

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Fleetwood, Pennsylvania
October 8, 2017

GATHERING PRAYER

Dear God, Draw me in toward you. Hold me tightly. Help me to let go of the pressures and the strain that have been a part of this morning and give myself over to simply worshipping you with every part of my being. Take my troubles and give me peace. Take my fears and give me strength. Take my restlessness and fill me with thanksgiving. Take all of me. Hold me close. Remind me once again that you are God. Amen

INTROIT

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"* #25

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING

PRELUDE(8:55 /10:25) *"Let There Be Peace on Earth"* Linda Bullock, Vocal soloist
(Congregation Standing)

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: (singing) Amen!

Pastor: Long ago a vineyard was planted.

The ground was prepared, and all was made ready.

**People: But the vines grew wild,
the ground was unable to support the wild grapes.**

Pastor: What happened in that place of promise?

**People: People forgot the One who planted the vineyard.
They chose their own ways and failed.**

Pastor: Let us again turn to the Lord, who will again plant, prune, and cause us to grow in faithfulness.

**People: Let us open our hearts to God,
trusting in God's ways and God's word.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins.

PENITENCE

Pastor: Loving God, present and near.
You are beyond our words and our understanding.
Help us to remember that You are at once
Infinite, boundless, timeless and eternal
but, at the same time intimately entwined with our lives.
You are with us no matter where we find ourselves.

Pastor: When we have forgotten You

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: When we have failed to speak words of love

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: When we have neglected the need of another

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Loving God, present and near
help us to recognize Your presence and nearness with us
as we worship together.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us say again what it is that we believe. Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and Earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by
the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He
descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into
heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come
again to judge the living and the dead.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the
life everlasting. Amen**

(The congregation may be seated.)

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WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 OT pg.66

EPISTLE

Philippians 3:4b-14 NT pg.198

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:55) *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* Watts Choir
Special note: this is the 1st time this choir is singing at a Worship service. We will be meeting once a month to rehearse a hymn at 8:30 am at the 1st service that same day. The next time we will sing is November 12. Please consider joining us if you regularly attend this service and would like to sing once a month.

CHANCEL CHOIR (10:25) *"Sing Your Song of Joy"* Poorman

Sing your song of joy; sing it loud and strong.
Sing your song of joy, sing it all day long.
Praise the Lord your God. Let the whole world see;
He has brought you joy, and your heart is free.

You will feel his love flowing deep in your heart and soul.
You will feel his love making you whole.
Touching those around with the love you've found;
You will see his love will abound.

Sing your song of joy; sing it loud and strong.
Sing your song of joy, sing it all day long.
Praise the Lord your God. Let the whole world see;
He has brought you joy, and your heart is free.

You will feel his Hope flowing deep in your heart and soul.
You will feel his hope making you whole.
He will be the light on the darkest night.
You will have his hope in your life.

Sing your song of joy to everyone. Sing your song of joy.
Sing, come sing, come sing your song of joy.
Sing, come sing, come sing your song of joy.

Sing your song of joy; sing it loud and strong.
Sing your song of joy, sing it all day long.
Praise the Lord your God. Let the whole world see;
He has brought you joy and your heart is free.
Sing your joy. Sing your song of joy, sing of joy!

GOSPEL TEXT

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Matthew 21:33-46
(Congregation Standing)

NT pg.24

Choral Response: *O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
I will seek you in the morning,
and I will learn to walk in Your ways;
And step by step You lead me,
and I will follow You all my days.
(The congregation may be seated.)*

SERMON *"Vineyard Living"*
(Congregation Standing)

RESPONSIVE HYMN *"More Love to You, O Christ"* No. 456
(The congregation may be seated.)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Choral Response: *Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place,
Lord listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

GIVING

OFFERING INVITATION

THE OFFERTORY *"Thee we adore"* Johnson
(Congregation Stands)

DOXOLOGY
All (singing) *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SENDING

RECESSIONAL HYMN *"My Eyes Have Seen the Glory"* #610

THE BENEDICTION

CHORAL SENDING

CHIMES

POSTLUDE

"Prelude #15"

J.S. Bach



PASTOR APPRECIATION

MISSION STATEMENT

As Followers of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves to:

- Enthusiastically proclaim and teach God’s love through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Share God’s love with neighbors near and far.
- Live as a Christian community of hope, acceptance, and encouragement in a rapidly changing world.

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL’S

- If you are visiting and would like to know more about St. Paul’s please fill out the visitor’s card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. One of our pastors will contact you.
- There are assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired available at the sound board in the rear of the church.
- **Adult Sunday school is held at 9 a.m. - Generations Class in the Lounge off the Narthex. Also, Adult Bible Study is held Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings. See Announcement sheets in the bulletin for details.**
- Children are always welcome in our worship space (as are the joyful noises that they sometimes add). For those moments when it might be needed, we do have a nursery room in the rear of the church that anyone with younger children is welcome to use. The room is equipped with a speaker that will allow you to continue enjoying the service. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.
- Activity bags for children can be found on a rack in the Narthex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(For the week of October 8, 2017)

The **Altar Flowers** are sponsored by Jean Custer in memory of loved ones.

The **Organ Arrangement** is sponsored by Dolores Eastland in celebration of all October birthdays.

The **Bulletins** are sponsored by David and Sandi Stern in memory of David’s parents, Betty & Earl Stern & daughter-in law, Allyson Stern.

The **Upper Room Publication** for this month is sponsored by Dale Hollenbach in memory of his parents, Hattie and Melvin Hollenbach and his wife, Doris Hollenbach.

Coffee Time Sponsor: May and Jim Raudenbush

Ushers: 8:55 a.m. – Christoph Snyder, Cindy Rothenberger, Mike Werner, Chris Vojtasek

10:25 a.m. –Dennis Wanner, Grace Hetrick, Jenn Hoffman, Linda Schaeffer

Readers: 8:55 a.m. – Sandra Dugan

10:25 a.m. – David Balmer

Acolytes: 8:55 a.m. – Ethan Raudenbush and Jonathan Maurek

10:25 a.m. – Michaela Ernst and Jaiden Valick

Attendance: October 1, 2017

8:55 a.m. – 123

10:25 a.m. – 79

September	Income	Expense	Difference
General Acct	\$29,522.20	\$39,979.94	-\$10,457.74
Other Accts	\$ 3,651.22	\$ 8,505.40	-\$ 4,854.18
Year to date			
General Acct	\$301,352.30	\$367,232.68	-\$65,880.38
Other Accts	\$ 78,777.94	\$ 83,487.56	-\$ 4,709.62
An additional \$22,060.18 of income was collected for the Sewer Project			