

United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



Stewards in Action

*Welcome to our Combined
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*



October 9, 2022
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:15 a.m.

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table*).

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

More Information...

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: * = if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*



sprucc.org



Free WiFi

Virtual Worship Service

Online: [Live Stream](#) at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel](#)
[Facebook Live](#) (St. Paul's) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](#) at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{If you have not already done so,
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad
to the person next to you.}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP^② (Unison)

Awesome God, who has given us life and kept our feet from slipping, we thank you now for bringing us to this place of worship and learning. Inspire us to speak truthfully and listen attentively. Keep us from wrangling over words in ways that divide. May we prove to be faithful workers, devoted to healing and reconciliation in Jesus' name. Amen.

PIANO PRELUDE

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

W&R #422

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*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP^②

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth,
sing your praise to the glory of God's name.

**People: Great and awesome are the works of the LORD.
The whole universe sings of God's power.**

Leader: Present your best selves for God's approval.
Work and witness without shame or pretense.

**People: We shall bless the LORD.
We shall let our praise be heard.**

ALL: Amen.

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION ② (Leader)

Our God, who called us into covenant, invites us to examine our faithfulness. We, who have known God's healing touch, are recalled to a life of gratitude. Challenged to be builders and planters, we are faced with our destructive, unproductive habits. Together, we seek a better way.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ② (Unison)

Forgiving God, once more we seek your pardon and protection. We find ourselves in exile from the best we know. We have focused so much of our attention on our own concerns that we have neglected the welfare of our community. We see our own hardships more readily than we feel the vast suffering around us. We forget the mercy we have received. We are angry when we should be grateful. Restore us to covenant faithfulness, we pray. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

*Red #518
Public Domain*

Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
Leader (*spoken*): Christ, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): Christ, have mercy upon us.
Leader (*spoken*): Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (*sung*): Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ② (Leader)

We are healed and forgiven by a trustworthy God whose righteousness endures forever. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth. Remember the resurrection of Jesus and accept the opportunity to be raised to new life in Christ. Our faith makes us well and prepares us for eternal glory. **Amen.**

*CALL TO PRAISE ⑩

Leader: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

People: O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you and sing you our praise.

*SUNG PRAISE "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"

*Blue #59
Public Domain*

**Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.**

(Please be seated)

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God." Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.

Proclamation of Scripture

First Lesson: [2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c](#)

Second Lesson: [2 Timothy 2:8-15](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: [Luke 17:11-19](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"Jesus, I Live to Thee"

Red #254

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MINI-MESSAGE

*{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship,
or 0-8 year olds may go downstairs to nursery,
or on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time
for the additional option of "Junior Worship"}*

CHILDREN'S SONG "God Hears My Prayer"

**God, our Father, hears my prayer
Anytime and anywhere,
He will listen when I pray,
Hear the loving words I say.**

SERMON

We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have
learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and
giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

(Those who are able, please rise)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*) *Witnessing Steward*

(Please be seated)

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for pastors, elders, deacons, trustees, and conference ministers. Inspire leaders of the church to proclaim your Mighty deeds, that your saving faith may be known to all. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Majestic God, we give you thanks for land and water, seedtime and harvest. Break down boundaries we construct between ourselves and the rest of your creation. Bring renewal and restoration to places affected by pollution and deforestation. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Mighty God, we give you thanks for those in our community, nation, and world who work for justice and peace. Guide those who govern to act on to act on behalf of those marginalized by race, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Merciful God, we give you thanks that you hear the cries of those in need. Restore to community those who are stigmatized by illness, feel rejected, Or who live in isolation. Send healing to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Faithful God, we give you thanks for the healing ministries of this congregation. Equip those who visit, care, and pray for the sick and those Who bring communion to the homebound. Give insight to doctors, nurses, Home health aides, and all practitioners of medical arts. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Eternal God, we give you thanks for your faithful people who have gone Before us to your glory. Renew our trust in your eternal promises of mercy, Redemption, and new life. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Leader: With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us when we pray to say...

Lord's Prayer *(Unison)*

**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.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩②

Leader: We are called by the Spirit

People: to live and share in the love of God through joyful service and fellowship in Christ.

Leader: Bring gifts of gratitude to honor God.

People: We give thanks for God's awesome deeds.

Leader: Praise God for salvation in Jesus Christ.

People: May our offerings and the return of God's tithes express the full measure of our thankfulness.

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

CHORAL OFFERTORY

{Those who are able, please rise}

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "God You Give"

Tune ♪ Blue #597

Tune: Hendon (Blue #597) Public Domain

Words: Earl D. Miller

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**Now I come to give myself
Give my time and give my wealth.
Give my gifts as generously
As, O God, you give to me.
As, O God, you give to me.**

*{As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.
A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed
when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.}*

*Whether worshiping in person or online,
the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church
is through St. Paul's UCC secure [Online Giving](https://www.sprucc.org) option on our website at [sprucc.org](https://www.sprucc.org). [St. Paul's UCC Click Here](https://www.sprucc.org)
Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul's UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551
or Zion UCC; PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567}*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (Leader) ②**

Our God, we bring the first fruits of our labors, the best of all we have, a portion of the bounty you entrust to us. Accept our gifts, gracious God, as a symbol of our renewed commitment. We give thanks for the wholeness you offer us amid a fragmented world. We are grateful for meaningful tasks in the midst of chaos and meaningless suffering. We dedicate ourselves and our offering to your faithful service. **Amen.**

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

***COMMISSION ②**

Leader: Go your way; your faith will keep you well.
Give praise and give of yourselves in thankful living.

