



# ST. PAUL'S

United Methodist Church of Odessa

*Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out*

**Theme: Invest**

**September 6, 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: *Joyous Litany*

Arr. Steven Scott

Amy Brown

Mark Holden, Photographer & Curator

**WORSHIP WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jeanne Buckworth

Welcome to this community of faith. We come seeking hope and courage for the future. Here you will find peace, hope, love and joy. We come weighed down by difficulties in our lives. Here you will find Jesus who will take your burdens on himself. Lord, we come to you this day in need of your mercy and love. AMEN.

**OPENING HYMN: *All Hail King Jesus***

Duane Dillard

**All hail King Jesus! All hail Emmanuel,  
King of kings, Lord of lords,  
bright Morning Star. And throughout eternity,  
I'll sing your praises; And I'll reign with you  
throughout eternity. (Repeat)**

**And throughout eternity I'll sing your praises**

**And I'll reign with you throughout eternity.**

*He Has Made Me Glad*

**I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart,**

**I will enter his courts with praise.**

**I will say, "This is the day the Lord has made."  
I will rejoice for he has made me glad.**

*He has made me glad, he has made me glad.*

*I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.*

*He has made me glad, he has made me glad.*

*I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.*

OPENING PRAYER

Jeanne Buckworth

Lord, on this Labor Day we thank you for blessing of work. We ask for the strength to complete each day. We ask for rest for when we are weary. We ask for your guidance for everyone seeking employment. We pray for those that have lost employment and or income during this pandemic. We pray for those whose faces we may never see but who work tirelessly each day for the good of us all. Lastly, we thank you for those workers and retired persons that volunteer and work in creative ways to serve their church, family, and community. Amen.

WELCOME AND BLESSING

CHILDREN'S TIME: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus, v.1*

**I have decided to follow Jesus,**

**I have decided to follow Jesus,**

**I have decided to follow Jesus,**

**No turning back, no turning back.**

Brian McNelis 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: Romans 13:8-14

Jeanne Buckworth, Liturgist

Be under obligation to no one—the only obligation you have is to love one another. Whoever does this has obeyed the Law. The commandments, “Do not commit adultery; do not commit murder; do not steal; do not desire what belongs to someone else”—all these, and any others besides, are summed up in the one command, “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” If you love others, you will never do them wrong; to love, then, is to obey the whole Law.

You must do this, because you know that the time has come for you to wake up from your sleep. For the moment when we will be saved is closer now than it was when we first believed. The night is nearly over, day is almost here. Let us stop doing the things that belong to the dark, and let us take up weapons for fighting in the light. Let us conduct ourselves properly, as people who live in the light of day—no orgies or drunkenness, no immorality or indecency, no fighting or jealousy. But take up the weapons of the Lord Jesus Christ, and stop paying attention to your sinful nature and satisfying its desires.

One: May this story inspire us all

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

Duane Dillard

**My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!**

**Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away,  
O let me from this day  
be wholly thine!**

**May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire!**

**As thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread,  
and griefs around me spread,  
be thou my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day,  
wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray  
from thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream,  
when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll;  
blest Savior, then, in love,  
fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
a ransomed soul!**

THE MESSAGE: *Invest*

Pastor Kevin Benjamin & Gail Garner

Key verse (Romans 13:8) Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

**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

Lord, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE OFFERING:

<http://www.stpaulsodessa.org/VANCOOnlineGiving>  
*Today's **YELLOW HAT** mission offering supports our El  
Ayudante child, Yesprin.*

Offertory: *In Perfect Peace*

Arr. Sylvian K. Riggs  
Amy Brown, Organ

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are workers, God, just like you. But we confess that our work is not always done in a manner that affirms and honors each other. Our work is not always done in a spirit that is pleasing to you. We confess that, on some occasions, we have blindly bought goods made by people who are paid too little or

work in unsafe conditions. We admit that we have failed to end an unjust system in which some workers have jobs that provide good wages and benefits while other may have no job, or one that pays little and provides few benefits. Creator God, help us to be your people, working for a world where all workers are valued. A world where those who clean houses are also able to buy houses to live in. A world where those who grow food can also afford to eat their fill. And one where those who serve us—in stores, schools, hotels, restaurants, nursing homes, and many other places—are also served by us. It will be a world where all workers everywhere share in the abundance that you have given us.

