



# SAINT PAUL

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A safe place to be authentic and to experience acceptance,  
healing, and a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.



**November 12, 2023**

864-235-3494 - [saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com)

Live-streaming Worship Service at 11:00am at [www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/](https://www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/)

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Greer

Stay connected to your Saint Paul family

[Saintpaulgreenville.org](http://Saintpaulgreenville.org)

[Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc](https://Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc)

Podcast: [podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107](https://podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107)

Staff

Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr.

Church Administrator: Melissa Campbell

Sexton: Gary Putnam

*Please silence your mobile device. Thank you.*

\*Please stand as you are able.

## Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude "Thine is the Glory" Handel

\*Processional Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Hymnal no.140

Lighting of the Candles

\*Call to Worship excerpt from Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Worship the Lord with gladness;**

Leader: come before him with joyful songs.

**People: Know that the Lord is God.**

Leader: It is he who made us, and we are his;

**People: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

\*Opening Prayer Dimitri of Rostov, Russia, 17<sup>th</sup> c

Leader: Let us pray

**All: Come, my Light, and illuminate my darkness. Come, my Life, and revive me from death. Come, my Physician, and heal my wounds. Come, Flame of divine love, and burn up the horns of my sins, kindling my heart with the flame of thy love. Come, my King, sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there. For thou alone art my King and my Lord. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Let us pass God's peace with each other. The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Anthem "I Sing Praises to Your Name" MacAlmon  
Kids4Christ Choir

## Word and Response

Children's Sermon Children will come forward.

We invite our K3 to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade children to follow the designated adult upstairs for a lesson and craft. Please follow the instructions on the name tag found in the back of your pew. During the Closing Hymn, the adult leaders will bring them back to the sanctuary and ensure they return to their parent/guardian.

## Offertory

We will be collecting for our Missions funds today. All donations will be split between our Missions fund and our School missions fund for upcoming outreach.

PayPal - <https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=Y9NV28ABLG5LW>

Realm - <https://onrealm.org/StPaulUMC1107/give/now>

## \*The Doxology

Hymnal No. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## Prayer for Illumination

**Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed and do what you have commanded. Amen.**

## \*Affirmation of Faith

"The Apostles' Creed"

UM Hymnal #881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; **and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. 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.**

## \*Gloria Patri

Hymnal no.70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

## \*Sermon Scripture

Matthew 25:1-13

NRSV (pg.26 NT)

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"Leading the Way to the Party"

Rev. Joe Cate

## Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Response: Lord in your mercy, **hear our 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sending

\*Closing Hymn

"Freely, Freely"

Hymnal no.389

\*Benediction

Postlude

"Still, Still with Thee"

Mendelssohn

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**Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts**

<b>Giving for 11/5/2023</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
General Fund Memorials & Honorariums	\$1,224.29	11/5/2023
Other funds	\$1,150.70	In-person: 55
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$2,374.99</b>	Online: 91

**Today's Servers:**

Reader: Benjamin Pool

Acolyte: Payton Franks

Nursery:

Crucifer: Neal Franks

Children's Worship: Katie Knobloch  
& Lauren Searcy

## 140 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en - dur-eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

Freely, Freely

1. God for - gave my sin in Je - sus' name, I've been  
 2. All power is given in Je - sus' name, in

born a - gain in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I  
 earth and heaven in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I

come to you, to share his love as he told me to.  
 come to you, to share his power as he told me to.

*Refrain*

He said, "Free - ly, free - ly you have re - ceived,

free - ly, free - ly give. Go in my name, and be -

REBIRTH AND THE NEW CREATURE

cause you be - lieve, oth - ers will know that I live."

## Important Dates to Remember

Sun, 11/5	Youth Group: Saint Paul	5:30pm
Mon, 11/13	Food bag packing: 100 Blassingame Rd	11:30am
	S/PPRC meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Tues, 11/14	Fellowship Luncheon: Firebirds Grill	11:30am
	Women's Community: Saint Paul	6-9:00pm
Wed, 11/15	Men's Community: Rocky's Hot Chicken	7:00pm
	Chancel Choir rehearsal: Saint Paul	7:00pm
Thurs, 11/16	Golden Girls: Saint Paul	11:30am

## Upcoming events:

Sun, 11/19	Worship committee decoration preparation	12:30pm
Mon, 11/20	Finance Committee meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Thursday, 11/23	Thanksgiving: Office closed	
Friday, 11/24	Office closed	
Sun, 11/26	Church Advent decorating: Saint Paul	After worship

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## From Pastor Matt

(You can always reach me at 864-421-3800 or [matthewegreer@gmail.com](mailto:matthewegreer@gmail.com))

**It's that time of the year where the Finance Committee will be asking for pledges. I want to guide you on your spiritual journey and (even though I'll never see them) this includes stewardship as it relates to your pledge cards. Here are some suggested steps when the pledge sheets come:**

- 1) Pray.**
- 2) Consider the needs of the church and community.**
- 3) Consider the works of God through Saint Paul UMC that have been accomplished over the past few years.**
- 4) If you are unsure about 2 or 3, come ask me!**
- 5) Consider your income; what should you pledge?**
- 6) Give.**

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**Office Hours:** We are open from 8:15am until 1:30pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:00 to 12:30 on Wednesday. I am available at the above contact info and/or contact the office via the church email and phone during these hours.

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## E-vangelism

Let someone know about our **free wi-fi hotspot** for e-learning!

