

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

March 7, 2010

Worship Leadership

Preacher: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio

Lector: 8:15 Mike Gray

10:30 Craig Martek

Ministry of Music

Organist: Sarah Myers

Minister of Music: Eric Dundore

Ministry of Service

Head Usher: Dennis Plymette

8:15 Consistory

10:30 Consistory

Greeters: 8:15 Cindy and Tom Stone

10:30 Leann and Tim Davinroy

Acolyte: 8:15

10:30 Slater Ward-Diorio

Children's Sermon: Patty Scott

Nursery: Nase Family

Flower Delivery: Pat Cleland

Fellowship Time: Aumiller and Davinroy Families



THE PARABLE OF
THE FRUITLESS
FIG TREE

Luke 13:6-9

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

626 Williams Grove Road

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717/766-7931

Website: www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org

Office email: stpaulstaff@verizon.net

John's email: revjohnwd@verizon.net

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 THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 7, 2010

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Organ Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana"

Pietro Mascagni

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Call and Response): From Isaiah 55

*THE HYMN NO. 18 "Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Forgiving God, we are grateful for You continuing to give us another chance to bear fruit. Help us to receive the work and care we need, in order for us to bloom as You have hoped. Amen.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION:

We want to believe there is some logic or rationale at work in the world. That way, if we can figure out what the logic is, we can control what happens to us. Therefore if people suffer in some extreme way, we create the belief that they somehow deserved it for something they had done. Such consequences paint a picture of life that makes rational sense. But the world is much more random. Earthquakes and cancer do not seek out people who "deserve" to suffer. Anyone and everyone can be affected. Yet we seem to prefer to live in a make-believe world where people are beset by things for a "reason." Let us join 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

Words of Assurance (Responsive):

Minister: God forgives our sins, and seeks our increased awareness of how we turn away from God and God's will for the world.

All: **Let us seek to be more conscious of how our thoughts, words and deeds, and what we choose to do and not do, reflect lives other than what God created us to be. Let us turn back to God and pursue lives of discipleship, seeking to more fully follow the words and way of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**



Slips to sign-up for EASTER FLOWERS are on the table in the Common Area. You will have the choice of ordering an Easter Lily (\$6.50) or Tulip (\$6.75). They will be placed in the Chancel area on Easter Sunday, April 4th. **Completed slip along with payment** (cash or checks made payable to St. Paul's United Church of Christ) should be dropped off at the Church Office or put in the offering plate **no later than next Sunday March 14th**.

Hartman Center Camper Scholarship Fund - Currently we have a special giving opportunity to enable members of our congregation to attend Hartman Center summer camp programs. Hartman Center is our UCC Penn Central Conference Outdoor Ministries and Retreat Center located 20 miles below State College in Milroy, PA. Throughout the summer, programs are offered for all ages, including Family, Grandparent/Child, and Adult camps, in addition to those geared to Youth. There is something for everyone! **A special offering to go towards offsetting the costs of camp will be accepted through March 28th.** Specially marked envelopes are available in the pews or simply write Hartman Camp Scholarship in the memo portion of your check made payable to St. Paul's UCC.



ATTENTION SUMMER CAMPERS! If you are planning on going to Hartman Center for summer church camp, please register and pay the full amount and send directly to Hartman Center. If you want to take advantage of a campership that will pay for 1/2 the cost of camp, send the following information to the church office: Name of Camper attending, name of the camp, dates attending, and the total cost. 1/2 the cost will be reimbursed to you after you supply the office with this information. Questions? Contact Jonne Dundore 766-2601 or jonnekev@aol.com. Reminder -- **check out the "Early Bird Discount!"** on the Hartman center website, www.hartmancenter.com.

Join St. Paul's Tour de Cure cycling team to help fight diabetes!

Looking for a great way to start your New Year's resolution to get in shape, and help a worthy cause at the same time? St Paul's is forming a team to participate in the 2010 Tour de Cure for the American Diabetes Association, which will be held on Saturday, May 22 in Boiling Springs. For more information on this event, please see the March Epistle. **To join St Paul's team or make a contribution you can go to the following link:** <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/StPaulsUCC>

SAT

Growing Stronger Churches Workshop(PCC Colonial Park)

Don't Forget to Set Your Clocks Ahead for Tomorrow –

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday March 14th!

