

**St. Pauls  
United Church of Christ**



***CONFIRMATION SUNDAY***

**Sunday, November 17, 2024**

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ  
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin**

(\* = THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.)

## RINGING THE BELLS AND WELCOMING THE LIGHT

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** Prelude on “Here I am Lord”, arr. Wagner

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Divine Parent, you feel what we feel.

**All: Our joys and our pains are yours too.**

Leader: Divine Healer, you delight in our wholeness.

**All: You are the solace for our heavy-laden hearts and souls.**

Leader: Giver of life, you are able to renew us.

**All: We open ourselves to you.**

#### **\*INVOCATION**

Leader: Lovely God, you abide with us. We acknowledge your presence among us with peace, trust, and thanksgiving. It is good to be with you. It is good to be with one another. Fill us with your Spirit and revel in our worship. May this time give you honor and fortify us as your people, your ambassadors, and your agents of love and hope in the world.  
Amen.

**\*OPENING SONG:** O Worship the King #17

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious and Holy God, speak to us. So often our prayer time is consumed by our words...when what we need most is your gentle nudges and your bold challenge. Let us hear from you. (Moment of silence.) As you continue to speak, prepare our hearts and minds to receive your wisdom, correction, and confirmation. Transform us for your glory, for our hope, and for the world.  
Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Pastor: Beloved, even when God seems silent, God is still speaking, listening, and moving in our lives. Know that every moment of attention we center upon the Holy One is faithful stewardship of our time. God, the Redeemer, will honor our seeking, trusting, and listening with blessing, hope, and grace.

## **READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE** *(NRSVue)*

**Liturgist's Reading: Hebrews 10:11-25 (p. 1459)**

**Pastor's Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10 (p. 1385)**

**SERMON:** "Oh, The Places You'll Go" **Rev. Emma Sancomb**

**SERMON SONG:** "Here I Am, Lord" #452

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Leader: God's love is steadfast and abundant. We are blessed to give from hearts of love that others might experience abundance. May the gifts we bring be used to supply whatever is needed, wherever it is needed. May these resources be used to facilitate the wholeness of all.

## **OFFERTORY**



(Please place your offering in the plates as they are passed, give through your usual method, or click on the QR code to the left by using your cell phone camera and clicking on the St. Pauls Giving website.)

## **\*DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God for all that love has done  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.*

## **\*DEDICATION**

Leader: Steadfast One, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring about your kingdom here on earth.

## **THE ACT OF CONFIRMATION**

### **ST. PAULS' CONFIRMANDS**

Pastor: Confirmands, please rise as your name is called: **(in alpha order)**

Taylor Frank, Lucian Hoagland, Eli Holzman, Lauren Holzman, Charlie Lindow, Natalie Lunde, Cal Prochazka and Sophia Prochazka. *(Remain standing in the pews until you are invited forward).*

### **INVITATION**

**President Chris Sparrow:** We are called to an exploration of faith with all of our heart, mind, and soul. Our call may take us down unimagined roads, yet we are surrounded by God's love, guidance, and the promise of an abundant life in Christ.

Today we honor such exploration. We celebrate the continued growth and greater maturity of these youth. We acknowledge their independence and we entrust them to God's loving care.

Young members of the body of Christ, we invite you to join us in the work of healing. We cannot give you a perfect world, but we can welcome you to the work of making it whole. We ask you to join us in a commitment to Christ, seeking to treat every person with dignity, to care for God's creation, and to witness to the good news of Christ's love and forgiveness.

Will you join us?

**Youth:** Before God and this community, we stand ready to dedicate ourselves to a continued journey of faith, exploration, and service to God.

**Pastor Emma:** May the Holy One bless you. You are invited to come forward at this time.

## SENTENCES

**Youth:** We honor our community, you who have gone before us and travel with us now, for all you have done and left undone to make the world a place of justice, freedom, peace, and love.

**People:** **We thank you. Our hearts know all we have failed to do, and we confess to your generation all that we have left undone to care for God’s creation. It is with joy that we welcome you to take a new place in our community and to join us in the continuing work of service to God and our neighbors.**

**Pastor Emma:** May you know the joys of full and abundant life in Christ. May you be known and honored for the truth of who you are; May our blessings carry you on the journey to come; May your every step be surrounded by the guidance and grace of God; And may you know that we are your loving community, now and always, wherever you may go.

