contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch at: lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org.

Prayer Requests: Linda Yetter; William Deming (nephew of Melissa Gould); Ruth Lovelace; Andrea Downing Zheng and family; Larry Roberts; Mary and Matthew Boardman. Pray for healing within the United Methodist Church as we live into the new reality of being a fully inclusive denomination.

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.

Children and Worship – Children are always welcome in worship! To help keep small hands busy, we have books and toys on the black cart near the main sanctuary door. **Children ages 4-11 are invited to attend “Faith Explorers,” which will resume in September.**

Trustees Day September 6th

Volunteers are needed to assist with the landscaping outside the church before the cooler weather arrives. We also want our church looking as beautiful as possible before Porchfest comes along on September 21st. If you can help, bring your garden gloves and come along to St. Paul’s on **Saturday, Sept. 6th from 9am-12pm**. Many hands make light work, so the more help we get, the better! Thanks in advance.

Blue Cabinets Donations for August

This month Blue Cabinets are seeking canned tuna, chicken, and pasta.

Our Staff

Rev. Alicia (Pastor Alicia) Wood / Senior Pastor / pastor@stpaulsithaca.org

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

Dee 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 United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation

402 North Aurora Street, Ithaca, NY

Find us at www.stpaulsithaca.org, 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 Summons

2130



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? ___ Will you go where you don't know and
 your name? ___ Will you care for cruel and kind and
 your name? ___ Will you set the pris - oners free and
 your name? ___ Will you quell the fear in - side and
 my name. ___ Let me turn and fol - low you and



nev - er be the same? ___ Will you let my love be
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you risk the hos - tile
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you kiss the lep - er
 nev - er be the same? ___ Will you use the faith you've
 nev - er be the same. ___ In your com - pa - ny I'll



shown, _ will you let my name be known, _ will you
 stare ___ should your life at - tract or scare? ___ Will you
 clean, ___ and do such as this un - seen, ___ and ad -
 found ___ to re - shape the world a - round, ___ through my
 go ___ where your love and foot - steps show. ___ Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me? ___
 let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me? ___
 mit to what I mean in you and you in me? ___
 sight and touch and sound in you and you in me? ___
 move and live and grow in you and you in me. ___

WORDS: John Bell
 MUSIC: Traditional Scottish

KELVINGROVE
 13 13 7 7 13

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms 133

1. What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-

last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain

lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing, Lean-ing on Je-sus,

lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
 lean-ing on Je-sus,

ing, lean-ing, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Unison

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise

Harmony

God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Unison

Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise

Harmony

Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978

MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

88.44.88 with Refrain

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for a unison setting of 'Alleluia'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' are centered between the two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. The music is written in a single system, with the two staves connected by a brace on the left. The lyrics are aligned with the notes of the melody. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. The music is written in a single system, with the two staves connected by a brace on the left. The lyrics are aligned with the notes of the melody.

Living Spirit, Holy Fire

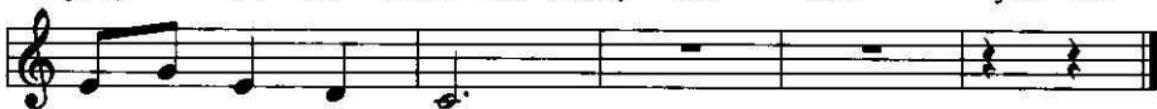
3109



1. Liv - ing Spir - it, ho - ly fire, burn - ing bright to light our
2. Warm us, draw your peo - ple near when our love draws weak or
3. Melt a - way the masks we wear, hid - ing what we know and
4. O - pen hearts; af - firm us all, man - y - splen - dored, one in



way, blaze a - mong us and in - spire lives that
cold. Free our fro - zen hearts from fear, that each
feel. Risk - ing growth, we want to share love in
you, we em - brace the work, the call: you are



praise you day by day.
sto - ry may be told.
ac - tion, love that's real.
mak - ing all things new.

WORDS: Ruth Duck

MUSIC: Lori True

ALL THINGS NEW

77.77