



Saint Paul's United Methodist Church
"A Compassionate Community Led and Transformed by the Spirit."
Sunday, January 18th, 2026 - 10:30 AM Service



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

Gathering Music

"Brighten the Corner"
by Ina Duley Ogdon

Molly MacMillan, piano

Greetings & Welcome

Centering Music

"Light & Shadow Waltz"
by George Wilson

Molly MacMillan, piano

***Call to Worship**

Children of God, who has God called you to be?

A light to all the nations!

When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

When the vulnerable are left without care or hope for flourishing, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

Come! Let us worship God, who gives us as a light of good news to all the nations!

We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life into all the world. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"This Little Light of Mine"

UMH #585

***Sharing Love & Peace with All**

PROCLAIMING

A Message for All God's Children

Pastor Alicia Wood

Special Music

"Behold the Lamb of God"
by Healy Willan

Chancel Choir

Scripture**Isaiah 49: 1-7 (CEB)***David McElrath*

Listen to me, coastlands; pay attention, peoples far away.

The Lord called me before my birth, called my name when I was in my mother's womb.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword, and hid me in the shadow of God's own hand.

He made me a sharpened arrow, and concealed me in God's quiver, saying to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I show my glory."

But I said, "I have wearied myself in vain. I have used up my strength for nothing."

Nevertheless, the Lord will grant me justice; my reward is with my God.

And now the Lord has decided—the one who formed me from the womb as his servant—to restore Jacob to God, so that Israel might return to him. Moreover, I'm honored in the Lord's eyes; my God has become my strength.

He said: It is not enough, since you are my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the survivors of Israel. Hence, I will also appoint you as light to the nations so that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

The Lord, redeemer of Israel and its holy one, says to one despised, rejected by nations, to the slave of rulers: Kings will see and stand up; commanders will bow down on account of the Lord, who is faithful, the holy one of Israel, who has chosen you.

John 1: 29-42 (CEB)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one about whom I said, 'He who comes after me is really greater than me because he existed before me.' Even I didn't recognize him, but I came baptizing with water so that he might be made known to Israel." John testified, "I saw the Spirit coming down from heaven like a dove, and it rested on him. Even I didn't recognize him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'The one on whom you see the Spirit coming down and resting is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen and testified that this one is God's Son."

Jesus calls disciples

The next day John was standing again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus walking along he said, "Look! The Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard what he said, and they followed Jesus.

When Jesus turned and saw them following, he asked, "What are you looking for?" They said, "Rabbi (which is translated *Teacher*), where are you staying?"

He replied, "Come and see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

One of the two disciples who heard what John said and followed Jesus was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated *Christ*). He led him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated *Peter*).

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church!

Thanks Be to God!

Message

"I Gonna Let It Shine"

Pastor Alicia Wood

RESPONDING**Wesleyan Covenant Prayer**

UMH #607

***Hymn of Response**

"Thy Word is a Lamp"

UMH #601

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Jami Breedlove-Crouch

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory

“The Beauty of All Things”
by Lawrence Hobgood/Kurt Elling

Molly MacMillan, piano

***Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH #94

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Alicia Wood

Ever-Present and Calling God, knowing us from the beginning, naming us as your own, you have entrusted us with the holy work of bearing your light to the world. Though we often feel unworthy or uncertain, you remind us that your grace goes before us, and your strength works through us. Receive these gifts, offered with gratitude and hope. Use them—and us—to proclaim your justice, to shine your love to the ends of the earth, and to glorify your name. In the name of Christ, your Servant and our Savior, we pray. Amen. (Isaiah 49:1-7)

GOING FORTH

Announcements***Closing Hymn**

“The Summons”

TFWS #2130

Dismissal with Blessing*Postlude**

“Baby Shine”
by Dave Davies

Molly MacMillan, piano

-----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: We thank God for the healing in the lives of people we've been praying for. If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain or the Prayer List, contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch at: lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org. Your requests will be listed in the bulletin for one month before being deleted. Please let us know of your improved condition or if you desire visitation.

St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of January 18th, 2026

Sunday, January 18th

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

Monday, January 19th – Martin Luther King Day

Church Offices Closed for Holiday

Tuesday, January 20th

10:00am – Staff Meeting – ZOOM
7:00pm – Exec Church Council Meeting – ZOOM

Wednesday, January 21st

9:45am – Coffee with the Pastor – Memorial Room

Thursday, January 22nd

11:00am – Crafting Group – Durham Room
11:00am – UWF – Memorial Room
6:00pm – Festival Chimes Rehearsal - Sanctuary
7:15pm – Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Dining Room

Friday, January 23rd

Church Offices Closed

Saturday, January 24th**Sunday, January 25th**

10:30am – Worship– Sanctuary
10:45am – Faith Explorers – Room 115, Main Floor
11:30am – Coffee/Reception Time – Memorial Room
12:00pm – SPRC Retreat – Durham 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 ages 4 through 11 are invited to participate in “Faith Explorers” following the “Message for Children” segment during worship (except on Communion Sundays).**

Justice Seekers Co-Sponsor Free Viewing of “Sugarcane.”

