



Saint Paul's United Methodist Church
"A Compassionate Community Led and Transformed by the Spirit."
Sunday, October 12th, 2025 - 10:30 AM Service
Honoring Indigenous Peoples' Day



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 "Psalm 66: Shout with Joy to God All Nations" *Molly MacMillan, piano*
 by Andrea Sandefur

Greetings and Welcome *Pastor Alicia Wood*

***Sharing Love and Peace with All**

Centering Music "Now I Walk in Beauty" *Molly MacMillan, alto recorder*
 (Navajo Prayer) *Sara Jane Hymes, drum*

***Call to Worship**

L: Oh God, open us to the powerful winds of your spirit.

All: Open our eyes to the wonders of your creation.

L: Open our nostrils to the smells of life.

All: Open our ears to the words of justice and truth.

L: Open our mouths to the taste of freedom and love.

All: Open our arms to the touch of our brothers and sisters.

L: Let us praise the God who formed the mountains and gave birth to us in the divine image.

All: Let us sing to the One who made the stars and turns deep darkness into morning and day into night.

L: Let us turn to God, hating what is evil and loving what is just.

All: So may justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amen!

Resource written by Rev. Anita Phillips, former Executive Secretary of Native American and Indigenous Ministries for the United Methodist Church's General Board of Global Ministries

***Singing Together** "Surely the Presence of the Lord" *UMH #328*

A Message for All God's Children *Pastor Alicia Wood*

Special Music "Nitohtamok Askiky" ("Listen to the Land") *Chancel Choir*
 by Sherryl Sewepagaham *Molly MacMillan, recorder*
Sara Jane Hymes, drum

Encountering God Through the Word

Scripture Reading **Psalm 66: 1-12 (CEB)** *Holly Mathison*

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth!

Sing praises to the glory of God's name!

Make glorious his praise!³ Say to God:

"How awesome are your works!"

Because of your great strength,
 your enemies cringe before you.
 All the earth worships you,
 sings praises to you,
 sings praises to your name!" *Selah*
 Come and see God's deeds;
 his works for human beings are awesome:
 He turned the sea into dry land
 so they could cross the river on foot.
 Right there we rejoiced in him!
 God rules with power forever;
 keeps a good eye on the nations.
 So don't let the rebellious exalt themselves. *Selah*
 All you nations, bless our God!
 Let the sound of his praise be heard!
 God preserved us among the living;
 he didn't let our feet slip a bit.
 But you, God, have tested us—
 you've refined us like silver,
 trapped us in a net,
 laid burdens on our backs,
 let other people run right over our heads—
 we've been through fire and water.
 But you brought us out to freedom!

Luke 17: 11-18 (FNVNT)

On his way to Village of Peace (Jerusalem), Creator Sets Free (Jesus) took the path following the border between High Place (Samaria) and Circle of Nations (Galilee). He went into a small village where ten men with a skin disease came across his path. They *kept a respectful distance from him* and called, "Creator Sets Free (Jesus)! Honored One!" They pleaded, "Have pity on us!" Creator Sets Free (Jesus) looked at them and said, "Go to the holy men and show yourselves to them." *Tribal law instructed that a person healed of a skin disease must be pronounced ceremonially clean by a holy man.* They did what he said, and as they were on the way, they were healed. One of the ten men, when he saw he was healed, returned to Creator Sets Free (Jesus), giving loud praise to the Great Spirit. He then bowed down to honor Creator Sets Free (Jesus) and offered him thanks.

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

Message "Why Now?" *Pastor Alicia Wood*

Responding with Joy and Generosity

***Hymn of Response** "Many and Great, O God" *UMH #148*

Land Acknowledgment *See Insert*

Prayer of Confession *See Insert*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory "Un Poco Andante"
 by Flor Peeters *Molly MacMillan, piano*

***Doxology** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" *UMH #94*

***Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)

Let us give thanks for this beautiful day, for it is a gift from Creator. Let us give thanks for the water without which life would not be possible. Let us give thanks for Grandmother Earth who protects and nourishes us. We give thanks for earth, air, sun, and water, in which we see the hand of Creator, even Creator Himself for Creator is in all that has been made. Let us give thanks for this life. It is a gift from Creator, and we have the possibility of living it. Let us live it to Creator's praise and glory! Amen.

