



# Saint Paul's United Methodist Church

*"A Compassionate Community Led and Transformed by the Spirit."*  
**Sunday, October 26th, 2025 - 10:30 AM Service**



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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.*

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

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## **Gathering as The Beloved Community**

**Gathering Music** "We Belong Together" *Molly MacMillan, piano*  
by Randy Newman

**Greetings and Welcome** *Pastor Alicia Wood*

### **\*Sharing Love and Peace with All**

**Centering Music** "Prelude No. 4" *Molly MacMillan, piano*  
by Elvina Pearce

### **\*Call to Worship**

The world needs to change, and that can make us want to go to our room and hide.  
Because there is so much that needs to be done.

#### **Pain needs to be acknowledged.**

Reparations must be made. Justice must be done. That feels like a lot.  
And so, we must remember that we are not called to be changemakers on our own.

#### **We are called together.**

We are called in community, and we are called alongside people of faith and goodwill around the world.  
The world needs to change, but we will not change it alone.

#### **We are called together, and vested with the power of the Holy Spirit.**

We are called to follow the way of Jesus.

We are the changemakers, and we are getting ready!

**May we be changed by this time of worship! Amen.**

**\*Singing Together** "Come We That Love the Lord" *UMH #733*

**Call to Confession** *Pastor Alicia Wood*

We are called to make change together, but working with other people is hard. Let us confess the times  
that we have failed to be in community.

Holy One, you are a God of relationships. Hence, the Trinity!

You call us to be in relationship. You call us to be changemakers together.

But all too often, we try to make change on our own.

We say it is because the need is too urgent,

but the truth is, we don't want to take time to listen to others.

We say it is because we work best alone,

but the truth is, we don't want to give up control.

We say that we don't need other people,

but the truth is, we are just afraid to be vulnerable.

**All: Forgive us.**

For the ways in which we have failed to love others,  
and in turn, to love you, we ask your forgiveness.  
Forgive us for when we failed to trust.  
Forgive us for when we failed to risk vulnerability.  
Forgive us, and change us again.  
Remake us into the Body of Christ.

**Re-member us as one community so that we, together,  
can be changemakers in the world. Amen.**

### **Assurance and Peace**

Hear this assurance of Good News: Jesus said he would be with us always. This is the nature of the Divine—we are never alone. The presence of God was made real to humanity through Jesus, and the Spirit is the Advocate that Jesus said would remain in every breath of our lives and beyond. Made in the image of this Divine Love, our true nature is to be with and for one another. It is part of who we are, and we have everything we need to unleash this collaborative spirit.

### **A Message for All God’s Children**

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

### **Special Music**

“Walk Together Children”  
by James Weldon Johnson

*Chancel Choir*

### **Encountering God Through the Word**

Holy One, help us to hear the Gospel as if for the first time.  
Free us of our self-centeredness, and help us to see how this Good News  
is for our wider community and the entire world.  
May this story show us the way  
to become a compassion-driven changemaker, like Jesus,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Josephine Allen*

### **Scripture Reading**

**Luke 10: 1-11 (CEB)**

*Josephine Allen*

After these things, the Lord commissioned seventy-two others and sent them on ahead in pairs to every city and place he was about to go. He said to them, “The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest. Go! Be warned, though, that I’m sending you out as lambs among wolves. Carry no wallet, no bag, and no sandals. Don’t even greet anyone along the way. Whenever you enter a house, first say, ‘May peace be on this house.’ If anyone there shares God’s peace, then your peace will rest on that person. If not, your blessing will return to you. Remain in this house, eating and drinking whatever they set before you, for workers deserve their pay. Don’t move from house to house. Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘God’s kingdom has come upon you.’ Whenever you enter a city and the people don’t welcome you, go out into the streets and say, ‘As a complaint against you, we brush off the dust of your city that has collected on our feet. But know this: God’s kingdom has come to you.’

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

### **Message**

“Collaboration”

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

### **Responding with Joy and Generosity**

### **\*Hymn of Response**

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

TFWS #2238

### **Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer**

*Karen Kaufmann*

## Offering Our Gifts to God

### Offertory

“Laurie”  
by Bill Evans

*Molly MacMillan, piano*

### \*Doxology

“My Gratitude Now Accept, O God”

TFWS #2044 (v.2)

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

**Blessed are the changemakers.**

**Blessed are you who are not asleep  
to the world’s pain and suffering.**

**Blessed are you who lament for the way things are.**

**Blessed are you who know, to the depth of your bones,  
that this is not how things are meant to be.**

**Blessed are you for not believing the lie that  
this is how they will always remain.**

**Blessed are you who know that things can change,  
who long for things to change.**

**Blessed are you whose life’s ambition is to bring the change  
that is justice and mercy for all.**

**Blessed are you who know that God has always employed the faithful acts  
of ordinary people to heal and change this world.**

