

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

July 2, 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**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

#68

***Unison Prayer of 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

***Time for Silent Confession**

***Words of Assurance**

One: Hear the Good news: No valley is too despairing, broken or dusty for God to enter in. No fear, no chaos, no hopelessness is beyond the reach of the One whose breath gives us life.

All: Through Christ, God sees only our wholeness; through Christ, forgiveness, love, and new life are always possible. Thanks be to God!

***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

Scripture Readings

Psalm 13

Matthew 10: 40 - 42

Hymn

Once to Every Man and Nation

#252

Sermon

Hymn

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

#65

Silent Prayer - Pastoral Prayer - Lord's Prayer

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

Here, O My Lord I See Thee

#220

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.**

***Hymn**

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

#61

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

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The center cups of the communion tray is grape juice for those who prefer