

June 14, 2020 ~ Second Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements ~ The Rev. Paul Stunkel

Prelude ~ "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (arr. Hayes) ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship (from Psalm 138) ~ *responsive*

Leader: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart.

All: We bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

Women: On the day we called, you answered us, you increased our strength of soul.

Men: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Chorus #743~ "O God, You Are My God"

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

Leader: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

All: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for us; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

Leader: Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Psalm Prayer ~ *in unison*

We lift our hearts in thankful praise to you, O Lord,

for you do not forsake the work of your hands,

but you continue to redeem and restore your creation

through your Son, Jesus Christ, our living Lord.

By your Spirit, enable us to fulfill your purpose in our lives

and, in so doing, to discover true joy. Amen.

**you are invited to stand as you are able*

**Hymn #367 ~ "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

Sharing the Peace

Reflection with children

Breathing Prayer

Response #455 ~ "Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken"

Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand; listen to the voice that began creation, listen even if you don't understand. (repeat)

Hebrew Scripture ~ Genesis 18:1-14a

Special Music ~ "Sunshine In My Soul" (arr. J. Coates, Jr.)

Christian Scripture ~ 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

Message - "Gratitude, Grace, Generosity: The Practices of Joy"

***Hymn** - *"Amazing Grace"*

Community at Prayer

***Doxology**

*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. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

Prayer of Gratitude

The Lord's Prayer - *in unison*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

***Hymn #708** - *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"*

Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is called for today, Sunday, June 14, 2020, immediately following the 10:15AM live streamed worship service. The purpose is to approve the amended by-laws, elect members of the Nominations Committee, and to dissolve the call of the Rev. Paul Stunkel as of June 30, 2020. **PLEASE**, stay online after worship today for this live streamed meeting.

***Benediction** - 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Postlude - *"Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho"* (arr. Hayes)

A donation to the Board of Deacons Hunger Relief Ministry was made by Joyce MacLennan in honor of her grandchildren.

CCLI #2342595 CVLI #502166520

Weekly Reflection

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Three Sundays left in my tool kit of messages.

Gratitude and Sadness

I am grateful for you. You are precious. You have been and are a gift of God to me.

I appreciate your acceptance of my leadership. I have never been anywhere where my going past the assumed finish time has not been an issue. Only here, no one comments or complains that worship ran a few minutes past an hour. Your graciousness gifted me to be more carefree and maybe even spirit-led in our shared worship.

I also appreciate that leadership is shared. No one expects me to make all the decisions. We share life and we share the load.

I am grateful for the staff, even as some have changed with retirement or moves. The staff works together. You are blessed and I have been blessed.

Sadness. I am sad each time I bump into awareness that I am doing something for the last time at St. Paul's. Last Sunday I instituted communion for the final time.

SAD.

Also, I feel grief over decisions you must make and for which, I rightly, have no input. A grief, but grief shared is also less harmful to us. I will work at being open to hearing your own griefs as we journey these next three weeks together.

I am grateful for you.

Thanks be to God,

Paul

June 8, 2020

An update from the PNC...

The PNC diligently continues our search for St. Paul's next called pastor. We are meeting weekly, and at times twice a week, to do our due diligence to research, follow up, and have conversations with prospective candidates. As you can imagine, the pandemic had an effect on the search process, but we have remained dedicated in our continued search. Currently within the PCUSA, there are 1495 churches seeking solo pastors with 346 candidates searching. We realize you may be feeling anxious with Paul's retirement quickly approaching. Please keep the faith! Say your prayers! We are working hard and remind ourselves that this will happen in God's time, not ours. We remain faithful that God is guiding us and with us in our search. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we move forward.

Thank you to the "grounds" crew who cleaned up the landscaping and planted some colorful day lilies!

The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Committee invites all to "*The Heavens Declare-An Online Prayer Event*" on Monday, June 22 at 8PM EST. It can be streamed from theheavensdeclare.org as well as on [facebook.com/livoniaprayerbreakfast](https://www.facebook.com/livoniaprayerbreakfast) and YouTube. Along with prayer, there will be devotionals, scripture readings, and worship. In a year when prayer is needed most, and there was no live Prayer Breakfast gathering in May, this event will reach beyond the borders of Livonia to Ohio, Florida, Texas, South Africa and Jerusalem.

From the Board of Deacons...

