



BUILT ON FAITH,  
SUSTAINED BY LOVE

**Sixth Sunday After Pentecost**

July 16, 2017



# *The Worship of God*

## Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

### Chiming of the Hour

#### Prelude

#### \*Call to Worship

God scatters the seeds of reconciliation and love, and waits....

**So much of it lands on flat pathways or rocky roads  
and won't take root.**

God scatters the seeds of healing and hope, and waits....

**Shallowness and fear claim the seeds and they cannot live.**

God scatters the seeds of redemption and peace, and waits....

**These are the places of deep growth  
where the seed will cast down strong roots.**

Welcome this day to a seed-scattering station!

**May our hearts be the rich soil in which God's love takes root. AMEN.**

[<http://ministrymatters.com>]

#### \*Hymn

*O Spirit of the Living God*

UMH 539

#### \*Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

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 25

UMH 757

#### \*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Celebration of our Children

#### Children's Offering

#### \*Hymn

*Marching to Zion*

UMH 733

#### Sermon

Rev. Ellen Hopkins

**Responding to the Word**

**Call to Prayer**

*God Be in My Head*

Chancel Choir

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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**

*Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord*

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!**

**We Depart to Love and Serve**

**Announcements**

**\*Hymn**

*Hymn of Promise*

UMH 707

**\*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: Jeff McCord

Children's Time: Clayton Davis

Sunday Shepherd: Leslie Truman

Acolytes: Clay and Quinn Elrod

Ushers: Bill Ericson (Head Usher), Bryan Russell, Eddie Hardy

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Nancy Erwin

Counters: Clay Elrod

***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](mailto: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 **Adult and Children's Sunday School**
- 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:**

- 7pm Choir Rehearsal

**Youth Group** Variable schedule. Contact Treah Caldwell ([miss.treah@gmail.com](mailto: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.

St. Paul United Methodist Church ▪ 501 Grant St. SE ▪ Atlanta, GA 30312  
[www.stpaulgrantpark.org](http://www.stpaulgrantpark.org) ▪ 404-688-7501

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