

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

235 South Main Street, Woodstock Virginia 22664

Office: (540) 459-3643

Sunday School: 9:45 A.M. Worship: 11:00 A.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 2, 2021

Rev. Anne Findlay-Chamberlain, Minister

Come, Grow, Serve

*Indicates that the congregation stands

PRELUDE "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Bradbury
(During the prelude, let us be in silence preparing our hearts for worship.)

SILENT PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

"The roadblocks to growth and joy come when we forget the bigness of God and instead make people and problems bigger than God is." (Mary E. DeMuth) In this time of silence, spend some time talking with God about the roadblocks you are experiencing. Ask God's help in granting you a new perspective based on who God is rather than on what you fear.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God, we need only to look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God; we need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, and the rhythm of a heartbeat.

**We worship the God who inhabits our world and who
indwells our lives. Amen**

OPENING MUSIC “I Love to Tell the Story”
<https://youtu.be/OPtzKT-JLw0>

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, giver of life, we confess the times when we fail to
love our neighbors as we love ourselves.**

**God, forgive us when we ignore or we fail to see our
neighbors in need.**

**Abiding God, also forgive us when we reject love from others,
and shut down completely.**

**As we confess the times when we did not tend to our own
needs, and denied ourselves of your forgiveness and grace.
In our failures, we have refused your invitation to grow closer
to you.**

**In our confession, O God, we pray your abiding love
be shown through the ways we love more fully. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

TIME FOR CHILDREN “Jesus is for Everyone “

ANTHEM “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
Hand-Bell Choir

SCRIPTURE Acts 8:26-40 Craig Orndorff

SERMON “What’s Preventing Me?”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God who created all things and seeks for all to be
in communion as God’s people.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ who showed us how to share love,
and who commissioned us to go out into the highways and
byways inviting all to be a part of God’s work in the world.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us into the world, then touches the lives of those around us in ways that make them receptive to love.

I believe that all are called to receive and respond, sharing light and life with the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

(using "debts" and "debtors")

OFFERING DEDICATION

CLOSING MUSIC

"Faith of Our Fathers"

<https://youtu.be/cSHzrIGoelQ>

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Christ, Above All Glory Seated"

Mansfield

Organist: Emily Koon

Music Director: Mary Catlett

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS/PRAYER LIST

WELCOME to all who worship here on this Lord's Day. We pray that all may know the spirit of God which brings Peace.

THE MISSION STATEMENT OF SAINT PAUL'S UCC, Woodstock VA is to recognize God as our Father, friend to all, and with his help teach the Bible as God's inspired word; to promote and encourage Christianity as the centerpiece in the lives of individuals, families, and the world community.

PASTORAL VISITS:

If you would like a visit from Pastor Anne, she would love to visit members and friends of the congregation, respecting social distance on your porch or patio. Please call the church office to schedule a visit.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

The flowers are in honor of our caring and creative Stew/Mish committee and are given with love by the Snarr Family.

REPURPOSING: For more information about how St. Paul's is analyzing how the church is using our assets and meeting the needs of our internal and external communities..... or if you would like to volunteer to be part of this project, please contact David or Susan Brill, Melissa Andrews, or Rev. Anne.

REMINDERS:

- May 2 – Herb Garden pickup
- 2 – 6:30 AA Meeting
- 6 – 5:30 TOPS
- 8 – 8:00 AA Meeting
- 9 – Mother's Day

Kola Class: Sundays, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Join in the discussion and fellowship about upcoming sermon texts and what God might be saying to us through Bible texts on Zoom and in-person.

BIRTHDAYS for this week:

- May 3 – Allen Brill
- 5 – Stephanie Dysart
- 7 – Shelly Eye
- 8 – Lerin Tusing, Alisha Williams
- 9 – Hanna Lehnen Palmer

E-MAILS & Phone Numbers

Office email:	St. Paul's phone (540) 459-3643
spoffice@shentel.net	Rev. Anne's phone (808) 282-4631
Pastor's:	Address: 740 Jackson St., Woodstock
stppastor@shentel.net	

PRAYERS and CARDS

Donna Babcock	Wes Irvin	The family of Regena
Margie Cook	Jake Johnson	Miller
Martin Cullers	Daniel Rohne Kasten	Jessie Payne
Carol Czarneski	Nora Long	Craig Smith
Dr. Jerry Germroth	Cheri May	Patty Snarr
Randy and Valorie Hockman	Spencer McIntosh	Jack Sullivan
		Pete Wright

Prayers for peace and unity for all

Prayers for the families of the 130 people who have died in ShCo from COVID

