

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Sunday, August 11, 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)

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The Sacrament of Baptism/ Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director and Pianist- Rae Ann Borger  
Organist- Jacob Challenger

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, all **Interim Pastors**.

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.

**Congratulations to Scott and Stephany Krause on the baptism of their children, Lilly, Skylar and Wyatt.**

INVOCATION

**GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

PRELUDE

*The congregation may stand.*

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung "Amen"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We have gathered from different places and different backgrounds.

**People: May those who are grieving find comfort.**

Pastor: May those who have turned away from God find forgiveness.

**People: May those who are waiting find hope.**

Pastor: May all find God's steadfast love and grace.

**People: Let us worship the One who gives us life! Amen!**

OPENING HYMN NO. 61....."There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

**O Lord, we cry out to you! We cry out for help: when we turn away from you; when we ignore the needs of our neighbors; when we speak harsh words to those around us; when we forget that we are your beloved children. Forgive our foolishness. Draw us close and embrace us with your steadfast love and your healing grace. In your merciful 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: Beloved children of God, the Lord offers wholeness and new life to those who seek it.

**People: God provides freely in the bread of heaven, all the mercy we need for life everlasting.**

Pastor: Hear the Good News! We are forgiven in the name of Christ Jesus. 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, Trevor Smith

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 (Page 280)  
Psalm: Psalm 130 (Read Responsively)

Lector: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

**People: Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

Lector: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

**People: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

Lector: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

**People: my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.**

Lector: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

**People: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

Epistle: Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (Page 1019)  
Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51 (Page 928)

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.....“Imitation is the Sincerest Form of...”

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

*The congregation may remain seated.*

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 372.....“I Then Shall Live”

CELEBRATION OF AUGUST BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Jonathan Richard, son of Jeremy and Lynn Warke  
Porsche Faith, daughter of Bruce Martin Jr. and Kendra Kline  
Kinsley Rose, daughter of Bruce Martin Jr. and Kendra Kline

**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 ones 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 ones 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: Go forth from this place and imitate the Holy One in all you do.

**People: We will live with love, speak with kindness, and touch with gentleness.**

Pastor: May you find comfort in God’s grace, strength in Christ’s love, and encouragement in the Spirit’s power.

**People: We will walk with humbleness, and build up the kingdom of God.**

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 716.....“God Be with You”

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

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-The bulletins are in loving memory of Mary Norsworthy by her girls - Lisa, Jill, and Jackie.

-Offering on Sunday, August 4, 2024: \$2,245.00

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

**-Join us for Fellowship Time TODAY following worship.** 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 needs 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 at 8:30am and this Friday, August 16** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

**-The third Sunday of the month is “Bring your motorcycle to church” Sunday. A group ride will follow worship next Sunday, August 18 and again on September 15.** Spread the word, invite your friends, and join us for some fun and fellowship. Contact the church office for more information.

**-The next Consistory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20 at 7:00pm.**

**-The Senior Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, August 21** and will continue each Wednesday evening beginning at 7pm. New members are always welcome! Please speak to our Music Director, Rae Ann Borger if you would like more information.

**-It’s time to register for Confirmation class.** 1st year confirmation classes are available to any young adult turning 12 or entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year. To register, please turn in a completed form to the church office by **Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.** