

## Outdoor Church Clean Up!

Spring has sprung! Please join the Trustees in cleaning or sprucing up our outdoor gardens and overall property. We will gather at the church on **May 16 at 9am**. More hands make light work. Contact Tim S, our Trustees Chair, with any questions at [trsull49@gmail.com](mailto:trsull49@gmail.com).

## Children's Ministries Team Invitation

Please join us in worship next **Sunday, May 17**, for a short presentation from our Children's Ministries Team and at a special Fellowship Time as we celebrate our 2025-2026 Faith Explorer's year. Hosted by the Children's Ministries Team.

## Save the Date!

Please join Pastor Alicia and Cheryl McGraw for The Wednesday Evening Supper Club on Wednesday, May 20 at 5:30 pm in the Memorial Rooms. Bring your own supper (including beverage, plates, silverware) and invite a friend to come with you! Contact Cheryl McGraw, [cherylmcgraw@cornell.edu](mailto:cherylmcgraw@cornell.edu), with questions, game suggestions and to RSVP.

## Lay Servant Ministry Basic Course Saturdays, June 6 and 13 at Penn Yan UMC

Join us in exploring your call to service, understanding your Spiritual gifts, and developing servant leadership to empower St. Paul's ministries together! The cost is \$15, for questions or to register contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch.

A **New Member Class** will be starting soon. If you are interested in joining the class or have questions, please contact Pastor Alicia, [pastor@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsithaca.org).

### *St. Paul's Ministries ~ Week of May 10, 2026*

#### **Sunday, May 10~Mother's Day**

10:30 am – Worship~Sanctuary w/Faith Explorers  
11:30 am – Coffee/Fellowship~Memorial Rooms  
Hosted by Children's Ministry

#### **Monday, May 11**

4:45 pm – Lay Leadership Team~ZOOM

#### **Tuesday, May 12**

10:00 am – Staff Meeting~ZOOM  
6:00 pm – Finance Meeting~Zoom  
7:15 pm – Trustees Meeting~Zoom

#### **Thursday, May 14**

11:00 am – Crafting Group~Durham Room  
6:00 pm – Festival Chimes rehearsal~Sanctuary  
7:15 pm – Chancel Choir rehearsal~Dining Room

#### **Saturday, May 16**

9:00 am – Outdoor Church Clean up  
10:00 am-12:00 pm-Festival Chimes flower pick up  
Parsonage driveway

#### **Sunday, May 17**

10:30 am – Worship w/Faith Explorers  
Celebration~Sanctuary  
11:30 am – Coffee/Fellowship~Memorial Rooms  
12:00 pm – Social Small Group lunch~  
Memorial Rooms



**\*Sharing Peace & Love with All**

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

**PROCLAIMING**

**A Message for All God's Children**

**Special Music**

“In Meeting We Are Blessed”

*Chancel Choir*

by Troy Robertson

**Scripture**

John 14: 15-21 (NLT)

*Abigail McCarthy*

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

“We're in This Together”

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

**RESPONDING**

**\*Hymn**

“Because He Lives”

UMH #364

**Prayers of the People**

*Jami Breedlove-Crouch*

**Offering Our Gifts to God**

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

**Offertory**

“Traumerie”

*Molly MacMillan, piano*

by Schumann

**\*Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”

UMH #94

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

*Pastor Alicia Wood*

**Abiding Spirit of Love, you have not left us orphaned. Even in our uncertainty, you draw near, whispering truth, stirring memory, teaching us to live as those who know we are loved. As Jesus offered himself in love and obedience, so we offer these gifts today—not out of obligation, but as signs of our love and trust. Take them, bless them, use them—to remind the world that Christ's story abides in us. May your Spirit strengthen us to live what we give and give what we believe. In the name of the one who promised never to leave us. Amen.**

**GOING FORTH**

## Announcements

\*Closing Hymn  
\*Benediction

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

UMH #454

Postlude

“Together Forever”  
by Tom Jones/Harvey Schmitt

*Molly MacMillan, piano*

### -----PRAYERS-----

We are thankful for God’s healing in all of our lives. For **Prayer Chain** Requests, confidential concerns seen only by those who participate in the Prayer Chain, please contact Jami Breedlove-Crouch, [lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org](mailto:lovingcare@stpaulsithaca.org).

**If this is your first visit with us today, we are thrilled that you are here!** Please fill out the yellow Connect Card in the pew, place in the offering plate so that we may have a record of your visit, and join us for snacks and conversation in the Memorial Rooms! We pray God brings you back to worship with us again ~ blessings!

### **We Cherish Children in 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 participate in “Faith Explorers,”** Rm. 115, Main Floor, following the “Message for Children” segment during worship.

### **Mission of the Month**

May is our semi-annual Spring collection for the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard (IKC). IKC is a volunteer run organization, solely supported by donations and currently needs: **bar soap, shampoo, dish soap, toothpaste, diapers (any size), baby wipes, adult diapers (Large and XL)**; a collection box is located in the Narthex. Or you can make your checks payable to St. Paul’s UMC with “IKC household goods” in the memo line. These funds will be used specifically for the items needed.

**Pastor Alicia’s Ordination Service and Celebration!**

Pastor Alicia invites you to her Ordination Service on **Friday, May 29, 7:00 pm** at the OnCenter, 800 S. State St., Syracuse. On **May 31**, Alicia's husband, Rev. Jack Keating will be preaching, after worship, please join us in the Memorial Rooms to celebrate Alicia's Ordination!

## Sanctuary

TFWS # 2164

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You

## Because He Lives

{Verse 1}

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus,  
He came to love, heal, and forgive;

He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

{Chorus}

Because He lives I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives

{Verse 2}

How sweet to hold our newborn baby,  
And feel the pride, and joy He gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance,  
This child can face uncertain days  
Because Christ lives

{Verse 3}

And then one day I'll cross that river  
I'll fight life's final war with pain  
And then as death gives way to vict'ry  
I'll see the lights of glory  
And I'll know He reigns

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The melody is primarily composed of chords, with some single notes in the treble staff. The lyrics are positioned below the staves.

Him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble staff. The lyrics are positioned below the staves.

heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The third system of music concludes the piece. It features a final cadence with a double bar line and repeat dots. The lyrics are positioned below the staves.

## 454 Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou  
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou  
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won-der - ful key  
 send - est clear; and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,  
 ev - ery-where; o - pen my heart and let me pre-pare

*Refrain*  
 that shall un-clasp and set me free.  
 ev - ery-thing false will dis - ap-pear. Si-lent - ly now I  
 love with thy chil - dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,  
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
 O - pen my heart,