First Congregational Church of Ithaca (FCCI) and St Paul’s Justice Seekers invite you to a free screening of the award-winning (Oscar-nominated) film *Sugarcane* on **Wednesday, January 21st** at FCCI (309 Highland Road, Ithaca). SUGARCANE follows a groundbreaking investigation into a Canadian Indian residential school, shedding light on a hidden story of cultural erasure while celebrating the resilience of Native peoples working to overcome cycles of intergenerational trauma. The film starts at 7 p.m. but you can also come at 6 p.m. for a light supper, and/or stay late for a brief discussion afterward. Please RSVP to: [RSVP for SUGARCANE at FCCI](#). Questions? Contact Nancy Potter, potternancy20@gmail.com or Karen Kaufmann, karen.kaufmann1@gmail.com. Please feel free to spread the word!

United Women in Faith Meets January 22nd

St Paul’s United Women in Faith will meet in the Memorial Room **Thursday, January 22 from 11am to 1pm** for a fun and organizational gathering. Cheryl McGraw, our intrepid cookie baker and more, will talk about her adventures in food and perhaps give us some tips! We’ll also talk about future meetings and how to proceed going forward. Fundraising and card sending are also on the agenda. Light refreshments will be served. Evites will be going out this week. Email Wendy Kimble Dugan at wendykaydee@gmail.com for questions.

LGBTQ+ Vow Renewal Ceremony on February 8th

Please join us **Feb. 8th at 10:30 am** for St. Paul’s first ever Vow Renewal, made possible by changes in the 2025 United Methodist Discipline allowing for the inclusion and participation of all God’s children. Our Vow Renewal will be led by Pastor Alicia, followed by a reception in the Memorial Room. The couples participating have already been married outside of the church but will finally have the chance to have their relationships blessed within the congregation and among friends. Please attend and bring friends. Questions? Contact [Jami Breedlove Crouch](mailto:BreedloveJami@gmail.com) at: BreedloveJami@gmail.com.

Code Blue Needs

The Code Blue program is in desperate need of breakfast items like bars, Pop Tarts, instant oatmeal, juice boxes, instant coffee, cocoa, or tea. Fruit cups as well as dried fruit and nuts are also welcome. Deposit in boxes in the foyer marked “Code Blue.” Questions can be directed to Jami Breedlove-Crouch at: lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org.

Coffee with the Pastor Continues January 21st

Coffee with the Pastor will continue meeting on Wednesday mornings at 9:45am in the Memorial Room. Come to pray, talk, and ask questions. All are welcome.

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

402 North Aurora St., 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 Line: 607-269-5509

This Little Light of Mine

585

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, then a quarter note C5, and continues with various rhythmic patterns including eighth and quarter notes.

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows the vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff shows the accompaniment. The melody includes a quarter note D5 and a quarter note E5, followed by a quarter rest and a quarter note F#5.

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'- a let it shine,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows the vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff shows the accompaniment. The melody includes a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, then a quarter note C5.

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (let it shine)

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble staff shows the vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff shows the accompaniment. The melody includes a quarter note D5, followed by a quarter note E5, and ends with a quarter note F#5. The system ends with a double bar line.

2. Everywhere I go
3. All through the night

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual (Mt. 5:14-16)
MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by William Farley Smith, 1987

LATTIMER
Irr.

607 A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. **Amen.**

Thy Word Is a Lamp

601

Refrain (Unison)

Eb Bb7 Eb
 Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a

Ab Bb7 Eb Ab Eb *Fine* Bb7 Fm
 light un - to my path. 1. When I feel a - fraid,
 2. Now I will not for - get your

Cm Gm Ab Bb7 Ab Eb
 think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me, and
 love for me and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

Bb7 Fm Cm Gm
 noth - ing will I fear as long as you are near.
 Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and

Ab Bb7 Cm C G Bb7 D.C.
 Please be near me to the end.
 I will love you to the end.

WORDS: Amy Grant, 1984 (Ps. 119:105)
 MUSIC: Michael W. Smith 1984; arr. by Keith Phillips

THY WORD
 Irr. with Refrain

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), 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 staff has a treble clef and a B-flat key signature. The second staff has 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 staff has a treble clef and a B-flat key signature. The second staff has 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 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