

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN ROBERT STRAWBRIDGE COUNTRY

Our mission is to share Jesus Christ with everyone we meet.

PRAISE, WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

May 6, 2018

10:30 am

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL! *You are welcome to enjoy the refreshments in the back of the sanctuary before the Welcome and after the Postlude. If you are a guest, please fill out a guest card and put it in the offering plate. We look forward to meeting you and hope you will prayerfully consider making St. Paul your spiritual home.*

** Please stand, as able.*

Forms for Joys & Concerns are located in the Narthex & will be collected at the beginning of the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

PRELUDE "Friends" (arr. Fred Bock)

WELCOME

*OPENING HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" UMH 139

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 98)

Leader: Sing to God a new song,

People: for God has done marvelous things!

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth,

People: for God is still doing marvelous things!

Leader: Break into joyful song!

People: Sing praises with lyre and melody and trumpets!

Leader: Let the seas roar and the floods clap their hands!

People: For God is coming to judge the world with righteousness.

Leader: God is coming to judge the world with equity.

People: Sing to God a new song!

*OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Acts 10, Psalm 98, 1 John 5, John 15)

God of songs and marvels, old and new, your powerful love for this world continues to astound us. In these last days of Easter, we gather to recall the love that brought Jesus into this world and into our lives: as savior, friend, and brother. We thank you for welcoming us into your household and for trusting us with your marvelous work to draw all people into the spacious home of your love. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM "In Remembrance" (arr. Lloyd Larson) St. Paul Choir

PRAYER WITH THE CHILDREN & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH 526

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalter Reading, Psalm 98 *with sung response* UMH 818

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 John 5: 1-6 HB 988

GOSPEL LESSON: John 15: 9-17 HB 876

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURES Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "The Wisdom of Love" Rev. Shari McCourt

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Bind Us Together" (Bob Gilman)

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 12-15

*CLOSING HYMN "Shout to the Lord" TFWS 2074

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "By Our Love" (arr. Phillip Keveren)

* MEETING AND GREETING

As the postlude ends, please take a minute to greet one another, especially those who are our guests today. You are encouraged to continue fellowship at the back of the sanctuary, with refreshments.

*GOING FORTH AS NEIGHBORHOOD MISSIONARIES

Serving in Worship today: Rev. Shari McCourt, Pastor; Ela Wiswakarma, Director of Music; Sena Roop, Announcements; Rebecca Price, Joys and Concerns and Community Prayer.

This Week at St. Paul UMC:

May 8: Ad Council 7:00 pm

May 9: Food Bank 5:30 – 7:00 pm; A.A. & Al-Anon 7:30 pm

May 10: Choir Practice 7:30 pm

May 13: Happy Mother's Day

Gospel Concert, I Sing Because I'm Happy will be presented by Carroll Singers TODAY, Sunday, May 6 at 3:00 pm at Westminster High School. Tickets are \$12.00 at the door and Students are \$9.00 at the door.

May Fellowship Day – Wednesday, May 16 at Lazarus United Church of Christ, 5101 S. Church Street, Lineboro, MD. Registration begins at 9:30 am, program is 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, cost of lunch is \$7.00.

Mother's Day Luncheon, Sun, May 20, 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall. The Men of St. Paul will be hosting a Mother's Day Luncheon for Ladies of St. Paul and their friends.



Do you have an announcement or article you would like to include in the June-Aug newsletter? If so, please get that information to the church office by Thursday, May 17th.

Pastor Shari would like to hold **Cluster Meetings** again starting in July and August. We are looking for people willing to host these small gatherings in their homes. If you would like to host one of these meetings, please call Kenna in the church office. A date will be coordinated between you and Pastor Shari to be held this summer.

Monthly Budget Requirement: \$9,667 – April month-to-date offering: \$8685.00

Attendance April 22 - 65 April 29 - 62

Church Office: 410-635-2442 • Office Hours Monday 9:00 – 3:00 and Thursday 3:00 – 6:00 pm
stpaulnewwindsor@gmail.com



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