**People: We will bless God as long as we live.
We will reach out to help others every day.**

Leader: Share the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ.
In humility, seek to embody the Word of truth.

**People: We will pray and work for the welfare of God's earth and God's people.
We rejoice that we may abide in covenant with God.**

ALL: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN**

*Red #558
Public Domain*

***SENDING HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God!"**

*Red #72
One License #A-728042*

*Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.
{During the hymn, today's Greeters & Ushers may return to the rear of the sanctuary,
to help greet after worship.}*

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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 - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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 - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑧ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
 - ⑨ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑩ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑪ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - ⑫ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - ⑬ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.1Zion.org

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Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest

Password (for both): iamheretoserve

Website's Link to **Upcoming Eve**



About Today

Church Season: Pentecost –which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Green –symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God’s Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ’s birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the “Gospels,” which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, October 9, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 18th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm 111

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

The Book of Second Kings

During the Middle Ages, the Book of Kings was divided into two parts. The first book provides a history of the Israelite people and their theological struggles from the death of King David (970 B.C.). The first book continues through the reign of King Solomon; to the division of Israel into the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah; and to the death of King Ahab and the beginning of the rule of his son Ahaziah. The second book begins with Ahaziah’s rule (850-849 B.C.); to the Assyrian’s destruction of Samaria (721 B.C.), which was the capital of the Northern Kingdom; to the invasion of the Babylonians and the fall of Jerusalem (586 B.C.), which was the capital of the Southern Kingdom, resulting in a period of Jewish exile.

Psalm 111

In this OT song, we give praise and thanksgiving to God for the wonderful deeds of God for humankind. It is also meant to teach people about the deeds of God. In its original Hebrew, it has an alphabetic acrostic form, which means that every other verse begins with a successive letter of the alphabet.

The Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

This epistle (letter) is attributed to the Apostle Paul and is dated around the 60’s A.D. Timothy is a minister appointed by Paul. Paul writes from prison to encourage Timothy and the rest of the church to endure suffering for the Gospel. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and leader in the Christian church, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus’ ascension into heaven. He wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Luke

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke “the beloved physician,” written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of “investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account” of Jesus Christ, “so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.”

Next Sunday, October 16, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 9, 2022

From the Conference Minister: COVID Guidance

Despite President Biden's remarks in Sunday's "60 Minutes" interview that, "the pandemic is over," Covid-19 is still designated by the federal government as a public health emergency and will continue to be so through at least October 13 when that declaration is up for possible renewal. Viruses in general have a consistent track record of increasing during fall and winter months and there is no compelling reason to believe this year will be any different. There is no immediate change in the public health guidance which includes:

Promoting the importance of being up to date with vaccination.
Reiterating that regardless of vaccination status, COVID-19 positive people need to isolate.

If you test positive for COVID-19, stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home.

Physical distance and masking are still important components to protect yourself and others.

Be attentive to Covid levels and prevention recommendations in your local area which, for Pennsylvania, you can find here: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html)

While there has been tremendous relief in the return to the daily rhythms of pre-COVID life, I encourage all congregations and ministry settings to maintain a faithful level of vigilance to the safety and wellness of the people God calls us to love and serve.

With Prayers for your good health
Pastor Bill

Attention Children and Youth! National Art Contest



The UCC is launching a national art contest for children and youth that will be part of a larger campaign that will generate hope in making a difference when confronting the climate crisis.

How to participate?: Draw or paint about climate hope, environmental justice, or protecting the Earth. Sunday school class and youth group participation encouraged. Winners will be selected in November!

For more information:

1. Go to: ucc.org
2. Search: Climate Hope Cards



Walking with God 2022

Saturday, October 15th

Please join us for a day of fellowship, fun, laughter, and learning, ending with worship and communion. This year's retreat will be held in the New Goshenhoppen Church park where many activities can take place outside, (in God's Good Creation). The park includes a covered band shell and dining hall, in case of inclement weather.

For more Information and to Register :
<https://psecwvg22.eventbrite.com>

Amazing Grace!

422

G G/D D7 Em C G G/D D/C G/B

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re-lieved;
 3 The Lord has prom-ised good to me, his word my hope se-cures;
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares I have al - read - y come;
 5 When we've been there ten thou-sand years, bright shin - ing as the sun,

G G/B C G G/B Em G/D D7 G

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.
 how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be-lieved!
 he will my shield and por - tion be as long as life en-dures.
 'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

254

HENRY HARBAUGH, 1850

S.M.

LAKE ENON
 ISAAC B. WOODBURY, 1856

Not too fast

1. Je - sus, I live to Thee, The love - li - est and best;
 2. Je - sus, I die to Thee, When - ev - er death shall come;
 3. Wheth - er to live or die, I know not which is best;
 4. Liv - ing or dy - ing, Lord, I ask but to be Thine;

My life in Thee, Thy life in me, In Thy blest love I rest.
 To die in Thee is life to me In my e - ter - nal home.
 To live in Thee is bliss to me, To die is end - less rest.
 My life in Thee, Thy life in me, Makes heaven for - ev - er mine. A-MEN.

God the Father

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

MARTIN RINKART, 1586-1649
Tr. CATHERINE WINKWORTH, 1858

6. 7. 6. 7. 6. 6. 6. 6.

JOHANN CRÜGER, 1648

Majestically, but not too slowly

1. Now thank we all our God With heart, and hands, and voi - ces,
2. O may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God, The Fa - ther, now be giv - en,

Who won - drous things hath done, In whom His world re - joi - ces;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us;
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who from our moth - ers' arms Hath blest us on our way
To keep us in His grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
The One E - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heaven a - dore;

With count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more. A-MEN.