

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 6, 2024

Bonnie Jacque, Pastor

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

TIME OF SHARING

SUNG INTROIT

Spirit of the Living God

Screen

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Incline your ear to God!

MANY: We Hope to hear good news.

One: Listen, so that you may live!

MANY: We hope to have enough to share.

One: Imagine together!

ALL: We imagine enough at every table.

***HYMN**

As We Gather At Your Table

#332

***OPENING PRAYER** Generous God, as we gather together in worship, we celebrate our different experiences and walks of life. Some of us have known hunger and scarcity. Some of us are too well fed. Yet, all are welcome to your heavenly banquet. We celebrate that at your table we become one body of Christ. We pray that your Spirit would connect us together, so that our hearts and minds are open to your calling. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

SUNG RESPONSE Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying X 2 Screen

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isa 55: 1-11; Matt 9: 9-13

***HYMN** Dear God, Embracing Humankind #502

MEDITATION Imagine Together

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY** Halle, halle, hallelujah x2 Screen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Loving God, our hunger is never better satisfied than at your table. Our gifts can have no higher value than when they are offered to you. Because you fill our spirits, we hunger to serve. And we pray that these gifts may be food to nourish all. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN Until All Are Fed Screen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION PRAYER We thank you, God, that you have provided for all the worlds that ever were or will be by giving yourself to them in love. We thank you for Jesus, your Word, who lived among us, uncovering your presence. We ask now that you bless us, as we share this bread and cup that we might be nourished by that same unbounded love, and so be encouraged to be your servants to the world. 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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Bountiful God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our

love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN O God of Love, O God of Peace #571

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*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.

Credits: CCLI #48321379, *Touch Holiness*, Duck and Tirabassi editors, Glen E. Rainsley; 2024 Stewardship Campaign Resources - Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull and Rev. Amber Neuroth. PHOTOS: Jacquie B., Curt H., Debbie S., the Duehring Family, Wikimedia

Reminders

10/10 - Bible Study 1 PM (Amos 5:6-7; Ps 90:12-17, Mark 10: 17-31)

10/13 - Special Congregational Meeting - Bylaws

Committee 2025 budget requests due

10/14 - Council Meeting 6 PM

10/17 - Coffee with Bonnie at Java Dancer at 10 AM

Women’s Guild at noon

10/26 - Fall Clean Up

Can collection by Mission Maniacs to support Guitars 4 Vets SE corner of upper parking lot.

Hurricane Helene Relief Fund: You can donate online at support.ucc.org, place a cash or check donation in the offering plate plainly marked with your name and what it is for, or send a check to UCC, P.O. Box 71957, Cleveland, OH, 44194 and again please notify Sharon S. of your donation.

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

Birthdays: Jacob S on Wednesday.

Anniversary: Neil and Debra W on Saturday

Greeters for This Week: Bill and LuAnn E., Judy N., Kay O’K

Greeters for Next Week: Kyle and Katie G.

Liturgist for This Week:

Liturgist for Next Week: Katie G.

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