### **United Church of Christ**

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.



Welcome to our Combined 10:15am Worship Service In-Person & Streaming Online



October 16, 2022 19th Sunday after Pentecost 10:15 a.m.

### Welcome

May God's loving presence be very real to you, and may you receive strength and guidance today That will enable you to handle life's challenges.

### Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.

The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

### Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul. (Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table).

### Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor.

### <u>Junior Worship</u>

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

### **Restrooms**

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

### **Changing Tables**

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

### **Water Fountains**

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

### **Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes**

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

### **Sunday Worship**

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

### **Prayer and Care**

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

### **Looking for a Church to Call Home**

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

### More Information....

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the *Blue Visitor Table* in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

{Symbols used in this bulletin: \*= if able please stand;  $\mathfrak{I}\#=$  Red Hymnal Page;  $\mathfrak{I}\#=$  Blue Hymnal Page}







Free WiFi

### Virtual Worship Service

Online: Live Stream at spruce.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel
Facebook Live (St. Paul's) at https://www.facebook.com/www.spruce.org/ - Live or Watch & Listen Later
Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office @sprucc.org

### We Gather

We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God, and provide for one another our love, support, and care.

Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.

They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.

### **A TIME OF GATHERING**

RINGING OF THE BELL

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

{If you have not already done so, please sign sand pass the pew welcome pad to the person next to you}

### PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP® (Unison)

God of faithfulness, hear our prayer. Help us to be persistent in our endeavors for your kingdom and in our relationship with you. Help us to pray without ceasing. Inspire our daily devotions and light the fire within us to come to worship together without fail. In the name of your Holy Son, we pray. Amen.

**PRELUDE** "Lead on, O King Eternal – the tune of Lancashire" arr. for piano by Robert Thygerson

{Those who are able, please rise}

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Come Thou Almighty King"

Red #4

Public Domain

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### \*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 121 (NSRV)

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come?

People: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

People: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. **People:** The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Leader: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

People: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time

on and forevermore.

### We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

### \*Call to Confession @ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

\*Confession of Sin (Unison) adapted from the E&R hymnal, page 4
Awesome and most merciful God, we humble ourselves before you. We have erred and strayed like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things we ought to have done, and we have done those things we ought not to have done. May you, merciful God, forgive our sins so that our lives may be pleasing to you and to ourselves. Amen.

### \*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

\*Sung Prayer for Mercy "Lord, Thy Mercy, Now Entreating"

Red #216
Public Domain

Lord, Thy mercy now entreating, Low before Thy throne we fall; Our misdeeds to Thee confessing, On Thy Name we humbly call.

### \*Assurance of Pardon @ (Leader)

Be assured, we are forgiven of our sins by our God of mercy. Let us be persistent in our prayers of thankfulness. Let us be never-ceasing in our wrestling with God's word and what it means for our daily lives just as Jacob did not give in to exhaustion when wrestling with God in the ancient event.

### \*CALL TO PRAISE @

Leader: May we be filled with the Holy Spirit.

People: May we continually gather and sing praise to God.

\*Chorus of Praise "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"

Blue #597 Public Domain

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.

(Please be seated)

### We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings.

We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God."

Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.

### **Proclamation of Scripture**

First Lesson: Genesis 34:22-31
Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: <u>Luke 18:1-8</u>

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Living for Jesus"

Blue #605

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MINI-MESSAGE

{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship, or 0-8 year olds may go downstairs to nursery, or on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time for the additional option of "Junior Worship")

**CONGREGATION SINGS** "Praise Him"

Praise him, praise him in the morning, praise him at the noontime.

Praise him, praise him, praise him when the sun goes down.

Serve him, serve him in the morning, serve him at the noontime. Serve him, serve him when the sun goes down.

**SERMON** "Persistence"

### We Respond with Thanks

We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped, we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by re-affirming our faith in God,

praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

(Those who are able, please rise)

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - from The UCC Statement of Faith (Section Five: The Promise)

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

(Please be seated)

### **CALL TO PRAYER**

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** 

Leader: Let us pray.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

### LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.

### PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

Blue #501 George Whelpton Public Domain

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

### OFFERTORY INVITATION ®

Leader: From our hearts we give, **People: not because of law.** 

Leader: From our hearts we give,

People: not to have our sins forgiven.

Leader: From our hearts we give.

People: because we love God and his kingdom on earth.

CHOIR OFFERTORY "Abide With Us, Our Savior" Melchior Vulpius (1560-1615)

{Those who are able, please rise}

Public Domain

Tune: Hendon Words: Earl D. Miller Reproduced with permission under the Consecrating Stewards program

Now I come to give myself Give my time and give my wealth. Give my gifts as generously As, O God, you give to me. As, O God, you give to me.

(As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.

A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.

Whether worshiping in person or online, the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church is through St. Paul's UCC secure <u>Online Giving</u> option on our website at **sprucc.org**. <u>St. Paul's UCC Click Here</u> Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul's UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551 or Zion UCC; PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567}.

### \*Offertory Prayer (Leader) o

Holy and gracious God, thank you for receiving these gifts no matter if they are big or small. We believe that in your eyes our gifts are precious, each and everyone, because they come from our hearts. We trust that we will be guided in the use of these gifts in your name and for your kingdom on earth.

All: Amen.

### We Are Sent Out

In response to God's love and grace, we go out into the world to share God's Good News through our words and actions.

### \*COMMISSION @

Leader: As we go forth, let us prepare to wrestle.

