

# Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Welcome to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we invite and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe.

Due to covid-related concerns, there will be no in-person worship service offered in January. Thank you for worshiping with us online at stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home. Announcements and more helpful information can be found on the following pages.

# **Gathering for Worship**

Prelude

II. Sarabande on Land of Rest from Suite for Organ

Gerald Near

#### Call to Worship

One: This body of Christ is a holy collection of lives and stories.

People: Braided into each other, the one is made of the many.

One: This body, God has woven together:

That we may find our hope in each other. That we may hold grief in community.

That we may remember no life is disposable.

People: By the Spirit, we are made one body.

Joined together, let us seek the flourishing of all.

Hymn #2236

Gather Us In

*Verse 1:* Here in this place new light is streaming, Now is the darkness vanished away, See in this space our fears and our dreamings,

Brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in the lost and forsaken, Gather us in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall awaken, We shall arise at the sound of our name.

Verse 2: We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, We are the old who yearn for your face, We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry Called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, Gather us in the proud and the strong, Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, Give us the courage to enter the song.

Verse 3: Here we will take the wine and the water, Here we will take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your sons and your daughters Call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, Give us to eat the bread that is you, Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Verse 4: Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven light-years away,
But here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own,
Gather us in all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

# **Opening Prayer**

Creator of all, though you have shaped us as an ecosystem, we are surrounded by illusions of individualism. Resources are privatized.

People suffer in isolation. Even joy is hoarded. May we be a community brave and vulnerable enough to live otherwise, that we may become so much more together than we could ever be alone.

In Christ, may it be so. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### Proclamation of the Word

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

<sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup>whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Hymn #548 In Christ There Is No East or West

*Verse 1:* In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

*Verse* 2: In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; His service is the golden cord close binding human kind.

*Verse* 3: In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free; Both male and female heirs are made, and all are kin to me.

*Verse 4:* In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north; All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Sermon "All of You: Lessons from *Encanto*" Rev. Kate Mackereth Fulton

## Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;

Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia!

# Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

### **Sending Forth**

Hymn #2241

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

*Verse 1:* The spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name To bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.

*Verse* 2: We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free: Where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

*Verse 3:* We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed And all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Verse 4: Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim.

God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Kate Mackereth Fulton

Postlude

Toccata on Gather Us In from Bayoubüchlein

Donald M. Verkuilen, III

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**UPCOMING WORSHIP** 

January 30, 2022

Online worship only – livestreaming at 10:30 AM Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen, preaching

"St. Paul's Goes to Disney: The Lion King" Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 4:21-30

#### જ્યુજ

St. Paul's Sunday 10:30 AM worship services are streamed through stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **News and Upcoming Events**

**Better Humans Book Club** – *Meeting January 25 at 7:00 PM by Zoom.* Start reading now! In January, the Better Humans Book Club will discuss *I'm Black. I'm Christian. I'm Methodist*, edited by Rudy Rasmus. One of the ten contributors, Rev. Dr. Tori Butler of Asbury Town Neck UMC, will lead our conversation! Email Travis Stalcup at justice@stpaulsk.org for the Zoom invite.

**Read Through The Bible** – *Ongoing. Q&A Session January 27 at 7:00 PM by Zoom.* Pastor Pat and Pastor Kate are offering the entire congregation the opportunity to read through the Bible together over the next two years. There is a reading schedule at *stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education* or look in the January edition of the Epistle. A monthly Q&A session over Zoom will allow everyone to discuss the readings, ask questions, and share your discoveries. Email Pastor Kate at kfulton@stpaulsk.org for the Zoom log in.

SPYs Return with Everyone's Birthday Party! – Sunday, February 6. Middle School 4:30-6:00 PM, High School 7:00-8:30 PM. St. Paul's Youth will not be gathering in person during January. To welcome everyone back to in-person programming, we're planning one of our favorite events for February 6 - Everyone's Birthday Party! If we were to celebrate each birthday as it came up, we'd be celebrating birthdays almost every week. Instead, we save them all up and celebrate every birthday on the same day. No need to bring anything other than yourself, your mask, and a bottle of water

in case you get thirsty! Stay safe! Contact Micah Smartt at msmartt@stpaulsk.org with questions or visit *stpaulsk.org/community/youth*.

Save the Date: SPY Retreats and Summer Trips – All youth and friends of St. Paul's in grades 6-12 are welcome on retreat. Senior High Retreat dates are March 4-6; Middle High Retreat dates are March 18 – 20. We will follow all covid precautions established by West River and the BWC Camping & Retreat policies. Our dates for hiking through God's creation on the Appalachian Trail with Wilderness Trail are July 26 - July 31. Contact Micah at msmartt@stpaulsk.org or look for sign-up information in the SPY email news!

**Save the Date: Still Weekend Retreat** – April 8-10 at the Dayspring Retreat Center in Germantown, MD. This is also a wonderful opportunity for time in nature (a lake, pond and hiking trails, meadow, and labyrinth on 250 acres). Specific details will be available from our Still Wednesday leaders sooon!

**UMC Special Sunday: Human Relations Day** – To contribute to this United Methodist special offering, visit *stpaulsk.org/giving* or make checks payable to St. Paul's UMC with "Human Relations Day" on the memo line. Specific UMC ministries that receive funding include the Community Developers Program, United Methodist Voluntary Services Program (including Volunteers In Mission), and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

**Online Worship Only in January** – To help do our part to reduce the risk of covid spread, St. Paul's community will continue to worship online through January 30, 2022. All are invited to participate remotely! (https://stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home) We expect to resume in-person worship starting Sunday, February 6, 2022.

