

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Service of Word and Sacrament
Eight Sunday after Pentecost
August 7, 2022
+Denotes please rise, as able

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING the BELLS

PRELUDE (P) *Theme from "New World Symphony"* -A. Dvorak

BRINGING the LIGHT of CHRIST

CALL to WORSHIP

We are people who have been called to follow where God leads us.

**By faith we can obey, even when asked to walk into
an unknown future.**

We are people who have been challenged to tell God's story to
others.

By faith we have the ability to share the good news.

We are God's children who are invited to feast at the Table of grace.

By faith we will embrace our sisters and brothers in Christ.

+OPENING HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #1, v.1-3

+INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We would like to keep our sins hidden and our failures a secret. But
God would not have us keep silent, so we speak our confessions out
loud, that we may be blessed with God's mercy and grace. I invite
you to pray with me, saying,

+PRAYER of CONFESSION (unison)

You have a vision of all people as your beloved children,
Imaginative God, but we see folks whose language, dress,
and skin make them different.

You have a vision of a universe filled with goodness and
beauty, and we damage it with litter, with violence,
with poor choices.

You have a vision of a Table where we can feast on your
grace and hope, but we line up at the fast-food counters of
greed.

Forgive us, Visionary of Mercy, as we confess that we are
not "insiders" but immigrants searching for our true home.

**By faith, may we be willing to be as gracious,
as compassionate, and as hopeful as you are.**

You love us enough to want us to be with you forever,
so may we take the hand of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
who leads us into your kingdom. Amen.

+ASSURANCE of GOD'S GRACE

There is nothing to fear. God's hope is more tenacious than our
despair; God's joy is more resilient than our grief;
God's love is more compelling than our hate.

**By grace, we are gathered to God. By faith, we rest
in God's promises of forgiveness and restoration.**

Thanks be to God! Amen.

+PRAISE RESPONSE *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise* #1, v.4

**So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light;
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do:
In awe at the splendor of light hiding you.**

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Denise Johnson, DCE

SPECIAL MUSIC *Wade In the Water* -arr. M. Hayes
Paige Brunkhorst, solo

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 15:1-6 pg. 1 (OT)
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 pg. 211 (NT)

SERMON *The Lens of Faith*

+AFFIRMATION of FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* #881

+HYMN of PRAISE *For the Faithful Who Have Answered* #384

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Silent Prayer
Pastoral Prayer
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) *Andantino Op. 9, No. 2* -F. Schubert

+DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

+PRAYER of DEDICATION (unison)

**It is by faith that you bless us, hopeful God.
So, it is by faith that we offer back to you a portion of what
we have and who we are, trusting that you will take these
gifts and use them in the work of that kingdom of justice
and hope, of grace and wonder, which is yours.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

+HYMN of APPROACH *I Come with Joy* #349; v.1&2

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

+INVITATION

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week
Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene,
on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made
known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**This is the joyful feast of the people of God.
Men and women, youth and children,
come from the east and the west,
from the north and the south,
and gather about Christ's table.**

This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of
Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

+COMMUNION PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy,
for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust
by the breath of your being.

**We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth
and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean
scarcity for none.**

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel,
and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith.

**We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you
and all people everywhere and that you remain
faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.**

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of
sacrifice and victory. We come in remembrance and celebration of
the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time,
to be the good news.

**Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us
to reveal the mystery of your Word,
to suffer and die on the cross for us,
to be raised from death on the third day,
and then to live in glory.**

We bless you, gracious God, for the presence of your Holy Spirit
in the church you have gathered.

**With your sons and daughters of faith
in all places and times,
we praise you with joy.**

**All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,
the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest!**

(Please be seated)

For in the night of betrayal Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks
to you, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take,

eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance
of me." In the same way also after supper, Jesus took the cup, and
after giving you thanks, gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of
you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for
you and many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you
drink it, in remembrance of me."

**All: Christ's death, O God, we proclaim.
Christ's resurrection we declare.
Christ's return we await.
Glory be to you, O God.**

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's
suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting
Christ's return in victory. We spread your table with these gifts of the
earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to
your service on behalf of all people. We ask you to send your Holy
Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your
universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in
all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make
all things new.

