

Shifting Perspectives

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024 | 9:00 am

+ Please Stand

Bold Text = Congregation speak or sing

Chancel Flowers

*The Catherine Eckstein estate gives flowers
in memory of Catherine Eckstein and her family.*

Thank You

*to the Coe College Concert Choir, under the direction
of Luke Lovegood, for coming to St. Paul's today and
blessing us with their music as we worship God.*

Worship Attendants

Rev. Jonathan Heifner, Lead Pastor

Rev. Ryan Roth-Klinck, Associate Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Daniel Niyonzima, Associate Pastor, African Nationals

Dr. Mark Baumann, CAGO, Coordinator of Music Ministries

Michael Sauer, Director of Sanctuary Choir

Brian Azelborn, trumpet

Brytta Fitzgibbons & Quinn Jensen, Liturgist

Craig Dove, Audio

Gayle Buroker, Slide Presenter

Maury Anderson, Videographer

Isaac Anderson, Video Streaming

The Roundtable Team

Cynde Clymer

Carol Curry

Bill Daylong

Cindy Edge

Holli Schneekloth

Stan Vandersall

GATHERING

Welcome

Prelude

Poor Man Lazarus

arr. Hart Morris

Carillonneurs

Call to Worship

Quinn: If it wasn't for
those meddling kids...

The house would be clean
and the toys would be put away.
Maybe we could finally find
a moment of peace and quiet.
Everyone would know what the
pastor said during the sermon.

**All: If it wasn't for
those meddling kids!**

Brytta: If it wasn't for
those cranky old people...

The traffic would certainly
not be so slow...
Maybe we could actually
change something for once...
Church would be a lot more fun...

**All: If it wasn't for
those cranky old people!**

Daniel: If it wasn't for
those stern disciples...

The children would
be free to be themselves.
Maybe our perspectives about
different generations would change.
People would feel loved and
welcome in church.

**All: If it wasn't for
those stern disciples!**

Quinn: At one time or another,
we all have been a stern disciple,
where we have written off another
person, group, or generation. Jesus
disapproves of this behavior.

He flips the tables on the disciples and us by calling those meddling kids to him. We can no longer deny their dignity when Jesus names them as essential to God's kin-dom.

All: From generation to generation, God calls us to change our perspective!

Brytta: We aspire to be a church community where people of all ages can flourish! So, whether you are a child or an elder, young or retired, in your mid-life or somewhere in between, you are welcome here!

**All: You are embraced, loved, and called by God.
Let's worship God together!
Amen!**

Act of Praise

All in the April Evening

Hugh S. Robertson

Coe College Concert Choir

Passing of the Peace

Each week, we take time to bless each other with peace because we believe God truly desires peace for all.

A blessing is a way to wish for wholeness in someone's life, so please ensure everyone has peace passed to them, regardless of their generation.

As we pass the peace to each other, we would also like you to share a brief story with your neighbors to help us foster deeper connections in our community.

If you are online, please include your story in the comment section.

This week, we'd like you to share a story about a time when you were a meddling kid.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

FORMING

Act of Praise

I've Got Peace Like a River

Spiritual, arr. Mack Wilberg

Coe College Concert Choir
& Sanctuary Choir

Life of the Community

Prayers of the Generations

God of the many generations,
we far too often forget Christ's
commandment to love our neighbors
as ourselves. We recognize we have
not always listened and sought
to understand our neighboring
generations, those who have
come before or after us.

**All: We seek to be better
neighbors, God! May we
listen and learn to love our
neighboring generations!**

Those in the middle of life,
All: We affirm and bless you!

Those in the middle of life,
All: We affirm and bless you!

Those in the middle of life,
All: We affirm and bless you!

And, as part of this faith
community, we also remember
those who are suffering...

God in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

+ Hymn of Preparation

Wade in the Water

TFWS 2107 (stanzas 1 & 4)

Leader - choir

Congregation, trumpet & piano
Brian Azlborn, trumpet

**All: Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God's a'gonna trouble the water.**

Choir: See that host
all dressed in white,

**All: God's a'gonna
trouble the water.**

Choir: The leader looks
like the Israelite,

**All: God's a'gonna
trouble the water.
Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God's a'gonna trouble the water.**

Choir: If you don't believe
I've been redeemed,

**All: God's a'gonna
trouble the water.**

Choir: Just follow me
down to Jordan's stream,

**All: God's a'gonna
trouble the water.
Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God's a'gonna trouble the water.**

+ Gospel Lesson

Mark 10:13-16

adapted from *The Voice*

People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them.

