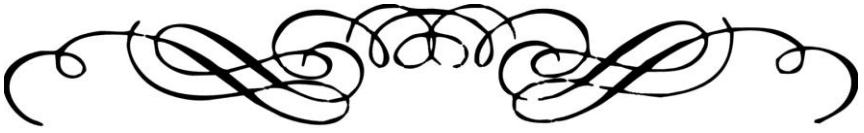


August 9, 2026





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
August 9, 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: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

P: here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

L: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

P: here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

L: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

P: here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!' in every situation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: "Here I Am, Lord" UMH#593**

OPENING PRAYER

**Making sandwiches and stirring the soup
for the hungry lined up at the door;
taking the night shift
at the homeless shelter;
talking with the prisoners
awaiting their trials:**

**Please Stand As You Are Able*

you surround us with signs
of your hopes for all,
God of justice.

Bringing reconciliation
to strife-torn communities;
mending the broken promises
which have shattered lives;
holding your arms wide open
to embrace weary searchers:
everywhere we turn,
we hear people say,
'here comes that Dreamer!'"

Inviting us to wander down
the streets of sacrifice;
hoping that every breath
will be filled with peace and hope;
gifting us with joy and grace,
so they can be freely given away:
you nudge us to get out
of our comfortable religion,
and to walk on those unfamiliar
waves of faith and hope,
Spirit of trust.

God in Community, Holy in One,
we give thanks to your name. Amen.

FIRST READING: Romans 10:5-15 (NRSV)

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

SPECIAL MUSIC

SECOND READING: Matthew 14:22-33 (NRSV)

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and,

beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

SERMON: "Courage, Church! "

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Healing ~ Guidance ~ Protection

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING: Please consider one of these ways to donate your offering: by check, bill pay, Venmo (@StPaulsUMC), or Paypal (spumcFinance@optimum.net)
<https://stpaulsnorthportny.org/give>

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY:** UMH#95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** "Wade In The Water" FWS#2107

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE



Our Thanks to This Week's Worship Team

Ushers:

Hope Mann, Allison Byers, Janet Griebert, Gary Jasinkonis

Worship Assistant:

Nancy Anderson

*Please Stand As You Are Able

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=MnJYVFBUQ3RWd2JkeDZ4SjBDUDFIdz09>

OUR CHURCH STAFF

David Czeisel	Senior Pastor
Penny Gadzini	Pastoral Care Pastor
Amanda Whaley	Director of Music
Christian Ruh	Worship Tech Manager
Megan Ferrante	Office Manager
Shaleek Cohen	Caretaker
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