Network: St. Paul Guest                      Password: Guest

[Share our live stream on your Facebook page.](#)

Take five minutes and write us a **review!** [Facebook](#) or [Google](#)

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## Saint Paul Cares

**Happy Birthday:** Tommy Head 11/12; Dot Huff 11/14; Bill Huff 11/16

**Happy Anniversary:** Matthew & Charmaine Pool 11/17

### In your prayers, please remember:

Roger Barrett, Chelsea Biggers, Annette Bostic, Linda Bruce, William Bruce (Bruce/Terminato family), Ray Byington, Connie Cox, Natalie Davis, Tony DeYoung, Jesse Franks, *Catherine Gilstrap*, Marie Good, Debbie Goodwin, Doris Goodwin, Carol Head, Sue Howard, Bill Huff, Dot Huff, Beth Jeffers, Lee Jenkinson, Carol Johnson, Jean Jones, Larry Jones, Brent Kanipe, Tinsley Lyles, Chuck McLesky, Betty McWhite, Karsyn Miller, Alan Myers, Faye Mulligan, Ronnie Roberts, Diane Robertson, Beth Rogers, Allison Royster, Joyce Searcy, Nancy Smith, Suzanne Sprinkle, Alicia Terminato, *Lily Thompson*, friends serving in the Armed Services, first responders, and the leaders of the United States of America. (Bold = New, Italics = Currently in hospital or rehabilitation)

Praise be Given:

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## Upcoming Meetings



**Trustees:** Will NOT be meeting in December. Members are John Smith, Jimmie-Lou Vaughn, Deborah Goodwin, Chris Cox, Neal Franks, and John Sprinkle. All are welcome!



**S/PPRC:** Will be meeting on 11/13 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Rebecca Roper, Troy Gamble, Steve Vaughn, Edna Patterson, and Christine Hall. This is a closed meeting.



**Finance Committee:** Will be meeting on 11/20 at 8pm via Zoom. We will be joined by Walker Riley, our investment advisor. Members are Becky Hollifield, David Knobloch, Tommy Head, Stephen Newman, Eugenia Vicars, Edna Patterson, Jimmie-Lou Vaughn, and Tracey Biggers. All are welcome!





**Church Council:** Will be meeting on 11/27 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Tracey Biggers, Heather Storey, Peggy Whitmire, Collins Cheshire, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobloch, Becky Hollifield, Carol Head, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Elaine Byers, Davis Lupo, and Mary Anne Terminato. All are welcome!

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## Announcements & Upcoming Events



**Packing of Food Bags:** We will be going to the MT Anderson Support Center on 11/13 at 10am to help pack food bags for Greenville County students in need. Join us at 100 Blessingame Road in Greenville and lend a hand!



**Fellowship Luncheon:** We will be gathering on 11/14 at 11:30am at Firebirds Wood Fired Grill located at 1025 Woodruff Road. Join us for fellowship and laughter.



**Women's Community:** We will be meeting on 11/14 from 6 to 9 pm at Saint Paul in the Fellowship Hall for a paint night. Please RSVP using this link: <https://forms.gle/YG7aEdkY54pozgrdA>. Once you have RSVP'd please email [Carolinacolors864@yahoo.com](mailto:Carolinacolors864@yahoo.com) to be invoiced for the paint night. The cost is \$45 plus \$5 if you want word stencils. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Roper or the church office.



**Men's Community:** We will be meeting on 11/15 at 7pm at Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack on Laurens Road. Join us for an evening of laughter and fellowship.



**Golden Girls Bible Study Luncheon:** Bring your lunch and join us on 11/16 at 11:30am at Saint Paul in the Social Hall for a lunch time of fellowship and bible study. We are discussing the women of the Bible.



**Church Advent Decorating:** The Worship Team will be decorating the church for the Advent season on 11/26. They are asking for volunteers to come and help, especially with the higher up decorations. Please consider staying after the service to help decorate the tree or hang wreaths and garlands. Thank you!



**Kids4Christ and Little Lambs:** Our children's choirs have started back rehearsing during the Sunday School hour. Kids4Christ will be practicing on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and Little Lambs will be practicing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Please try to have them here to practice so that they can sing in an upcoming worship service. Thank you!



**Christmas Gifts:** Sponsors, please don't forget to have your gifts to the church by 12/3 for blessing on 12/10. The gifts can be dropped off with Melissa in the office or the social hall. Please let Melissa know if you have left your gifts in the social hall. Also, please be sure your bags are labeled with your child's number. Thank you!

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# FOOD DRIVE

FOR THE SENIOR ADULTS AT THE  
STERLING COMMUNITY CENTER

FOR BEST STEWARDSHIP PLEASE SEE THE LIST  
OF ITEMS AND QUANTITY NEEDED IN THE  
NARTHEX OR DROP SOME CHANGE IN THE  
BUCKET UNDER IT!



IN THE PAST, BOXES OF  
FOOD HAVE BEEN GIVEN  
TO THESE SENIORS  
BECAUSE MANY OF THEIR  
NORMAL FOOD RESOURCES  
ARE NOT OPEN BETWEEN  
CHRISTMAS AND NEW  
YEARS DAY. WITH FUNDS  
NOT AVAILABLE FOR  
BOXES THIS YEAR, MAY  
WE AT SAINT PAUL UMC  
FILL THE GAP AND  
PROVIDE!

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**A note from SPPRC:** We are collecting for the Staff Christmas Bonuses for Melissa, Bill, and Gary through Sunday, December 17th. Please consider a generous donation to help us thank our wonderful staff for their continued dedication to St. Paul. Please ensure you designate your donation as "staff Christmas Bonus" when donating.