

**St Paul's  
UCC**

**Henderson  
MN**

**October  
8th,  
2023**



**Organ Prelude**

**Ringling of  
the Bell**

## Call to Worship

One: For earth we give you thanks, O God.

For blue heaven we give you thanks.

For rest we give you thanks.

For work we give you thanks.

**All: For meaning that is simple and sacred,  
for bonding of family and friendship and  
church, for the possibility to hope and live  
into the future, we give you thanks.**

One: For the light of day and darkness gentle in the night, for the turning seasons of the year and the celebrations by which we mark our time, we give you thanks.

**All: For the gospel story, for the salvation of souls, for the promise of life eternal, we give you thanks and praise. God of holiness and splendor, we gather together in the name of the One who makes all love incarnate, Christ Jesus. Amen.**

# **Come, Ye Thankful People, Come #42**

Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home;  
all is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin.

God our Maker doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,  
fruit as praise to God we yield;  
wheat and tares together sown  
are to joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear;  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take the harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away,  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
bring thy final harvest home;  
gather thou thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in thy presence to abide;  
come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

*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, Amen.***

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Enduring Presence, we confess that sometimes we question if you are among us or not. Sometimes we quarrel with you when we are tested. These are the moments when our outlook needs transformation. You are gracious in looking beyond our faults to see our needs and meet them. Thank you for your immeasurable grace. Amen.

# **\*Words of Assurance**

New mercies are granted daily and every day we have an opportunity to be changed forever and for good. **Amen.**

# **Liturgy for the Blessing of a New Ministry**

Moderator: Dear Christian friends, baptized in the priesthood of Christ, we are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the God of all creation in thanksgiving for what God has done and continues to do for us.

Today we give thanks to God for the ministry that God has given to the people of St. Paul's Church, and for the faithful service of its members, former pastors, and pulpit supply preachers. Now we begin a new part of the journey with our bridge pastor Rev. Robert Fellows. We ask God's guidance for our ministry as we join together in prayer.

**All: Gracious God, you have blessed and sustained us for many years and have given us this life together in the Christian community of this congregation. Be with us now, we pray, as we begin a new chapter.**

**Bless us and guide us as we reflect upon our history and dream dreams about our future, so that we might be prepared for the next stage in this congregation's life. Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and service to others, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Bridge Pastor: As we begin this interim time together, we begin new relationships. I have been called as your pastor, to be God's servant among you during this special time. I pledge to you my commitment as a minister of the gospel among you. I will pray for you, listen to you, and assist you in the affairs of the church, encouraging and challenging you as we move through this time together.



**Congregation: And we, the people of St. Paul's Church, receive you as a servant of God and pledge our partnership as we continue to use the gifts God has given us, in the many ministries of the gospel in this place: in worship, education, witness, service, and stewardship.**

Bridge Pastor: May God bless us and lead us as we together embark on this interim journey. May we view this time as a time of learning and growth as God's spirit instructs and prepares us for the future mission and ministry of the church in this place.

# Gospel Reading

## Matthew 21:33-46

# Sunday School Children Join Us



Message for All Ages

# Hebrew Scripture Reading

**Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20**

# **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing #305**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my  
God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread thro' all the earth  
abroad  
the honors of your name.

To God all glory, praise, and  
love

be now and ever given

by saints below and saints  
above,

the Church in earth and heaven.





# *The Sermon*

# **Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen



# Cares Chorus

**I cast all of my cares upon you.**

**I lay all of my burdens  
down at your feet.**

**And any time I don't know  
what to do,**

**I will cast all of my cares  
upon you.**

# Invitation Offertory Music

OFFERING  
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



Electronic Giving available with Vanco App

# *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.  
Amen.***

# **All Things Bright and Beautiful**

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flow'r that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors,  
And made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.



The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.



*Benediction  
& Blessing*