



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

A welcoming Christ-centered community...

Baptism of Christ

Jan 11, 2026
9:30am Worship

We're Glad You're Here!

Welcome: *St. Paul's creates experiences of joyful fellowship where children, youth, adults, and the elderly build open and honest relationships of mutual support. In welcoming the ongoing transformative power of the Holy Spirit, we find freedom from social stigmas and shame. This in turn empowers us to address isolation and marginalization in ourselves and in our wider community.*

Today's Scripture Readings

Psalm 29 + Isaiah 42:1-9 + Matthew 3:13-17

Worship Leaders

Ministers of the Gospel – All Who Gather for God's Worship

Guest Worship Leader– Stuart Wells

Reader – Paul Druzba

Ushers – Wanda and Paul Druzba

Accompanist – Barb Moyer

Acolyte – John Herold

Flower Dedication

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**Join us for Sunday Morning Music & Worship
9:30 – 10:30am Sunday In-Person / Zoom Worship**

Connect online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86359317508>

Or by phone to listen to the service:

Call 1-646-876-9923 and when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 863 5931 7508

300 West First Street, Birdsboro PA 19508
610-582-8461 + office@stpaulsbirdsboro.org +
www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org
Church wifi: StPauls / havefaith

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all who are gathered to worship God:

All: Give our God glory and strength!

Leader: Let us sing to God the glory of God's name

Worship God in holy splendor!

All: The voice of our God is over the waters.

The God of glory thunders over mighty waters.

Opening Hymn: "What Ruler Wades through Murky Streams"

NCH #169

[New Century Hymnal]

(you may be seated)

Prayer of Transformation and New Life (Psalm 29, Matthew 3:13-17)

Leader: Jesus came to John and asked to be baptized along with everyone else.

John objected, but Jesus prevailed, and went down into the water,

Immersing himself in the waters of our lives

and opening his life to the voice of God.

All: The voice of our God is powerful, full of majesty:

Leader: Give us ears, O God, to hear the cry of the waters,

the waters that we have polluted and have not cared for.

Give us ears to hear the voices of those who cry out for pure water,

water that replenishes the body and refreshes the soul.

All: The voice of our God breaks the cedars of Lebanon:

Leader: Awaken our ears, Divine Sovereign,

to hear your voice as you speak to those who are the powerful among us,

those who sit over nations,

those who sit over peoples in judgment.

Let them hearken, O God, for you are the One who judges over all.

All: The voice of God makes Lebanon skip joyfully, like a calf at play:

Leader: Restore to us, O God, the joy of our youth,
the joy of freedom, the joy of peace;
may it echo throughout the world.

All: The voice of our God shakes the wilderness:

Leader: Shake us, Mighty Wind of God!

Shake our institutions that oppress and discriminate against your people.
Shake our governments that seek war and not peace.

**All: Shake all of our hearts and break up the stony places within us,
and drench us in the baptism of compassion, tenderness, and
justice.**

Leader: And Jesus arose from the waters of the Jordan and heard the voice of
God say: "This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased."

**All: O God of earth and heaven,
Sovereign from sea to shining sea,
give strength to all your people and bless our world with peace.**

(a moment of quiet reflection)

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God of heaven and earth, you see all things.

You know the depths of our hearts better than we can know ourselves.

You know the great heights to which we aspire
and the depth of our failures when we fall short
of doing what we know is right.

We ask for your mercy and forgiveness for our selfishness and fears.

Help us to walk as the faithful representatives you call us to be.

Create in us the grace of Christ toward those with whom we disagree,
just as he extended it to those who conspired against him. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Leader: God truly shows no partiality.

A voice from heaven says to us, as it said to Jesus:

You are my beloved.

This Spirit rests upon us, too.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

We Listen For God's Word: Scripture

Psalm 29 [page #392], Isaiah 42:1-9 [page #519] + Matthew 3:13-17 [page #2]

Sermon: *In this Together*

Hymn: "For the Healing of the Nations" NCH #576
[New Century Hymnal]

Gathering the Prayers of the People

After each petition, we will say the following –

Leader: Holy One...

All: Lord Hear Our Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Creator, 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: Just as the waters of the earth are abundant and full of life,
so are the blessings God pours upon us daily.

Let us now joyfully offer our tithes, pledges, and offerings
with the hope that they may enable others to feel immersed in God's love.

Dedication

(please rise, in body or in spirit)

Sending Hymn: “This Little Light of Mine”

NCH #524

[New Century Hymnal]

Benediction

Postlude

Liturgy adapted from a service written by Rev. Michael Anthony Howard who serves as Minister of Faith in Action for Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast.)

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Announcements

Meet & Greet – Join us today, Sun, Jan 11th, following worship.

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2026. This meeting will be held in the church immediately after Sunday Service.

Altar Flowers for January – We have openings for altar flower dedications. If you’d like to honor or memorialize someone, contact Wanda Druzba at 610-385-3382 or see her at church for information and to reserve a date. Thank you.

Bible Study is held in the upper room in the church each Sunday beginning at 8:30am. Join us for good conversation and discussion about the books of the bible.

“Prayers of the People” – Our current Elders will be holding meetings on the 4th Thursday evening of each month at 6pm via Zoom. All are welcome including phone participants. Contact Pat Babel at 484-949-5033 to be included in the email distribution. Thank you!

St Paul's Weekly Calendar

Sun, Jan 11	Worship (C) Meet and Greet (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am following worship 7pm-8pm
Tues, Jan 13	Consistory Meeting Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	4pm 5:30pm-7pm
Wed, Jan 14	Disciple Bible Study (CE)	9:30am-10:30am
Thurs, Jan 15	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL) Currently Sober (CE)	5:30pm-7pm 6:30-7:30pm
Fri, Jan 16	Beginners Meeting (CE)	7pm- 8pm
Sat, Jan 17	Nancy Moyer Counseling (CE-LL)	8:30am –2pm
Sun, Jan 18	Worship (C) New Millennium (CE)	9:30am 7pm-8pm

This Week: Church Office Hours

Tues – Thurs 9:00am-1:00pm

This Week: Pastor Deb's Office Hours

Tues/remote 9:00am-1:00pm

Wed/in-office 9:00am-1:00pm

Thurs/remote 9:00am-1:00pm