**Youth:** *(to the parents, and congregation)* With all the love a heart can hold, we thank you for who we have become.

We ask you now to set us free, as we set you free, so that we might find our own path to God. As we take on the responsibilities of our faith, we hope for your prayers, love, and guidance. Together, may we continue to grow in our relationships with God, one another, and ourselves. You have our love. You have our thanks. You have our respect and prayers. May God’s eternal blessing be with you all.

**\*Pastor Emma:** Congregation, please rise. I now ask the families and congregation: Do you commit yourself to let these young adults grow with greater freedom and to pray to God for the perfect attitudes and strengths by which to parent and mentor them now and in the future?

**\*People: We do!**

**\*Pastor Emma:** I now ask the youth: Do you embrace this growing freedom responsibly with a renewed commitment to Christ and the work of his church on earth?

**\*Youth:** We do!

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**Pastor:** “Let us pray together”

**Congregation:** Almighty God, who in baptism received these, your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil time, faithfulness in the face of temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## **ACT OF CONFIRMATION**

*Pastor Emma will bless each confirmand individually* PP 152

**PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION** PP 153

**ADDRESS BY PASTOR Rev. Emma Sancomb** PP 153

## **WELCOME**

**Pastor:** Let us, the members of St. Pauls United Church of Christ express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry.

**Congregation: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our Risen Lord.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE CONFIRMANDS AND THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

***The confirmands will commune first; they then will serve communion to their parents***

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

Pastor: This is the Lord's Table and Christ invites you to share this meal of grace. Christ recognizes you and calls you beloved.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND  
BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Pastor: Let us recall "that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

***The confirmands will commune first; they then will serve communion to their parent(s)/guardian(s), followed by returning their blossoming rose to those who have nurtured their faith since baptism.***

## **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION**

**ALL:** O God, we thank you for uniting us by baptism in the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope.

Grant that in the days ahead our lips, which have sung your praises, may speak the truth, our eyes, which have seen your love, may look with compassion on the needs of the world, our hands, which have this loaf and cup, may be active in your service.

**We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE**

The confirmands are presented with gifts from Christian Education and Women's Fellowship.

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" #459

## **\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** "Grand Choeur," Gordon Young





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++Special thank you to our own Sophia Prochazka for providing the cover art for our bulletin today. ++

## **RESOURCES FOR PERSONAL DEVOTIONS**

### **Lectionary Readings for November 24, 2024 *Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost***

~Revelation 1:4b-8

~John 18:33-37

2 Sam 23:1-7

Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)

**LITURGIST SCHEDULE:**

**Nov 17** Pam Gibowski  
**Nov 24** John Rubatt  
**Dec 1** Mike Nooyen  
**Dec 8** Gladys Hoagland

**USHER SCHEDULE:**

**Nov 17** Team #1: Maury, Martin, Rubatt, Seehaver  
**Nov 24** Team #2: Gibowski, Gardebrecht  
**Dec 1** Team #3: David, Lindow, Hoagland  
**Dec 8** Team #4: Medrow, Schweigert, Maury, Hoagland

**GREETER SCHEDULE:**

**Nov 17** Carol Buss  
**Nov 24** The Tracys  
**Dec 1** Schuelke/Gresen  
**Dec 8** Chris Sparrow

**COFFEE HOUR HOST:**

Cathy Schnabel  
Eileen Mattfeld  
Schuelke/Gresen  
Volunteer Needed

**OUR STAFF:**

Pastor: Rev. Emma Sancomb  
Director of Music: Dr. Kelly Kazik  
Bell Choir Director: Chris Sparrow  
Pastor Emeritus: Russell Knoth  
Temp. Admin. Asst.: Tara Nooyen

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You can reach the office at 262-251-5160 or  
email [saintpaulsinthefalls@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulsinthefalls@gmail.com)

Pastor Emma's email: [pastor@stpaulsucc.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsucc.org)  
Kelly's email: [music@stpaulsucc.org](mailto:music@stpaulsucc.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Emma: **Wednesday 9:30am-3pm or by appointment**  
Church Office: **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00am-1pm**