Going Forth to Serve and Bless

Announcements

***Closing Hymn** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" UMH #664

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Postlude** "Finale of 'Sonata in D major'" *Molly MacMillan, piano*
by Haydn

-----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.

Please note Church Offices will be closed tomorrow in honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day

St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of October 12th, 2025

Sunday, October 12th

10:30am – Worship - Sanctuary
10:45am – Faith Explorers – Room 115, Main Floor
11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time – Memorial Room

Monday, October 13th

Church Offices Closed for Indigenous Peoples' Day

4:45pm – Lay Leadership Team – ZOOM
6:30pm – Justice Seekers Reading Group – Memorial Room - ZOOM

Tuesday, October 14th

6:00pm – Finance Meeting – ZOOM
7:15pm – Trustees Meeting – ZOOM

Wednesday, October 15th

Thursday, October 16th

10:00am – Crafter's Group – Durham Room
6:00pm – Festival Chimes Rehearsal – Sanctuary
7:15pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Dining Room

Friday, October 17th

Church Offices Closed

Saturday, October 18th

Sunday, October 19th

10:30am – Worship – Sanctuary
10:45am – Faith Explorers – Rm. 115, Main Floor
11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time – Memorial Room
11:45am – Love! Serve! Lead! Luncheon – Memorial Room

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 aged 4 to 11 are invited to participate in “Faith Explorers” following the “Message for Children” segment during worship.**

Please Give Generously to Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard

We'll be collecting for Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard today. To make life easy, simply use the QR code that links directly to IKC's site. If you prefer making a cash donation, please put it in an offering envelope marked “Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard.” Checks should be made out to “St. Paul's UMC” with “Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard” in the Memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



“Love! Serve! Lead!”

Our United Methodist Church is living into a new denomination-wide Vision Statement: "Love Boldly! Serve Joyfully! Lead Courageously!" Following **worship next Sunday, October 19th**, all are invited to gather in the **Memorial Room at 11:45am** as Pastor Alicia takes to the mic to lead us in conversation about this vision and how it speaks to our congregation. Free lunch (soup and fixin's) will be provided and good company is a given. Don't miss it!

Mark Your Calendar for the Charge Conference

The Ithaca St. Paul's UMC Charge Conference will be held at **1pm, October 25, 2025**, at Lansing UMC. Please attend to hear and vote on the business of our church. Church Council members are strongly encouraged to attend, but all are welcome. Pastor Alicia promises that she'll make the Charge Conference this year as fun and exciting as possible!

Calling All Trick or Treaters!

We're encouraging all **children** to wear their **Halloween costumes** to church on **Sunday, October 26th**! Please be sure to invite friends and family to worship so they can see our little ghosts and goblins all dressed up and excited to show off for their church family!

Pastor Alicia's Bible Study Starts October 29th

Pastor Alicia's new bible study group, "The Armor of God: Ephesians and Marvel," will be starting later this month. This study brings together the intersection of sacred texts and modern movies, highlighting the symbolism in the "Letter to the Ephesians" of the power of the Armor of God. The Marvel movies will illustrate how many of Marvel's female characters came to know their power and purpose. This study will be held on **Wednesdays via ZOOM from October 29 through December 3rd from 6-7pm**. Please RSVP with [Dee](#) if you plan to attend. If more than 10 people sign up, an additional time will be offered.

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
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Molly MacMillan / Pianist / pianist@stpaulsithaca.org
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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, New York

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

Surely the Presence of the Lord 328

D F#m Gmaj9 Em

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place;

A7 D G/D

I can feel his might - y pow - er and his grace.

