

### Prayer After Communion

God of mercy, God of grace, we bless and praise you for nourishing us with this Easter feast of redemption. Fill us with your Spirit, and make us living signs of your love; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

### Community Sharing

### Recognition Of Graduates And Sexton

### Offering

Hymn Of Response    We Give Thee But Thine Own    360

Hymn    You've Got A Place At The Welcome Table    Insert

### Dismissal With Blessing

Go in the peace and power of the Risen Christ, to love and serve God and your neighbor.

**We are sent in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia!**

Next Week's Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13;  
John 17:6-19

Preaching This Week: Niquita Hohm    Preaching Next Week: Elizabeth Ahern  
Celebrant: Brian Hartley    Acolytes: Emma Nord, Cole Wayman

## St. Paul's Free Methodist Church Sixth Sunday Of Easter

Call To Worship

Lift Your Glad Voices

Insert

### Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn Of Praise    Creating God, Your Fingers Trace    URW 67

### Prayer

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### *First Lesson*

*Acts 10:44-48*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### *Psalms*

*Psalms 98*

**O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our**

**God. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

**Hymn                    Let All The World In Every Corner Sing                    4**

***Second Lesson                    1 John 5:1-6***

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation                    Halle, Halle, Hallelujah                    URW 370**

***Gospel                    John 15:9-17***

**R:** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I

command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**R:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Apostles' Creed**

**Prayers Of The People**

**The Peace**

By dying, Christ destroyed our death;

In rising, he restores our life;

In giving us his Spirit, he grants us peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us take a few moments to greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.

**Doxology**

**Great Thanksgiving**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**Communion**

**pages 496 and 497**

*This Sunday we again offer healing prayer, anointing, and laying on of hands for healing. You may also ask for anointing on behalf of another who needs healing or is troubled.*

## YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS FAMILY CAMP

Gateway Conference's **2018 Family Camp Week** runs **June 9-15**, and includes daily activities for all ages. Featured speaker is **Rev. Denny Wayman**, lead superintendent of the Southern California Conference (and honorary member of St. Paul's☺). Register online (only) at: <http://durleycamp.org/family-camp>

## DURLEY YOUTH CAMPING SCHOLARSHIPS

Gateway's **Durley Camp** offers a full calendar of summer camping for individual youth campers as well as families (see above). **Partial scholarships are available for youth campers!**—for more info email [stpaulsfmc@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsfmc@gmail.com) **ASAP**.

The **2018 Durley Youth Camp** schedule is as follows:

- June 18-22 Young Teen 1 (Grades 6-9)
- June 26-29 Guide (Grades 4-6)
- June 30 Day Camp (Grades K-2)
- July 5-7 Trailblazer (Grades 2-4)
- July 9-13 Young Teen 2 (Grades 6-9)
- August 31-September 2 Senior Teen Weekend

Register for **2018 youth camp(s)** on the website (only) at: <http://durleycamp.org/youth-camps>

## GODLY PLAY TRAINING OPTIONS

If you'd enjoy spending an hour Sunday mornings **sharing the stories of God and the Church's traditions with our children**, you might belong on our Godly Play team! Godly Play **Training (required)** is offered this summer in **Dayton, OH (Aug 2-4)**, and (closer yet) **Bloomington, IN (Aug. 24-26)**. All costs—training, transportation, lodging and meals—are **covered by St. Paul's**. Please contact Pastor Ben ([ben.wayman@greenville.edu](mailto:ben.wayman@greenville.edu)) or Georgann Kurtz-Shaw ([georgann.kurtz-shaw@greenville.edu](mailto:georgann.kurtz-shaw@greenville.edu)) for more information and/or to make arrangements now.

## ST. PAUL'S PRAYS WITHOUT CEASING

Morning Prayer continues **Monday-Friday 7:30-8:00a** in the Sanctuary, with prayer, Scripture and Communion.

