



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

February 21, 2021

9:30 A.M.

First Sunday in Lent/Communion

* = Those who are able may stand

Prelude *Give Me Jesus* -Hayes
Arioso -J.S.Bach
Piano/Organ Duet Andy Heimele - Piano

* Processional Hymn *Savior, When in Tears and Dust*

1. **Savior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust.
When repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes.
Mindful how you suffered pain that God's love in us might reign
Help us claim what we would be, hear our solemn litany.**
2. **By your helpless infant years, by your life of want and tears,
By your days of sore distress in the savage wilderness,
By the dread mysterious hour of th'insulting tempter's power;
Listen to our humble cry, hear our solemn litany.**

* Greeting The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Introit

**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray.
Teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

* The Solemn Declaration (from Genesis 9:12-13) sung response: **Amen!**

* Call to Worship —based on John 12:26

From water to wilderness:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

On stone and in hearts:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,

for where he is, we would be also.

* Call to Confession and Silent Prayer —based on Genesis 9:13

* Prayer of Confession (in unison)

—based on Psalm 25:4; Mark 1:12

**God of mercy,
we begin this Lenten season in confession.
We do not live according to your ways,
but according to our own.
We condone violence,
participate in systems of injustice,
and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others.
Forgive us, we pray,
when we are tempted to follow paths
other than those you set before us.
Teach us your commandments;
help us to turn from evil in its many guises,
and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near.
In covenantal love, remember us, we pray,
and be for us, once more and always,
an ark of safety and new life.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

* Declaration of Forgiveness —based on 1 Peter 3:20–21, 22

As Noah and his family were brought safely . . . Jesus Christ . . .
forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on
earth. **Thanks be to God for this good news!**

* Affirmation *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was
conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the
virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried. He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come
again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day —based on Genesis 9:9–11, Mark 1:9, 10, Genesis 1:2

Special Music *I Need Thee Every Hour* -Lowry/Peery

Prayer of Illumination —based on Genesis 7:11–12; Mark 1:12, 14–15

Scripture Readings *Mark 1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22*

Sermon *Saved Through Water*

* Responsive Hymn *Jesus, Our Lord and King*

1. **Jesus, our Lord and King, to you our praises rise;
To you our bodies we present, a living sacrifice.**
2. **As dead indeed to sin, we rise to walk anew,
Henceforth, as not our own, but yours, we follow only you.**
3. **Baptized into your death, with you again we rise,
To newness of a life of faith, to new and endless joys.**

Prayers of the People response: *Gracious God,*
We know you hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Invitation to the Offering —based on Mark 1:15

* Doxology

* Prayer of Dedication —based on Psalm 25:9

Holy Communion (see insert)

* Recessional Hymn *You Are My All in All*

1. **You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek;
You are my all in all.
Seeking you as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool;
You are my all in all.**

REFRAIN **Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name!
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name!**

2. **Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless your name;
You are my all in all.
When I fall down, you pick me up;
When I am dry, you fill my cup;
You are my all in all. REFRAIN**

* Benediction

* Threefold Amen

Postlude *March in D* -Rebikoff

St. Paul's UCC, Amityville

1979 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, PA 19518

Virtual Worship February 21, 2021

Ministers: The People of St. Paul's UCC
The Rev. Dr. Steven Simpson, Pastor
Martha Sitler, Minister of Music
Maya Herbst and Amy Schafer, Sextons
Joe Ceklosky: Leader of Technology/Video Team
Marlene Dadey, Director of Christian Education/Office Manager
Church Office 610-689-9364
Pastor Steven's cell - 610-858-0921
Pastor's e-mail - pastor@stpaulsuccamity.org
Church e-mail - office@stpaulsuccamity.org
Website: www.stpaulsuccamity.org
Youth Group Website: www.stpaulsuccamity.org/about-youth

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Mission Statement

In its life and mission, St. Paul's UCC seeks to worship the triune God;
proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ; practice loving service toward the needy;
embody God's reign of peace and justice; establish a Christian community of faith;
and be a faithful member of the church universal.

Welcome! Whether you are worshipping with us in-person or
virtually, we pray that you and your family are safe and healthy.

Next Sunday: *Second Sunday in Lent*
Messages: *Whoever Loses Their Life for Me*
Texts: *Psalm 22:23-31, Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16,*
Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

February 21: Lilly Casner, Theresa Shaw
February 23: Robert Miller
February 25: Tara Everhart, Becky Kohr
February 26: Sharon Fizz, Fallon Bentley, Jessica Pflugler
February 27: Stacy Knauer, Connor Hartline

ANNIVERSARIES ~ this week

February 22: Kevin & Jamie Zychal

ORDER for HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.



Thanksgiving for the Work of God in Creation

Acclamation of Praise (The Sanctus) —based on Psalm 118:26; Isaiah 6:3

...Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth,
Heaven and earth are full; are full of the majesty of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

Thanksgiving for the Work of Christ

Memorial Acclamation

... Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Prayer for the Work of the Spirit

Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

**Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours,
Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Share

* Please Note: As you worship at home you may share the Lord's Supper virtually with bread and wine or juice.

Acclamation

—Revelation 5:12, NIV

Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain . . .

**to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!**

TODAY'S SERMON TEXTS

Mark 1:9-15 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, ¹³ and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"



1 Peter 3:18-22 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear^[a]; do not be frightened." ¹⁵ But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹ through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison ²⁰ who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.