

June 21, 2020 ~ Third Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements ~ The Rev. Paul Stunkel

Prelude ~ *"There is a Fountain"* (arr. Hayes) ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship (from Psalm 86) ~ *responsive*

Leader: Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer us, for we are poor and needy.

All: You are our God; be gracious to us, O Lord, for to you we cry all day long.

Leader: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

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.

Leader: In the day of our trouble, we call on you, for you will answer us.

All: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Psalm Prayer ~ *in unison*

Merciful God, whose very name is Love,
you never turn away from anyone who seeks you.
Like the tax collector who cried for mercy,
keep us honest and humble in our prayer,
receiving your forgiveness in our broken lives and proclaiming your salvation,
available to all the world through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

**Hymn #5 - "God the Sculptor of the Mountains"*

**Prayer of Confession ~ in unison*

Merciful God, in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.
Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and
nation against nation.
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into the bonds of oppression.
Lord have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

**Assurance and Charge*

**Sharing the 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 ~ Genesis 21:8-19

Special Music ~ *“I Will Be Your God”* (J. Fetter/Welsh Melody)

Gospel ~ Luke 18:1-5

Message ~ *“There was a judge, there was a widow, one more parable”*

*Hymn #69 ~ *“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”*

Community at Prayer

*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.

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.

*Hymn #475 ~ *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

*Benediction

Postlude ~ *“My Chains are Gone”* (arr. Hayes)

A donation to the Board of Deacons Hunger Relief Ministry was made by Georgia Hunt in honor of First Responders

CCLI #2342595 CVLI #502166520

Weekly Reflection

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Two weeks is not enough time. Yet we have been preparing for more than two years.

I am convinced that our Lord will shepherd us all moving forward.

So, in the in between time, after June 30, I will not be your pastor.

When the church or you have a pastoral concern, please do not phone me or text me or email me. I will not be your shepherd under the Lord anymore.

If our partnership these last 10 years has been sanctioned by God and blessed by the Presbytery (a three way marriage as it were), now we will no longer be married (no longer partners). We will be shepherded by Jesus in different meadows.

In the past, I have always had the next job to go to. Now I have the new experience of fleshing out what Honorable Retired entails.

I will miss you. I will pray for you. But I will not be phoning or emailing to check up on the church or your health.

I entrust you into the mercy of God and your gracious care of each other.

Blessings of the Father, Son, Spirit.

Paul

June 15, 2020

An update from the PNC...

The PNC diligently continues our search for St. Paul's next called pastor. We are meeting weekly, and at times twice a week, to do our due diligence to research, follow up, and have conversations with prospective candidates. As you can imagine, the pandemic had an effect on the search process, but we have remained dedicated in our continued search. Currently within the PCUSA, there are 1495 churches seeking solo pastors with 346 candidates searching. We realize you may be feeling anxious with Paul's retirement quickly approaching. Please keep the faith! Say your prayers! We are working hard and remind ourselves that this will happen in God's time, not ours. We remain faithful that God is guiding us and with us in our search. We ask for your continued prayers and support as we move forward.

Pastoral Care

After Paul retires on June 30, what will St. Paul's do for pastoral care? Although the Rev. Joanne Morgan's relationship with St. Paul's as Parish Associate will terminate with Paul's retirement, she has agreed to handle the coordination of pastoral care needs in the interim. If someone is hospitalized, we encourage you to phone the office or call Jo directly. Funeral arrangements and hospital visitation may be arranged with Rev. Jo and may include elders helping with follow-up in the gap between Paul's retirement and the arrival of a new pastor.

St. Paul's office—734.422.1470—sppcemail@stpaulspresbyterian.church
The Rev. Jo Morgan—734.591.3180—pastoralcare@stpaulspresbyterian.church

Highlights from the June 16 Council Meeting...

- 1) Celebrated Rev. Paul Stunkel's final meeting with us.
- 2) Thank you to the Rev. Joanne Morgan for serving as our Parish Associate during Rev. Paul Stunkel's tenure. We look forward to working with her as she continues to help us as our Pastoral Care Coordinator and Moderator of Council.
- 3) Worship Committee will be working to supply preaching leadership on Sundays until a new pastor arrives.
- 4) Thank you to our congregation for continuing to be faithful in your giving and participation in Sunday morning live-streamed services!!! Our May service attendance for

2020 surpassed attendance for May services in both 2018 and 2019!!! So nice to be with you all on Sundays!

- 5) Council would like to extend a thank you to all our members and volunteers who have been helping to clean up the grounds at St. Paul's the last few weeks. We are 'looking good!'.



Camilla White, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, 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 ~ friends of Meta Tulley & Joan Westbrook
The family of the Rev. Dr. Louis Forsythe ~ friends of St. Paul's; Thomas Peeples ~ 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
Bob Kortenhoeven ~ brother of a friend 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.

Dear Friends,

Ten years have flown. Here we are closing in on the finish line.

I am not an expert on conclusions. I muddle through my griefs. Anger is a more familiar emotion. So I ask your forgiveness if I do not respond in helpful ways as we process this ending.

I am grateful for you. I will keep saying thanks. When I arrived at St. Paul's I was coming off a 3 month sabbatical and 3 months of unemployment. I had wondered if I would work again. I came off a time of conflict and a sense of burn-out. So... I am grateful for 10 years of shared life. I am grateful that God saw fit to bring us together. I am grateful that you persisted in advertising further than the Presbytery recommended. (I being the only one responding from Illinois). Believing God was in the process (past), I affirm that God is bringing into your lives the next pastor. Given our experience, we trust the Lord.

In Thanksgiving,

Paul