

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, July 7, 2024



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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Seventh 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 **St. Paul's (Summer Hill) Auburn** from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar.

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: This morning, as some of us are gathered together here at church while many are gathering with us virtually from their homes, we all are invited to the same table. Those present this morning are invited to pick up a bag of individually prepared elements from the table in the narthex, as we will not be distributing the elements during the service. Those at home may gather bread and drink and partake as we do when we are gathered together.)

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung "Amen"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Rely on God's providential care.

People: God's grace is sufficient for us.

Pastor: Take nothing for the journey but faith in Christ.

People: We can trust the God of our salvation.

Pastor: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Come! Let us worship. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 67....."Come, We That Love the Lord"

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Merciful One, we are tired in body and soul. You teach us that your grace is sufficient, but we yearn for something more tangible. You assure us that your strength is made perfect in weakness, but our weakness feels like it is killing us. Forgive our doubts. Give us humble hearts this day, that we may see beyond the surface and behold the grace you hold for us when we rest completely in your care. In Christ's 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: God’s grace is sufficient for us as we take nothing for the journey and place our trust in God.

People: God’s power is made perfect in weakness as we see beyond our limitations and seek to do God’s will.

Pastor: May the power of Christ dwell in our souls, elevate our spirits, and nudge us to grow in our relationships, for we are forgiven by the Grace of God. 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: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 (Page 268)

Psalm: Psalm 48 (Read Responsively)

Lector: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.

People: His holy mountain, ²beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.

Lector: Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense.

People: Then the kings assembled, they came on together.

Lector: As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic, they took to flight;

People: trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labor,

Lector: as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.

People: As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God, which God establishes forever.

Lector: We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

People: Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory.

Lector: Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.

People: Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers,

Lector: consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation

People: that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 (Page 1010)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 6:1-13 (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..... “Perfect in Weakness”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN NO. 422..... “Amazing Grace!”

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: Great is God's name.
People: And great is the table of Christ.
Pastor: As we approach this meal, we ponder the steadfast love of God.
People: We praise God's name in each corner of the earth.

The Communion Prayer:

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:

Pastor: The night before Jesus faced rejection and desertion, persecution and insults, he joined with friends to share a meal..... And we find our strength in his resurrection.
All: With thanksgiving, we take this bread and wine, gifts of the good earth, offering ourselves as a living sacrifice dedicated to the service of God.

Prayer of Consecration:

Pastor: Almighty God, send your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine, that we may know Christ's presence and be his faithful followers, showing your love for the world.
All: All glory and honor are yours, Holy God, through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

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):

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and sustained us in hope every day of our lives. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. Renew us day by day with the gift of your Spirit, so that we may give ourselves completely to your service and walk with joy in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: Go with the blessing of God, our guide and guardian.

People: We walk without fear to share the realm of God.

Pastor: Go with the assurance of Christ, who shows us the way.

People: We have all we need for our journey of faith.

Pastor: Go with the power of the Spirit, who anoints our way.

People: We travel in the footsteps of the saints of God.

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 552.....“We All Are One in Mission”

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 B. J. Beu from the 2024 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The altar flowers are in memory of Mamie and Ernie Phillips by the Earl Phillips Family.

-The bulletins are in memory of Mamie and Ernie Phillips by the grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

-Offering on Sunday, June 30, 2024: \$1,735.00

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

-Join us next 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 Consistory Meeting on Tuesday, July 16 beginning at 7pm in the conference room.

-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.

-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, *Nathan Hibbard*, Kathy Kline, 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, JULY 7

Monday, July 8

10:30 AM -Pastor Ken conducts chapel service at Luther Ridge

Sunday, July 14

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

-Fellowship Time 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