

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

September 15, 2024  
Bonnie Jacque, Pastor

**PRELUDE  
RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME  
A TIME OF SHARING  
Passing Peace  
Creation Joy**

**TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

**SUNG INTROIT** Spirit of the Living God Screen

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The heavens shout of God's glory!

**MANY: There is so much beauty in this earth and in the heavens!**

One: Day by day we are reminded of God's creative love.

**MANY: Day by day we are blessed with large and small visions of God's glory.**

One: Come, let us praise the God of creation.

**MANY: Let us sing and shout our praises of thanksgiving and joy to God. AMEN.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER** Lord, we have come this day to hear your words of healing love and hope. Enter our hearts and our spirits and teach us to follow you. Give us courage and strength to be your faithful disciples. AMEN.

**\*HYMN** When Morning Gilds The Skies #86

**TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Lord God of the universe, we are forgetful people. We forget that you made this world and that we are to care for it and protect it. Sometimes, we confess, we forget on purpose. We just don't want to because picking up our cross and following Jesus is hard. Sometimes, we do what we want and make our own plans. At other times we just are so busy or want something so badly that we really do forget. Forgive us, we pray. AMEN.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**CHOIR** Morning Has Broken

**BAPTISM** Bekx Thomas Guetzke  
Annabelle Doris Becker

Invitation

Responsive Opening Words:

One: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them...

**MANY: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."**

One: And Jesus took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Sacrament of Baptism

Prayer For The Baptized:

**ALL: Gracious God, giver of all life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Bekx Thomas Guetzke and Annabelle Doris Becker that you will watch over them and guide them in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptisms and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to serve you with joy, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** Ps 19: 1-6; James 3: 3-5; 9-12; Mark 8: 27-38

**HYMN** Jesus Asked One Day screen

**MEDITATION** That's a Good Question

**PASTORAL PRAYER**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER** Screen

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY** Halle, Halle, Hallelujah X 2 Screen

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this money to offer, the fruit of our labor and of the skills you have given us. Take us and our possessions to do your work in the world. Amen.

**BENEDICTION**  
**POSTLUDE**

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\*If rising from a seated position is an issue for you, please remain seated. The phrase, "Stand in body or spirit as you are able" is intended to give you permission to do so without embarrassment.

Congregational Response to each prayer request is: **Your prayer is our prayer. Your joy is our joy.**

**Credits:** CCLI #48321379, <https://ministrymatters.com> , <https://spillthebeans.com>, *Prayers for a Backpack Blessing* written by Jessica Miller Kelley, *Hymns by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette* used with permission.

Photos: The Duehring Family, Debbie S., Levi J, and Jodi S.,

**Reminders**

09/16 - Council meets at 6 PM

09/19 - Women's Guild at noon

09/22 - Creation Care meets after worship

09/26 - Coffee with Bonnie at Java Dancer 10 AM and Bible Study at church at 1 PM *Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You - Clouds*

**Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits: Ron and Diane S., Joyce O'K, Betty Z,**

**Jill P, and Isabel H.**

**Birthdays:** Tracy M on Monday, Sharon S. on Tuesday, Connie J on Friday

**Anniversaries:** Kyle and Katie G celebrate on Tuesday and Brett and Susan M on Thursday.

**Greeters for This Week:** The Duwells

**Greeters for Next Week:** The Edgars

**Liturgist for This Week:** E. Dost

**Liturgist for Next Week:** P. Edgar

*Following worship, you are invited for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.*