



God

... is not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:27, NRSV

Welcome to
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
May 17, 2020

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♦ All who are able may stand

Welcome

Praise & Worship [*"Because He Lives \(Amen\)"*](#)

Call to Worship

[Psalm 66:8-20](#)

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn #549

[*"Higher Ground"*](#)

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God,

People: Have mercy upon me. I confess that I have turned away from You, knowingly and unknowingly. I have wandered away from the new life that You offer to me. I have strayed away from your Love that You offer to me. Turn me back to You, O Lord. Give me a new heart and a right spirit, that I may live my life to Your honor and glory. I pray this in the name of Christ, Amen.

The Offering

Time for Personal Prayers and Prayers for the Church

Reading of Scripture

[Acts 17:22-31](#)

[1 Peter 3:13-22](#)

♦ [St. John 14:15-21](#)

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.

Song [*"Living Hope"*](#)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon [“To an Unknown God”](#) – Pastor Bill Long

Hymn #617 [“Near to the Heart of God”](#)

A Prayer for All of Us Through These Days

L: Lord God,

P: The Creator and Preserver of all people, I pray for Your presence to be with me through these days. May your saving help and grace be given to me and may your Holy Spirit anoint me with Your peace. I commend to Your loving care all those who are ill and afflicted with this flu (especially do I now pray for) may Your love be my strength through all suffering and afflictions, I pray this in the name of Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Benediction

5-17-20 Sermon Questions

1. St. Paul talks about an altar with this inscription *“To an unknown god”*; what are the names of some of the gods of this world?
2. What point is Pastor Bill making about “where does Jesus live?”
3. In what way does Christ “name” you?

Take a moment and think about your Baptismal Promises:

- ♦ Will you continue in the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in prayers?
- ♦ Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- ♦ Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Jesus Christ?

Prayer: Lord, sustain us through our journey in this life. Help us to **Know You, Love You and Serve You** so that at the end of our earthly journey we will dwell with you in the life to come. We pray this in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord, Amen.

Announcements – May 17, 2020

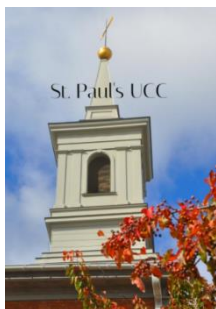
Prayers of the People: Marilyn Barnard, Storm Brewer, Sally Bright, Lori Dietz, Marie Durborow, Alison Dyer, Eric Eaby, Fred Engle, Lynn Foard, Brooke Gabster, Stephen Glaus, Jennifer Green, Hedy Hontz, Susan Houck, Mary Kiphorn, Jaxson Kulp, Cheryl Lauer, Bev Leibold, Adalyn Lotito, Wayne Martin, Jennifer McCracken, Carole Meckley, Tabitha Miller, Glen & Delores Mumma, Woody Myers, Lori Nissley, Bob Prince, Rhonda Raia, Jack Reed, Bob & Joanna Schreiber, Eric Smeltz, Linda Steiner, Christopher Trostle, Lisa Weaver, John Wenger, Patrick White, and Teen Central kids.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living.

Offering Options: Your offering is a part of worshipping God. St. Paul's offers several options for you to continue your offering: 1) mail your offering to the church office; 2) if you use online banking, use the Bill Pay option; or 3) set up direct withdrawals – contact the church office at 717.665.2447.

The May Mission of the Month is Hartman Center. All summer camp activities have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus, but Hartman Center hopes to reopen in September. Please use your special May giving envelope to make a difference through the love of Jesus at Hartman Center.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
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Visit us on Facebook @ Facebook.com/ManheimStPauls
Sunday Worship: 9:30 am ONE Worship



All Church Events except for Drive In Worship, have been cancelled, until further notice due to the Coronavirus. Feel free to call the church office at 717.665.2447 or check our website for updates.



- ◆ Food Bank Volunteers are needed to help pack food on Mondays & Thursdays from 10 am-12 noon. There is little contact with clients. Please call Carol @ 717.664.1097 if you are willing to help out.
- ◆ If you have questions about anything you've heard today, please feel free to contact us. We'd love to talk with you and get to know you! Pastor Bill Long's Office Hours are Tues-Fri. 9 am-1 pm. For other times, call the church office @ 717.665.2447.
- ◆ If you need Pastoral Care - if you are hospitalized or in crisis - please notify the church office at 717.665.2447 during weekday hours, or for **emergency** weekends, please call Pastor Bill Long directly at 717.228.0949.