**Star Words** – On Epiphany Sunday, we celebrate the arrival of the Magi, who followed a star to the Christ Child in order to worship him and know him better. Although we are unable to distribute star words in person, you can still receive one!

- Option 1: Go to wordoftheyear.me. The word generator will provide a word.
- Option 2: Contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org or 301-933-7933 and we will be happy to randomly select and mail you a silver star with your Star Word on it.

For additional tips on how to use your Star Word, please visit stpaulsk.org/worship!

**Hunger Ministry** – Over 100 families rely on our Hunger Ministry each month. Our volunteers make this program possible! Thank you! To volunteer, email Dawn Ely at hunger@stpaulsk.org and she'll send you the sign-up link. Your monetary donations help us provide bulk groceries and supermarket gift cards so families can buy perishables and hygiene items. To donate, visit *stpaulsk.org/giving* or make checks payable to St. Paul's UMC with "Hunger Ministry" on the memo line. Thank you!

### **Announcements: Ongoing Activities**

Office Hours and Inclement Weather Policies – Although in-person worship is canceled for January, we plan for the church office to be open as scheduled, Mon-Thurs, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM. Masks are required and appointments are strongly recommended. For weekday inclement weather, St. Paul's follows Montgomery County Public Schools announcements for students. When county schools are running on a 2-hour delay, our offices will open at 12:00 noon. When schools are closed, the office and building will also be closed and staff may be unavailable.

**Renovation Updates** – We are continuing the process of contract negotiations and finalizing details with the contractors.

- Once we break ground, entrances/exits into the building will be affected.
- Some staff will have to relocate their office spaces temporarily and may not have the ability to see visitors on site or access their usual work materials.
- Construction will mainly impact the parking lot, administration wing, bathrooms, Octagon, and Narthex areas.
- There will be dust. Anyone who experiences respiratory difficulties should take precautions.

Please visit our Renovation page at *stpaulsk.org/community/renovation* for more details.

**Daily Breath** – *Tuesdays & Thursdays*, *9:00 AM*. Live online sessions are designed to help keep us calm and connected during covid-19, and provide a time of sharing, prayer, or music led by St. Paul's clergy and staff. Visit *facebook.com/stpaulskensington*.

**Still Wednesday** –*Wednesdays*, 7:00-8:00 PM. All are welcome! The exact format of Still Wednesday changes week to week, but typically includes 20 minutes of silent contemplative prayer. To Zoom, use Meeting ID: 815 9385 9811, passcode Oliver.

**Lydia Circle** – All interested ladies should contact Susan Schwarz (susan10748@aol.com or 301-339-8242) for the latest news about meetings.

Martha Circle – Martha Circle plans to hold meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 AM starting in February. Ladies may join us for lunch and fellowship. Contact coordinator Ginny Hagberg (mdcatlover@aol.com, 301-770-7624) for updates.

**Yarn Ministry** – We are now meeting in-person in the Library at St. Paul's twice a month. All crafters welcome! Contact Karen Codner (kdc811@gmail.com).

**Prayerwaves** – *Wednesdays, 10:00 AM by phone.* Call 425-436-6326 at 9:55 AM. When prompted for the "access code," type in 774042 followed by #.

**Stephen Ministry** – Trained lay-people provide comfort to those who need a listening ear as they navigate life's challenges. Contact Pastor Kate (kfulton@stpaulsk.org) or Virginia Bickford (301-598-5496) to learn more.

**Pledges & Thank You Gifts** – Each household that pledges for 2022 will receive a St. Paul's folding camp chair as a special "thank you." Blank pledge forms are available in the church office and at *stpaulsk.org/giving*.



#### **Visitor Information**

Thank you for joining us! You are invited to tear out this section and leave this form with the offerings to let us know a little about yourself, or how we might be in touch. You may also email the office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) or staff to say hello!

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the office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) or staff to say hello!	
Name(s):	

Fmail:

Phone:

Home Address:

How did you find us? (circle all that apply)

Family/friend. Passing by. Internet search. Other:

Are you interested in learning more about St. Paul's? (circle all that apply)

No, just visiting. Maybe; I have questions. Please tell me about joining St. Paul's.

# St. Paul's Staff

#### **Senior Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen pallen@stpaulsk.org

# Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation

Dr. Meg Baker mbaker@stpaulsk.org

### Minister of Youth and Design

Mr. Micah Smartt msmartt@stpaulsk.org

#### **Director of Music**

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

#### **Associate Pastor**

Rev. Kate Mackereth Fulton kfulton@stpaulsk.org

# Director of Communications and Administration

Dr. Erin Bone Steele stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

#### **Treasurer**

Mrs. Michelle Gregonis mgregonis@stpaulsk.org

#### **Organist**

Mr. Marvin Mills mmills@stpaulsk.org

#### Facilities Manager and Maintenance

Ms. Tracey Furman tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Mr. Marco Palma

# Assisting with Worship

All plans are subject to change as the covid situation evolves and we work to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you for your understanding!

#### Lay Reader

David Weaver

#### **Featured Musicians**

Scott & Mollie Weikert

#### **Tech Team**

John & Biljana Regan

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Masks required. Appointments encouraged.