Greetings and blessings to you in these challenging times from St. Paul's Board of Deacons. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed life for all of us. Most of us have grown weary of the limitations it has placed on us, but we are doing OK. But for others, the Michigan executive orders have caused a large increase in food insecurity in the Metro Detroit area, especially in Detroit. The Board of Deacons felt compelled to address this issue. Your generous donations enabled us to donate \$535 from St. Paul's to Gleaners during Easter week. At our meeting on May 9, we passed a motion to request more donations for hunger relief.

Money may now be donated as you wish for Hunger Relief. It will be used to stock our Food Pantry, or be given to Gleaners, as the Board sees fit. You may make donations in honor or in memory of someone or something, and an acknowledgement will go into the online bulletin, as was the procedure for chancel flower donations. No set amount is required, and

acknowledgements will go in the bulletin as soon as possible. Donations may not be made in advance for future dates.

To donate, please: *Make your check payable to: St. Paul's Board of Deacons*

In the Memo line, write: Hunger Relief

Enclose a note with: Donor(s) Name(s) and the dedication
Dedication examples:

In honor of the first responders

In honor of our grandchildren, whom we love and miss

In memory of my parents, (names)

Send the donation with your check and note to St. Paul's, or you may drop it in the secure mailbox outside the entrance.

The Board of Deacons appreciates the spirit of our congregation, which has pulled all of us through so many difficult times. Let us pray for better days, and continue to encourage and support each other in the weeks to come, following the lessons of Jesus. Let's feed each other spiritually, and the hungry, literally. May the peace of Christ be with you all.



Camilla White, Sheldon Davis, Carol Townsend, Joyce Barton, Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye
Nola Bonandrini, Tamar Duthie, Frank & Nancy Saunders, Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Anita Falk
Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Lila Hindmarsh, Susan Grant, Grace Campbell, Bruce Phillips, Barbara Kett
Debbie Peterson & family ~ friend of Meta Tulley & Joan Westbrook
The family of the Rev. Dr. Louis Forsythe ~ friends of St. Paul's; Thomas Peeples ~ friend of Jeff Graham
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham
Mark Osborne ~ son of Janet; Sarah & Mason Young ~ cousins of Judy McGregor
Tony S. ~ cousin of Gail Artinian; Diane Calloway ~ cousin of Gail Artinian
MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne; Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne
Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin
Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of Tamar Duthie
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling ~ grandson of Ron & Janet Frank
Eric Schilling ~ grandson of Ron & Janet Frank; Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta
Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis; Jill Haddox ~ friend of Connie Shoup

Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.

Christian Century Conversations

Online Sundays @ 9am

The Adult Sunday School where, each week, we gather readings of current events and news from the wider church. Assignments will be posted the week before. Those without access, contact Paul about articles. To join the conversation, visit [SPPC's Google Meet \(meet.google.com/rnp-eeko-gjx\)](https://meet.google.com/rnp-eeko-gjx) or join by phone, call [813-435-9471](tel:813-435-9471) PIN: 602 392 483#.

Adult Forum - Discovering Hope in the Psalms

Please join us Sundays - 9:00 – 10:00am!

We are moving on to a study of Psalm 2!! We are studying out of *Discovering Hope in the Psalms*, a "creative Bible Study Experience" by Pam Farrel, Jean E. Jones, and Karla Dornacher.

Those of you who have purchased the book, have that handy. Everyone have a Bible, a writing utensil and something to write on available for the class. If you have not purchased a book, contact me, Kathy Potter, at christianeducator@stpaulspresbyterian.church for help in obtaining a copy.

[Join Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/ofb-mozw-shc

[Join by phone](#)

+1 513-818-1609 PIN: 389 490 359#

NO After Church Hang Out today!!

After Church Hang Out! Sundays -11:30am – 12:00pm

After Church Hang Out! is St. Paul's time for our children and youth to meet up, talk, pray and hear about Jesus. We will hang out, sharing our life and faith. This week we will read a book by Patricia Polacco and see how it applies to our lives today! Hope to see you Sunday!

[Join Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/kbd-yuqx-kvh

[Join by phone](#)

+1 224-801-2537 PIN: 972 274 980#

O God, You Are My God 743

Step by Step

G D C D

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise

G Dsus7 D7 G D C D

you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise

G Em Dsus D

you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will

C Am7 G

learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead

D C Dsus7 D7 G

me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.

All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,

God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:

Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

We Give Thee but Thine Own 708

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap-tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be;

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ - like thing.
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Each successive stanza here expands the implications of the familiar affirmation of the first one. Much more than a concern with money, stewardship shapes our relationship with God and with other people. Despite this tune's name, no source has been found in Schumann's works.