

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, June 2, 2024

God...
knows us,
is with us,
made us,
hears us,
leads us.

Psalm 139

1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922

Pastor: Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday

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Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

**Second Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, **the PSEC Conference Ministers and Staff.**

Please read the announcements that are in this downloadable bulletin, as well as those we post on our Facebook site, our emails, and our phone calls, and then help spread the word to those who do not have access to any of those messages.

(Communion note: All are welcome at the Lord’s table. Please pick up a bag of individually prepared Communion elements from the table in the sanctuary, as we will not be distributing them during the service.)

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The One who called Samuel from the darkness continues to say: “Let light shine out of darkness.”

People: The light of Christ shines all around us.

Pastor: The One who searches us and knows us hems us in, behind and before.

People: We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Pastor: Let us worship a God who surprises us at every turn. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 502.....“Be Thou My Vision”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Lord of the Sabbath, when our spirits feel withered, we yearn to touch your healing power. Be with us in our hour of need and become the joy of our salvation. Our mouths long to sing your praise and our eyes long to behold your glory. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Though we are but vessels of clay, the extraordinary power of God shines light in and through our darkness.

People: Though our span of years is short, we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Pastor: God blesses us with mercies beyond measure. We are forgiven! Amen.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD:.....Lector, Mike Fessler

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 3:1-20 (Page 236)
Psalm: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (Read Responsively)

Lector: O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

Lector: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

People: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

Lector: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Lector: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

People: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Lector: My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

People: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

Lector: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

People: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 (Page 1005)
Gospel Lesson: Mark 2:23-3:6 (Page 869)

Lector: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE.....“Let Thy word abide in us, O Lord.”

SERMON.....“To Know and Be Known”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN NO. 589.....“O Master Let Me Walk with Thee”

The congregation may stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

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

CALL TO OFFERING

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE & DEDICATION.....DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation:

Pastor: Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst."

People: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

Communion Prayer:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Seraphic Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy glory, Hosanna, Hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

The congregation may be seated.

Words of Institution:

Prayer of Consecration:

Pastor: Consecrate therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us, that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you.

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 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.

Breaking of the Bread:

Lifting of the Cup:

Call to the Supper:

The Sharing of the Elements:

Blessing of the Children:

The congregation may stand.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison):

We thank you God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: Receive the blessings of Sabbath rest this day.

People: We will stretch out our hands and touch Christ’s healing love.

Pastor: The light of God illumines our path and guides our way.

People: We will walk in the light of God and share the blessings of the Lord.

BENEDICTION

THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....*Amen. Amen. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN NO. 408.....“I Am Thine, O Lord”

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

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Portions of today’s worship resources were reproduced or adapted from the UCC’s Book of Worship, Worship Elements from MinistryMatters.com, and by B. J. Beu from the 2024 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. CCLI Copyright License Number 3253621 and CCLI Streaming License Number 20179084.

-The altar flowers and bulletins are in memory of Fern Krause by Ron and Debbie Koch.

-The flower basket is in memory of Mary Ella Hoy from her Celebration of Life Service this past Wednesday.

-Offering on Sunday, May 26, 2024: \$2,181.00

-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2024: \$3,243.09

- The June Communion offering is designated to Locust Lake Camp Ministries.

-Our summer worship schedule will be held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings during June, July, and August. **There will be no Sunday school during this time.** Worship will resume at 10:30am on Sunday, September 1.

-Fellowship Time (aka, coffee hour): Join us for conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following our 9:30am worship service next Sunday, June 9. We will gather in the rear of the Sanctuary the Second Sunday of each month. Catch up with old friends, make new ones, and stay up to date on everything happening at St. Paul’s. Please contact Lori Moyer or the church office if you would like to help or donate any treats!

-The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10am-12noon in the conference room. **The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 11.** If you are interested in crocheting and/or knitting, we can hook you up! If you know of someone who could use a prayer shawl, please contact the church office or Nancy Dewald.

-During our 9:30am worship service on Sunday, June 30, we will be recognizing and congratulating the graduates from our congregation. If you or someone you know is graduating from High School, College, a Technical School or some other institution of higher learning, **please contact the church office by June 16**, so that we may recognize them for their fantastic achievement.

-On Sunday, June 16 (Father's Day), we will be collecting a special offering designated to Locust Lake Camp Ministries. Special envelopes will be available on the bulletin table in the narthex.

-The Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry is in great need and accepts all non-perishable food items and paper products. Items can be dropped off at the church during the week or placed in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary. **NO OUTDATED FOOD PLEASE.** **We will be helping Monday, June 17 at 8:30am and Friday, June 21 at 1pm.** Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-WELCOME TO SCUBA DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD! Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Paul's June 17-21. All children ages 4-12 (grade 6) are welcome and invited to attend. Please save the date and share with all your relatives, friends and neighbors. Registration forms are on the bulletin table and also included in the June newsletter. Forms can be submitted to the church office or to wareber@comcast.net. More information will follow via church newsletter, bulletins, email and Members of St. Paul's Facebook. **ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

-Outdoor worship services will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 9:30am on June 23, July 28, and August 25. Bring a lawn chair and join us once again amidst the beauty of God's creation on our front lawn.

-On Sunday, June 30 we will collect the 5th Sunday offering which is designated to the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Food Pantry. Special envelopes will become available.

-In an effort to keep our records up to date, please contact the church office if you have had a change to any of your information, to include phone or cell phone numbers, email or home addresses, or any family updates.

-Sound Board help is needed!! If you are good with computers, please see Craig Borger or call the church office.

-When you or a loved one is sick or in the hospital for an extended stay, do not assume that the pastor will know you are there. Please call or email the church office so that Pastor Ken can provide you with spiritual care!

-Our church services are livestreamed on Facebook! When you can't join us in person, please join us on line!

-Prayer is Powerful! Please call or email the church office with your prayer concerns. We believe in the power of prayer and want to pray for you. **We have a prayer concerns email group for anyone who would like to join.**

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, *friends and family of Fern Furman, family and friends of Patricia Moyer*, Harold Berkheiser, Ronnie Faust, Al Herring, Don Koch, Holly Koscak, Amy Koons, Dick Clauser, Lori Edwards, Mathias Nagle, Ron Mengel, Guy Fessler

CANCER PATIENTS: Wayne Alward, Boone, Marie Bleu, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Glennis Eifert, Joanne Forbes, Rebecca Henderson, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Norma Koperna, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Carol Mallory, Carol Mengel, Tom Nagle, Judy Ohl, Pat Reading, Jim Thompson, Barry Webber, Terri Willard

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Sunday, June 2 *Summer Schedule begins *Food Drive donations due

Friday, June 7 & Saturday, June 8 *PSEC Spring Meeting in State College

Sunday, June 9

9:30 AM -Worship with the Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries

-Fellowship time (aka coffee hour) following worship

-Sundays June 16, July 21, August 18, and September 15- "Bring your motorcycle to church" Sunday.

***Lectionary Readings for next week:** 1 Samuel 8:4-20; Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35