

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

May 21, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Rev. Robert F. Broeder

Organ Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

***Call to Worship**

One: Through every age and in every place, the Christ in whose name we gather calls disciples with a simple invitation, words of challenge: "Come follow me."

All: Christ leads us among enemies and strangers, causing us to regard all persons as potential friends.

One: Christ leads us into uncharted places of spiritual wilderness where the Word and Will of God are the only reliable guides.

All: Christ leads us to love ourselves just so we might be found, just so grace might become real.

One: And Christ leads us to the apparent dead-end of a cross to reveal a highway to new life.

All: We gather to worship the Christ who leads. May we gain the wisdom and courage to follow.

***Hymn**

Morning has Broken

#29

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

***Unison Confession**

O God, we confess that in a world filled with many voices, we have often failed to hear your voice, choosing instead to respond to the popular and the near at hand. You have poured out the gift of your Spirit in our Baptism, but we often give in to a spiritless life of routines. You have confirmed in us your covenant of love, but we have conformed to the general lovelessness which surrounds us. Forgive us, for claiming our name in Christ and living a nameless existence. May the spirit of promises spoken blend this day with promises renewed, that we might be restored to a sense of what is needful for our wholeness as persons. In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven and you are set free to love as God loves.

Amen.

***The 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, Amen*

Welcome and Announcements

Graduate Recognition

Children's Sermon

Scripture Readings

Psalm 68: 1 – 10 John 17: 1 - 11

Hymn **Be thou my Vision** **#288**

Sermon **“Eschatology”**

Hymn **I Love to Tell the Story** **#199**

Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

Hymn **Let us Break Bread Together** **#210**

The Lord’s Supper

Invitation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we thank you for refreshing us at Christ’s table. May our minds be renewed through our participation at your Holy Supper. Amen.

Offering our Gifts

Invitation

Offertory Music

***Doxology**

Praise God from who all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Offering Prayer**

God of abundance, **you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Cares Chorus

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.

***Hymn**

What a Friend we have in Jesus

#289

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

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