



ST. PAUL'S

United Methodist Church of Odessa

Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out

Theme: Advance

September 13, 2020 – 8:30 AM VIRTUAL WORSHIP

with ASL Interpretation

406 Main Street

Odessa, DE 19730

302-378-2420

www.stpaulsodessa.org

WE ENTER GOD'S GATES WITH PRAISE

WELCOME WITH MUSIC AND IMAGES

Countdown Prelude: *Lord, Lift Me Up and Let Me Stand*

Tune "Higher Ground" by Charles H. Gabriel, Arr. Susanna Keeny

Amy Brown

Mark Holden, Photographer & Curator

WORSHIP WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Ingram

Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!
The Lord is our strength and our power! Dance before the Lord,
a dance of joy and hope! The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up
in hope. Come, let us worship God who is always with us. Let us
celebrate the good news God brings to us each day. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: *From the Rising of the Sun*

Duane Dillard

**From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised.**

**From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised.**

So praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord.

**From the rising of the sun
to the going down of the same,
the name of the Lord shall be praised. (Repeat)**

OPENING PRAYER

Mary Ingram

Loving and merciful God, we come before you this day, fresh from a week in which we have been challenged. Some of the challenges have caused us worry and strife; other challenges bring to us clear directions for our lives. In all of this, you are with us bringing healing and peace for our lives. We offer to you names of those who are ill, who mourn, who feel lost and alienated, wondering if anyone cares about them. [Congregation may offer name of someone in the above categories for prayer]. Hear our prayers, O Lord. Bring your healing mercies to all these people we have named with our hearts and our voices. We also bring to you, loving God, names and situations of great joy and celebration, for you have been in our midst during these times as well as during the difficult times. [Congregation may offer name of someone in the above categories for prayer]. Hear our praises, O God. Bring your loving presence to all these people we have named with our hearts and our voices. For it is in confidence of your abiding love and mercy that we offer this prayer. AMEN.

WELCOME AND BLESSING

CHILDREN'S TIME: *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Wendy Wallace shares a blessing with our children!

WE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR INSPIRATION: *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

Come and find the quiet center

In the crowded life we lead,

Find the room for hope to enter,

Find the frame where we are freed:

Clear the chaos and the clutter,

Clear our eyes that we can see

All the things that really matter,

Be at peace, and simply be.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Gloria Patria

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE GOOD NEWS: Matthew 9:18-26

Mary Ingram, Liturgist

While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples.

And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.

But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose.

And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land.

One: May this story inspire us all

All: To walk in the way that leads to life.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Duane Dillard

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

THE MESSAGE: *Advance*

Pastor Kevin Benjamin & Gail Garner

WE GIVE THANKS

INVITATION TO THE WAY OF CHRIST: *The Summons*

Amy Brown

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,

will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown in you and you and me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

**Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call My Name.**

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

In gratitude for all the abundant blessings you have showered upon us, we celebrate as we receive our morning offering.

AMEN.

THE OFFERING:

<http://www.stpaulsodessa.org/VANCOOnlineGiving>

*Today's **YELLOW HAT** mission offering supports YMCA-Middletown.*

Offertory: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

John M. Rasley, Arr. William Bradbury

Amy Brown, Organ

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess that we don't always turn to you in our troubles. Sometimes we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety. We cannot see "the light at the end of the tunnel". For us, there is only the ongoing darkness and hopelessness. Clear our sight, O Lord. Bind up our wounded spirits! Fill us with your mercy and love. Forgive us when we stray; when we fear; when we falter. Pick us up and place us on pathways of peace and hope, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Prayers for: Family of Althea Johnston, on loss of sister Althea; Ginny Guessford; Eleanor Cleaver; Johanna Learish; Kathy Golden; Bridgette Stanley; Jenna; Faye Taylor's sister, Pat Bodan; Elsie Everett; Matt Latocha; Beverly Gordy; Kathy Hoffman; Carol Myers; Karen Kolf

PASTORAL PRAYER

We love to say, "I may forgive, but I'll never forget!" And we think that we are truly following the ways of Christ. How blind we are, O Lord. Forgiveness means wiping the slate clean, not

retaining the hurt. It works both ways: letting ourselves make a decision for healing and reaching out to the one who has hurt us to offer forgiveness and redemption. None of us is perfect. We know that. But Jesus reminded us that love is the ruling component in lives of faithful living. Help us, O Lord, really receive the love that you have lavished upon us. Help us understand that love as an agent of forgiveness. As we have brought before you the names of people and situations that are on our hearts, we seek your healing mercies and tender love for them. Remind us that the same mercy and love is continually offered to us, though we falter and fail, though we seek and strive. Be with us, gracious Lord, all of our days. AMEN.

