

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Service of the Word
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Installation of the Search Committee
September 25, 2022
+Denotes please rise, as able

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING the BELLS

PRELUDE ^(P) *Adagio from Concerto No. 5, Op. 73* -L. van Beethoven

BRINGING the LIGHT of CHRIST

INTROIT *We Gather Together* arr. L. Larson
Evening Bells

CALL to WORSHIP

Those who love God,

God will deliver.

Those who know God by name,

God will protect.

Those who call out to God,

God will answer.

We gather this morning,

as those who trust God.

+OPENING HYMN *Beautiful Jesus* #44

+INVITATION TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER of CONFESSION

Eternal God, you call us to trust you
in every circumstance of our lives,

yet far too often, we do not.

In times of oppression and strife,

we lose hope in our future.

When enduring natural disasters,
suffering illness, or facing death,

we can grow bitter and forget your love.

Stripped of the idols of our wealth and status,

we try in vain to control our lives.

Eager to be powerful and successful,

we wander away from you,

falling into the pain of addiction, greed, and blind ambition.

Absorbed by our wants and desires,

we are blind to those around us who need our care.

Forgive us, O God.

Forgive our despair, our bitterness, and our fear.

ALL: Turn our hearts to you.

that we may taste the fullness of life

and trust your promised salvation.

+ASSURANCE of GOD'S GRACE

God's loving presence never abandons us, not even when we abandon God.
God delivers those who seek and love the Lord. All we must do is ask, and
God answers us. God answers us with rescue and honor, forgiveness and
mercy, life, and salvation.

+PRAISE RESPONSE

#756

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Denise Johnson

ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art

Stuart Hine/arr. Michael Helman
Morning Bells

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

pg. 518 (O.T.)

1 Timothy 6:6-19

pg. 198 (N.T.)

SERMON

A Firm Foundation of Faith Will Build Your Future

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

#885

+HYMN of COMMITMENT *Take My Life, God, let it Be*

#448

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

Wealth, status, and success are uncertain, but we can trust God's abundant provision, and God's desire that we enjoy what we have.

Let us respond by working for justice, living generously, and sharing with others.

OFFERTORY ^(O) *Theme from Second Movement, Symphony No. 5*

-L. van Beethoven

+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)

Beloved God,
who richly provides for our needs and enjoyment,
thank you for your many gifts.
You have trusted us with our lives, with this world,
and with your love.
May the gifts we offer you today
be used for your service and your glory.
Help us store up for ourselves
the treasure of a good foundation for the future,
that we may take hold of the life
that really is life.
We offer these gifts,
trusting in our savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITANY FOR COMMISSIONING THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Invitation

The Word

1 Corinthians 12:4-12

pg. 163 (N.T)

Response

There are different gifts,

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

to be used for the common good.

Address to the Committee Members:

Sisters and Brothers, you have committed yourselves to a significant leadership task on behalf of our congregation. In recognition of the importance of your work, we pause to express our gratitude and to remind ourselves that you do not undertake this task alone; you will be guided by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, the prayerful support of the members of this church, and the assistance of the United Church of Christ through the Conference.

Covenant

Committee Members:

We, who are serving on the Search Committee for St. Paul United Church of Christ, promise to perform faithfully the vital task of searching for a new pastor. We pledge, with God's guidance and your prayers, to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in all we do, say, and decide.

We will endeavor:

- ✦ to establish a harmonious working relationship within our committee;
- ✦ to maintain consistent attendance at our Search Committee meetings;
- ✦ to be open and patient listeners to each other and to the congregation;
- ✦ to maintain strict confidentiality in all we read, say, and hear—protecting both the privacy of each other and of potential candidates;
- ✦ to review all profiles with open minds and hearts, treating all candidates fairly and justly;
- ✦ to seek decisions not made by majority rule, but by the coming together of minds, hearts, and souls in a consensus that will build a firm foundation for the effective future mission and ministry of this church.

Congregation:

We pledge, as a gathered community of faith, to be patient with you and to respect your need to be confidential in your task.

We recognize that the work of our search committee is a difficult assignment and will take much effort. We pray for you and offer our support and words of encouragement throughout this time.

These things we promise in the hope and belief that you will be obedient to the guidance of the Spirit as you seek a new pastor to minister with us.

CLOSING PRAYER

+PARTING HYMN

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

#573

+BENEDICTION

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.

Live boldly, trusting God with everything you are and everything you have.

Take hold of the life to which God calls you.

Go forth, rejoicing in God.

Thanks be to God!

+POSTLUDE (o)

Kreutzer Sonata Theme

-L. van Beethoven

Permission to podcast/stream music in this service obtained from CCLI, License #2546793



**The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Reverend Shana Johnson,
Conference Minister and our Search Committee**



PRAYERS

St. Paul Search Committee
The Family of Jan Hoffmann, Carol Giffhorn, Carol Riebeling,
Graham Engel, Diane Silva, Dorothy Rey, Dean Riebeling

Weekly Flower Chart Openings

If you would like to honor or remember a friend or loved ones, you may do so by contacting the church office. The cost of the flowers is \$40.

Dates available are:

- November 20**
- November 27**
- December 4**
- December 11**

Sunday, September 25

Search Committee Installation

Confirmation Retreat ends at 5 pm
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Reception in Fellowship Hall
3:30 - 5 pm
Youth Planning for Parent's Night Out

Monday, September 26

Pastor Shel on Retreat until Friday
7 pm Book Club

Tuesday, September 27

7 pm Board of Christian Ed

Wednesday, September 28

3:30 - 5 pm After School Program
6 pm Confirmation
6 pm Bells
7 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday September 29

7 pm Search Committee

Friday, September 30

8 am Quilters

Sunday, October 2

World Communion Sunday

9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Coffee & Donuts
11:00 DuBois Fall Festival until 5:00 pm

Beautiful Jesus

Münster Gossensbach, 1877
 Transl. Madeline Fossil Marshall, 1992

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1 Beau - ti - ful Je - sus, Head of all cre - a - tion,
 2 Beau - ti - ful spring - time, love - ly, green, and hope - ful,
 3 Beau - ti - ful sun - shine, clear, so love - ly, moon - light,
 4 All earth - ly beau - ty, all ce - les - tial ra - diance



God and the bless - ed Mar - y's child; I want to love you,
 all earth ex - hales its sweet per - fume! Je - sus is sweet - er,
 stars shine like an - gels, ranked through space; Je - sus shines bright - er,
 fade when com - pared to Je - sus' face. Let me not cher - ish



praise and a - dore you, joy of my soul, so long de - sired.
 Je - sus is pur - er, sad hearts at this, re - joice and bloom.
 Je - sus shines clear - er, in per - fect beau - ty, love, and grace.
 beau - ties that per - ish; let me this love - ly good em - brace.



Take My Life, God, Let It Be

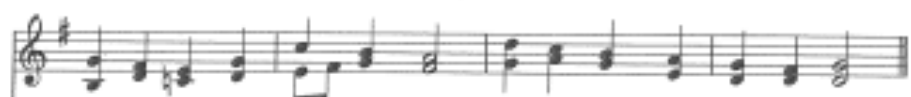
Francis R. Havergal, 1876; alt.

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Rom. 12:1



1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.
 2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
 3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
 4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.



Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
 Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.
 Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.
 Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.



Lead On Eternal Sovereign

Ernest W. Sharkey, 1887, alt.

1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,

loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear;
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;

Through prayer-ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,

to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong,
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.