

THANK YOU!

We want you to know that your presence today is valued, and we pray that your experience here will make an impact in your life. Again, thank you for choosing to worship at St. Paul and please come again.

Keep in Your Prayers



Annie Elliot

Eli Alexander

Dorothy Holloway

Verbie Watkins Jr.

Kimberly Mosley

Queenie Williams Deeton

Anita Wallace

Marie Lewis

Emmitt Johnson, Sr.

The Crenshaw Family



Birthdays

*Happy Birthday to
everyone born in the
month of October.*

Weekly Reminders & Events

Holy Communion - Every First Sunday - In Person Service

**Virtual Sunday School - Every Sunday Morning at 9:30 A.M. **

**Virtual Midweek Bible Study - Every Wednesday at 6:00 P.M. **

**Finance and Administrative Meetings - Every Third Tuesday at 5 & 6 P.M. **

Website: <https://stpaulmethodist1866.org>

Online Giving: <https://saintpaulumcmeridian.churchcenter.com/giving>

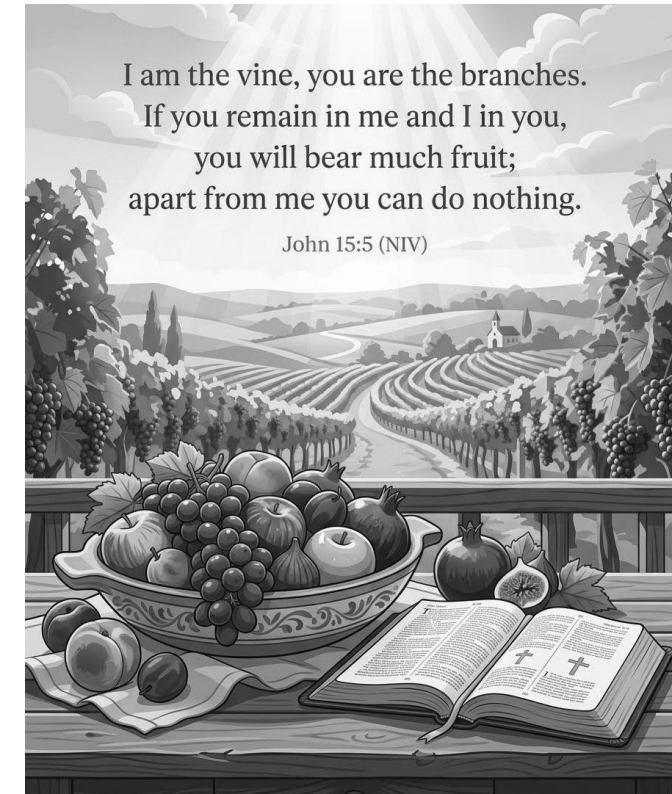
Thought For the Week: God has entrusted us with gifts, opportunities, and one another—not to keep for ourselves, but to use for God’s glory. This week, let your faith take root in love, mercy, and service. The vineyard belongs to God; may our lives bear good fruit.

Bishop Sharma Lewis Logan – Resident Bishop
Elder Johniel Henry – District Superintendent

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

“A Place to BELONG and GROW Closer to GOD”

2705 13th Street, Meridian, MS 39301
601.482.3753



I am the vine, you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit;
apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5 (NIV)

October 4, 2026

Elder Christopher Carpenter, Pastor

Email: ccarpentershcp3@gmail.com



Welcome to the First Sunday in October
Saint Paul United Methodist Church
World Communion Sunday
Elder Christopher Carpenter, Pastor
Worship Leader – Sister Josephine Virgil
Order of Service
October 4, 2026 – 11:30 a.m.

Prelude *Mr. Andrew Thomas*

Greeting *Worship Leader*

Call to Worship *Worship Leader*

Leader: The vineyard belongs to God, and we are called to bear good fruit.

People: Lord, shape our lives to reflect Your love and faithfulness.

Leader: Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of our faith.

People: We will worship Him, follow Him, and serve for His glory.

Leader: Let us open our hearts and worship the Lord.

All: Let us worship the Lord with grateful hearts. Amen.

Opening Hymn *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” p. 160*

Opening Prayer *Worship Leader*

Gracious and loving God, we come before You with grateful hearts. You are the One who planted the vineyard, nurtures Your people, and gives us everything we need to serve You. Forgive us when we have forgotten that all we have belongs to You. Help us to hear the voice of Jesus, our cornerstone, and to follow Him with faith and humility. Let Your Holy Spirit grow in us the fruits of love, mercy, justice, forgiveness, and faithful service. Prepare our hearts to receive Your Word today. May our worship honor You, strengthen Your church, and inspire us to bear fruit wherever You send us. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Scripture Reading

Worship Leader

Old Testament Scripture: Isaiah 5:1–7

New Testament Scripture: Matthew 21:33-46

Song of Praise *“It’s Me, It’s Me, O Lord” p. 352*

Sermon *Elder Christopher Carpenter*

“What Fruit Are We Producing?”

Sermon Series Theme for September 2026:

From Growing to Going: Taking Jesus to the Streets

Key Series Verse: Acts 1:8 NRSVUE

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Invitational Hymn

Call to Discipleship *Elder Christopher Carpenter*

Altar Prayer *Elder Christopher Carpenter*

Tithes & Offering *Ushers*

Doxology *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow” p. 95*

Thanksgiving and Communion *p. 9-11*

Sending Forth **Benediction** **Going Forth**