



BUILT ON FAITH,
SUSTAINED BY LOVE

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2017



We are in the liturgical season of Lent, the period of preparation and repentance leading up to Holy Week and Easter. On our altar you will see a rustic cross and candleholder different from our traditional brass cross and candlesticks. Purple is the color used during Lent to represent repentance. The hand holding up the handmade cross is symbolic of lifting high the cross of Jesus Christ and/or clinging to the cross for our salvation. The descending dove in the center of the cross represents the Holy Spirit.

The Worship of God

Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

*Lenten Call to Worship	<i>Moving Toward the Cross: Moving in Peace</i>	Insert
*Hymn	<i>Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing</i>	UMH 57
*Affirmation of Faith	<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>	UMH 881

Greeting

We want to know that you were here worshipping with us today, especially if you are a first time visitor. Please fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew), and place it in the offering. After the service, please introduce yourself to your neighbors and join us for cookies and conversation.

Reading and Sharing the Word

Psalm 23 UMH 754

Scripture Lesson Ephesians 5:8-14

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Celebration of our Children

Children's Offering

***Hymn** *As a Fire Is Meant for Burning* TFWS 2237

Sermon Sh'Kur Francis

Responding to the Word

Call to Prayer

Open Our Eyes, Lord

Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Ellen Hopkins

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (Creator) 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.**

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Musical Offering

The Lord Is My Shepherd

Chancel Choir

***The Doxology**

UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings 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!**

Departing to Love and Serve

Announcements

***Hymn**

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

UMH 128

***Benediction**

***The Congregational Blessing**

Go Now in Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

***The Light Goes Forth**

Postlude

*Please stand in body or spirit.

WE REJOICE TO WELCOME YOU to this service of worship at St. Paul United Methodist Church. We pray God's blessing upon you this morning. We are pleased you chose to worship with us today. If you are just visiting, we encourage you to fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew) and place it in the offering so we can be in touch with you. If you are looking for a church home, look no further—you have found one at St. Paul. If this community can assist you in any way, please let us know. If you are interested in becoming a member of this church or want to talk about membership, please speak with our Pastor, Rev. Ellen Hopkins, after the service. **Welcome. Welcome. Welcome!!!**

WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Presider: Rev. Ellen Hopkins

Liturgist: Robin South

Children's Time: Jeff McCord

Sunday Shepherd: Annie Jackson, Henrietta Mitchell

Acolytes: Nancy Erwin, Camille and Claudia Tanksley

Ushers: Megan Noble, Marc Gowan (Head Usher)

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Candace McCollough

Counters: Ron Rezendes and Michael Solberg

Want more information about what's happening at St. Paul? We generally send out emails weekly. If you'd like to be on our email list, contact the church office at office@stpaulgrantpark.org or 404-688-7501.

Activities. Members, visitors, friends, all are invited to participate in the various ministries at St. Paul. If you need more information please call the church office 404-688-7501.

Every Sunday:

- 10am **Sunday School** (all ages)
- 8:45am **Worship First** (casual, contemporary service with Holy Communion)
- 11am **Morning Worship** (traditional service)
- 12-ish **Hospitality:** Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (Chester Commons, most Sundays)

Every Wednesday:

- 7:00pm **Chancel Choir** [kevinhowardhill@gmail.com]

Youth Group Variable schedule. Contact Treah Caldwell (miss.treah@gmail.com) to be placed on her contact list.

Nursery is available for infants and young toddlers on the 3rd floor of the education building prior to and during the worship service. After the Children's Sermon, children ages 3 through 2nd grade may go up to Children's Church on the third floor or remain in their pews with their parents.