



**BUILT ON FAITH,  
SUSTAINED BY LOVE**

**Passing the Torch  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 24, 2018**



# *The Worship of God*

## Preparing Your Hearts for Worship

### **Chiming of the Hour**

### **Prelude**

### **\*Call to Worship**

In the midst of life's storms, God is there.

**What have we to fear?**

In the darkness and terror, God is with us.

**Of whom should we be afraid?**

Rise up, people of God, for you are loved and saved.

**Thanks be to God who cares deeply for us. Amen.**

*[ministrymatters.com]*

### **\*Hymn**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

UMH 519

### **\*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.

### **Message from Pastor Ellen**

Rev. Ellen Hopkins

### **An Order of Farewell to a Pastor**

I thank you, the members and friends  
of St. Paul United Methodist Church,  
for the love and support you have shown me  
while I have ministered among you.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.  
I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made.  
As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

**We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness,  
and accept that you now leave to retire.  
We express our gratitude for your time among us.  
We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.  
Your influence on our faith and faithfulness  
will not leave us with your departure.**

I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you,  
trusting that our time together and our parting  
are pleasing to God.  
I release you from turning to me and depending on me.  
I encourage your continuing ministry here  
and will pray for you and your new pastor, Cassie.  
Let us pray.

**Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting,  
we give you thanks for cherished memories  
and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions.  
Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**An Order for the Celebration of  
the Appointment of a New Pastor**

Ron Rezendes

*Leader:* Dear Friends, today we welcome the Rev. Cassie Rapko,  
who has been appointed to serve as our pastor.  
We believe that she is well qualified  
and has been prayerfully appointed by our Bishop Sue Hauptert-  
Johnson.

Cassie, you have been sent to live among us  
as a bearer of the Word of God;  
a minister of Sacraments;  
and a sustainer of the love, order and discipleship  
of the people of God.

*Pastor:* **Today I reaffirm this commitment  
in the presence of this congregation.**

*Leader:* Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church  
by your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service,  
will you who celebrate this new beginning  
support and uphold Cassie in these ministries?

*Congregation:* **We reaffirm our commitment to support you  
with our prayers, presence, gifts and service.**

*Leader:* How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

*Congregation:* **who announces peace, who brings good news,  
who announces salvation.**

*Leader:* Let us pray.  
Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together,  
with Cassie as our pastor.  
Give her and us patience, courage, and wisdom  
so to care for one another and challenge one another  
that together we may follow Jesus Christ,  
living together in love  
and offering our gifts and talents in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Presenter:* Cassie, accept this cup and plate,  
and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church.

**Amen.**

Cassie, receive this stole signifying your consecration,  
and equip us for our ministries in the world.

**Amen.**

*Pastor:*           **This yoke has been laid upon me,  
and I willingly take it upon myself.  
Let us pray.**

*Congregation:*   **Lord God, bless the ministries of your Church.  
We thank you for the variety of gifts you have bestowed upon us.**

**Draw us together in one spirit,  
that each of us may use our differing gifts  
as members of one body.  
May your word be proclaimed with faithfulness,  
and may we be doers of your Word and not hearers only.**

**As we who have died and risen with Christ in baptism  
gather at his table and then scatter into the world,  
may we be one in service to others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(The Leader and others may lay hands on the Pastor's head.)

**The Lord bless you, and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
Amen.**

### **Reading and Sharing the Word**

**Psalm 9**

UMH 744

**\*Gospel Lesson**

Mark 4:35-41

The word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Celebration of our Children  
Children's Offering**

**\*Hymn**

*When Jesus Went to Egypt*

When Jesus went to Egypt safe on his mother's arm,  
His parents stayed beside him to keep him safe from harm.  
And when they crossed the border they were allowed to be  
Together—seeking refuge—a Holy Family.

O God, we pray for children and families coming here  
Now facing separation and filled with grief and fear.  
For children, loved and treasured, are ripped from loving kin.  
This deed, by any measure, is torture. It's a sin!

O God, you're like a mother who won't forsake her own.  
You're like a loving father who welcomes his son home.  
Now give us by your Spirit the strength to challenge wrong,  
To seek the best for children, and keep all families strong.

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**Sermon**

Rev. Cassie Rapko

**Responding to the Word**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Ellen Hopkins

**The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Musical Offering**

*The Storm Is Passing Over*

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!**

**Service of Word and Table**

UMH 12

**The Great Thanksgiving**

UMH 13

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Music**

*How Can I Keep from Singing*

Chancel Choir

**Prayer after Holy Communion**

**Eternal God,  
We give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your spirit  
to give ourselves for others  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**Reception into Membership of Chris Rapko**

**Departing to Love and Serve**

**Announcements**

**\*Hymn**

*Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

UMH 129

**\*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. Cassie Rapko, after the service. **Welcome. Welcome. Welcome!!!**

**WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS**

Presiders: Rev. Ellen Hopkins and Rev. Cassie Rapko  
 Liturgist: Laura Wells  
 Children's Time: Bryan Russell  
 Acolytes: Megan, John and Will Noble  
 Ushers: Dannielle Hanson, Marcus Merrit, Annika and Olivia Egerstedt  
 Altar Guild: Karen Merritt  
 Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (Welcome Reception for Pastor Cassie)  
 Counters: Michael Solberg

**CORNERSTONE CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Pledges:	33
Donors	40
Total Pledged:	\$202,368
Total Received:	\$ 147,862
Total Spent:	\$ 99,701

**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)

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, Kindergarten aged and pre-K children may go up to the nursery on the third floor or remain in their pews with their parents.