**All: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout
all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One,
who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. Amen.**

**Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine
Sharing these Gifts of God**

+ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Holy One, you have called your
Easter people from the north and the west,
the south and the east, to feast at your table.
By the power of your Holy Spirit
keep us faithful to your will.
Go with us into the streets, to our homes,**

and to our places of labor and leisure
that whether we are gathered or scattered,
we may be the servant church of the Servant Christ,
in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

CALENDAR

+PARTING HYMN *Forward Through the Ages* #377

+BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE (O) *Rondeau from "Sinfonies de Fanfares" -J. Mouret*

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PRAYERS

Mike Degener; Caleb Little; David Vogt; Tim Roberts; Sandy Schweihs;
Tom Lochmoeller; Graham Engle; Diane Silva; Dorothy Rey; Jan Hoffmann;
Dean Riebeling; Violette Nast



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



Sunday, August 7

Holy Communion

Kindercottage Food Collection

Scriptures

Genesis 15:1-6

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Coffee and Donut Hour

Monday, August 8

11 am Staff Meeting

6:15 pm Finance Committee

7 pm Consistory

Wednesday, August 10

11:30 am Staff Luncheon (office closed at 11:00 am)

1:00 pm Music Planning meeting

Thursday, August 11

7 pm Personnel Committee

7 pm Cemetery Board

Friday, August 5

8 am Quilters

Sunday, August 14

9:30 am Worship and recognition of Staff Anniversaries

10:30 Search Committee meeting

10:30 am Coffee and Donut Hour

Heb. 11; 1 Cor. 12

Frederick Lucian Hower, 1968; alt.

1 For - ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,
2 Wide grows God's do - min - ion, reign of love and peace;
3 Not a - lone we con - quer, not a - lone we fall;

move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine;
for it we must la - bor, till all striv - ings cease.
in each loss or tri - umph, lose or tri - umph all.

Gifts in dif - fer - ing mea - sure, hearts of one ac - cord,
Proph - ets have pro - claimed it, teach - ers tes - ti - fied,
Bound by God's far pur - pose in one liv - ing whole,

man - i - fold in ser - vice, one the sure re - ward.
po - ets sung its glo - ry, mar - tyrs for it died.
move we on to - geth - er to the shin - ing goal.

Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994

Unison

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 And thus we meet, and bet - ter know the Pres - ence, ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, in friend - ship we will

free, The life of Je - sus to re - call, in
fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends, The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, And join our hearts and sing with joy that
stay, And go with joy to love the world and

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
Christ is ris - en here, that Christ is ris - en here.
live the way we pray, and live the way we pray.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

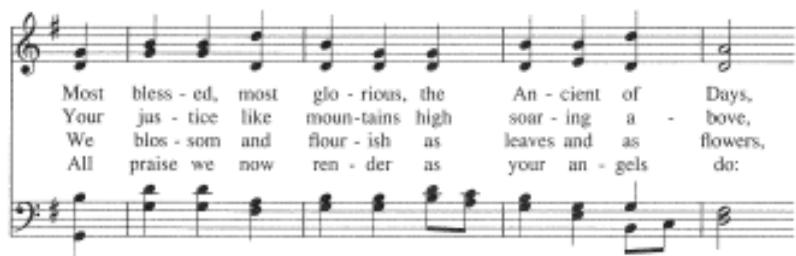
1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6



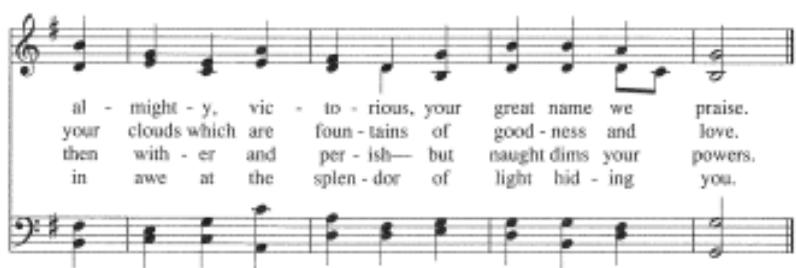
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.