Birthdays: September 14-Denis Shaffer, Karen Fitzwater; September 17-Tanner Martin, St. Jerome Reeves; September 18-Kaitlyn Whitmer; September 19-Linda Sydnor

Anniversaries: September 15-David & Carol Sheats; September 16-Lenny & Sibyl Pompeo

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed by thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will 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.**

INVITATION TO AGAPE MEAL Rev. Patti & Carl Ravilious

Here at the table, we see most clearly that we are part of the body of Christ. We are no longer divided into people of different ages, different ideas, different backgrounds, different gifts. Here unique individuals become a single body, made richer for the multitude of gifts shared. Here, we feast on one bread and one cup, and become one body in service to the world.

WE GO IN THE SPIRIT

SENDING HYMN: *Since Jesus Came into My Heart*

Duane Dillard

**What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought
since Jesus came into my Heart!**

**I have light in my soul for which long I had sought,
since Jesus came into my Heart!**

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

**I have ceased from my wandering and going astray,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

**And my sins, which were many, are all washed away,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

**I'm possessed of a hope that is steadfast and sure,
since Jesus came into my heart.**

**And no dark clouds of doubt now my pathway obscure,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

**There's a light in the valley of death now for me,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

**And the gates of the City beyond I can see,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

**I shall go there to dwell in that City, I know,
since Jesus came into my heart.**

**And I'm happy, so happy, as onward I go,
since Jesus came into my heart!**

*Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

A MOMENT IN SIGN

Gail Garner

SENDING FORTH TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS!

The Deep, Deep

Rev. Sam Harrell

BENEDICTION

Go in peace into God's world to serve and help others. Go in confidence of God's presence with you. Go into this world with messages of hope and reconciliation. Go in love. AMEN.

BLESSING AND POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Italian Hymn"

Tune by Felicede Giandini, Arr. Edward Broughton

Postlude

Amy Brown

**For the season of Pentecost (September 13 – October 18) we will be focusing on
Exodus 14-33. The series theme: Promise**

September 13 – Advance – Exodus 14:9-31 (key verse: 14:15) – **Sunday Evening Service**

September 20 – Wonder – Exodus 16:2-15 (key verse: 16:15)

September 27 – Thirst – Exodus 17:1-7 (key verse: 17:3)

October 4 – Honor – Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (key verse: 20:8)

October 11 – Repent – Exodus 32:1-14 (key verse: 32:14)

October 18 – Companion – Exodus 33:12-23 (key verse: 33:14)

**Adult Studies, every Sunday morning at 10am, starting September 13 –
it will be the same Zoom info every week.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83719969265?pwd=T3dhU2ZwS1Vwem84a2dXeVRGaYxdz09>

Meeting ID: 837 1996 9265

Passcode: odessa

(All links will be available on our website, stpaulsodessa.org and Facebook site, St. Paul's UMC Odessa – Zoom invitations and passwords will be sent via email)

Join us each Wednesday for noon prayer, via Zoom

**The Scott's host weekly Wednesday evening Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30pm
with the same Zoom info every week:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88240507907?pwd=YWdzeXUyWHpIUWl3dXVCeGJaU>

[Xl4dz09](#)

Meeting ID: 882 4050 7907 Passcode: nest

Carole Harmon hosts a prayer circle, Thursday mornings at 10 AM. (Please contact Carole or the church office if you have prayer requests or would like a Zoom invitation to join the group.)

ALL WEEKLY AND SPECIAL IN-PERSON GATHERINGS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED AND THE OFFICE IS CLOSED DURING THE QUARANTINE.

ST. PAUL'S STAFF ARE WORKING REMOTELY AND CAN BE CONTACTED USING THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS OR MAIL

Rev. Kevin Benjamin, Pastor	
pastorkevin@stpaulsodessa.org	(302) 312-3636
Alice Mullins, Admin. Assist. & Treasurer	
stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org	(302) 378-2420
Duane Dillard, Accompanist	
duanedillard@gmail.com	(410) 620-4650
Amy Brown, Music Director	
amyrowebrown@gmail.com	(480) 677-0910

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 253 – Odessa, Delaware 19730

Charge Conference for St. Paul's UMC, Odessa is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7 PM via Zoom

TONIGHT...Outdoor Sunday evening worship service starting at 6 PM in the Grove. The service should last approximately 30 minutes. Please refrain from using the restroom inside the church as the building is still currently closed. Exceptions will be made for seniors needing restroom accommodations on an emergency basis. Hope to see everyone there...weather permitting!!!

Yellow Hat – YMCA-Middletown

At the YMCA, they are committed to improving our community through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. That's why we offer a wide variety of community programs designed to help nurture the potential of kids, help you live healthier, and support our neighbors who need us most.