People: Wrestle?

Leader: Wrestle with temptation.

People: Oh, wrestle with the words that come from our mouths?

Leader: Yes, and wrestle with time and energy.

People: That it may all be used for the kingdom of God on earth.

### \*BENEDICTION

\*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

Red #558 Public Domain

\*SENDING HYMN

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Blue #139

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{During the hymn, today's Greeters & Ushers may return to the rear of the sanctuary, to help greet after worship.}

{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us, as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}

### **POSTLUDE**

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **7 TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**

### The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

(1) God welcomes us and invites us

(2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him

(3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace

(4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace

(5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon

(6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer

(7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure

(8) We experience the greater oneness with God and each other through Communion.

(9) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



### **Worship Service Resource Credits**

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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Miller, Earl D. (1994). Consecrating Stewards. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.

<sup>®</sup> The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

The Rev. Mary Etta Mest Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).

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### St. Paul's United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue; Robesonia, PA 19551 610-621-5770 \*\*\* office@sprucc.org www.SPRUCC.org

Consistory President: Sheri Rowe Consistory Vice President: Elsa Wertz

Consistory Secretary: Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Acting Financial Secretary: Terry Pastor

### **Zion United Church of Christ**

PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.1Zion.org

Consistory President: George McLain Consistory Vice President: Cory Putt

Treasurer: George McLain 717-628-1875 or

610-507-7865

Consistory Secretary: Yvonne Rentschler Financial Secretary: Janice Conner

Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest **Password** (for both): iamheretoserve Link to Website's **Úpcoming Events** 



### **About Today**

**Church Season: Pentecost** —which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. During this season we focus on how we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called by God to go out into the world and share his Good News through both our deeds and words.

### **Color of the Paraments** (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

**Green** – symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God's Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

### This Sunday, October 16, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 34:22-31

Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

Luke 18:1-8

### Genesis

The book of Genesis (OT) is a part of the Pentateuch (first five books of the OT, or Torah, or one of the five most central books in Judaism). Genesis means beginning. The book of Genesis tells about the creation of humankind and the entire universe by the will and power of God. Genesis creates a context for the reading of the entire rest of the Bible. The book is traditionally attributed to Moses, who led the Israelite people from Egyptian slavery to freedom, through the saving grace and divine providence of God.

### **Psalm 121**

This OT song expresses our confidence in God's providence and care. Psalms 120-134 are a part of the collection known as "A Song of Ascents." These songs are most likely sung by people on religious pilgrimages.

### The Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

This epistle (letter) is attributed to the Apostle Paul and is dated around the 60's A.D. Timothy is a minister appointed by Paul, whom Paul is supporting to combat the false dissident teaching of some troublemakers within the church in Ephesus. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul wrote more of the NT than any other person.

### The Gospel According to Luke

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke "the beloved physician," written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of "investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write and orderly account" of Jesus Christ, "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed."

### Next Sunday, October 23, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Sirach 35:12-17

Psalm 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE 1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464 484-949-8774

October 16, 2022

## 2022 Fall Book Study

# Recovering Racist: Dismantling White Supremacy and Reclaiming Our Humanity

**Beginning November 1st** 

The PSEC Racial Justice Initiative is offering a 2022 Fall Book Study

Recovering Racist: Dismantling White Supremacy and Reclaiming Our Humanity by Idelette McVicker

As a white Afrikaner woman growing up in South Africa during apartheid, Idelette McVicker was steeped in a community and a church that reinforced racism and shielded her from seeing her neighbors' oppression. Recovering Racists shares

MCVICKER

DELETTE

McVicker's journey over thirty years and across three continents to shatter the lies of white supremacy embedded deep within her soul.

She helps us realize that grappling with the legacy of white supremacy and recovering from racism is lifelong work that requires both inner transformation and societal change. As we work for the freedom for everyone, we also find freedom for ourselves.

Join us for five on-line sessions,

Tuesday's November 1st - 29th, 3 p.m. Or 7 p.m. each week.

**To register:** Go to psec.org and click on News & Events. Go to the calendar and click on November 1st for more information and the registration link.



## Official Call to the 2022 PSEC Fall Meeting

Hybrid Meeting @ Salt & Light Community

Church UCC 5736 Chester Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143

November 13th / 3:00 pm—5:30 pm

There is no fee for this meeting!

The agenda includes:-

RECOVERING

RACISTS

- Introduction to the Salt and Light UCC/PCUSA merger and ministry
- Presentation by Bethany Children's Home CEO, Dr. Joseph Birli
- Reports from the PSEC Ministry Teams—
   Addiction & Recovery, Environmental Justice,
   Disaster Ministries, Racial Justice and Stewardship
- OCWM 2022 report and approval of the 2023

Registration opens at 2:00 pm Meeting begins at 3:00pm

### Register at:

https://psec2022fall.eventbrite.com





### 605 Living for Jesus

That you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way. Colossians 1:10



# COMMITMENT AND OBEDIENCE $\frac{D_m}{F}$ F7 Bb $\frac{Bb}{F}$ Bb $\frac{Bb}{F}$ Bb $\frac{F}{C}$ F $\frac{F}{Eb}$ D+ D7 G9 G $\frac{Bb}{C}$ C7 F be Thy throne. My life I give, hence-forth to live, O Christ, for Thee a - lone.

### 139 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

The Lord's compassions are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23



14

MUSIC: William M. Runyan

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with Refrain