## 275 Lift your glad voices

RESURRECTION 11 11 11 11 (Irregular)

1 Lift your glad voic - es in tri - umph on high,  
2 He burst from the fet - ters of dark - ness that bound him,  
3 Glo - ry to God, in full an - thems of joy;  
4 But Je - sus hath cheered the dark val - ley of sor - row,

for Je - sus hath ris - en, and we shall not die.  
re - splend - ent in glo - ry, to live and to save.  
the be - ing he gave us, death can - not de - stroy.  
and bade us, im - mor - tal, to heav - en as - cend.

Vain were the ter - rors that gath - ered a - round him,  
Loud was the cho - rus of an - gels on high,  
Sad were the life we may part with to - mor - row,  
Lift then your voic - es in tri - umph on high,

and short the do - min - ion of death and the grave.  
the Sav - ior hath ris - en, and we shall not die.  
if tears were our birth - right, and death were our end.  
for Je - sus hath ri - sen, and we shall not die.

### **RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THIS SUNDAY!**

Today we **recognize and celebrate** our (high school and university) **graduating seniors**, and **honor our outgoing sexton Kat Westbrook**.

### **CHANGE IN POTLUCK SCHEDULE THIS MONTH**

Given that the second Sunday in May is Mother's Day, we will meet for our **May potluck** following worship on the **third Sunday in May, May 20**, instead of our normal "Second Sunday."

### **MONTHLY MISSION POTLUCK**

You're invited to the monthly mission meeting and potluck at the **Greenville FMC** (1367 IL Route 140) this **Wednesday, May 9 (12:00 potluck, 12:30 for the program only)**. GU Missions Director **Faith Nava** will share student mission experiences during this school year, as well as plans for this summer.

### **SHOPPING FOR MOTHER'S DAY?**

The **SEED Livelihood Network** collaborates internationally with makers—many of whom are mothers—to use best materials and practices to create sustainable livelihoods, giving new life to individuals and hopeful futures to families. You may access and shop their **Mother's Day Gift Guide** online at <https://shopseedmarket.org/product-category/gifts/gifts-for-mothers/> and enjoy **free shipping with the code 'Mothers'** (offer expires **May 9**).

### **PRAYER REQUESTED BY THE CLEMENTES**

This comes from our missionaries in Asia, **David & Sarah Clemente**: During the month of May, David is in Nepal, visiting five different areas and sharing with our many local churches and FM members. In this time of teaching and training he will have short teaching sessions from the Gospel of Mark, and some of our District Leaders (pastors who are responsible for leading other local church pastors) will also have an opportunity to teach and lead a session or two. Please **pray for God's wisdom in teaching, and traveling mercies** (with six in-country domestic flights and two days of land travel). **Pray for a time of encouragement and affirmation of Free Methodists in Nepal.**

### **YOU'VE GOT A PLACE AT THE WELCOME TABLE**

You've got a place at the welcome table,  
You've got a place at the welcome table, some of these days.  
Hallelujah!  
You've got a place at the welcome table,  
You've got a place at the welcome table some of these days.

We're goin' to feast on milk and honey,  
We're goin' to feast on milk and honey, some of these days.  
Hallelujah!  
We're goin' to feast on milk and honey,  
We're goin' to feast on milk and honey, some of these days.

We'll give thanks at the welcome table,  
We'll give thanks at the welcome table, some of these days.  
Hallelujah!  
We'll give thanks at the welcome table,  
We'll give thanks at the welcome table some of these days.

We'll come home to the welcome table,  
We'll come home to the welcome table, some of these days.  
Hallelujah!  
We'll come home to the welcome table,  
We'll come home to the welcome table some of these days.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Join us for **Sunday School** at **10a** for stimulating discussion of the **lectionary psalm** of the day, led by **Matt Zahniser**.

### **WELCOMING OUR CHILDREN TO GODLY PLAY**

Our **preschool and elementary-age (3+) children** gather **Sundays at 9:45a at the Godly Play room door**. Here they will be creatively and imaginatively engaged with the church's stories, rituals and rites, preparing for the worship and life of the church.

### **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Preteens and teens meet for Sunday School at **10a** in the **mural room and the Teen SS room**.