**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

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

God of justice, we pray for all workers, that they would receive fair compensation and treatment in their labor. For those who seek work, provide jobs — both citizen and immigrant alike. For those who cannot work, provide sustenance. Make those who lead the industries and commerce of this country responsive to your perfect will. Build up in the leaders of our country a respect for all labors. Deliver us, Lord Jesus, from the maligning evils of greed, sloth, and gluttony that we may lead lives of holiness in service to you and our neighbor. We pray for the health concerns and challenges within our church, family, and community. May they embrace your ocean of love, peace, comfort and compassion. We ask all these things for our good and your glory.

**Birthdays:** September 7-John Guy, Linda Mueller; September 9-Lindy McNelis; September 11-William O'Hop; September 12-Blanche Bailey

**Anniversaries:** September 6-Cal & Anne Cruz; September 9-Denis & Brenda Shaffer, Al & Lulu Calbazana; September 12-Andrew & Laura Widger

## 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

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: *When We All Get to Heaven* Duane Dillard

**Sing the wondrous love of Jesus;  
sing his mercy and his grace.  
In the mansions bright and blessed  
he'll prepare for us a place.**

*When we all get to heaven,  
what a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus  
we'll sing and shout the victory!*

**While we walk the pilgrim pathway,  
clouds will overspread the sky;  
but when traveling days are over,  
not a shadow, not a sigh.**

*When we all get to heaven,  
what a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus  
we'll sing and shout the victory!*

**Let us then be true and faithful,  
trusting, serving every day;  
just one glimpse of him in glory  
will the toils of life repay.**

*When we all get to heaven,  
what a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus  
we'll sing and shout the victory!*

**Onward to the prize before us!  
Soon his beauty we'll behold;  
Soon the pearly gates will open;  
We shall treat the streets of gold.**

*When we all get to heaven,  
what a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus  
we'll sing and shout the victory!*

A MOMENT IN SIGN

Gail Garner

SENDING FORTH TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS!

BENEDICTION

Gracious God, let all of your living be for love. Let our labor not be for a paycheck but for a world changed by God's love and justice. Bless our labor as well as our rest. May the Son of God, the son of a carpenter, bless all of us in our work. May the Holy Spirit, ever working for the new creation, bless your service and keep us in God's purpose, now and forevermore. Amen!

VIDEO TRIBUTE TO VICKI SPENCE

BLESSING AND POSTLUDE

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Arr. Sy Miller & Jill Jackson

Postlude

Amy Brown

**Next Sunday's Theme: Advance – Exodus 14:9-31**

Key verse: Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. (Exodus 14:15)

**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)

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=T3dhU2ZwS1Vwem84a2dXeVRGAlYxdz09>

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=YWdzeXUyWHpIUWl3dXVCeGJaUXl4dz09>

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.)**

**Next Sunday, September 13**

**Livestream Worship at 8:30 am (YouTube)**

**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	
<a href="mailto:pastorkevin@stpaulsodessa.org">pastorkevin@stpaulsodessa.org</a>	(302) 312-3636
Alice Mullins, Admin. Assist. & Treasurer	
<a href="mailto:stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org">stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org</a>	(302) 378-2420
Duane Dillard, Accompanist	
<a href="mailto:duanedillard@gmail.com">duanedillard@gmail.com</a>	(410) 620-4650
Amy Brown, Music Director	
<a href="mailto:amyrowebrown@gmail.com">amyrowebrown@gmail.com</a>	(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**

**The Task Force Committee has planned an outdoor Sunday evening service on September 13 at 6 PM in the Grove. Volunteers need!!! If you are interested in volunteering please contact Steve Johnson: SJohn82602@aol.com or Cathy Blanco: cblanco19@verizon.net**

### **Yellow Hat – El Ayudante Child, Yesprin**

El Ayudante serves twenty-nine at-risk children and their families in León. Our Hogar Christiano Nicaraguense (HCN) or Nicaraguan Christian Home provides spiritual formation, housing, proper medical care, nutrition and excellent education. By going deep with these children and giving them tools they need to succeed, we hope to bring change to Nicaragua one child and one family at a time. But headway is only made with the prayer and support from people like you. Thank you!

### **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 \$2,760!!! 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**

Hello everyone! It's hard to believe summer is coming to a close and it is back to school time already. Sunday School will begin 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](http://www.stpaulsodessa.org)) for the specific link. Hope you all have a great year! *Vicki Spence*

### **Youth Group**

The next Youth Group meeting will be Sunday, 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 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

### **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 21<sup>st</sup> – SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>RD</sup> IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES**

The UN General Assembly has proclaimed September 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 27<sup>TH</sup> 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.

