**St. Paul**

 **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**August 17, 2025 10:30am**

***Welcome!*** Whether you are a guest, friend or member, we are delighted that you are here. Large print bulletins are available at either door. Ask a greeter for any directions you may need.

*“Please note that this service will be live-streamed on Facebook. If you do not wish to be visible on camera, please let an usher know so we can take appropriate measures to ensure*

*your privacy."*



Rev. Jim Oleson, Pastor

Carolyn Meier, Musician

***Tenth Sunday after Pentecost***

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome & Announcements**

*In the last days, says God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters shall prophesy. Your young people shall see visions, and your old people shall dream dreams. People of God, we have been baptized into one Spirit and one body through Jesus Christ. Let us worship today.*

 **Prelude and Lighting of the Candles**

 **\*Call to Worship**

**Leader:** Let us sing to the God of Hosts

**People: who provides for us, and whom we worship in this space.**

**Leader:** How awesome is our God

**People: who created from nothing all that is beautiful in this world;**

**Leader:** who anticipates our every need;

**People: who loves us beyond measure.**

**Leader:** O God, our God give heed to our presence.

**People: Hear our voices lifted up to you in praise. Amen.**

**\*Invocation**

**Most Gracious God we greet you once again in this sacred space. We have come because we need to be reminded of your love and your expectations for our living. We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected. We know in our hearts that we need, want and desire your presence in our lives. So we come in prayer and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts and reveal again your desires for us. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** #86New Century When Morning Gilds the Skies

**\*Prayer for Transformation** **and New Life**
**O God of all good gifts how generous are your provisions for us! Even before we are aware of our needs, you know what it is that we need. You invite us into community and provide for us out of your steadfast love: nourishment for our bodies, protection from the elements and safety.**

**You ask in return that we respond to your love by working for justice, nourishment, and protection for all.**

**You expect that we will seek righteousness as a way of life.**

**But so often O God, we fail to live being mindful of others in a caring, just, and righteous way.**

**When your love and justice do not flow through our lives, our community withers, and so do we. Forgive us, O God! In your loving care, show us again the way to participate in your realm.**

 <pause for silent reflection >

**Words of Grace**
**Leader:** My friends, be assured that God hears our petitions! God continues to expect of us a life in which justice prevails.

**People: This is God’s desire for us. We, God’s forgiven people, are free to live into that desire. God loves us still. Amen.**

**\*Response of Praise**

**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.**

**Written Word**  Isaiah 5:1-7

 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

 Luke 12:49-56

**Hymn** #502New Century Dear God, Embracing Humankind

**Message** A Love Song Rev. Jim Oleson

 Isaiah 5:1-7

**Church in Prayer**

 **Pastoral Prayer**

 **Lord’s Prayer** (Debts, Debtors)

**Offertory**

 **Invitation to Generosity**

**\*Doxology** (Tune: Old Hundredth)

**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.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

 **Bless, O God, these our gifts, and bless our desire to participate with you in the building of your realm among us. Accept these gifts as a sign of our love for you and for our neighbors. Amen.**

 **\*Closing Hymn #**77New Century Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

 \***Commission and Benediction**

**\*Christ’s Light Leads Us into the World**

 **\*Congregational Response** #76 New Century Sent Forth by God’s Blessing

(Verse 1)

**\*Ringing of the Bell and Postlude**

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**OFFICE HOURS**

Wednesday: 9:00am – 3:00pm

Friday: 9:00am - Noon

It Happens

Here St. Paul UCC

 Weekly Calendar

 August 17th – August 24th

**August 17th *Tenth Sunday after***

 ***Pentecost***

10:30am Worship

11:30am Fellowship Hour

August 18rd

5:15 pm Council Meeting

**August 24th *Eleventh Sunday after***

 ***Pentecost***

10:30am Worship

11:30am Fellowship Hour

***Looking Ahead***

August 23rd

6:00pm Trivia Night

September 9th

5:00pm Worship Committee

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**OUR GIVING IN 2025**

 **Needed weekly to meet our commitments** $**2317.02 $ 2317.02**

General Fund Offering August 10th $ 1500.00 July Average $ 1,237.25 Stewardship Offering August 10th $ 25.00 June Average $ 870.60

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**HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY**

**Sunday, August 17:** Annual Picnic at Femme Osage UCC. Serving 11:30am – 6:00pm. All-You-Can-Eat, cafeteria -style dining.

***We Extend Christian Love & Sympathy to:*** the family and friends of Don Bothe. Don passed away on Tuesday, August 5th.

 **Thank you to all our volunteers!**

 **Greeters/Ushers**

 Christopher Dickmeyer & Bobby Roskowske

 **Acolyte**

 Christopher Dickmeyer

 **Liturgist**

Joyce Noble

 **Fellowship Hour**

 Council

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In our prayers …

This week we again added a prayer of gratitude for the faithfulness of this congregation. We also added prayers for Marlene.

We continue to keep in our prayers: Lauretta, Rich M., Steve, Mark H., Larry (Sharon’s grandson), Rick, Lynn and Ron D., Bill D., Cheryl V., Tosha D., Pat, Kenneth G., Christian, Laurie S., and Jane W. We also pray for the victims of the flooding in Elsberry.

We lift up in our prayers those who need prayers for their *long-term circumstances*: Carol Jean P.

The Food Pantry needs the following items:

 Toilet Paper, Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap,

 Soup, PB/Jelly, Cereal, Canned Fruit.

 **PLEASE, NO:** Mac & Cheese, Diced Tomatoes,

 Corn or Green Beans!

Emergency Planning is checking into a CPR/AED refresher course.  There are 2 options: refresher course without certification at no cost or a certification course at the cost of $40. Let Joyce Noble know if you are interested.