

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

10708 Lavinia Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63123 314-843-5100

www.stphilipsucc.com

November 19, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30



Pastor: Rev. Laura Mignerone

Council President: Sandy Stevenson

Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea

Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Music Director: Mike Orzel

*indicates that you may rise as comfortably able
(text in bold read in unison)

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRAYER CONCERNS

* CALL TO WORSHIP - Worship Ways - Inspired by Psalm 90

Holy One, you have been our God from generation to generation. Before the universe exploded and the earth was without form, you have been with us.

Creator, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

We enter your presence to worship and praise your holy name.

Mighty One, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Teach us to count the days with joy and appreciation for all your marvelous works and steadfast love.

Everlasting God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

* OPENING HYMN: "How Great Thou Art" # 33 Verses 1,2,4

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze. (Refrain)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart;
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God how great thou art! (Refrain)

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Worship Ways (Together)

Generous God, you pour your Spirit into us. You bless us with your love. In your presence, there is fullness of joy, comfort for those in despair, and peace in the midst of chaos and confusion. You do not abandon us in time of need or of celebration. We turn toward you now seeking to receive your message, to give you honor, and to commune in your presence. Make yourself known among us, O God, make yourself known to us. AMEN!

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

RESPONSE: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight,

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

SCRIPTURE: Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help, for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgement. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand.'"

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:14-30

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’

But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.

So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

HYMN: "God of the Fertile Fields" # 695 Verses 1-3

God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread;
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
that all in every land be clothed and fed.

We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care
for people everywhere that all may live.

As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, your reign yet grows.
So let our toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
no humble task refused your love bestows.

SERMON: "Disciples' Got Talent"
Rev. Laura Mignerone

ANTHEM: "All Creatures Of Our God And King"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silence

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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

Your 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.**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

* Doxology #46 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, the heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication - Worship Ways (Together)

**Generous God, we bring the gifts of ourselves and our abundance.
Magnify and multiply these offerings to meet the needs before us.
Continue to cultivate the spirit of generosity among us and make us
good stewards as we allocate the use of these gifts in your name.
AMEN.**

* CLOSING HYMN: "For the Fruit of All Creation" # 714 Verses 1-3

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God;
for good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
for the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done;
in our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

BOOK CLUB

We will meet after church on **Sunday, November 19** to discuss *Inheritance*.

Our next selection is *The Maid: A Novel* by Nita Prose. This New York Times bestseller has been described as a "cozy whodunit, with a one-of-a-kind heroine who will steal your heart."

Consider joining us to read this book! We share a potluck lunch, and always have a good time. New members are always welcome. You do not have to have read the book to join us!

OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS

As in recent past years, St. Philip's will participate in Feed My People's "**Adopt a Family**" Program. Since Covid, Feed My People has encouraged the giving of gift cards instead of food items and wrapped packages. We will collect funds for a gift card for each family member and a grocery card for a holiday meal. We have requested a family with school-age children this year, and LOGOS has expressed interest in buying one gift for each of the children in the family.

Since we need to take our package to feed my People well before Christmas, we will start collecting funds now. Contributions can be made in the offering plate or by mail. Please write "Adopt a Family" on the Lower left side of checks or specify "Adopt a Family" on the outside of your church contribution envelope.

Cap and Mitten Tree: a skinny little tree will appear in the gathering area during Hanging of the Greens on December 3. We will "decorate" it with scarves, mittens and gloves during advent, with items going to a charity, most likely Caroline Mission. All sizes, children's thru adult, are appreciated!

HANGING OF THE GREENS ~ KIDS & FAMILIES

Families...please plan to stay after church on **Sunday, December 3** to help decorate the church for Christmas. There will be Christmas crafts and activities for the kids, and lunch is provided!

[RSVP HERE](#) if you know you'll be there so we can plan ahead (you're still welcome if you don't). Or see the RED signup sheet on the bulletin board. Looking forward to getting into the Christmas spirit with you!

LOGOS

We would LOVE to see you there!! LOGOS is a laid back, intergenerational ministry where families come together to grow in their relationship with God and each other. **Every other Wednesday from 5:30-7:00pm**, join us for dinner, family centered games, a simple bible study, crafts and more. It's a great opportunity for faith and family during a busy week. Anyone is welcome! All ages!

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Andrea Tukin, St. Philip's Youth Director, at andreatukin@gmail.com or (314) 566-8633.

