

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 2026

Season of Care of Creation

Bonnie Jacque, Pastor

TIME OF CENTERING - 9:35 am

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

TIME OF SHARING

INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Screen

One: Shout praise to God!

MANY: LET US PRAISE GOD WITH MUSIC AND GREAT JOY!

One: God looks upon us with favor.

MANY: GOD REJOICES IN OUR LOVING COMPASSION FOR OTHERS.

One: Thanks be to God who offers to us new life.

MANY: PRAISE BE TO JESUS CHRIST WHO TAUGHT US HOW TO LIVE. AMEN

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-08-01_worship_connection_proper_18_a/

***OPENING PRAYER**

Screen

GOD OF CREATION, CREATE IN US A NEW RHYTHM OF LIFE COMPOSED OF HOURS THAT SUSTAIN RATHER THAN STRESS, OF DAYS THAT DELIVER RATHER THAN DESTROY, OF TIME THAT TRICKLES RATHER THAN TACKLES. BY YOUR EVER-RESTFUL GRACE, ALLOW US TO ENTER YOUR SABBATH REST INTO US. AMEN.

<https://www.nazarenesforcreationcare.com/worship-resources.html>

HYMN

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

#17

INVITATION TO A TIME OF CONFESSION

Screen

SILENT CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Screen

ONE: WHEN WE FEEL SO NEGATIVE ABOUT OURSELVES AND WE DO NOT HEAR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THOSE WHO CARE ABOUT US.

ALL: FORGIVE US, O LORD.

ONE: WHEN OUR SENSE OF ISOLATION BLOCKS OUT OUR AWARENESS OF YOUR ABIDING LOVE.

ALL: FORGIVE US, O LORD.

ONE: WHEN WE FEEL SO GUILTY, WE CANNOT HEAR YOUR FORGIVENESS AND FIND NEW LIFE.

ALL: FORGIVE US, O LORD. AMEN. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE ARE ACCEPTED AND AFFIRMED BY GOD AS WE ARE.

ONE: THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE ARE NOT STRANGERS TO OURSELVES OR TO ONE ANOTHER.

ALL: WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN, MEMBERS OF ONE BODY. OUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN. WE HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO NEW LIFE.

SCRIPTURES Gen 1: 1-25; Ps 148; John 1:1-14

***HYMN** God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens #556

MEDITATION The Gift of Creation

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY Screen
<https://www.ucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Labor-Sunday-Liturgy-2025-Update.pdf>

DOXOLOGY Halle, Halle, Hallelujah Screen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING Screen
GOD OF JUSTICE, MERCY, AND FAIRNESS: WE COMMIT OURSELVES AND THESE OFFERINGS UNTO YOU, THAT YOUR WILL AND WAYS MAY BE MANIFESTED IN OUR LIVES, WITHIN YOUR ASSEMBLIES, AND SPREAD FORTH THAT THE POWERS THAT BE MIGHT SERVE YOUR PURPOSES UNTIL ALL ARE FED, HOUSED, CARED FOR, WORK WITH DIGNITY, AND ALL OF THESE THINGS DONE IN WAYS THAT PRESERVE THE SANCTITY OF THIS ONE PRECIOUS EARTH.
<https://www.ucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Labor-Sunday-Liturgy-2025-Update.pdf>

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Screen
One: The Spirit of Creation is with you.
MANY: AND THE SPIRIT OF CREATION WALKS NEXT TO YOU.
One: Open wide your souls.
MANY: WE OPEN THEM TO THE CREATOR'S LOVE.
One: Let us give thanks to the God of Earth and Rain.
MANY: WITH JOYOUS VOICES, HEARTS, AND HANDS, WE EXCLAIM TO GOD OUR PRAISE.
<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/communion-liturgy-for-general-synod-34-and-gshome/>

COMMUNION HYMN Until All Are Fed Screen
**ON THE GREEN, GREEN GRASS, THEY GATHERED LONG AGO
TO HEAR WHAT THE MASTER SAID
WHAT THEY HAD THEY SHARED, SOME FISHES AND SOME LOAVES
AND THEY SERVED UNTIL ALL WERE FED.
UNTIL ALL ARE FED, WE CRY OUT,
UNTIL ALL ON EARTH HAVE BREAD
LIKE THE ONE WHO LOVES EACH AND EVERYONE
WE SERVE UNTIL ALL ARE FED.**

