

June 7, 2020 ~ Trinity Sunday

Welcome and Announcements ~ The Rev. Paul Stunkel

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship (from Psalm 91) ~ *responsive*

Leader: You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty-you will say to the Lord,

All: “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”

Leader: For God will rescue you from the snare of the hunter and from the deadly plague.

All: God’s wings will cover us. We will find refuge in the Lord.

God’s faithfulness will be our shield and defense.

Leader: You shall not fear any terror in the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

**All: nor the plague that stalks in the darkness,
nor the sickness that lays waste at noon.**

Leader: Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation.

Chorus #743~ “*O God, You Are My God*”

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you’ll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

Psalm Prayer ~ *in unison*

God of endless love,

**you have promised to protect your people in times of danger
and to hear us when we pray.**

**May your promises overcome any doubt or fear
so that we may live confidently and praise you joyfully
no matter what this day may bring.**

We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**you are invited to stand as you are able*

***Hymn #52** ~ “*When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land*”

Passing Peace

Reflection with children

Breathing Prayer

Response #455 ~ “*Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken*”

*Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation, listen even if you don’t understand.* (repeat)

Hebrew Scripture ~ Exodus 1:8-11a

Special Music ~ “*You’ll Never Walk Alone*”

Hebrew Scripture ~ Exodus 10:12-20

***Hymn #834** ~ *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

Hebrew Scripture ~ Exodus 10:21-29

Message ~ “Persistence of evil and hardening of hearts”

***Hymn #379** ~ *“We Shall Overcome”*

Community Prayers

***Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 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.

Words of Institution

God’s Faithful Love through Bread and Cup

As we receive, please sing #507 ~ *“Come to the Table of Grace”*

1. Come to the table of grace. *Come to the table of grace.*

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

2. Come to the table of peace. *Come to the table of peace.*

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

3. Come to the table of love. *Come to the table of love.*

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

4. Come to the table of hope. *Come to the table of hope.*

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.

5. Come to the table of joy. *Come to the table of joy.*

This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

Prayer

***Benediction**

Postlude

A donation to the Board of Deacons Hunger Relief Ministry was made by Harry McGregor and Judy McGregor in memory of Harry E. McGregor.

CCLI #2342595 CVLI #502166520

A meeting of the congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is called for Sunday, June 14, 2020, immediately following the 10:15AM live streamed worship service. The purpose is to approve the amended by-laws, elect members of the Nominations Committee, and to dissolve the call of the Rev. Paul Stunkel as of June 30, 2020. **PLEASE, stay online after worship today for an instructional "dry run" of this live streamed meeting.**

Reflection

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am in my final month and am intending to send you a reflection each week.

My first reflection: Regret

I regret that we may not see each other in these final weeks. The virus continues to wreak havoc on normal process. In a normal time we might be able to share a moment of mutual remembrance. Share gratitude and hopes. Even give hugs and share a tear. Now we wave from a distance. Give air hugs. Smile and nod on camera.

Another regret. As I consider 10 years of walking with you as Pastor and Partner in God's Call, one regret in the midst of a bouquet of gratitude and grace. I regret I was unable to promote, hold on to, attract, persons a generation younger than myself. The strategies I used other places seemed ineffective. A regret.

So now please know I think of you fondly. I am grateful for our ten years together and I hope you will choose to offer your blessing as we take different forks in the road.

Blessing,

Paul

June 3, 2020

Pandemic - Who New

We have seen the emergence of a national folk hero named Doctor Fauci

And have endured a President who seems mostly grouchy

Misinformation and false facts abound

"I will not wear a mask when I am around"

With new found services like FaceTime, Zoom and Google Meet

We can still see each other, without moving our feet

We have become a skaggier nation without a haircut

Exposing our roots with no pathway to a shortcut

*It turns out that we are able to fix things in our spare time
With the shiny new parts that were ordered through Amazon Prime
Speeding unchecked down an empty Highway
Some have been cited with the record ticket of the day
We have a renewed excitement to call on a friend
Hoping to find them OK or possibly on the mend
It now seems acceptable for little ones to say "Hi"
Broadly beaming and waving as we pass by*

Gary Earnley

"Pastor Paul and member of St. Paul's,
Thanks so very much for all of your love, time, prayers, and concern with regards to our parents.
We appreciate all of you so very much. Our parents thought so much of all of you!"
Barbara, Brent, and the family of Bill and Elaine Dust.