## **CPR (Church and Pastor Relations Committee) MEMBERS**

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Julie Loth        | jmhloth@gmail.com             |
| Mike Dethloff     | mdethloff62@gmail.com         |
| Terry Tracy       | terencepatricktracy@gmail.com |
| Amy Krohn         | jakrohn@sbcglobal.net         |
| Sue Schuelke      | sschuelk@charter.net          |
| Jennifer Seehaver | jennifer@seehaver.com         |

## **PRAYER REQUESTS (To be added to the prayer chain, please contact Julie Loth 262-422-0267)**

- Darlene Eisen - who is recovering from surgery for her broken hip.
- Jaye Gardebrecht - Brother, Dale, died on 11/7/2024 and her brother, Kurt has started treatment for his cancer that has returned.
- Carol Rubatt - We celebrate that her CT scans came back good.
- Jean Lipenski - Brother, Dan, is recovering from a stroke.
- Jegl Family - Jeff's mother-law-law, Jannette, had surgery on Tuesday for her breast cancer.
- Steve Hecky - 6-year-old grandson, Graham's continued medical journey.
- Dethloff extended family member, Doranne received a new cancer diagnosis.
- Julie Loth - Dear friend/pastor (Jim Martin), who married her and her husband has a new cancer diagnosis.

**Don't forget to complete the Who's In The Pews form located on the end of the pew near the main aisle. Please put completed forms in the offertory plate.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Snow Removal Help Needed

A church snowblower is available for the use of the sidewalk snow removal. Shoveling would be done at the entrance areas. Light salting of the sidewalk area would need to be done as well. It is a paid position. Interested individual(s) should contact the Church Office or the Trustee Chairperson, Mike Gresen, or any of the Trustees for more information.

## Annual Reports

Annual reports are due December 1st. Please start working on them to get them submitted on time. We'll likely have a new administrative assistant in the next few weeks. In order to make things easier for them to assemble everything, it would be greatly appreciated if you'd submit them on time. Thanks!

## Adopt-A-Family

Once again, we have the privilege of sponsoring 2 families from the Waukesha County Christmas Clearing Council. The first family has 2 children ages 5yrs & 6yrs old. The second family has 3 children ages 17yrs. 16yrs. & 6yrs old. There will be a tree setup in Guild Hall with the name tags on. PLEASE have your gifts at church by Dec. 15th. Thank you for supporting this mission.

## **Christmas Program**

St. Pauls is looking for adults and confirmands to participate in this year's Children's Program to be held on **Sunday, December 15th.**

Not an actor? No worries! Opportunities to narrate, help with props, help children offstage, etc. would be appreciated as well.

**Practices after church will be held on the following Sundays:**

**November 24**

**December 1**

**December 8**

It is helpful but not necessary to attend all three practice sessions. If interested, please contact the church office, Kam Lindow, Julie Loth, or Jennifer Seehaver.

## **Food Pantry Reverse Advent Calendar**

### **Begins December 1st!**

Countdown the days until Christmas by giving a non-perishable food or personal care item each day to help people who utilize the Food Pantry. To participate, purchase the items listed for each day and place it in the appropriate box in Guild Hall.

If you wish to help out but would like somebody else to do the shopping for you, you may make a monetary donation and mark "Food Pantry" in the memo line. To buy every item on the list costs approximately \$65.

Every little bit helps!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

9:30am - Service - Confirmation Sunday

10:45am - Fellowship

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

6:30pm - Open Knit/Crochet Night

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

6:30pm - Choir Practice

7:30pm - Bells Practice

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

2:00pm-4pm - Pastor Emma @ Latitude Cafe (M.F. Library)

4:30pm - Bible Study in Guild Hall

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

6:30pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

9:00am - Meditation Group

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

9:30am - Totenfest Service

9:45am - Children's School

10:45am - Fellowship

10:45am - Christmas Program Rehearsal

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

7:30pm - Bells Practice

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

4:30pm - Bible Study

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

9:00am - Meditation Group



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2024

Help beautify our Sanctuary during the Christmas Season by purchasing a poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special person or event; or in celebration of the Birth of Jesus.

The cost this year is **\$15.00** per plant.

**The deadline to order your poinsettia is  
Monday, November 25th, 2024.**

Plants may be picked up after worship on  
Sunday, January 5th, 2025.

NAME: ("Given by")

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I/We wish to place \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia plant(s):  
(x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_)

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of Christmas

Please fill out this page and include it with your payment. You can place it in the offering plate or send into the office. Thanks!