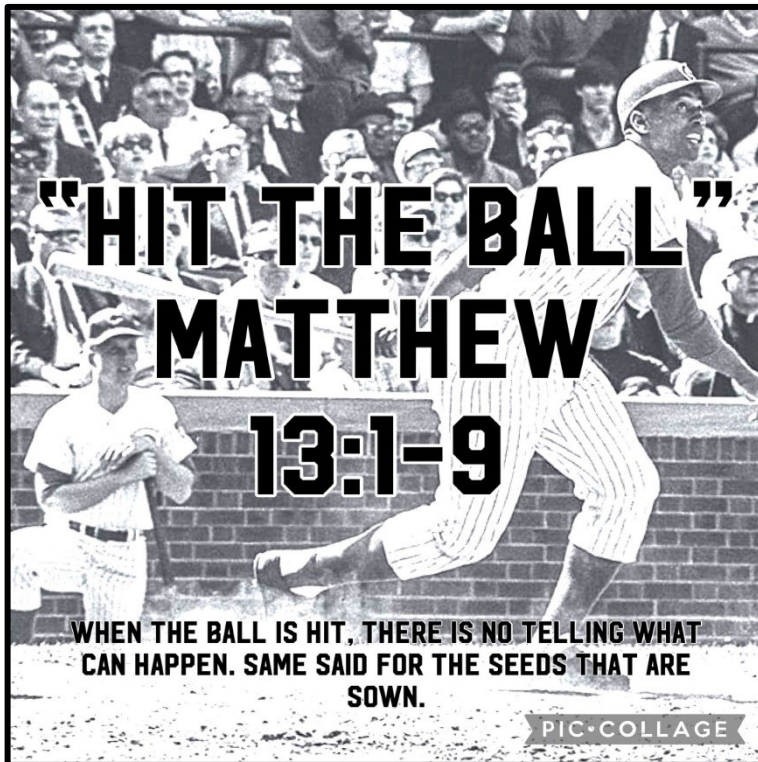




SAINT PAUL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



April 7, 2024

864-235-3494 - saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com

Live-streaming Worship Service at 11:00am at www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Greer

Stay connected to your Saint Paul family

Saintpaulgreenville.org

Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc

Podcast: 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

Prelude "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Whitworth

*Processional Hymn "Easter People, Raise Your Voices" UM Hymnal no.304
Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, whatever comes make me steadfast,

People: make me rooted; a cedar planted firm, deeply grounded in Your goodness.

Leader: Whatever comes.

People: Lord, whatever comes be my bedrock,

Leader: keep me steady; loyal to Your throne, whatever stands against me.

People: Whatever comes.

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray

All: The God that Moses finds in the wilderness, the God that we find in our tough times. Surely you're there in the rocky grounds and thorny weeds too, to make beautiful things grow. 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

"Amazing Grace"
Chancel Choir

Althouse

Word and Response

Children's Sermon

Children will come forward.

We invite our K3 to 2nd 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

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

Oh Lord, may the scripture read and words proclaimed be what we need to be better disciples and better teammates in this community you've gifted us. 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 13:1-9

NRSV (pg.13 NT)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Series: Part 1

"Hit the Ball"

Pastor Matthew Greer

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

"He Lives"

UM Hymnal no.310

*Benediction

Postlude

"Come Thou Fount"

Whitworth

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 03/31/2024	Amount
General Fund	\$3,591.13
Other funds	\$249.00
Total Giving	\$3,840.13
General Fund Giving Goal per month	\$23,477.05
General Fund Giving Goal per week	\$5,417.78
General Fund Received this month to date	\$15,708.58

Today's Servers:

Reader: Charlie Stephens

Crucifer: Henry Stephens

Acolyte: Taylor May Stephens

Children's Worship: Lori Cheshire

Nursery:

Memorials were made to the glory of God in memory of Deborah Goodwin by Ed Pool and Mary Pool, John & Suzanne Sprinkle.

We raised \$371.75 for March of Dimes during the month of March. Thank you for your generous giving!

