

**St.Paul's United Church of Christ**  
**Sunday, October 22, 2023**  
**Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Rev. Robert Fellows**

**Prelude**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

One: Paul the Apostle commends to us whatever is true and honorable and just.

**All: Let us hear these words that we may be challenged.**

One: Paul also offers us whatever is pure and lovely and gracious.

**All: Let us seek these ways that we may be blessed.**

One: We are to set before ourselves whatever is excellent and worthy of praise.

**All: Let us think upon these deeds in our time of worship together. And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ.**

**Invocation**

One: Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body, gather us once again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together.

**All: Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service that we may be the signs of your uniting love to our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointments with prayerful trust so may your church bring forth your will and your reign. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

**Here I Am to Worship**

**YouTube**

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*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.**

**Prayer of Confession**

One: Gracious and Holy God of all peoples and all times: We come before you in humility to confess our faults individually and corporately.

**All: For interpreting our anointing as exclusivity, forgive us. For proclaiming your good news as bad news to others, forgive us. For proclaiming liberty to ourselves and keeping others captive, forgive us. For failing to glorify you, forgive us. In this hour teach us your ways and offer us again your power, that our faint spirits might be transformed into the mantle of praise. Like a mighty oak, strengthen us for the work of freedom, peace, and unity which is our calling and your joy. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

One: God promises to all who trust in Christ forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace.

**All: Courage in the struggle for justice and peace, God's presence in trial and rejoicing.**

One: And eternal life in the kingdom of God which has no end. In Christ Jesus you are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Hebrew Scripture Reading:** Exodus 33:12-23

**\*\* Sunday School Classes enter worship \*\***

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 22:15-22

**Message for All Ages**

**\*Hymn**

**He's Got the Whole World in His Hands**

**Sermon**

**Trick Questions**

**Rev. Robert Fellows**

**Prayer Requests**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Cares Chorus**

**I cast all my cares upon you. I lay all of my burdens down at your feet. And anytime that I don't know what to do, I will cast all my cares upon you.**

**Offertory - Sharing God's Gifts to Strengthen Our World**

**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.**

**•Prayer of Dedication**

**As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn**

**God Moves in a Mysterious Way**

**#39**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**\* Those who are able please stand**