

Mission Statement

St. Paul United Methodist Church exists to honor God by making more disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 6, 2025

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude

When I Survey

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*Call to Worship:

Leader: We come to worship, remembering God's goodness that has carried us and sustained us to this present moment.

Unison: We remember the days when God covered us in love and filled us with joy.

Leader: We come to worship, weary from stress, heavy with grief, and wondering when relief will come.

Unison: We long for the days God covered us in love and filled us with joy.

Leader: We come to worship to remember and remind one another that God's love has never left us, and God's joy cannot be extinguished.

Unison: God, restore us that we know your love and your joy once again.

Leader: We come to worship to remember and become the Body of Christ, a community called to restore the world around us.

Unison: God, empower us to be your restoration people who fill the world with love, laughter, and abundant life. Amen.

*Opening Prayer:

Leader: Together let us pray.

Unison: Come to this sanctuary, this house, this home, Holy Christ, and let us receive you with lavish welcome. You are the Restorer of our fortunes, the Promise of new life – We pour out our praise to you. Fill this room with your Spirit: The sound of wind, the warmth of flame, the scent of perfume and fill our hearts with compassion, not just in this time and place, but in all

times and in all places, so that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us, we may also embody the love you give to all. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: My Jesus, I Love Thee Page 172**
My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree; I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright; I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

The First Lesson: Psalm 126

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God!
People: Thanks be to God!

Special Music: Jesus Paid It All arr Helvey

***Gospel Lesson: John 12: 1-8**

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!
People: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn: Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee Page 175**
Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills the breast; but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show; the love of Jesus, what it is, none but his loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be; Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (in 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.

Sermon: "Extravagant Love" Pastor Candy Arnold

The Affirmation of our Stewardship

Offertory Ave Verum Mozart

*** Congregational Response Page 95**

*** Prayer of Dedication (in unison):** Loving God, source of all joy, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude. As Mary poured out her love for Jesus with costly perfume, so we pour out our gifts before you, seeking to honor you with all that we have. During this reflective Lenten period, may our offerings remind us of the abundance you've poured into our lives. Help us to give extravagantly, not out of duty, but from hearts filled with joy and gratitude. Bless these gifts and use them to bring your hope to the world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

***Hymn: O How I Love Jesus Page 170**

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth; it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.