Sunday Mar 14th 8:15/10:30 am Worship Services/Pew Communion

9:00 am Choristers

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (FH)

6:00 pm Youth Fellowship(Bergstresser Home)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering – The needs in earthquake stricken Haiti continue to be enormous. Conditions for most of the estimated 1.2 million people living in improvised camps and shelters remain unbearably cramped and poor. There are gaps in provision of shelter and sanitation. Relief efforts are crucial for the earthquake survivors who sought refuge in the rural parts of Haiti. There, some local agencies have chosen to live outdoors with the refugees and have organized community kitchens where they are daily providing hot meals to the people. The UCC/OGHS supported ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance efforts in the region that include construction of temporary water systems, provision of water, purification materials, tents, and food packages. Church World Service efforts will focus on food security in the rural areas and expand their work with people with disabilities in Port-Au-Prince. The UCC is also supporting the provision of 60 Medicine Boxes shipped by the IMA World Health Organization to Port-Au-Prince. Each of these Medicine Boxes contains essential medicines and medical supplies to treat routine ailments of about 100 adults and children for up to two months. They also provided Safe Motherhood Kits containing basic surgical supplies for childbirth. Truly this disaster in Haiti and similar conditions across the world and in the United States make us realize that we are indeed called to help “sheep” that Jesus referred to in the gospel of John 21:15-17. By giving to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering and helping with the special initiatives organized to help in other ways when disaster strikes, our love is expressed to those in need in God’s world community. Please give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

ST. PAUL'S ON A MISSION EASTER EGG SALE! TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS FOR PEANUT BUTTER AND/OR COCONUT EGGS! \$1.00 each or 13 for \$12.00. An order form is posted in the Common. Outside orders are also due today. Eggs will be available for pick up Sunday, March 21st & 28th (Palm Sunday) after both services. Please sign up on the separate sheet, also posted in the Common, if you want to help make the eggs. WE NEED ALOT OF HELP! Mix/Form: Fri., March 19th & Fri., March 26th, starting at 4:00PM; Dip/Wrap: Sat., March 20th & Sat., March 27th, starting at 8:00AM. Please sign up TODAY! All proceeds go to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer! Any questions, see Brenda Kern.

*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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55:1-9

THE PSALTER RESPONSE(sung together) Psalm 63:1-8 New Century Hymnal Page #660

THE RESPONSE

One: God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING AND MESSAGE

Luke 13:1-9

“Did They Deserve This?”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 Youth Choir “Jesus, Have Mercy”

Leibergen

10:30 Chancel Choir “I Am Not Afraid”

Larson

*THE DOXOLOGY (#780)

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

All that we present to You now, O God, we have received from Your hand. We give so the hungry may eat and the thirsty may receive pure water. We share to send the good news of Your Word to those who have not heard. We invest in just causes, that Your mercy may be known among all people. Most of all, we give because passing on Your gifts in generous response is necessary to life. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*THE COMMUNION HYMN NO. 336“Here, O My LORD, I See You Face to Face” (vs.1-4)

THE INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

One: God Be With You.

Many: And Also With You.

One: Lift Up Your Hearts.

Many: We Lift Them Up To God.

One: Let Us Give Thanks To God.

Many: It Is Good To Give God Thanks And Praise.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)
(Debts and Debtors)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

(We will share in the Sacrament in our pews this Sunday. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will eat and then drink together. There will be bread and gluten-free wafers on each plate and wine and white grape juice in each cup holder. All are welcome to participate. Thank you.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Eternal God, You have called Your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ’s presence, and for the spiritual food of Christ’s body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your Will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure, that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church, of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*THE HYMN NO 347 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

*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 “Heeding the Call”

William Barnett

*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 that is located in the red pad on the aisle side of the pew so that others may greet you in the name of the Living Christ. Remember to place a check mark under the communion heading if you partake of communion. The person at the end of the pew should place the finished sheet in the offering plate.