Easter People, Raise Your Voices 304

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heav - en in
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing
 3. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es;
 here be - low. For our Lord em - pow - ered us to
 rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

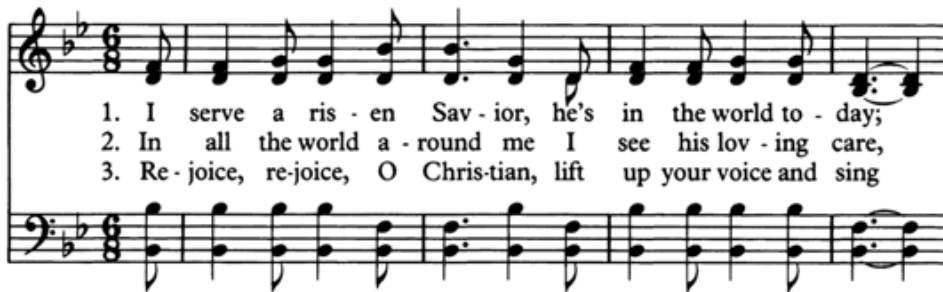
heav - en - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ia!
 tri - umph o - ver ev - ery foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 to our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
 Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - tory now we go.
 Al - le - lu - ia! See the power of heav - en - ly throngs.

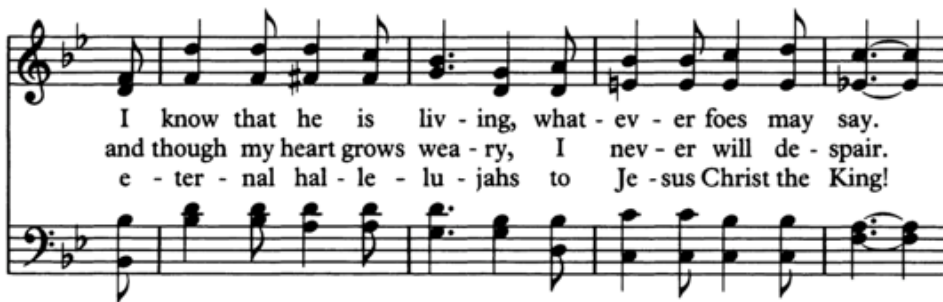
WORDS: William M. James, 1979
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE
 87.87.87

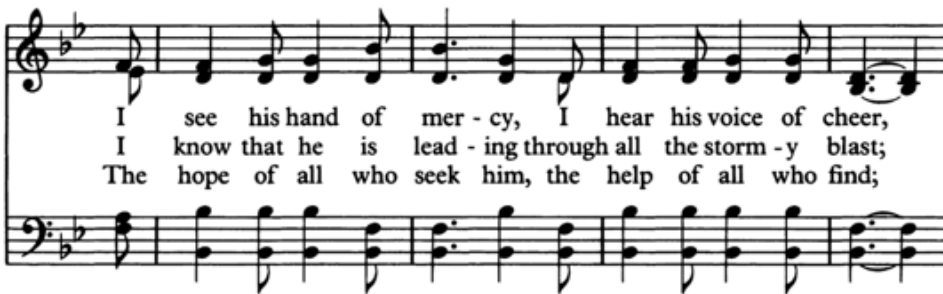
He Lives



1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2. In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3. Re - joice, re-joyce, O Chris-tian, lift up your voice and sing



I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er foes may say.
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair.
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

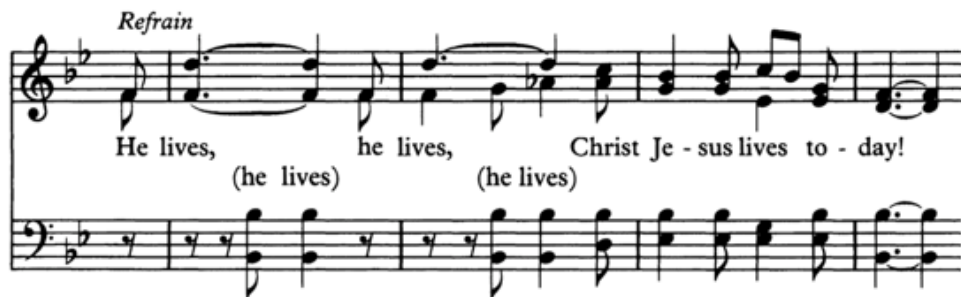


I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast;
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;

