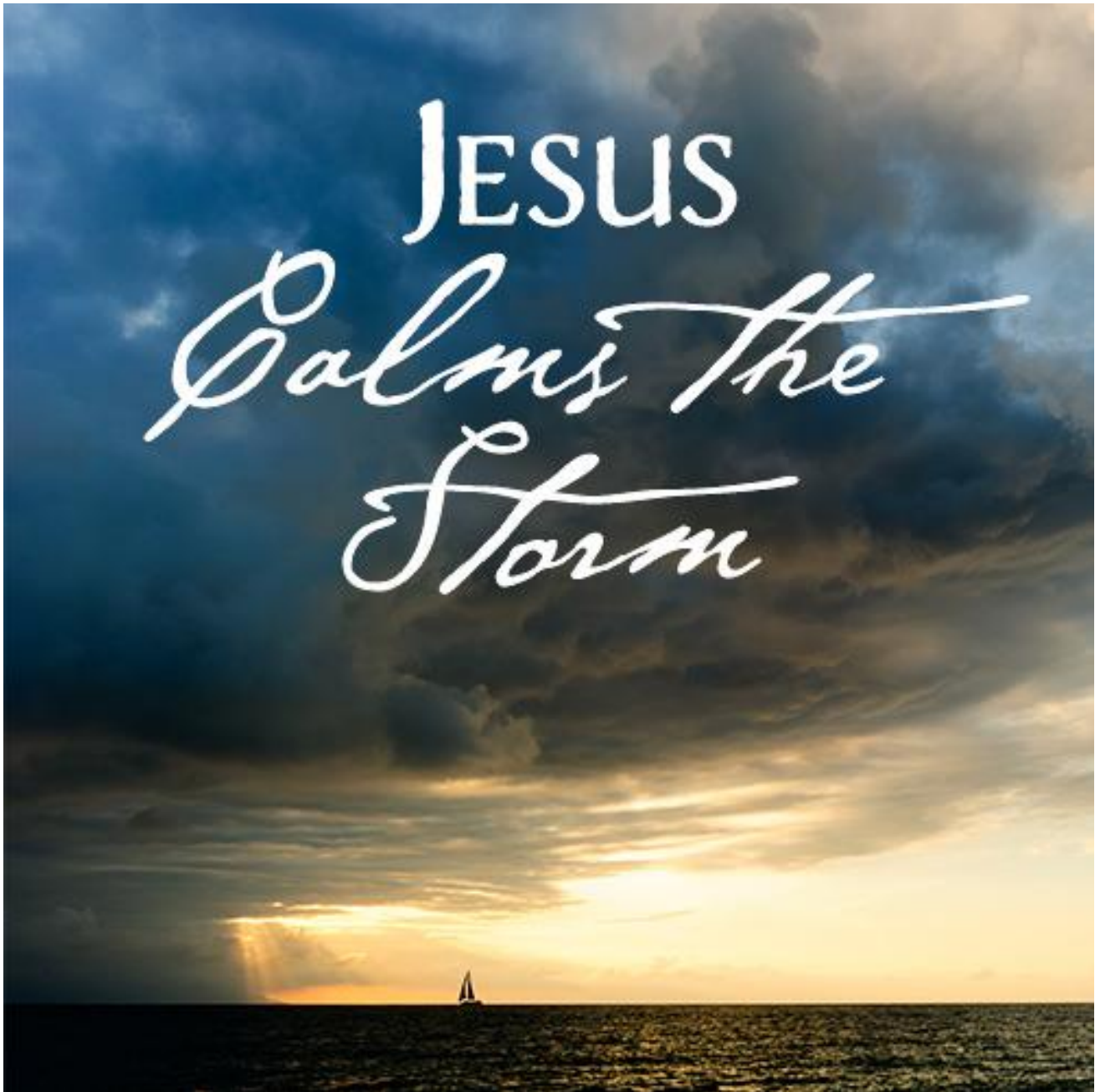


**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Sunday, June 23, 2024**



**1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922**  
**Pastor:** Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783  
**Church Office Phone:** 570-754-7225  
**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday  
**Church Email:** [summerhillucc@gmail.com](mailto:summerhillucc@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.summerhillucc.com](http://www.summerhillucc.com)  
**Livestream:** [www.facebook.com/summerhillucc](http://www.facebook.com/summerhillucc)

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
The Sacrament of Baptism  
Outdoor Worship Service**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, **the 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCC/Synod.**

**Congratulations to Adam and Laura Carll on the Baptism of their son, William James.**

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.

