

TODAY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Mike Gray

10:30 Betsy Rushong

Ministry of Music

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Ushers: Kathy Williams

Ushers: 8:15 Art and Kathy Williams

10:30 Bill and Deb Cashman

Dennis and Bonnie Plymette

Greeters: 8:15 Gail and Roland Parthree

10:30 Tracy and Jeff Nye

Acolyte: 8:15 Kevin Rudisill

10:30 Matt Paulus

Children's Sermon: 10:30 Deb Cashman

Nursery: Nase Family

Flower Delivery: Pat Cleland

Fellowship Time: Grice and Coldren Families

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

April 5, 2009



Hosanna! Blessed
is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey You are Welcome Here!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2009

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES
THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ "Hosanna in the Highest" Birchwood

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response) From Psalm 118

*THE HYMN NO. 213 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna".

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Still Speaking God, help us to listen and respond to Your call. Help us to be willing to step out in public and be enthusiastic about our following Your word and way. May our actions and words remind others of the courageous and inclusive love Jesus displayed for all, even as he and we know where such love can lead us. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

While we enjoy watching parades, we do not always join them, or are too enthusiastic in supporting the people in them. Jesus knew the way he chose to enter Jerusalem could be seen as a challenge to both the Roman and Jewish Authorities. The people who cheered him on knew there could be possible negative ramifications for their support. Yet they both chose to do what they believed they were called to do. We do not always make the same choice. Let us join together in the unison Prayer of Confession.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive)

Minister: God receives our apologies and repentance, and has assured us that our sins are forgiven.

All: Let us receive and pursue the new lives, which Jesus showed were possible for all of us. Amen.

Offering for Maundy Thursday Worship Service – we will place offering plates in the Narthex if you desire to drop off an offering at this service.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Maundy Thursday, April 9: We will begin by gathering in the Fellowship Hall at **6:30 PM**. We will share some time together as well as food: fruit and nuts. We will also celebrate The Sacrament of Holy Communion there. We will then move to the Sanctuary for the Order of Tenebrae which is Latin for *shadows*. Lessons involving Jesus' betrayal, trial and desertion of the disciples are read and candles extinguished. I know this is later in the evening, but children and young people are welcome at both parts of this Worship Service. Some people find this Service one of the most meaningful of the year.

Good Friday, April 10: We will not be having a Service here this year. I urge you to find a Service near where you work or at another church if you would like to spend specific time in prayer and meditation on this holy day. **Holy Saturday, April 11:** We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt here at the church or on the church grounds at **10:00 AM**. All young people are invited to search or help with the hunt.

Easter Sunrise Service, April 12: This year the Service will be at **Simpson Park Pavilion**. We will begin at **6:00 AM**. Our youth will be taking a major part in the leadership of this Service, along with a few others of us. **Directions to this park can be found on the table in the common area, please take a copy with you. Easter Services, April 12:** We will have Services at both **8:15 and 10:30 AM**. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at both Services.

We hope to see you during one or more of these times of worship. It is important that we gather together during this Holy Season and remember, and look forward to the promise of new life, in this life and in the life to come. Peace, John

EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST – EVERYONE IS INVITED. No time for breakfast before or after sunrise services or early church? Did the Easter rabbit get you off schedule? Then join us at 9:15 in Fellowship Hall for our annual Easter Morning Breakfast. You are asked to sign-up on the bulletin board outside the office and bring a delectable offering to share. We are looking for **Hot stuff** (casseroles, breakfast meats) or **Fruits/Pastries**. Drinks and place settings will be provided. Ovens will be available to cook or warm hot items during early church. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Scott at 737-3139.

ATTENTION SUMMER CAMPERS!! Registration forms and brochures for Hartman Center summer church camp are available in the commons area. St. Paul's will pay 25% of the registration fee on a first come first served basis. Just send in your money to Hartman Center and let the church office know how much you paid. If the funds are still available, you will be reimbursed for 25 % of the total cost. In these troubled economic times, church camp is quite a bargain, especially at a 25% discount! See Jonneke Dundore if you have any questions.

PRAYER SHAWLS – If you are in need of a prayer shawl, please see Reverend John, Terry in the Church Office, Martha Keith or another member of the Prayer Shawl group.

NEW DIGS MINISTRY -The Adult II Sunday School Class thanks all who participated in the recent drive to collect items for this ministry. A large variety of kitchen utensils, small appliances, sheets, and towels just to mention a few things were collected and transported to the New Digs headquarters. New Digs sends its heartfelt thanks for your participation in their efforts. It is anticipated that these collections will occur on a quarterly basis with the next drive scheduled for June 2009. A definite date will be announced prior to the event.

