

**P: Here we offer to you our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and our lives to you in blessed service. May all our worship come before you a sacrifice acceptable and well pleasing in your sight and to the glory of your Holy name.**

**Song**   ["Communion"](#)   - Avery/Carr/Powell/Lee/Anderson

### Sharing of the Elements

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: Almighty God,

**P: We thank you for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. We thank you that through these holy mysteries we are fed with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ. We are assured that we are members of the mystical body of your Son and heirs through hope of your everlasting kingdom. We pray this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### Fellowship & True Vine Cups:

St. Paul's UCC is using Fellowship Cups (grape juice) and True Vine Cups (wine in chalice shaped container) for communion as a way to stay safe during the Coronavirus. True Vine Cups are available with both regular and gluten free wafer; gluten free cups are clearly marked Gluten Free at the chalice opening.

To use the Fellowship Cups, please hold the cup with one hand. There are two layers to open the cup. The top layer holds the communion wafer – peel the clear layer off first for the wafer. The second layer holds the grape juice – carefully peel the foil layer off and use as a cup for the grape juice.

To use the True Vine cups, hold the cup firmly and peel the wafer end of the cup first. At the appropriate time, please flip the chalice container and carefully peel open the wine side to drink..

If you need assistance, please feel free to check with an usher.



## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And with your spirit.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift our hearts up unto the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**P: It is right for us to do so.**

#### Gloria Patri

Sung Softly

**P: 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 Consecration

**P: You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile, and the prophet's words that will not be in vain. In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.**

L: IN the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lords' death until he comes.

**P: Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. We remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

#### Seraphic Hymn (Hosanna)

Sung Softly

**P: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy Glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

L: Send now, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. Amen.

## Holiday Events are On @ St. Paul's UCC!

Creche Window Decorations are now on display throughout the Sanctuary and in Fellowship Hall. Before or after worship, be sure to take a look around – many families have included a narrative about their family's creche. Thank you to all who shared their family's creche.

**Christmas Eve Worship** will be held on **Thursday, December 24 @ 4 pm & 7 pm in the parking lot.** Dress warmly or plan to stay in your car (the service will be broadcast on FM 88.1) as we share the carols and lessons of the Christmas Story and light our candles as we sing Silent Night. Cookies & Cocoa will be served to help keep us warm so be sure to invite your family and friends. Social distancing is required, so please wear a mask. (In case of rain/snow, worship will be held in the Sanctuary.)



### From Pastor Bill Long:

**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 Monday-Thursday 9 am-1 pm. For other times, call the church office at 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.

### Church Calendar

- Sunday: 9:30 am [One Worship](#) in the Sanctuary or [Listen Live](#) in our Parking Lot
- Monday: 7 pm Property Board  
Tuesday: Noon-8 pm Bell Ringing @ Longenecker's
- Wednesday: 12 Noon Manheim Ministerium  
7 pm [Teach Us How to Pray Bible Study](#)  
7:30 pm Elite Bells
- Thursday: 7:00 pm AA @ Zion Lutheran
- Next  
Sunday: 9:30 am [One Worship](#) in the Sanctuary or [Listen Live](#) in our Parking Lot  
10:30 am Congregational Meeting

### St Paul's United Church of Christ

50 N. Main St., P. O. Box 129 ♦ Manheim PA 17545

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COMFORT,  
COMFORT  
MY PEOPLE,  
SAYS YOUR  
GOD.

Welcome to  
St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
December 6, 2020

ISAIAH 40:1, ESV

December 6, 2020

# WELCOME to ST. PAUL'S

Making a Difference through the Love of Christ to  
Know God ♦ Love God ♦ Serve God

## Welcome & Announcements

### Praise & Worship

["Prepare Ye The Way"](#)

- M. W. Smith

♦ Call to Prayer/Morning Collect/Prelude "Come, O Savior of the World"

- Beethoven

Call to Worship ([Psalm of the Day](#)) & Prayer of the Day

(Celebrate Insert)

♦ Hymn #95

["On Jordan's Bank"](#)

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

**P: God of all mercy, we confess before you and each other that we have been unfaithful to you. We lack love for our neighbors, we waste opportunities to do good, and we look the other way when you cry out to us in the suffering of our brothers and sisters in need. We are sincerely sorry for our sins, both those we commit deliberately and those that we allow to overtake us. We ask your forgiveness and pray for strength that we may follow in your way and love all your people with that perfect love which casts out all fear; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Sandy Bareford

Hymn #245

["O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"](#)

Verse 2

#### Prayers of Intercession

(Celebrate Insert)

Reading of Scripture (Celebrate Insert)

[Isaiah 40:1-11/2 Peter 3:8-15](#) / ♦ [St. Mark 1:1-8](#)

♦ Apostles' Creed

**P: 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.**

### Special Music

"Jesus Loves Me" – Bradbury

John Degler, Alto Saxophone

### Sermon

["The Beginning of The Good News"](#)

- Pastor Bill Long

### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

See Insert

♦ Hymn #552

["I Am Thine, O Lord"](#)

♦ Benediction

♦ Postlude/Offering

"Rejoice and Sing (from the Christmas Oratorio)"

- Bach

♦ All who are able may stand

## Announcements

**Welcome!** It's so great to worship with you once again!

### Worship Assistants:

Greeters/Ushers: Council Members

Music Provided by June Smith & Steve Smith

Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God In Honor of Our Children & Grandchildren by Dave & Judy Palfrey.

**Offering Options:** Your offering is a part of worshipping God. St. Paul's offers several ways to give your offering:

- ♦ Drop your envelope in the offering plate as you leave church today.
- ♦ Mail your offering to the church.
- ♦ If you use online banking, use the Bill Pay option.
- ♦ Or set up direct withdrawals – contact the church office at 717.665.2447 for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry here @ St. Paul's UCC!

## Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Budget Meeting will be held next Sunday, December 13, following the 9:30 am worship service. Please plan to attend.

## Bell Ringers Needed!

Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army are still needed to ring the bell @ Longenecker's Hardware on Tuesday, December 8 from noon-8 pm. Please see [Pam Herman](#) to sign up for a time slot that suits you.

## Mission Team Gift Card Fundraiser

The last day for gift card orders is next Sunday, December 13. Order forms are on the piano – place your completed order & payment in the box on 1<sup>st</sup> pew.

## Inclement Weather?

In case of inclement weather, be sure to call the church office at 717.665.2447 after 7:30 am on Sundays for service or event changes or cancellations. Postings can also be found on WGAL, [WGAL.com](#) and on our website. Sermons and bulletins will always be available online on our website: [www.stpaulsuccmanheim.org](#).

## Prayers of the People

Please  
Pray  
for...



Please pray for: Marilyn Barnard, Storm Brewer, John & Betty Condran, Alison Dyer, Eric Eaby, Fred Engle, Lynn Foard, Brooke Gabster, Dan Ganse, Susan Gates, Stephen Glaus, Betty Guynn, Rev. Gene Hill, Hedy Hontz, Susan Houck, Mary Kiphorn, Jaxson Kulp, Joanne Lehman, Bev Leibold, Adalyn Lotito, Jennifer McCracken, Tabitha Miller, Jane Moyle, Glen & Delores Mumma, Marilyn O'Connor, Bob Prince, Rhonda Raia, Jack Reed, Denise Russo, Bob & Joanna Schreiber, Lynn Scott, Eric Smeltz, Linda Steiner, Christopher Trostle, Lisa Weaver, John Wenger, Patrick White and the Teen Central kids.

Today's Prayer: We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer. Amen.