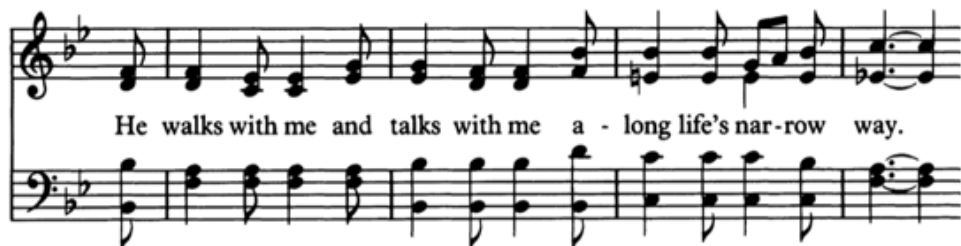


and just the time I need him, he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear-ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov-ing, so good and kind.

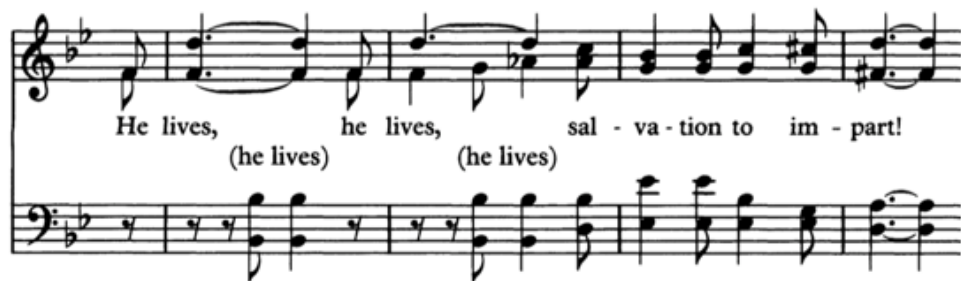
Refrain



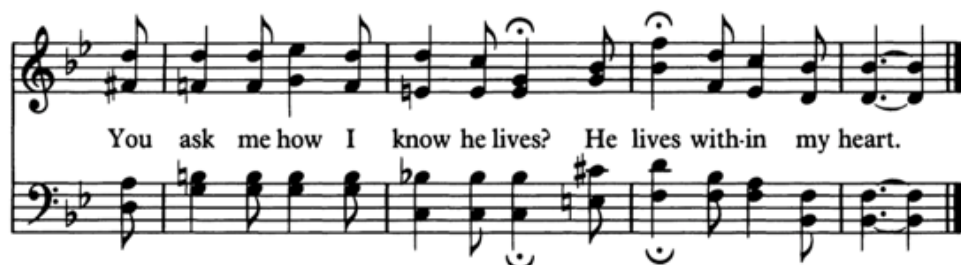
He lives, (he lives) he lives, (he lives) Christ Je - sus lives to - day!



He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.



He lives, (he lives) he lives, (he lives) sal - va - tion to im - part!



You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with-in my heart.

Important Dates to Remember

Sun, 4/7	Youth Group: Saint Paul	5:30pm
Mon, 4/8	S/PPRC meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Tues, 4/9	Fellowship Luncheon: The Yard House	11:30am
Wed, 4/10	Chancel Choir Rehearsal: Saint Paul	7:00pm
Fri, 4/12	Parents' Night Out: Saint Paul	6:00-9:00pm

Upcoming events:

Sun, 4/14	Hotdog Luncheon: Saint Paul	After worship
Mon, 4/15	Finance Committee meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Sat, 4/20	Church Clean Up: Saint Paul	8:00am

From Pastor Matt

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

I am starting out the new year with a new phone! Please take a couple of minutes to send a text to the number above with your name. Thank you!

