

St.Paul's United Church of Christ
Sunday, September 10, 2023
9:30 a.m.
Craig Hink

"Teach me, O LORD ... give me understanding ..." (Psalm 119:33-34). With a new school year underway, may we grow not only in knowledge and skills but in faith toward God and love for others.

Prelude
Ringing of the Bell

***Call to Worship**

Come out of the darkness into the brightness of God's transforming love.

We praise God for God's presence with us!

Prepare your hearts and spirits to receive God's mercy and healing.

We thank God for God's mercy toward us.

Come, let us praise and worship God who is always with us.

Thanks be to God at all times and in all places. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

#9

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Words of Assurance**

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father
And to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

***Sign of Peace and Words of Welcome**

Please extend a word of welcome and friendship to those seated near you.

Hymn

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

see insert

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:15-20 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

¹⁵ If one of my followers sins against you, go and point out what was wrong. But do it in private, just between the two of you. If that person listens, you have won back a follower. ¹⁶ But if that one refuses to listen, take along one or two others. The Scriptures teach that every complaint must be proven true by two or more witnesses. ¹⁷ If the follower refuses to listen to them, report the matter to the church. Anyone who refuses to listen to the church must be treated like an unbeliever or a tax collector.

¹⁸ I promise you that God in heaven will allow whatever you allow on earth, but he will not allow anything you don't allow. ¹⁹ I promise that when any two of you on earth agree about something you are praying for, my Father in heaven will do it for you. ²⁰ Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you.

Sermon

"One is a Lonely Number"

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer – Lord's Prayer – Cares Chorus Response

I cast all my cares upon You. I lay all of my burdens down
at Your feet. And any time I don't know just what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon You.

Offering our Gifts

Offertory Music

***Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

***Offering Prayer (In Unison)**

Holy God, take our lives and let them be consecrated to you. Take our days and let them be moments for praise. Take our gifts and let them be used for Your purpose. All that you have given, let us hold with open hands and offer back to you. Amen

***Closing Hymn**

Be Thou My Vision

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***Benediction**

*** Those who are able please stand**

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