*For safety, the congregation may remain seated throughout the entire service, but feel free to stand at any time in response to the urging of the Holy Spirit.*

**INVOCATION**

**GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

**PRELUDE**

**SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung "Amen"**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Put your trust in God, who knows our names.  
**People: The Holy One does not forsake those who seek God.**  
Pastor: Be gracious to us, Holy One.  
**People: For you are the One who lifts us from the storm.**  
Pastor: We praise you in every time in space.  
**People: We rejoice that your hand guides us. Amen!**

**OPENING HYMN NO. 513....."Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"**

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, you soldiers of the cross,  
lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss;  
from victory unto victory his army shall he lead,  
till every foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;  
forth to the mighty conflict in this his glorious day.  
You that are brave, now serve him against unnumbered foes;  
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;  
the arm of flesh will fail you-- you dare not trust your own;  
put on the gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer;  
where duty calls, or danger, be never wanting there.*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle, the next, the victor's song:  
to those who conquer evil a crown of life shall be;  
they with the King of glory shall reign eternally.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**Holy God, you are the fountain of salvation. From your love, we see peace and comfort. We yearn to extend the beauty of your grace to our neighbors, instead of hoarding it for ourselves. We long to remove the obstacles to your care from neighbors that need a helping hand, even when it requires heavy lifting. We seek to offer mercy to all your children, even when our struggles cloud our vision. Forgive us when we do not share your love with those in need. Open our hearts to the needs of our neighbors that we may be agents of your grace and messengers of your peace. 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

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.*

**ENGAGING THE WORD**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD.....Lector, Trevor Smith

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

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.....“Why Are You Afraid?”

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 428.....“When Peace Like a River”

*When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."*

**Refrain:** *It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control:  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]*

*My sin--O, the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin--not in part but the whole,  
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]*

*And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend: "Even so"--it is well with my soul. [Refrain]*

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Invitation and Welcome

Address

Questions

Congregational Assent

Elder: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.

Do you, the congregation of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, who are witnesses and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ? If so please say, "We promise our love, support, and care."

**People: We promise our love, support, and care.**

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

**People: I believe in God.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Prayer of Baptism

Pastor: Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

The Blessing of the Water

Act of Baptism

Prayer for the Baptized

Pastor: Let us pray for the one baptized today.....Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

The Introduction of the Baptized

Presentation of the Gifts

Benediction

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

SILENT 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 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.**

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

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

**GOING WITH THE WORD**

COMMISSION

Pastor: May the breezes of the Spirit calm our hearts,

**People: As we share God’s presence with the world.**

Pastor: May the peace of Christ pacify our engulfed minds,

**People: As we go to care for our neighbors.**

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 569.....“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;  
crown your ancient Church’s story, bring its bud to glorious flower.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn your Christ, assail his ways!*

*Fears and doubts too long have bound us—free our hearts to work and praise.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.*

*Heal your children’s warring madness, bend our pride to your control;*

*shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss your kingdom’s goal, lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;*

*let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.*

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 Connection by Nancy C. Townley on MinistryMatters.com, and by Elements by Michelle L. Torigian from the 2024 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture references are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.*

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-The altar flowers are in memory of Mrs. Paul Clauser Sr. by the family.

-The bulletins are in honor of the wedding anniversary of Ron and Deb Koch by Bob, Brook, Shanelle, Gavin, Garrett, Gaige, Chase, Brock, Pam, Miranda, Logan, and Paige. (***Their Anniversary is July 1***)

-Offering on Sunday, June 16, 2024: \$2,164.00

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

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

-**Next Sunday, June 30 we will collect the 5th Sunday offering** which is designated to the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Food Pantry. Special envelopes are available on the table next to the bulletins.

-**During our 9:30am worship service next Sunday, June 30, we will be recognizing and congratulating the graduates from our congregation.**

-**There will be a Board of Christian Education Meeting on Tuesday, July 2** beginning at 7 PM.

-**Join us on Sunday, July 14 following worship for a Fellowship Time (aka, coffee hour).** Enjoy conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments. 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 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 on Monday, July 15 at 8:30am and Friday, July 19** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-**There will be a Blood Drive sponsored by the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches on Thursday, July 18** from 1-6pm at Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Schuylkill Haven.

-The third Sunday of the month is designated as "**Bring your motorcycle to church**" Sunday. **There will be a ride on July 21, August 18, and September 15.** Spread the word, invite your friend, and join us for some fun and fellowship. If you would like to be notified of other rides throughout the summer, please notify the church office to have your name added to the "Biker" email list!

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

-**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 interested.**

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, *Guy Fessler*, Janet Bair, Paul Ciccone, Justin Burke, Ronnie Faust, Al Herring, Dick Clauser, Lori Edwards, Ron Mengel, Guy Fessler

CANCER PATIENTS: Wayne Alward, Boone, Marie Bleu, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Glennis Eifert, Joanne Forbes, Meg Goodwin, 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 23**

### **Monday, June 24**

6 & 7:15 PM -Boy Scout Meetings

### **Friday, June 28**

10:00 AM -Carolyn Rauenzahn Visitation/ Service of Life Celebration at 11 AM/ Hall in use for luncheon

### **Sunday, June 30**

9:30 AM -Worship w/ Honoring of Graduates and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering (design. to the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry)

### **\*Lectionary Readings for next week:**

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Psalm 130

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24

Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43