

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, July 14, 2024



1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922
Pastor: Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783
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**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of Baptism
The Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **St. Peter’s (Locust Valley)** from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar.

Congratulations to Joseph and Tamara Nagle on the Baptism of their son, Mathias Joseph.

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.

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: All are welcome in the house of the Lord.

People: Find here the hospitality of radical fellowship.

Pastor: Worship with clean hands and pure hearts.

People: We are lifted up by the King of glory.

Pastor: We are adopted into the family of Christ.

People: We will leap with joy before our God! Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 71.....“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Holy God, as we come into the presence of your divine holiness, we confess our many shortcomings. Our hands are not clean; our actions do not glorify you; Our hearts are not pure; our motivations do not glorify you; Our words are not true; our deceitfulness does not glorify you; Our allegiance is fickle; our idolatry does not glorify you. By your mercy, O God, give us hands that are clean, hearts that are pure, tongues that are true, and souls that worship you alone, that our whole lives may glorify you. 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: All you who seek God, and who have set your hope on Jesus Christ, hear the good news: we have received forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of God’s grace.

People: As forgiven and beloved children of God, let us set our hope on Christ, and live for the praise of his glory. 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, Brook Koch-Guers

Psalm: Psalm 24 (Read Responsively)

Lector: The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

People: for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Lector: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

Lector: They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

People: Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lector: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

People: Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lector: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

People: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-14 (Page 1017)

Gospel: Mark 6:14-29 (Page 872)

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.....“Claimed By God”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 426.....“Blessed Assurance”

CELEBRATION OF JULY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Abel Wilson, son of Jim and Laura Richardson

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

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

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: Brilliant children of light, go now to shine with God's glory and love.

People: We will shine brightly and love freely.

Pastor: Honor God with all that you say and do.

People: We will make the world a better and a brighter place for all to live.

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 342....."Rejoice, the Lord is King!"

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 Sara Dunning Lambert and Leigh Anne Taylor from the 2024 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The altar flowers are in loving memory of Paul Clauser Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clauser and family.

-The bulletins are in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Reber by the family.

-Offering on Sunday, July 7, 2024: \$4,368.00

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

-Join us TODAY following worship for a Fellowship Time. 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 tomorrow, July 15 at 8:30am and this 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 **Consistory Meeting this Tuesday, July 16** beginning at 7pm in the conference room.

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

-A group outing to kayak at Sweet Arrow Lake, Pine Grove is planned for **this Thursday, July 18.** Weather permitting, we will meet at the boat launch area located on Sweet Arrow Lake Road at 6pm. Please contact the church office for more information.

-The third Sunday of the month is designated as “**Bring your motorcycle to church**” Sunday. **There will be a group ride following worship next Sunday, July 21 and again on 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 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. In case of inclement weather, services will be held indoors in the sanctuary.

-**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 interested.**

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God’s help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, *Dick Clauser*, Nathan Hibbard, Kathy Kline, Guy Fessler, Al Herring, Lori Edwards, Ron Mengel

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, *Holly Koscak*, 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, JULY 14

Sunday, July 14

-Fellowship Time following worship

Monday, July 15

8:30 AM -Helping at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

Tuesday, July 16

7:00 PM -Consistory Meeting

Thursday, July 18

1 - 6:00 PM -Council of Churches Blood Drive

6:00 PM -Group Kayak Outing at Sweet Arrow Lake

Friday, July 19

1:00 PM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

Sunday, July 21 *Ride your motorcycle to church Sunday

9:30 AM -Worship

-Group motorcycle outing following worship

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Amos 7:7-15

Psalm 85:8-13

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29