References:

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

The Prayer of Dedication is from Gathered by Love, by Lavon Bayler, 1994, 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 by
Joan Quick “In Honor of Jim Quick’s Birthday”
The Murphy’s “In Memory of Helen and Jim Noel”

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF March 07 – March 14, 2010

TODAY	8:15/10:30 am	Worship Services/Pew Communion
	9:00 am	Choristers
	9:15 am	Sunday School
MON	9:30 am	Mercersburg Ministerium (Rm 7/8)
	6:30 pm	Tiger Den (FH)
TUES	5:30 pm	Tops (Rm 13)
	7:00 pm	Bear Den (FH)
WED	6:00 pm	Hand Chime Choir (Rm 5)
	6:30 pm	Youth Choir (Sanctuary)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
THURS	7:00 pm	Lenten Discussions (Parlor)

March 7, 2010

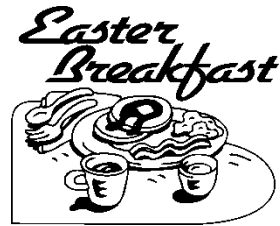


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- Beverly
- Bill Cashman Jr.
- Ruth Chronister
- Tyler Derr
- Emily
- Deb Gartland
- Les Gerber and Elaine McCracken
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- Paul Heaney, Sr.
- Bob Heisler
- Betty Hyde
- Bill Ingraham
- Megan Kern
- Ally, Erin, Joan and Ernie Moyer
- Tyler, Hayden and Stacy Mustico
- Edna Myers
- Jean Myers
- Mary Runkle and Family
- John Scott
- Susie Snyder
- Kelly Strange
- Jim Sufrin
- Eric Trout
- Leah van Olden
- Family and Friends of Kaylen Welker

All the People affected by the Earthquakes in Haiti and Chile
 All the People in the Middle East struggling for peace
 All the people in the military and their families
 All the people who have lost jobs and their families

Celebrations

To all the Folks who made the Music Man so wonderful.



No time for breakfast before or after **Sunrise Service (6:30 AM) or Early Service (8:15 AM)?** Did the Easter Bunny get you off your normal schedule? Want to enjoy someone else's breakfast specialty while sharing yours with others? Then join us at **9:15 AM** in Fellowship Hall for our annual **Easter Morning Breakfast**. Everyone is invited!!! There is a sign-up sheet on a bulletin board in the common area. Everyone is also invited, urged, to *bring a delectable food offering to share, and/or volunteer to help with set-up before hand, cooking/serving, or clean-up*. We are looking for **Hot Stuff** (casseroles, breakfast meats, spicy if you want—just warn us) or **Fruits/Pastries**. Drinks and place settings will be provided. Ovens will be available to cook or warm hot items during the Early Service. We really need different folks to sign up for the clean-up than who set-up or cook. In the past, some folks have not gotten to go to either **Easter Service** because they ended up being needed to volunteer for the whole time. There will be places on the sign-up sheet to indicate what *you will bring and/or when you can help*. It is a great time to break bread together. We look forward to seeing lots of folks there. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Scott 737-3139, Holly Yeuell or Rev. John 766-7931. Thank you.



**HOLY WEEK UPCOMING DATES TO SAVE:
SCHEDULE**

Sunday March 28th – Palm Sunday – 8:15/10:30 am services.

Thursday April 1st – Maundy Thursday – 6:30 pm service with communion

Saturday April 3rd – 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt at St. Paul's.

Sunday April 4th – Easter – 6:30 am sunrise service @ Simpson Park Pavilion(Directions on table in Common Area)

8:15/10:30 am services with communion (pew).

Breakfast in FH between 8:15 and 10:30 services.

March 7, 2010

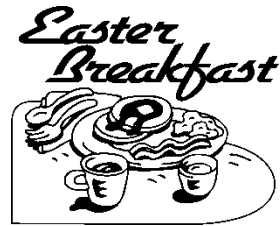


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