

January 25, 2026





St. Paul's UMC Welcoming Statement:

We believe in God's unconditional love and grace.

We affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God.

We celebrate all loving and committed relationships.

We also believe that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's Gospel.

In this spirit, St. Paul's United Methodist Church welcomes people of every race and ethnicity, culture, age, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, mental and physical ability, faith history, family structure, marital status, educational background and economic status into full participation in the life, leadership, ministry, and sacraments of our church.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Northport, New York
January 25, 2026 ~ 10:00AM
ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

As the *faith* community comes together with love, you are invited to share answers to prayer and other blessings you have experienced this week.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

P:God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?

L: When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

P:God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?

L: No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

P:God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.

L: Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

P:We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.

FIRST READING: Matthew 4:12-23 (NRSV)

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet

Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the
gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Judy Korsh

SECOND READING: Isaiah 9:1-4 (NRSV)

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

SERMON “The Light of Christ’s Liberation ”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Healing ~ Guidance ~ Protection

THE LORD’S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we prepare to depart, we learn how we can grow and serve throughout the week.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE



Our Thanks to This Week’s Worship Team
Worship Assistant: Al Vitters

St. Paul's UMC Invites You to a Scheduled Zoom Worship Service Sunday Worship at 10 am

The following instructions will be the same each week:

Dial on your phone

1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 818 1446 9508 # Password: 911381

Participant ID is NOT needed. Press # when prompted

To mute and unmute during worship, press

* then 6 to mute and unmute - or-

* then 9 to "raise hand" to indicate you'd like to speak

Join worship service on your computer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81814469508?pwd=MnJYVFBwQ3RWd2JkeDZ4SiBDUDFIdz09>

OUR CHURCH STAFF

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Penny Gadzini	Pastoral Care Pastor
Amanda Whaley	Director of Music
Megan Ferrante	Office Manager
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