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.

Saint Paul Cares

Happy Birthday: Taunja Pool, 4/8; Evan Ackerman, Mike Royster, 4/11

Happy Anniversary: There are no anniversaries this week.

In your prayers, please remember:

Roger Barrett, Chelsea Biggers, Annette Bostic, Linda Bruce, William Bruce (Bruce/Terminato family), Ray Byington, Van Clinkscales, Connie Cox, Darrie Crabtree, Natalie Davis, Tony DeYoung, *Catherine Gilstrap*, Marie Good, Doris Goodwin, Carol Head, Sue Howard, Bill Huff, Dot Huff, 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, Barry & Karen Thomas, *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: Beth Jeffers, Melissa Campbell, Jesse Franks, Katie Franks

Upcoming Meetings



Trustees: Will be meeting on in 5/6 at 7pm at Saint Paul. Members are John Sprinkle, Deborah Goodwin, Chris Cox, Neal Franks, Marcus Stephens, Elliott Hall, and Stephanie Gamble. All are welcome!



S/PPRC: Will be meeting on 4/8 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Troy Gamble, Steve Vaughn, Edna Patterson, Christine Hall, John Tate, Janet Cook, and Eugenia Vicars. This is a closed meeting.



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 4/15 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Stephen Newman, Davis Knobloch, Eugenia Vicars, Tracey Biggers, Stephanie Gamble, Edna Patterson, Tommy Head, and Pastor Matt. All are welcome!



Church Council: Will be meeting on 3/22 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Tracey Biggers, Heather Storey, Camille Pool, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobloch, Stephen Newman, John Sprinkle, Carol Head, MaryAnn Stephens, Bill Searcy, Edna Patterson, Debra Hampton, Elaine Byers, Mary Anne Terminato, and Pastor Matt. All are welcome!

Announcements & Upcoming Events



YOUTH GROUP: The youth will be meeting Sunda night, 4/7, at 5:30pm at Saint Paul.



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON:

We will be gathering together on 4/9 at 11:30am and The Yard House, located at 1025 Woodruff Rd Bldg. L101, in Greenville. Join us for a meal and fellowship. Please RSVP at:

<https://forms.gle/gmpQh3LLuGkY8zCJ7>



CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL: Come raise your voice in song and join the choir. We will be rehearsing on 3/6 at 7pm in the choir room located behind the organ in the sanctuary. We would love to have you come and join!



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT: Bring the children to Saint Paul on 4/12 from 6 to 9. We will provide their dinner, a treat, and an activity. You take a well-earned date night, dinner, or nap!

Please RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/DQw3aLdsnbh9Nfb96>



HOT DOG LUNCH AFTER SERVICE: Plan to stay after the service on 4/14 for our hot dog lunch. We will be having hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, a dessert, and drinks. Please

RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/8HR7GLhg2mrtgPL9>



CHURCH CLEAN-UP: Please come out on 4/20 from 8am until noon and join our Trustees as they clean the inside and outside of our church building. We need plenty of volunteers to polish, dust, weed, trim hedges, and all the other tasks to keep our

space looking beautiful.

A few years ago I came across a viral post by a dad with an autistic son. Although unlikely he would make the team, this was his list of goals. After Easter we will examine his list and find our own goals in order to be great teammates in Christ with one another:

APRIL 7: "HIT THE BALL"

MATTHEW 13:1-9

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM'S GEAR

APRIL 14: "DO GOOD DEFENSE"

PSAIM 82:3

HOT DOG LUNCH AFTER SERVICE

APRIL 21: "LOSE SOME WEIGHT"

JOHN 15: 1-9

COMMUNION SUNDAY

APRIL 28: "LEVEL SWING"

1 JOHN 4:1

BUY ME SOME PEANUTS

MAY 5: "ROOT ON TEAM WHILE IM ON THE BENCH"

1 CHRONICLES 22: 14-16

AND CRACKER JACKS

MAY 12: "BRING HEAT WHEN I PITCH"

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-26

BLESSING FOR MOMS & BEYOND