

**24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2017**

**“If the only prayer you say in your life is thank you,
It will be enough.” Meister Eckhart 13th Century Mystic**

Prelude

***Congregation please stand if able**

*** The Call to Worship Psalm 100: 1-5 Pg. 821**

***Hymn Come, Ye Thankful People, Come No. 694**

* Entrance of the Light of Christ

Joys and Prayer Concerns of the Congregation
(Please sign attendance pads located at the end of pew)

The Unison Prayer

***O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives,
Bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair,
growth out of difficulty. We thank you that you do not leave us alone
but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in
the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your
Spirit that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen***

Silent Prayer Morning Prayer Lord’s Prayer

Choral Prayer Response ***O God, Our Help in Ages Past No. 117***
***O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!***

Alleluia Choir We Thank Thee, Dear Father Grant Warntly

Children’s Message

The Offering of Our Gifts
Offertory

* Doxology (No. 95), Blessing
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***Hymn Now Thank We All Our God No. 102**

9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir *Immortal, Invisible* Eric Thiman
Scripture *Psalms 98:1-9*

Message ***Gratitude as a cure for cynicism*** Rev. Evans C. Bentley

11:00 a.m. **3rd Grade Bible Presentation** - Jenna Balk, Jack Benavente, Micaiah Ivey, Kayleigh Kittle, Wyatt Kittle, Josephine, Jimmy Maylen, Mehki, Sophia Nolff, Alex Roa-Garcia, Harrison Tyner, and Sophia Vergowven .

Pastor – *On behalf of St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, I present this Bible to you. Grow in wisdom and favor with God.*

All – *Loving God, we give thanks for the Bible, your gift to be used for our learning. Help us to hear its words, understand them and be changed by them so that in your time, we may become wiser, loving, and more fruitful Christians. Amen*

*** Hymn Praise to The Lord, The Almighty No. 139**
Benediction

Congregational Response *It is well with my soul No. 377
When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, It is well with my soul. It is well, with my soul, It is well, It is well with my soul.

St. Paul's Staff

Pastor: Evans C. Bentley

Office Manager: Susan Paterson

Director of Music: John C. Tyner

Organist: Inger Oswald

Director of Children's Choirs: John Fedosky

Christian Education Director: Alisha Cooley

Youth Leader: Willie Lass

Ushers: 9:00 a.m. – Brenda Cadle, Fran Rayce, Patty Siekierda,
Paula Massengill

11:00 a.m. – Tom Paterson, Bob Paterson, Will Paterson,
Jerry Spence

Liturgist: 9:00 a.m. – Paula Vergowven

11:00 a.m. – Willie Lass

Acolytes: 9:00 a.m. – Olivia Gladieux

11:00 a.m. – Alex Garcia & Jenna Balk

Greeters: 9:00 a.m. – Obie and Hank Green

11:00 a.m. – Sally Leask and Peggy Plath

Next Week Greeters: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – Needed

Last week's Attendance – 160

Budget Information:

Expenditures: \$ 283,166

Income \$233,603

Endowment Income and

2016 Carryover used: \$ 49,562

Announcements

Childcare is provided for children, 4 years old and younger in the nursery on Sundays during worship service.

The flowers on the altar are in honor of Theresa Rathbun's Birthday.
Given by her family.

Keep in your prayers **Susan Paterson**, in Promedica Stewart Road Rehab;
Linda Voss in Medilodge of Monroe, Rm 201 A, Monroe.

Acolyte Training will be held today, immediately following the 11:00 service. Pastor Bentley will be providing a lunch for the group. We need more acolytes! Please encourage any child in our congregation from 2nd grade to middle school to consider serving as an acolyte. Also, it is important that the current acolytes attend the training. Thank you for your continued service.

UMYF will be delivering food packages for our Thanksgiving Christmas families today at 11:00 a.m. till done. All youth should attend church first at 9:00 a.m. followed by package assembly at 10:00 a.m. in the gym. Come share this outreach to our needy and feel the gratitude we all have. Thank you to the fine folks in the Outreach Committee for finding our families.