**Blessed are you who know that change begins today,  
change begins with us,**

**and that we are blessed to be the changemakers. Amen!**

### Going Forth to Serve and Bless

### Announcements

### \*Closing Hymn

“Freely, Freely”

UMH #389

### \*Dismissal with Blessing

### Postlude

“(If You Wanna Go Far) We Go Together”  
by Lin Manuel Miranda

*Molly MacMillan, piano*

## ***St. Paul’s Ministries ~ Week of October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025***

### **Sunday, October 26th**

10:30am – Worship - Sanctuary

10:45am – Faith Explorers – Room 115, Main Floor

11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time – Memorial Room

### **Monday, October 27th**

6:30pm – Justice Seekers Reading Group – Memorial Room/ ZOOM

### **Tuesday, October 28th**

### **Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

6:00pm – Pastor’s Bible Study - ZOOM

### **Thursday, October 30th**

10:00am – Crafter’s Group – Durham Room

6:00pm – Festival Chimes Rehearsal – Sanctuary

7:15pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Dining Room

### **Friday, October 31st**

Church Offices Closed

### **Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> – All Saints Day**

### **Sunday, November 2nd – New Orleans Style All Saints Sunday**

10:30am – Worship with Communion – Sanctuary

10:45am – Faith Explorers – Rm. 115, Main Floor

11:30am – Coffee/Fellowship Time – Memorial Room

11:45am – Young Adult Group – Durham 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 aged 4 to 11 are invited to participate in “Faith Explorers” following the “Message for Children” segment during worship.**

***Don't forget to bring your coins.***

***Pastor Alicia's Bible Study Starts This Wednesday Evening***

It's not too late to join Pastor Alicia's new bible study group, "The Armor of God: Ephesians and Marvel," which starts **this Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6-7pm via ZOOM**. 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. Please RSVP with [Dee](#) to receive a ZOOM link if you plan to attend. If more than 10 people sign up, an additional time will be offered.

***Next Week: A Very Special All Saints Sunday***

**November 2nd is All Saints Sunday**, where we honor and remember those who passed on the previous year. In addition to our usual recitation of names of the deceased and the lighting of memorial candles, there will also be Dixieland band leading a joyous, celebratory procession out of the sanctuary at the end of services, New Orleans funeral style! Don't miss it!

***Young Adult Group Starts Next Sunday***

Young adults ages sixteen through twenty-nine are invited to join our new group, "Connections," which will meet right after services in the Durham Room on the first Sunday of every month. Lunch will be served and fun, interesting conversation is a given. Please feel free to bring a friend!

***Non Liquid Items Needed for Blue Cabinet Donations***

It's the time of the year where we transition our donations to non liquid items. Instant oatmeal, pop tarts, and non perishable foods of that ilk are appreciated. We're also still collecting household goods and/or personal hygiene items for Catholic Charities. Simply leave in the appropriately marked box on the table across from the church office.

**Our Staff**

**Rev. Alicia (Pastor Alicia) Wood** / Senior Pastor / [pastor@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Jami Breedlove-Crouch** / Loving Care Ministries Coordinator / [lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Dee Levine** / Church Administrative Assistant & Communications / [office@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:office@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Michelle Eells** / Business & Building Ministries Coordinator / [business@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:business@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Maia Finkel** / Choral and Ensembles Director / [choirdirector@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:choirdirector@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Molly MacMillan** / Pianist / [pianist@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:pianist@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**David Kingsley** / Technical Director / [dkingsley@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:dkingsley@stpaulsithaca.org)  
**Dorothy Preston** / Festival Chimes Director / [dpreston@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto: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](http://www.stpaulsithaca.org), Facebook and Instagram

## Marching to Zion

1. Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
 2. Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;  
 3. The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets  
 4. Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with  
 but chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King, but chil - dren of the  
 be - fore we reach the heav - en - ly fields, be - fore we reach the  
 we're march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Em -

sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and  
 heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad, may  
 heav - en - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or  
 man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to

thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur -  
 speak their joys a - broad, may speak their  
 walk the gold - en streets, to walk the  
 fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er

*Refrain*

thus sur-round the throne.  
 speak their joys a - broad.  
 walk the gold - en streets.  
 fair - er worlds on high.

