

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 Lord. Amen.

Community Sharing

Offering

Hymn Of Response We Give Thee But Thine Own 360

Hymn Of Dismissal Christ The Eternal Lord URW 94

Dismissal With Blessing

Go in peace, to love and serve God and your neighbor. And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Next Week's Readings: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Preaching This Week: Niquita Hohm

Preaching Next Week: Ben Wayman

St. Paul's Free Methodist Church Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Call To Worship Christians, We Have Met To Worship Insert

Greeting

Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD!

Praise the name of the LORD! Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time on and forevermore.

Hymn Of Praise Now Thank We All Our God 9

Prayer

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and

your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Hymn

The Gift Of Love

URW 141

Second Lesson

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ... For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

URW 402

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 to be anointed on behalf of another who needs healing or is troubled.

THEOLOGY OF PREACHING AT ST. PAUL'S

St. Paul's submits to the full witness of Christian Scripture. In our preaching, we practice a "rotating pulpit" approach because we believe diverse Christian perspectives and voices are gifts from God. In hearing God's word preached by pastors and lay people, students and professors, old and young, women and men, we become the people of God. Even in our human and feeble efforts to speak on God's behalf, God proves faithful in addressing us, helping us become the reconciled and restored people of God in our time and place.

TOWARD A THEOLOGY OF HEALING, BRIEFLY

Healing is a feature of full salvation; like salvation, it results from God and God's church working together. Healing is the work of the church, and takes place under God's sovereignty in the church's life and worship. The church supports the healing ministry of family, friends, and medical professionals in prayer and by visiting the sick. It provides regular services of healing following the pattern in James 5: "[The] sick ... should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven." Under God's sovereign care will every prayer be answered as we request, every time, right away?—probably not. Some will be healed by medicine, some by rest, recuperation and care, and others by better habits and new information. And some will be healed by the working together of the sovereign action of God through the engagement of the faith of the church and the laying on of hands. Some will not be healed in this life; all can be saved.

"God heals sometimes, God saves always." (Sam Wells)

GODLY PLAY PAUSES FOR THE SUMMER

Our Godly Play volunteers are taking a well-deserved break for the summer. **Godly Play will resume** in the fall.

ADULT AND YOUTH SS PAUSE ALSO

Our **Youth** and **Adult/College Sunday School** classes are also taking a summer break. Stay tuned for info on the fall schedule.

MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES

Join us in the sanctuary **Monday-Friday 7:30-8:00am** for prayer, Scripture and Communion.

POTLUCK TODAY!

Please join us in a potluck after worship today in the lower level, and help us **welcome Pastor Niqui and Jordan** in our favorite St. Paul's style! **All are welcome, whether or not you have a dish to share.**

GODLY PLAY DOORKEEPER TRAINING

Might you enjoy spending a Sunday morning hour ~ once a month **welcoming our children into the story of God**? You might belong on our **Godly Play** team as a **doorkeeper**! In early to mid-September Georgann Kurtz-Shaw will offer an **evening training session for doorkeepers**; for more info or to register, please email georgann.kurtz-shaw@greenville.edu or stpaulsfmc@gmail.com

BAKER WANTED

Are you interested in **baking fresh bread regularly for our Sunday Communion**, beginning in **September** (perhaps on a **rotation** with others)? For more information contact Judy at stpaulsfmc@gmail.com

HELP WANTED FOR EDEN'S GLORY

Eden's Glory Social Enterprise focuses on teaching work skills to its residents and repurposing recycled materials as products for sale, to help raise funds. It has recently seen an increase in the demand for the **dog/pet toys** it produces. **Up to five volunteers are needed to help replenish this inventory.** Please talk with **Beth Rodgers** or call (540)421-9384 if you can help.

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY IN BOND CO.

Our local food pantry urgently needs **soups, canned pasta meals, macaroni-n-cheese, and peanut butter and jelly.** **Fresh produce** from local gardens is also gratefully received! Please place your donations in the **box** in the mural room.

OPT IN TO "REMIND" NOTIFICATIONS

To receive one-way notifications from St. Paul's (**potluck** reminders, weather closings, etc.), you must opt in by one of two methods: you may **text the message @eb9aa** to the number **81010**, OR you may send an **e-mail to eb9aa@mail.remind.com** (leaving both subject line and body of e-mail blank).

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AND HELP BUILD OUR ONLINE DIRECTORY

Thanks to the gifts of **Meg File**, we have a new website! Take a look at yourselves at:

stpaulsfmc.org

Our desire with this new site is to strengthen our sense of community with better communication and resources. Here we have **mobile-friendly** access, online **announcements**, and many more upgrades. Browse around—you'll like what you see!

And while you're browsing, please **join our new online church directory**, currently under construction. Note on the homepage, at the top right, the heading **MORE...**; when you hover over it, a box labeled **Congregation Area** pops up. (On your phone, Congregation Area is the last of the menu options.) Click on that, and you'll be prompted to enter our password, which is:

stpfamily

This password gives you access to the **St. Paul's Private Congregation Area**. Clicking on the **Directory Survey** button (inside the box in the upper left corner entitled **New Church Online Directory**, or first item on your phone) will take you to a simple form to fill out, in as much detail as you choose. (The only required information is your name and preferred mode of contact.) **This directory information WILL NOT be publicly available** on the church's new website, **but will remain password-protected in the Congregation (only) Area**. Please complete this survey for EACH family member separately, including children.

Making this a photo directory will help us all put names with faces! So please, when you've filled out your form(s), **email photo(s) [of each family member]** to us at

stpaulsfmc@gmail.com or **file.meg@gmail.com**

If you'd rather **submit your directory information on a paper form** (and receive a **print copy of the directory**), please contact Pastor Judy at (618)514-7457, or **stpaulsfmc@gmail.com**

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

277 Christians, We Have Met to Worship



1. Chris-tians, we have met to wor-ship and a-dore the liv-ing God;
2. Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
3. Let us love our God su-preme-ly, let us love each oth-er, too;



will you pray with all your pow-er, while we try to preach the Word?
Is there here a weep-ing Mar-y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?
let us pray for all earth's peo-ple till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un-less the Spir-it of the Ho-ly One comes down;
Tell them all a-bout the Sav-ior, how in Christ the lost are found.
Christ will call us home to heav-en, at the ta-ble we'll sit down;



Chris-tians, pray, and ho-ly man-na will be show-ered all a-round.
Pray, oh pray, and ho-ly man-na will be scat-tered all a-round.
Christ will wel-come us and serve us liv-ing man-na all a-round.



WORDS: Atr. George Atkins (19th century); alt.
MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

HOLY MANNA
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