

Congregational response: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to offer you Christian love, honor your leadership, assist and support you, so that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE Mark 1:4-11 Rev. Ed Bray
RESPONSE "Prepare the Way of the Lord" No. 174
"Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God."

MEDITATION ""Defining Moments"" Rev. Ed Bray
PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY *We give you but your own, what e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.*

*DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (Intinction)

*DEPARTURE HYMN "As with Gladness" No. 236

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*Denotes those who are able are invited to standDepart to serve

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
201 N. PERRY ST., ST. MARYS, OH 45885
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email for Pastor Ed: ebray@bright.net and his home phone # is 567-279-9116
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Rev. Ed Bray, D. Min., Pastor Al Baker, Minister of Visitation
Jim Huckemeyer, Interim Director of Music Cynthia Hanover, Choir Pianist
Ann Vogel, Organist Andrea Spencer, Organist
Tom Hevlin, Organist Emeritus Julie Speckman, Church School Superintendent
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant Bob Schumacher, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors Amy Dieringer and Kayla Tangeman, Sunday Nursery Supervisors
Jeanette and Terry Tangeman, Back Bay Missionaries Kara Birt, Interim Christian Ed Coordinator

Liturgist (10:30).....Jill Dickman
Acolytes (10:30).....Confirmands
Children's Offering.....7th Graders
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God December 31, 2017: Current – \$3443.50 and Mission - \$350.00 / Attendance – 78 (10:30 a.m.)

Altar flowers today are from Marsha Landers wishing everyone a wonderful 2018

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** - For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery. **PLEASE NOTE** - Only Newborn to Kindergarten age children are permitted in the Nursery during our morning worship service to allow safety for the newborns and toddlers. Children 1st Grade and older need to remain in the church and enjoy a Quiet Bag. Thank you for your understanding
- ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** rest room is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room and it also contains a baby changing table.
- ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - available if needed (consult an usher).
- ✚ **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** - our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on **TSC cable - Digital channel 1 or non-digital channel 2**, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. There is a one week delay of the service shown.
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** - on the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship with Rev. Bray
	9:00 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Bray
Mon.	11:00 am	Office opens to the public
Tues.	10:00 am	Hannah Circle
	6:00 pm	Consistory Meet and Greet w/desserts
	6:30 pm	Consistory
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	4:30-6p	Breaking Bread
	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir practice
Sat.	7:00 pm	Weekly Community Prayer Walk @ The ROC
Next Sun.	8:00 am	Worship with Rev. Bray
	9:00 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Bray

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR COMMITTEES, ETC.

Carolyn will soon begin preparing the 2017 Annual Report. Please submit your report to her by **Monday, January 22nd**. If you can type and send it by email, it is most helpful - she can cut and paste!! If you have any questions, please give her a call in the church office.

BUSY NEEDLES NEEDS MORE MEMBERS!

We are looking for anyone wanting to help with this Mission. If you can thread a needle, we need you. Busy Needles meet in the old kitchen on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to ?? We knit lap robes and comforters for local nursing homes, VA hospitals, Shriners hospitals in Cincinnati and Lexington, Ky., and anyone in need to keep warm.

The St. Paul's UCC Women's Guild will be holding BINGO on the following date:

- January 15, 2018 Otterbein 6:00-7:00p

We are in need of BINGO helpers. Please call Janice Katterheinrich at (419) 394-3264 to let one of them know if you can help work the Bingo or if you can bring cookies.

"BREAKING BREAD" COMMUNITY MEAL - St. Paul's offers a weekly free community meal, "Breaking Bread" every Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Desserts are always appreciated. Contact Cindy Huckemeyer (567.356.7683) if you have any questions. **ALL ARE WELCOME - PLEASE JOIN US!!**

Do you shop at Gordon Foods? If so, much like the Kroger Rewards Program that the Women's Guild has, Gordon Foods has a points system. This point system greatly helps with purchasing food for our Breaking Bread meals. The next time you shop at Gordon Foods, ask them to credit your points to St. Paul's Account **#002159887!** A little bit goes a long way! Thank you!

LOOKING AHEAD: We are in need of volunteers to staff the nursery on **Wednesday evenings during Lent**. We would need for you to be in the nursery from 6:45 pm until 8 p.m. Please call the office at (419) 394-3811 if you are willing to help and are available.

COOKIES FOR CROSSROADS - The Women's Guild mission and outreach project for this month is to aid Crossroad of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Crossroad is a home for troubled teens in the surrounding area. Gathering cookies for Crossroad has been a tradition of our church for many years. We would like to continue this worthy mission with your help. Bake your favorite cookies and bring them to the church kitchen or the elevette room by Sunday morning, **February 11th**. They can be decorated, plain, or bar cookies. The cookies will be delivered to Crossroad during the following week. **Please pack them in a gallon or quart zip lock bag to keep them fresh.** Any questions, please call Karen Adams.