Highlights from the May 19 Council Meeting...

- 1. Council will be assisting the Deacons with calling members who have been isolated during the Executive Stay at Home order, including shut-ins. If you know of someone who needs to be contacted or would like a call, please contact Karen Bright.**
- 2. Thank you to those who have maintained financial pledges. And thank you to all who have been signing in and participating in our Sunday live streamed services! Although we cannot always see you, it is nice to know you are there!**
- 3. A welcome is extended to Jeff Velis as he has officially accepted the position of part time Technology Advisor at St. Paul's.**
- 4. Council has begun preliminary planning for the reopening of St. Paul's.**
- 5. Faith Formation and Council invite you to join us for a time of prayer every Tuesday evening on Google Meet at 6:30PM.**
- 6. Sunday, June 28 will be the final worship service led by the Rev. Paul Stunkel. All are invited to the planned outdoor service, following social distancing guidelines. More information will follow.**

The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Committee invites all to *"The Heavens Declare-An Online Prayer Event"* on Monday, June 22 at 8PM EST. It can be streamed from theheavensdeclare.org as well as on [facebook.com/livoniaprayerbreakfast](https://www.facebook.com/livoniaprayerbreakfast) and YouTube. Along with prayer, there will be devotionals, scripture readings, and worship. In a year when prayer is needed most, and there was no live Prayer Breakfast gathering in May, this event will reach beyond the borders of Livonia to Ohio, Florida, Texas, South Africa and Jerusalem.

From the Board of Deacons...

Greetings and blessings to you in these challenging times from St. Paul's Board of Deacons. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed life for all of us. Most of us have grown weary of the limitations it has placed on us, but we are doing OK. But for others, the Michigan executive orders have caused a large increase in food insecurity in the Metro Detroit area, especially in Detroit. The Board of Deacons felt compelled to address this issue. Your generous donations enabled us to donate \$535 from St. Paul's to Gleaners during Easter week. At our meeting on May 9, we passed a motion to request more donations for hunger relief.

Money may now be donated as you wish for Hunger Relief. It will be used to stock our Food Pantry, or be given to Gleaners, as the Board sees fit. You may make donations in honor or in memory of someone or something, and an acknowledgement will go into the online bulletin, as was the procedure for chancel flower donations. No set amount is required, and acknowledgements will go in the bulletin as soon as possible. Donations may not be made in advance for future dates.

To donate, please: *Make your check payable to: St. Paul's Board of Deacons*

In the Memo line, write: Hunger Relief

Enclose a note with: Donor(s) Name(s) and the dedication

Dedication examples:

In honor of the first responders

In honor of our grandchildren, whom we love and miss

In memory of my parents, (names)

Send the donation with your check and note to St. Paul's, or you may drop it in the secure mailbox outside the entrance.

The Board of Deacons appreciates the spirit of our congregation, which has pulled all of us through so many difficult times. Let us pray for better days, and continue to encourage and support each other in the weeks to come, following the lessons of Jesus. Let's feed each other spiritually, and the hungry, literally. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

Camilla White, Sheldon Davis, Carol Townsend, Joyce Barton, Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye
Nola Bonandrini, Tamar Duthie, Frank & Nancy Saunders, Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Anita Falk
Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Lila Hindmarsh, Susan Grant, Grace Campbell, Bruce Phillips, Barbara Kett
Debbie Peterson & family ~ friend of Meta Tulley & Joan Westbrook
The family of the Rev. Dr. Louis Forsythe ~ friends of St. Paul's; Thomas Peebles ~ friend of Jeff Graham
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham
Mark Osborne ~ son of Janet; Sarah & Mason Young ~ cousins of Judy McGregor
Tony S. ~ cousin of Gail Artinian; Diane Calloway ~ cousin of Gail Artinian
MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne; Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne
Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin
Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of Tamar Duthie
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling ~ grandson of Ron & Janet Frank
Eric Schilling ~ grandson of Ron & Janet Frank; Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta
Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis; Jill Haddox ~ friend of Connie Shoup

Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.