Later today St. Paul's Youth will deliver the Thanksgiving food to our 11 adopted families. We will also support them with food and gifts at Christmas. Look for gift lists to be posted on the bulletin board soon. Donations of cash toward the purchase of hams for Christmas dinner are welcome,

Hanging of the Greens, a Christmas tradition here at St. Paul's will be at 12 noon on November 26th. Come decorate the Church for Christmas, with Pizza, Pop/Beverage and great fellowship.

Confirmation Class/Youth are rescheduling our visit to St. Georges Eastern Orthodox Church for some time in the next few weeks, stay tuned.

A communitywide performance of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah will be presented Sunday, December 3rd at 3:00 p.m. in the IHM Motherhouse Chapel. Adult tickets are \$12. Students and seniors \$8. Advance ticket sales for the concert are available at the Motherhouse (M-F, 9-4) or by calling (734) 241-3660. Concert tickets may also be purchased at the door the afternoon of the performance.

Please join us for an IHM Chapel Concert featuring the John Tyner Chorale on Friday evening, December 15, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Chorale will present a service of Lessons and Carols modeled after the Christmas Eve service that has taken place in the Cambridge Cathedral in England since the year 1918. The service will include scripture readings by various pastors from the Monroe area and carols performed by the congregation and others by the Tyner Chorale. These types of services have been used widely around the world and have become traditions of the Christmas season.

Sounds of Joy Community Singers Presents Carols by Candlelight, Saturday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's UMC.

The Custodians are looking for hand tools that you no longer need and would like to donate to the church. Linda Regelin has graciously offered to purchase a carpet shampooer. If you can help out with this request speak to one of the custodians.

The women of St. Paul's wish to extend a well deserved "Thank You" to everyone who helped with the fall salad luncheons. By attending, making a salad or dish, and/or by being a worker-your help allowed us to continue and expand our support of local, national, and international missions. Seven organizations; The Lord's Harvest Pantry, Grand Rapids Community House, UMCORE, Paula's House, Red Bird Mission, New Beginnings Mercy House in Ida, and Maternal and Child Health Care received a portion of the proceeds of this year's three salad luncheons. We believe the luncheons are more than just fundraisers. With your assistance we once again had the opportunity to serve the Lord by offering food and fellowship to many in the Monroe Community.

The sixth annual Advent Tea will be Sunday, December 3, 2017, from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Kelly Isaacs who will portray Mary, the Mother of Jesus. You may sign up in the fellowship hall for your table or to join an open table.

This Week at St. Paul's

Sunday, November 19, 2017

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.– Worship

10:00 a. m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Assemble and deliver food bags

11:00 a.m. – 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Monday, November 20, 2017

7:00 p.m. – Trustees

Last day for Poinsettia order

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

1:00 p.m. – Lotus Garden Club

7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Noon – Kiwanis Club

No Christ Kids or Choirs

Thursday, November 23, 2017

Happy Thanksgiving – Office Closed

Friday, November 24, 2017

Office Closed

Saturday, November 25, 2017

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast at Benny's

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Kiwanis Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, November 26, 2017

9:00a.m.and 11:00 a.m. – Worship

10:00 a.m. – Sunday School

12:00 p.m – Hanging of the Greens

6:00 p.m. – UMYF



It is time to think about and place your order for Christmas Poinsettias.

- 6" Red Poinsettia \$6.00 _____
- 6" White Poinsettia \$6.00 _____
- 6" Pink Poinsettia \$6.00 _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

By _____

Amount enclosed _____ _____ My plant will be an orphan.

Orders must be in by November 23, 2017



It is time to think about and place your order for Christmas Poinsettias.

- 6" Red Poinsettia \$6.00 _____
- 6" White Poinsettia \$6.00 _____
- 6" Pink Poinsettia \$6.00 _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

By _____

Amount enclosed _____ _____ My plant will be an orphan.

Orders must be in by November 23, 2017