A7 D F#m

I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings,

Gmaj9 Em

I see glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the

A7 Em7 A7 D

pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

Many and Great, O God

148

1. Man - y and great, O God, are thy things, Mak - er of
 2. Grant un - to us com - mun-ion with thee, thou star a -

earth and sky. Thy hands have set the heav-ens with stars;
 bid-ing one; come un-to us and dwell with us;

thy fin-gers spread the moun-tains and plains. Lo, at thy
 with thee are found the gifts of life. Bless us with

word the wa-ters were formed; deep seas o - bey thy voice.
 life that has no end, e - ter-nal life with thee.

Suggested percussion part for hand drum or tom-tom: 

WORDS: Joseph R. Renville, ca. 1846; para. by Philip Frazier, 1929 (Ps. 104:24-30;
 Jer. 10:12,13)

MUSIC: Native American melody; harm. by Richard Proulx, 1986

LACQUIPARLE
 Irr.

Land Acknowledgement

On this Native American Sunday, we at St. Paul's publish anew the Land Acknowledgement statement we've been working with over the past year—a working document drawn from a model offered by justice-seeking colleagues with the Syracuse Cultural Workers, which we use with permission. We hope this statement, and the thoughts, conversations, and prayers behind it, will lead us into repentance, reconciliation, and renewed commitment to shared well-being with our neighbors.

We respectfully acknowledge that we live on the land of the Gayogohó:nq' (Cayuga) Nation, part of the Hodihnohsó':nih (Haudenosaunee) Confederacy. They have lived harmoniously with these lands and waters for countless generations before the onslaught of colonization.

Like Indigenous Peoples across the Americas, they experienced genocide, ethnic cleansing, theft of their land and waters, forced removal, and cultural erasure, often through the complicity or ignorance of our Methodist forbears. Our ability to live, work and enjoy this area is connected to their deep loss.

We ask all in our community to respect the Gayogohó:nq' and to learn the true history of the lands on which we reside. We resolve to work with the Gayogohó:nq' people and our Hodihnohsó':nih neighbors to build a shared, sustainable future for all.

Prayer of Confession

Call to Reconciliation

L: God looks at us, to see if we are wise enough to offer confession, to receive forgiveness, to seek to know the healing love of Christ. Let us prove our wisdom, and set aside our foolish pride, as we pray together,

**Unison Prayer of Confession*

Wisdom's Heart: deep within, we know how we have failed to be your people. Our hardened hearts are closed to the love of Christ; our lust for more and more blocks the fullness of your grace transforming our lives; our trust in the powers of the world reveals our foolish nature.

Have mercy, God of every generation. Pour out the rich blessing of forgiveness on our parched souls. Feed us with Heaven's Bread, so we might be nourished by your gentleness. Shape us as your people, and restore us to faithful living, as we seek to follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in service to everyone we meet.

Silent prayers may be offered.

Assurance of Pardon

L: The wideness of God's mercy, the range of God's forgiveness, the infinite love of God, the Heart of hope which is never empty: all these gifts are ours, as God restores us to the fullness of life meant for us.

Grounded in love, rooted in discipleship, we offer ourselves in service to others, recognizing the limitless grace which is ours to share in Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Written by Thom Shuman

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 staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. 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 B-flat key signature. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a B-flat key signature. The music is written in a unison style, with the same notes appearing on both staves. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The first two phrases are followed by exclamation points, and the third phrase ends with a period. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style, with the same notes appearing on both staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a B-flat key signature. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a B-flat key signature. The music is written in a unison style, with the same notes appearing on both staves. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The first two phrases are followed by exclamation points, and the third phrase ends with a period.

664 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Unison

1. Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2. With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er liv-ing,

the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-ery-day life we will face.

The ser-vice is end-ed, O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,

the fruits of our wor-ship in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of the teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us;

WORDS: Omer Westendorf, 1964

MUSIC: Welsh folk tune; harm. by Leland Sateren, 1972

THE ASH GROVE

6 6 11.6 6 11 D

Words © 1964 World Library Publications, Inc.; harm. © 1972

Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion

shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

God's grace did in - vite us, and love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to work for God's king - dom and an - swer the call.
give hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.