A friendly request from the office!

I thank you for your continued faithful giving and kindly request that you please insert your donations in the numbered envelopes. Also, the Board of Deacons and the Foundation have accounts separate from the general, so please direct your checks payable to each of them. I want to be sure our accounting is accurate!

With sincere gratitude for your support, *Wanda*

Christian Century Conversations

Online Sundays @ 9am

The Adult Sunday School where, each week, we gather readings of current events and news from the wider church. Assignments will be posted the week before. Those without access, contact Paul about articles. To join the conversation, visit [SPPC's Google Meet \(meet.google.com/rnp-eeko-gjx\)](https://meet.google.com/rnp-eeko-gjx) or join by phone, call [813-435-9471](tel:813-435-9471) PIN: 602 392 483#.

Adult Forum - Discovering Hope in the Psalms

Please join us Sundays - 9:00 – 10:00am!

We are moving on to a study of Psalm 2!! We are studying out of *Discovering Hope in the Psalms*, a "creative Bible Study Experience" by Pam Farrel, Jean E. Jones, and Karla Dornacher.

Those of you who have purchased the book, have that handy. Everyone have a Bible, a writing utensil and something to write on available for the class. If you have not purchased a book, contact me, Kathy Potter, at christianeducator@stpaulspresbyterian.church for help in obtaining a copy.

[Join Google Meet](https://meet.google.com/ofb-mozw-shc)

[Join by phone](tel:+15138181609)

meet.google.com/ofb-mozw-shc

+1 513-818-1609 PIN: 389 490 359#

After Church Hang Out! Sundays -11:30am – 12:00pm

After Church Hang Out! is St. Paul's time for our children and youth to meet up, talk, pray and hear about Jesus. We will hang out, sharing our life and faith. This week we will read a book by Patricia Polacco and see how it applies to our lives today! Hope to see you Sunday!

[Join Google Meet](https://meet.google.com/kbd-yuqx-kvh)

[Join by phone](tel:+12248012537)

meet.google.com/kbd-yuqx-kvh

+1 224-801-2537 PIN: 972 274 980#

O God, You Are My God 743

Step by Step

G D C D

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise

G Dsus7 D7 G D C D

you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise

G Em Dsus D

you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will

C Am7 G

learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead

D C Dsus7 D7 G

me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.

834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
 fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

379 We Shall Overcome

1 We shall o - ver - come; we shall o - ver - come;
 2 We'll walk hand in hand; we'll walk hand in hand;
 3 We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace;
 4 We are not a - fraid; we are not a - fraid;
 5 God will see us through; God will see us through;

we shall o - ver - come some - day.
 we'll walk hand in hand some - day.
 we shall live in peace some - day.
 we are not a - fraid to - day.
 God will see us through to - day.

Refrain

O, deep in my heart I do be -

lieve we shall o - ver - come some - day!

Though now associated primarily with the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century, this spiritual most likely dates from the days of the slave trade; and similarities with the tune SICILIAN MARINERS (see no. 546) suggest that it might have been a work song aboard slave ships.

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land 52

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple go;
 2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo - ple go!
 3 "No more shall they in bond - age toil: let my peo - ple go!
 4 O let us all from bond - age flee; let my peo - ple go!

op - pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo - ple go!
 If not, I'll smite your first - born dead. Let my peo - ple go!"
 Let them come out with E - gypt's spoil: let my peo - ple go!"
 And let us all in Christ be free: let my peo - ple go!

Refrain

Go down, (go down,) Mo - ses, (Mo - ses,) way down in E - gypt's

land; tell old Pha - raoh: let my peo - ple go!

Nothing in Hebrew Scripture resonated more deeply with the experience of African Americans in North America than Israel's slavery in Egypt. In this spiritual's recurring line, "Let my people go," past and present became one, as they still do for all who are oppressed.