LOGOS MEAL SIGN UP

Would you be interested in making a meal for our LOGOS ministry? If so, we'd love to try your cooking (and have you join us for an evening)! Receipts may be turned in for reimbursement.

Meals that have worked for our group in the past include: chili & hotdogs, spaghetti, tacos, ham & swiss sliders, baked potatoes, etc. We'd love to try your ideas too!! See the November CRIER for details.

LOGOS FALL SCHEDULE

November 29

December 13

YOUNG(ER) ADULT BRUNCH

Sunday, November 19

11:00am

Location to be determined

Babysitting at church will be available

[*RSVP HERE*](#) or contact Andrea

Tukin at 314-566-8633 or
andreatukin@gmail.com

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 9

5:00-7:00pm

Potluck (bring a dish to share)

Christmas games, Christmas Karaoke,
Christmas Crafts and more!

Location at St. Philip's unless someone
wants to host!

[RSVP HERE](#) or contact Andrea Tukin at
314-566-8633 or andreatukin@gmail.com



Christmas Poinsettias

Back again this year are beautiful poinsettia plants in your choice of red or pink, and mums in either white or yellow.

The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary on Sunday, December 24 during the Christmas Eve service. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Eve service.

The cost is \$11.50 each plant.

Make check payable to 'Walter Knoll Florist'

Name _____

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>
_____	Red Poinsettia
_____	Pink Poinsettia
_____	White Mum
_____	Yellow Mum

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

You can drop your order form and payment in the offering plate or give to Carol O'Shea in the church office **by Monday, December 11th**.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Olivia Witte	1
Scott Remmers	3
De'Ana Holdener	9
Sarah Bobmeyer	15
Jan Freese	15
Rob Harvey	15
Samantha Mahoney	19
Shirley Jennings	28
Jamie York Schubert	30

SAVE THE DATES - Details to Follow

December 2	Breakfast with Santa	9:00-10:30am
December 3	Hanging of the Greens	after worship
December 9	Family Christmas Party	5:00-7:00pm
December 17	Youth Christmas Program	during worship
December 24	Christmas Eve Service	8:00pm

**Job Opening for a Buildings and Property Manager
at St. Paul's United Church of Christ
5508 Telegraph Rd, St. Louis MO 63129**

Job Description: Reporting to the Lead Pastor and in support of the mission and ministries of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, the Buildings and Property Manager will be responsible for the general maintenance and management of the St. Paul's UCC Church buildings, including the Treehouse Preschool and Baby House; as well as the church property, the cemetery, and church-owned equipment related to the maintenance of the church campus.

To Apply: Submit a resume and cover letter through Indeed.com, or mail a cover and either a resume or application to St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Attention: Personnel Committee, 5508 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63129. (Application can be found at www.sp4u.org).


**CHRISTMAS LUNCH BUNCH
WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 13, 2023
NOON – AT SANDY'S HOUSE**

Join us for the annual pre-Christmas potluck lunch at Sandy's house. Bring a dish to share and prepare for a time of food, fun and fellowship.

Don't forget to bring a wrapped white elephant present for the much anticipated and highly competitive Rob Your Neighbor contest. You never know what treasure you might win!

See the GREEN signup sheet on the bulletin board to RSVP or contact Sandy Stevenson.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 Book Club 11:00 Young(er) Adult	20	21 2:00 Fall Book Study (Zoom)	22	23 	24	25
26 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School	27	28	29 5:30-7:00 LOGOS	30	1 December	2 9:00-10:30 Breakfast w/Santa
3 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School 10:15 Hanging of the Greens	4 7:00 Church Council Mtg	5	6	7	8 6:00-10:00 ECC MPR	9 5:00-7:00 Family Christmas Dinner
10 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School	11 noon Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due	12	13 noon Lunch Bunch @ Sandy's 5:30-7:00 LOGOS	14 5:00-6:00 Scouts GS	15	16
17 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook - Youth Christmas Program 9:45 Sunday School	18	19	20	21	22	23



**Our
Vision
Statement**

St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,
Eyes to see the needs of others,
Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.

*In
our
Thoughts
and
Prayers*



Chrysanthemum

Iveta Boyanchev

Joyce Brand

Bob Eillson

Grace Heady

Ron Hemingway

Virginia Hladnick

Mary Ann Krewson

Marilyn Milne

Jered Nagle

Shirley Nottelmann

Paul Shrout

Lily Swanson

Paula Williams



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