



August 7, 2022



## **St. Paul's UMC Welcoming Statement:**

We believe in God's unconditional love and grace.

We affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God.

We celebrate all loving and committed relationships.

We also believe that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's Gospel.

In this spirit, St. Paul's United Methodist Church welcomes people of every race and ethnicity, culture, age, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, mental and physical ability, faith history, family structure, marital status, educational background and economic status into full participation in the life, leadership, ministry, and sacraments of our church.



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Northport, New York**  
**August 7, 2022 ~ 10:00AM**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**GREETING AND WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** “Prayer Prelude” Michael Larkin

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Lord comes to us this day. Are you ready?

**P: We are ready!**

L: The Lord challenges us to be in ministries of peace and hope. Are you ready?

**P: We are ready!**

L: Let us praise God who calls us to serve God by helping others.

**P: Praise be to God who has given us hope and peace. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN: “How Firm A Foundation” UMH#529**

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!

What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,

I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**Gracious God,  
thank you for seeking us out,  
for gathering us before you,  
for not keeping silent in the face of our need.  
Thank you for calling us into account,  
and for challenging us with strong words  
to be a people of covenant and justice.  
Thank you for assuring us that we need not be afraid,  
for it is your good pleasure to give us your kingdom.  
In courage and hope,  
we come before you this hour,  
to hear your Word and prepare our hearts  
for the unexpected hour of your coming.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **FIRST READING:** Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (NRSV)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered himself faithful who

had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**HYMN:** "Through It All" UMH#507

Words & Music: Andrae' Crouch ©1971

Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus,  
I've learned to trust in God; through it all, through it all,  
I've learned to depend upon God's word.

**SECOND READING:** Luke 12:32-40 (NRSV)

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve

them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

**SERMON:** “I Am Going On A Journey...”

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Healing ~ Guidance ~ Protection ~ Celebration**

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

### **THE OFFERING**

Please consider one of these ways to donate your offering:  
by check, bill pay, Venmo (@StPaulsUMC),  
or Paypal ([spumcFinance@optimum.net](mailto:spumcFinance@optimum.net))

**\*DOXOLOGY:** UMH#95

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### **CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION (See Liturgy)**

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** “I Want To Be Ready” UMH#722

Afro-American Spiritual, Adapt & Arr. By William Farley Smith ©1986

I want to be ready,  
I want to be ready,  
I want to be ready  
to walk in Jerusalem just like John.  
O John, O John, what did you say?  
Walk in Jerusalem just like John!

That you'd be there on judgment day.

Walk in Jerusalem just like John!

I want to be ready,

I want to be ready,

I want to be ready

to walk in Jerusalem just like John.

John said the city was just four-square. Walk in Jerusalem just like John! And he declared he'd meet me there.

Walk in Jerusalem just like John!

I want to be ready,

I want to be ready,

I want to be ready

to walk in Jerusalem just like John.

Now sinners,

mind how you step on the cross. Walk in Jerusalem just like John!

Your foot might slip and your soul get lost.

Walk in Jerusalem just like John!

## **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** "I Need Thee Every Hour" Charles Callahan

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*1 Excerpt from "My Heart Is Troubled, But I Am Not Disheartened" by Jake Owensby ©2020  
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10316/my-heart-is-troubled-but-i-am-not-disheartened>*

### Our Thanks to This Week's Worship Team

Ushers : Jane & Gregg Fenton, Joan Polli, Amy Grandy

Scripture Reader: Al Vitters

Virtual Usher: Hope Mann

Coffee Hour Hosts: Lynn McCaughey & Kathy Vitters



## St. Paul's UMC Invites You to a Scheduled Zoom Worship Service

### Sunday Worship at 10 am

~ Every Sunday ~

The following instructions will be the same each week:

#### **Dial on your phone**

1 646 558 8656

**Meeting ID:** 818 1446 9508 # **Password:** 911381

Participant ID is NOT needed. Press # when prompted

To mute and unmute during worship, press

\* then 6 to mute and unmute - or-

\* then 9 to "raise hand" to indicate you'd like to speak

#### **Join worship service on your computer**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81814469508?pwd=MnJYVFBwQ3RWd2JkeDZ4SjBDUDFIdz09>

### OUR CHURCH STAFF

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