C-Line Stables/Carlotta Cline

Thanks so much to each and every one of you who made a donation to support the storm damage at C-Line Stables. We collected **\$2,860!!!** Woohoo!!! Couldn't have done it without you ALL!!! God Bless!!!

Saturday Morning Service - Walk & Social Distance Gathering

Saturday mornings at 9:00 am, I am extending an invitation for St. Paul's family to join me in a 30-minute walk throughout the historical district of Odessa. At 9:30 am, we will meet on the church lawn for a 15-minute social distancing gathering that will include worship, communion, fellowship and a grab and go breakfast. Masks are strongly

recommended and social distancing is to be observed. Weather permitting, I plan to meet there every Saturday from now until the end of September. *Pastor Kevin*

Family Life - Virtual Sunday School

Sunday School will begin **TODAY**, September 13 and will be virtual at this point. We will be using Holy Moly curriculum for PK-6th grade (and for anyone else who is interested). There will be a video each week with familiar characters, a story and lesson led by a variety of St. Paul's teachers and a craft to go along with the lessons. Craft packets are divided into PK-2nd grade and 3rd-6th grade. Be sure you get the appropriate aged packet. The packets are ready to be picked up just inside the back door of St. Paul's. Thank you to Marisa Apps for helping to organize and assemble them! Your teachers this year are Marisa and Greg Apps, Janet Rowley, Laura Widger, and Pam Root. Check us out each Sunday on the St. Paul's website (www.stpaulsodessa.org) for the specific link. Hope you all have a great year!

Youth Group

The next Youth Group meeting will be **TODAY**, September 13 at 3 PM. Since it's just once a month, we'll probably do a new Zoom meeting each time we meet - that will also help with security and privacy for the students.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89320795946?pwd=VFZLTE9uZERYWklqL1dWMUtpdzB5UT09>

Meeting ID: 893 2079 5946 Passcode: youthgroup

United Methodist "Staying on Par with God" Golf Outing

Our next outing is scheduled for Monday, September 14 at Odessa National with a 9 AM T-Time! The Club Protocol is still in place in regards to masks, pro shop, grille, etc.... I will need to know your intentions by Friday, September 18 and also, who will be requesting SINGLE carts! Please advise ASAP as it helps me when coordinating with the club. The Scripture read is JOHN 7 37-9. I will be following up with the teams and T-Times. Thanks for your patience and looking forward to another day of fellowship, golf, and lunch! God Bless, *Paul Loder*

United Methodist Men's Bible Study

St. Paul's UMM will be having the Men's Bible study in October on each Tuesday, 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 9 to 10 AM. The Bible study will be held at the outside Sanctuary behind the church and you will need to bring a chair, mask, and Bible. If inclement weather we will move inside. Also, coffee and donuts will Not be available this session, however, feel free to bring your own cup of coffee. The following Protocol will be in place for the Bible Study.....safe distancing will be in place. Masks are optional outside but must be worn if we need to move inside. The study scripture will be Romans Chapter 5 and Hap Bonham has graciously agreed to lead us! Looking forward to another wonderful time of Fellowship and Worship that occurs during our Bible studies. God Bless, *Paul Loder*

PFLAG Meeting

Meetings are held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Thursdays of each month, presently via Zoom. Please join us if you would like to be supported or offer support and please spread the word to all corners of our Communities. We are currently working on a system which will help youth who have been rejected by their parents, find families who will help them. Please join us we would love your input. Please contact Mark Holden at Mark@maholden.com or call 802-279-8100. *Mark Holden*

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL DEAF AWARENESS MONTH

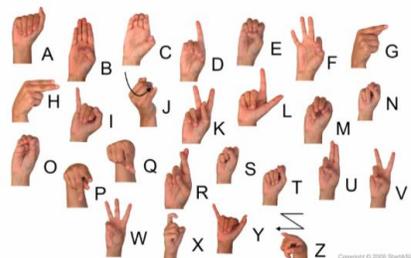
SEPTEMBER 21st – SEPTEMBER 27th IS DEAF AWARENESS WEEK



International Week of the Deaf is celebrated by the [World Federation of the Deaf](#) (WFD) and its national associations and their affiliates globally during the last full week of September (Monday through Sunday), culminating with International Day of the Deaf on the last Sunday of the week.



SEPTEMBER 23RD IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES



The UN General Assembly has proclaimed September 23rd as the **International Day of Sign Languages** in order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are Deaf.

"This International Day recognizes the importance of sign languages for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfilling its core promise of leaving no one behind. It also

offers an opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all sign language users."

- *UN Secretary-General, António Guterres*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE DEAF

International Day of the Deaf is celebrated every year on the last Sunday of September with the aim to draw attention of the general public, politician and development authorities towards the achievements of people who are Deaf as well as the Deaf community.