All: Shhh! Leave Jesus alone!

But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them,

“Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”

And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen!

Wade in the Water

TFWS 2107

**All: Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God’s a’gonna trouble the water.**

**Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God’s a’gonna trouble the water.**

Sermon

Act of Praise

Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord

spiritual, arr. Undine S. Moore

Coe College Concert Choir
& Sanctuary Choir

Affirmation of Faith

We believe God is present in the
darkness before dawn,

**All: in the waiting and
uncertainty where fear and
courage join hands, conflict and
caring link arms, and the
sun rises over barbed wire.**

We believe in a with-us God,
**All: who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.**

We affirm a faith that takes us
beyond the safe places...
**All: into action, into vulnerability,
and into the streets.**

We commit ourselves to be the body
of Christ together,
**All: to be a community who
seeks to listen and understand the
experiences of each generation,
so we can work for change.**

May we be willing to put
ourselves on the line, bear
responsibility, take risks, live
powerfully, and even
face humiliation;
**All: May we stand with those
on the edge, choose life, and be
used by the Spirit for God's new
community of hope. Amen.**

SENDING

+ Sending Hymn

*Wash O God,
Your Sons and Daughters*
UMH 605 (stanzas 1 & 3)

**Wash, O God,
our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments
bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them;
send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart's delight.**

**O how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us; God, transform!**

Invitation to Gather

Blessing

Going Forth

Music of Inspiration

As the Rain Hides the Stars

Elaine Hagenberg

Hope Lingers On

Andrea Ramsey

Coe College Concert Choir

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welcome ALL

**We gather to worship God, whose nature is love.
And because God's love knows no bounds,
All are welcome here.**

All

ages

races

abilities

ethnicities

life circumstances

gender identities, expressions, and sexual orientations.

**We joyfully celebrate the diversity of All God's children
as we are inspired by the Holy Spirit to love as Jesus loves.**

Welcome to God's extravagant, inclusive love!

Welcome to St. Paul's!



What's Happening

at



ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Scan Me

Scan QR Code above to view our events calendar.

ST. PAUL'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO
SERENDIPITOUS CONVERSATIONS
APRIL 21ST 10:15 A.M.
Join us for a LIVE session of our podcast,
Lived Experiences: Shared Existence.



We will interviewing special guests,
Jerry Oakland
and
Tom Sears.



4.21.24

**Earth Keeping:
Energizing People
of Faith for
Climate Justice**

April 21 | 4:00-6:00 pm
Adults & Youth (6th-12th grade)

**DEMOCRACY &
THE DREAM**

FREE FAMILY MAY DAY CELEBRATION

MAY BASKETS Decorate a basket and fill it with a treat.	KIDS VOTE Cast your vote in a kid-friendly election to see your vote count!	GET INVOLVED Register to vote, learn about training for Poll Workers
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APRIL 27TH, 10AM - 12PM
BEEMS B AUDITORIUM
CEDAR RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY
450 5TH AVE SE



APRIL 27, 2024
2:00-3:30 P.M.

INDIAN CREEK NATURE CENTER,
5300 OTIS RD SE, CEDAR RAPIDS

A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF ENGAGING WITH CREATION



tending to the sacred

TERRA DIVINA



Red Cedar Chamber Music presents:


VOYAGERS

Travel the world with a program of folk-inspired music, featuring premieres of works by Wajidi Abou Diab, Victoria Malawey, Jimmy Kachulis, Lauren McCall, and Roydon Tse.




Miera Kim, violin
Carcy Bostian, cello

Saturday, April 27
7:00 pm
St. Paul's Sanctuary
Tickets: \$20 at the door, students Free



STEPHEN
MINISTRY



St. Paul's UMC will
commission their new
Stephen Leader,
Pastor Julie Wehner
Sunday, April 28 | 9:00 am



ONLINE

stpaulsumc.org/give



MAIL

Cash/Check/Credit/Debit
1340 3rd Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403



TEXT-TO-GIVE

text **SPUMCCR**
to **73256**



IN PERSON

Offering Plate



4 WAYS TO GIVE