CABINS AT HARTMAN CENTER - St. Paul's UCC in Mechanicsburg's Adult II Sunday School Class has been recently made aware of the project to refurbish the cabins at Hartman Center. As some of you may know, the Mercersburg Association has been given the task of raising money to renovate one cabin at our church camp in Milroy. Each Association in the Conference has been challenged to raise \$17,000 to make the much needed renovations to the cabins. Our Sunday School class at St. Paul's has decided to encourage members to go to Hartman Center for the work days in May. Those workers are seeking sponsorships for the volunteer work they will be doing from church members who are not able or available to help with the work themselves. These sponsorships/donations will then be put toward the fund to renovate the Mercersburg Association's cabin. We are hoping to raise \$1,000 to put toward the cabin. We will be challenging the other churches in the Association to each raise \$1,000. While we know that this goal is a stretch for some of the smaller churches in the Association, we are hopeful that some of the larger churches may raise more money to be put toward other, smaller churches goals. If we raise in excess of \$17,000, the extra funds would be donated to the Hartman Center for other renovations, or be added to the 4-Our-Churches Campaign to build the new "green" multi-purpose building on the Hartman campus. Please prayerfully consider donating to a member of the Adult II Sunday School Class who will be collecting donations this spring after church services. Look specifically for Mike Aumiller or Art Williams who will be strutting their "tool belts" for Hartman Center. Please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the common area.

APRIL ISSUE OF THE MERCERSBURG TIMES – copies of this newsletter is available on the table in the common area.

BLESSING OF THE BIKES SUNDAY APRIL 19TH – do you have a business or do you know of one where you can hang up a poster? If so, please pick up one or as many that you need of the Blessing of the Bikes posters on the table in the common area. Thank you in advance for helping to get word of this special service out. Additionally a Thank You to Craig Martek for creating this great poster.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE GLORIA PATRI

10:30 SERVICE

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world
Red and yellow, black and white
They are precious in his sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.**

THE EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:1-11

PSALTER RESPONSE(sung together) New Century Hymnal Page 701 Psalm 118:1-2,19-29

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING AND MESSAGE

Mark 11:1-11

"Sometimes We Get It Right"

*THE HYMN NO. 215 "Ride On! Ride On In Majesty"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (Unison)

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

THE OFFERTORY

8:15 "Lord, Remember Me" Smith
10:30 Chancel "Zion, at Thy Shining Gates" Scott

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

What You have done for us is marvelous in our eyes, gracious God. Our gifts can never match Your goodness toward us. Your saving grace, Your healing light, Your personal sacrifice are so far beyond our imagining! We can only offer ourselves, all we have and all we are, in response to the coming of Christ Jesus. Hosanna in the highest! Receive, O God, our humble service. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO. 216 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE "Festival March on St. Theodulph" Hughes

*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.

We welcome warmly all who are visiting with us. Please register your attendance on the Friendship Form (inside the red pad on the aisle side of each pew) so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

TV/RADIO ADVERTISEMENT – If you are here this morning because you saw or heard our TV or Radio Ad this Lenten Season, would you please note that on your pew pad sheet.

References:

The Prayer of Confession is from A New Zealand Prayer Book, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, 1997, Harper, San Francisco.

The Prayer of Dedication is from Led By Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1996, United Church Press.

"The World Peace Prayer" is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, and is also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine Sisters.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

The white rose on the Altar is in Memory of Hazel M. Blacker who passed away Thursday, March 26th. Please keep Hazel's family in our prayers.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Marqueritte Myers (Sarah's mother) who was diagnosed with breast cancer; Mary Smith (Herb Sutton's sister) in 3rd stage of kidney failure and Susan Gabriel who is recovering from surgery on her back.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of April 4 – 11, 2009

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Palm Sunday Worship Services
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
TUES	12:00 pm	Economical Food Pantry
	5:30 pm	TOPS
	7:00 pm	Den Mtg (Rm 13)
WED	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm. 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (S)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (S)
THU	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship Service (Pew communion)
SAT	10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt
SUN Apr 12	6:00 am	Sunrise Service at Simpson Park Pavilion
	8:15/10:30 am	Easter Sunday Worship Services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION PEANUT BUTTER EGGS: Reminder, if you ordered Peanut Butter Eggs, please remember to pick them up today. They will be available in the Kitchen after the 8:15 and 10:30 worship service. Thank you for supporting the cause "Making Strides against Breast Cancer".

EASTER FLOWERS – If you ordered Easter Flowers, please pick them up after the 8:15 or 10:30 service on Easter Day or on Monday, April 13th. If you have not paid for your flowers, please make sure your payment is noted what it was for; either a Lily (\$7.25) or Tulip (\$6.25) and put it in the offering plate or drop off at the Church Office. Thank you for purchasing the flowers that will help beautify the Sanctuary on Easter Day.

ST PAUL'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. All children 12 and under are invited to attend. It will be held rain or shine. Bring a friend! If you have any questions, please call Joan Moyer at 766-3325 or email at joanmoyer@msn.com.