

**Weekly Readings:**

Monday	John 21:18-19
Tuesday	Acts 9:1-9
Wednesday	Acts 9:10-19
Thursday	2 Corinthians 11:16-32
Friday	Acts 16:6-10
Saturday	Acts 16:16-34

**Announcements this week:**

- ◆ **Monday:** Bible Study @ 1:30  
Shawl Ministry @ 7:00 pm.
- ◆ **Tuesday:** Trustee Mtg. @ 5:30 p.m.  
Ad Council @ 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Wednesday:** Education @ 5:30  
Confirmation @ 6:00 p.m.  
Jubilation @ 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Thursday:** National Day of Prayer
- ◆ **Friday:** Friendship Day

**Prayers:**

Elaine Lee; Family of Betty Wilson; Roger Vaugh; Kate Craft & Charlotte Bronner

**Office Information:**

Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 –12:30  
or by appointment.

Pastor Allen Craft

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*St. Paul United Methodist Church*

*501 Sycamore St., Box 187 ~ La Porte City, IA 50651*

# *St. Paul*

## *United Methodist Church*

*Sunday, May 7th, 2023*



*May 07, 2023*  
*5th Sunday of Easter*

**Prelude ~**

**Chimes: "In the Garden"**

**Welcome & Announcements:** Colleen

**\*Opening Hymn:** "How Firm a Foundation" UMH Pg. 529

**Psalm Reading:** Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 Pg. 439

**Call To Worship:**

Once we were not a people.

**Now we are God's people.**

Once we ate food that did not satisfy.

**Now we drink the spiritual milk of our Lord.**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Opening Prayer:**

**Merciful God, our refuge and our strength, train our hearts on the words of your Son: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." Feed our souls with your spiritual milk and build our very lives into spiritual houses that neither famine nor storm can shake the foundation of our faith. In the name of the master builder and the living stone we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture Readings:** Acts 7:55-60 Pg. 891

**\*Hymn of Praise:** "We Are the Church" UMH Pg. 558

**\*Prayer of Confession:**

**Living God, in times of spiritual homelessness, we long to hear Jesus's assurance that he has prepared a place for us; we yearn to be formed by the Master Builder into spiritual houses, like living stones. Grant us the courage of Stephen and the confidence of Peter, as we strive to be a holy priesthood, In your blessed name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Words of Assurance:**

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God and place your faith in Christ. Make your petitions known and the one who is faithful will answer.

**\*Gloria Patri:** UMH Pg. 70

**Greet One Another and Pass the Peace of Christ**

**Special Music:** Blake Kaalberge

**Children's Message:**

**Joys and Concerns:**

**Pastoral Prayer:**

**The Lord's Prayer:**

**Chimes:** "For the Beauty"

**Presentation of our Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings:**

**Offertory Prayer:**

**God of overflowing abundance, you feed our spirits with spiritual milk and nourish our souls with heavenly food. You are our fortress and our rock when the snares of this world threatened to overwhelm us. In gratitude for your mercy and your many blessings, we offer you our gifts and our ministries, that a wounded world might know your grace. Amen.**

**\*Doxology:** UMH Pg. 95

**Gospel Reading:** John 14:1-14 Pg. 877

**New Testament Reading:** 1 Peter 2:2-10 Pg. 987

**Message:** Pastor Allen

**Communion:**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "When We All Get to Heaven" UMH Pg. 701

**\*Benediction:**

**\*Sending Forth:** "Pass It On" verse 3 UMH Pg. 572

**Postlude:**