

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Service of Word and Sacrament
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
July 3, 2022

+Denotes please rise, as able

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING the BELLS

PRELUDE (P) *Battle Hymn of the Republic* -arr. M. Hayes

BRINGING the LIGHT of CHRIST

CALL to WORSHIP

+OPENING HYMN *God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command*
#592, v. 1-3

+CALL to RECONCILIATION

Unlike ours, God's anger does not last. God's favor, God's grace, and God's forgiveness are for us, not just in this moment, but forever. How can we not want to confess to such a One who is ready to heal us? Please join me as we pray, saying,

+PRAYER of CONFESSION

Holy One, why is it that we can grow so weary of doing what is right, yet always energetically do that which we know is harmful to us and others? We sow seeds of hurt and anger and wonder why we harvest so much bitterness. We spend too much time comparing ourselves to those around us, and too few moments in following Christ's example. Rather than letting our sins gloat over us, Healing God,

we would open ourselves to your mercy and grace. As you reach out to heal us with your forgiveness, may we embrace your love, your mercy, your grace for our lives. As you pour out your Spirit of gentleness, may we bring the peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to all the world.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Sing praises to our God, faithful children.
God has heard our prayers and made us whole.

We will not be silent but will sing our joy to the One who has forgiven us and made us into a new creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

+PRAISE RESPONSE

#592, v.4

**Refresh your people on life's toilsome way.
Lead us from night to everlasting day.
With truth and love guide us through error's maze,
and we shall give you glory, laud, and praise.**

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Denise Johnson, DCE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Congregational Hymn Sing

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 30

NCH p. 639

2 Kings 5:1-14

pg. 320 (OT)

SERMON

A Prophet, a Slave Girl, and Servants

+HYMN of PRAISE

This Is My Song

#591

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY (P)

Let Freedom Ring

-arr. T. Fettke

+DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

+PRAYER of DEDICATION

In the offering of our gifts, Holy One,
as well as the living of our days,
may we not grow weary of doing what is right,
but commit to speaking up for the voiceless,
healing the broken, feeding the hungry,
and all those mercies which are such a part
of your heart and hopes for all your children.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

+HYMN of APPROACH

As We Gather at Your Table #332, v.1

+INVITATION

+COMMUNION PRAYER

May the Lord our God be with you.

And also with you.

Children of God, lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the One who heals us
at the table of brokenness.**

Children of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

We will sing our praises to the One who restores us to life.

Let us pray.

We do not bring silence to you, Holy One of all people,
but shouts of praise and laughter for your gracious love.

Your healing river flowed through creation,
bringing life and joy to all who drank from it.

**But we preferred to splash in the sewers of the world,
rejecting all that you intended for us.**

Yet, you never grew weary

of bearing the burdens of your children.

**When you could have shaken the dust of our sin
from your feet, you chose to lead us out of the pit
of our arrogance and rebellion.**

Joining with those who praise you,
lifting our voices with faithful ones of every time and place,
we speak of our thanks to you forever:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy are you, God the Creator!
the mountains sing your praises,
the valleys echo your glory.
Hosanna in the highest! We welcome the One
who comes in your name, who calls us to life.
Hosanna in the highest!**

(please be seated)

Holy are you, God of compassion, for when death threatened your children and sin vowed to turn the universe back to chaos, you sent your Son, Jesus the Christ, to heal the brokenness of the world. He did not grow weary of doing the right things, but confronted the wrongs of the world. He endured the violence of sin, so that we might receive the gentleness of life with you forever;

**he carried our sins to the cross,
so that we might bear the burdens of our sisters
and brothers; he went ahead of us into death,
so that we might walk with you in eternity.**

As we turn to the Table to be filled with hope,
we remember all that Jesus has done for us,
and all that we have been called to do in his name.
Great is the mystery of faith:

**ALL: Christ died, bearing our burdens.
Christ was raised, mocking death's power.
Christ will return, for the good of all.**

Flow through us, Healing Spirit, as we drink deeply of Christ's cup.
You never grow weary of feeding us with the Bread of Life,
or refreshing us with the Cup of Grace, for you use these simple gifts
to transform our brokenness.

BLESSING the ELEMENTS

BREAKING the BREAD and SHARING the CUP

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

+PARTING HYMN *As We Gather at Your Table* #332, v. 2&3

+ COMMITMENT

And as we turn from the Table, send us forth
to bring healing to the sick,

**freedom to the oppressed,
to speak peace to the human household,
to carry your compassion with us
wherever you would lead us.
For we will not keep silent,
but praise you forever and ever,
ALL: God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.**

+POSTLUDE (o) *For Spacious Skies*

-R. Perry

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**The flowers on the altar
are given to the glory of God.**



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Week 1: the family of Helen Byers; the family of Mildred Hutchinson; Dean Reibeling; Angela Krupp; Thomas Lochmoeller; Evelyn Trexler; family of Becky Schneider; the family of Gene Bayer

Week 2: Linda Harres, Harold Bayer, Becky Schneider, Suzanne Smith

Week 3: The family of Betty Eckert; Johanna Wayland; Allison Busby; Boy Scout Troop 320; and DuBois Center

Ongoing: St. Paul UCC; Diane Silva; Dorothy Rey; Jan Hoffmann; residents in Senior Living Centers; and lasting peace throughout the world

Calendar

Sunday, July 3

Holy Communion

Kindercottage Food Collection

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Coffee and Donut Hour

Monday, July 4 – Independence Day

Office Closed

Tuesday, July 5

Pastor Shel's Day Off

7 pm Property Management Committee

Thursday, July 7

7 pm Personnel Committee

8 pm Executive Committee

Friday, July 8

8 am Quilters

Sunday, July 10

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Coffee and Donut Hour

God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command 592

Daniel Crane Roberts, 1870; alt.

1 God of the a - ges, who with sure com-mand
2 Your pur - pose, just, en - vi - sions mor-tals free;
3 From war's a - larms, from dead-ly pes - ti - lence,
4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on life's toil-some way;

brought forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
God, set our path toward hu - man lib - er - ty.
with stead - fast care be ev - er our de - fense;
lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the skies,
Still be our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and stay—
Your love and faith with - in our hearts in - crease;
With truth and love guide us through er - ror's maze,

our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise,
your Word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.
with boun-teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
and we shall give you glo - ry, laud, and praise.

1 This is my song, O God of all the na-tions, a song of
 2 My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the o-cean, and sun-light

peace for lands a-far and mine. This is my home, the
 beams on clo-ver-leaf and pine; But oth-er lands have

coun-try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my
 sun-light, too, and clo-ver, and skies are ev-ery-

dreams, my ho-ly shrine; But oth-er hearts in oth-er lands are
 where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the

beat-ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 na-tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred,
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy bind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-tory known,
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save,
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.