We're march - ing to Zi - on,

We're march - ing on to Zi - on,



round the throne.  
 joys a - broad.  
 gold - en streets.  
 worlds on high.



beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on; we're march - ing up - ward to

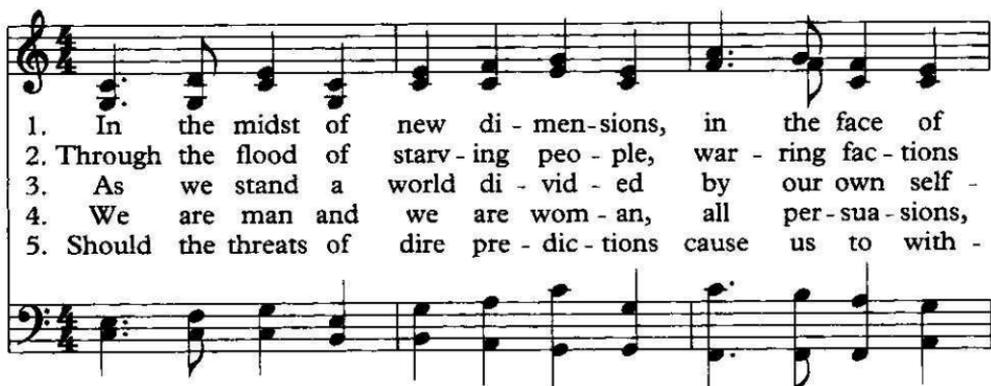


Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

Zi - on, Zi - on, the



## 2238 In the Midst of New Dimensions



1. In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of  
 2. Through the flood of starv-ing peo-ple, war-ring fac-tions  
 3. As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self-  
 4. We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions,  
 5. Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-



chang-ing ways, who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples  
 and de-spair, who will lift the ol-ive branch-es?  
 seek-ing schemes, grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage,  
 old and young, each a gift in your cre-a-tion,  
 draw in pain, may your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it

*Refrain*



wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?  
 Who will light the flame of care?  
 might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams. God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar,  
 each a love song to be sung.  
 res-ur-rect the church a-gain.



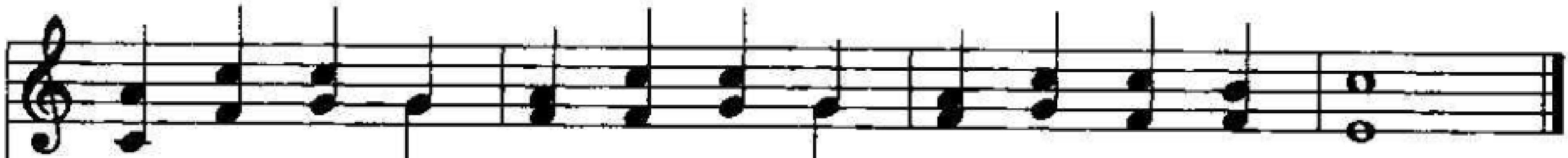
lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, we your peo-ple, ours the jour-ney

WORDS: Julian B. Rush (Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14)

MUSIC: Julian B. Rush

NEW DIMENSIONS

87.87 with Refrain



now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.



# My Gratitude Now Accept, O God 2044

(Gracias, Señor)



1. My grat - i - tude now ac - cept, O God, for ten - der  
2. From all your boun - ty I give to you; for all the  
1. Gra - cias, Se - ñor, por lo que me das, gra - cias por  
2. Te doy de lo que tú me das, con go - zo



- care that you pro - vide; for your a - bun - dant  
bless - ings you im - part. Re - ceive this of - fer -  
ben - de - cir - me. Gra - cias por tu fi -  
en mi co - ra - zón. Re - ci - be hoy mi o -



- faith - ful - ness. End - less is your sup - ply. \_\_\_\_\_  
ing I bring. Re - ceive my joy - ful heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
de - lí - dad y por tu pro - vi - sión. \_\_\_\_\_  
fren - da, te la en - tre - go a ti. \_\_\_\_\_



- gifts from the heart ac - cept. \_\_\_\_\_  
de lo que tú nos das. \_\_\_\_\_

3. I bring to you all my love and praise.  
I glorify and bless your name.  
Let me adore you, Holy One,  
with every breath I take.  
3. *Te amo, Dios, doy gloria a ti,  
tú eres digno de loor.  
Te adoro con mi vida  
y con lo que me das.*
4. All that is living belongs to you;  
all that I am in your hands kept.  
From the abundance of your hand,  
gifts from the heart accept.  
4. *Todo te pertenece a ti,  
mi vida y todo mi ser.  
Con gratitud te damos  
de lo que tú nos das.*

WORDS: Rafael Montalvo; English trans. by Raquel Mora Martínez (Ps. 24:1)

MUSIC: Rafael Montalvo

OFRENDA  
Irregular

## Freely, Freely

1. God for - gave my sin in Je - sus' name, I've been  
2. All power is given in Je - sus' name, in

born a - gain in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I  
earth and heaven in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I

come to you, to share his love as he told me to.  
come to you, to share his power as he told me to.

*Refrain*

He said, "Free - ly, free - ly you have re - ceived,

free - ly, free - ly give. Go in my name, and be -

cause you be - lieve, oth - ers will know that I live."

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line. 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), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The final note of the melody is a half note, which is circled in both staves.