



**ST. PAUL'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

235 South Main Street, Woodstock, VA 22664

Office: (540) 459-3643

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

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 25, 2021

Rev. Anne Findlay-Chamberlain, Minister

Come, Grow, Serve

*Indicates that the congregation stands

PRELUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

(During the prelude, let us be in silence preparing our hearts for worship.)

SILENT PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

The following is a prayer that the Apostle Paul, for whom our congregation is named, prayed. Take a few moments to make this prayer your own. Insert the names of people or our congregation as you wish. End the prayer with a word of praise to God.

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:14-19)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God looks from heaven upon the children of earth to see whether there are any wise enough to seek the fellowship of God.

Many: By faith, may Christ live within our hearts, that we may be rooted and grounded in love and filled with all the fullness of God.

One: When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, the people of faith shall rejoice, and the whole church be glad.

Many: We bow down before the Father of Christ Jesus, from whom every family on earth is named.

One: To God be all the glory, in the church and in Christ Jesus

Many: Throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen!

OPENING MUSIC (Sing 1st verse)

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

<https://youtu.be/jPsxqQsnzJA>

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Wisdom's Heart: deep within, we know how we have failed to be your people. Our hardened hearts are closed to the love of Christ; our lust for more and more blocks the fullness of your grace from transforming our lives; our trust in the powers of the world reveals our foolish nature.

Have mercy, God of every generation. Pour out the rich blessing of forgiveness on our parched souls. Feed us with Heaven's Bread, so we might be nourished by your gentleness. Shape us as your people, and restore us to faithful living, as we seek to follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in service to everyone we meet.

*** WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*** GLORIA PATRI #734**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Rooted in Love”

ANTHEM

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
Solo by Susan Lanning

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:14-21

read by Patty Dellinger

A VISUAL ANNUAL REPORT

MEDITATION

“Rooted and Grounded in Love”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (using “debts” and “debtors”)

***DOXOLOGY #34**

***OFFERING DEDICATION**

***CLOSING MUSIC #78 (1st verse)**

“God of the Ages”

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

Please stay for a short congregational meeting to approve the 2020-21 Annual Report. Guests are welcome to stay as well if you wish.

Pianist: Barbara Strong

Music Director: Mary Catlett

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS/PRAYER LIST

WELCOME to this summer's worship at St. Paul's. May this worship affirm all as the children of God and direct our hearts and lives in God's path of love.

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.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in honor of the lovely women in the St. Paul's Sacred Seasons group given by Meg Trott.

SPECIAL THANKS to Barbara Strong for playing the piano last Sunday and today for us. Also thanks to Sue Lanning for the beautiful anthem this morning. What a delight to have these musicians join us!

REMINDERS:

July 25 – Congregational meeting following worship today

POLO SHIRT ORDER FORMS are on the table in the Narthex. Due date is July 30.

BIRTHDAYS for this week:

July 25 – Ashley Bray

27 – Steve Heishman

28 – Julianna Bankert

E-MAILS & Phone Numbers

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Pastor's:

stpastor@shentel.net

St. Paul's phone (540) 459-3643

Rev. Anne's phone (808) 282-4631

Address: 740 Jackson St., Woodstock

PRAYERS and CARDS

Melissa Andrews

Donna Babcock

Margie Cook

Martin Cullers

Carol Czarneski

Dr. Jerry Germroth

Randy and Valorie Hockman

Wes Irvin

Jake Johnson

Daniel Rohne Kasten

Nora Long

Cheri May

Spencer McIntosh

Jessie Payne

The family of Craig Rich

Linda Sheetz

Craig Smith

Jack Sullivan

Pete Wright

Victims of the collapse in Surfside, FL Prayers for peace and unity