COMMUNION PRAYER Screen
WE DELIGHT WITH OUR HOLY GOD ON THIS EARTH, AND WE REJOICE FOREVER IN WHAT GOD HAS CREATED, IS CREATING, AND WILL BE CREATED. THE SPIRIT OF CREATION BUILT THIS VAST UNIVERSE, INCLUDING OUR BEAUTIFUL, STRONG, AND FRAGILE PLANET. THE EARTH HELD THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN. LATER, THE EARTH CARRIED THE ISRAELITES ON THEIR WILDERNESS JOURNEY AND WHILE THEY DANCED JOYOUSLY IN THE PROMISED LAND.

THE EARTH ABSORBED THE TEARS OF JOB, SUPPORTED THE STEPS OF THE PROPHESYING ELIJAH, AND CARRIED DAVID IN THE SHADOW-FILLED VALLEYS. JESUS TAUGHT ON MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS, WALKED THROUGHOUT THE LAND HEALING THE ACHING, AND PRAYED IN GARDENS LATE AT NIGHT. IN TIMES OF EXILE AND TIMES OF RETURN, THE LAND HELD THE STORIES OF OUR ANCESTORS IN FAITH. TODAY, WE ABIDE ON THIS EARTH IN HOUSES OF WORSHIP, IN HOMES, AND IN HALLS.

WE KNOW THIS LAND WE SHARE TODAY IS SACRED. IT BEARS MUCH FRUIT. IT HOLDS THE FLORA OF FRIENDSHIPS. AND DEEP WITHIN ITS CELLS ARE THE STORIES OF ITS ANCESTORS – PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND LEADERS OF THE FAITH. WE KNOW THEIR FOOTPRINTS ARE STILL FELT BY THE EARTH. AND WE REMEMBER THE ONES WHO HELD THIS LAND AS THEIR OWN CENTURIES AGO. THEY WERE THE FIRST TO TEND TO THE LAND, TO NURTURE IT AS A PARENT WOULD NURTURE THEIR CHILD.

IN OUR SPACES TODAY, WE REMEMBER THEIR PLACE ON THE LAND AND THEIR CARE FOR CREATION. FROM THE STRENGTH OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE COMES THE SEEDS FOR GRAINS AND GRAPES. THE LAND HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO THE FRUITS OF OUR SACRAMENT. WITH GLORY TO OUR GOD, WE PRAISE THE SPIRIT OF CREATION.

<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/communion-liturgy-for-general-synod-34-and-gshome/>

AND NOW, AS YOUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS WHO YOU HAVE RECONCILED TO YOURSELF, WE PRAY:

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 SINS, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/communion-liturgy-for-general-synod-34-and-gshome/>

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Screen

GOD OUR CREATOR, BY YOUR GIFT THE TREE OF LIFE WAS SET AT THE HEART OF THE EARTHLY PARADISE AND THE BREAD OF LIFE AT THE HEART OF YOUR CHURCH. MAY WE WHO HAVE BEEN NOURISHED AT YOUR TABLE ON EARTH BE TRANSFORMED. AMEN.

HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

Insert

Tune: The Ash Grove, Welch Folk Melody Words: Katherine K. Davis, adapted

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Credits: CCLI #48321379,

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Liturgy: As shown on the slide.

Photos: Google Images, Eugene D., Curt H., Debbie S.

*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.**

Communion is open to all, including children with parent’s approval. We serve wine in the outer rings and juice in the middle. We offer a gluten-free wafer for those with gluten intolerance or need a gluten-free diet.

Reminders - Head to <https://stpaulserin.org> for details

09/10 - Bible Study 1 pm

09/13- Monches Park worship at **10 AM** followed by Brat Fry and Raffle

09/17 - Meet Me in the Prayer Garden 1:30 pm

09/21 - Council Meeting at 6 pm

09/27 - Confirmation Class following worship

Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits: Diane S., Joyce O’K, Mark G., John and Polly E., and Steve M.

Birthdays: Judy N on Friday.

Anniversaries: Tom and Mary G and Rick and Vicki G celebrate their wedding anniversaries on Saturday

Greeters for This Week: Cheryl F. and Cindy C.

Greeters for Next Week: BRAT FRY

Liturgist for This Week: Cindy C.

Liturgist for Next Week: Curt H.

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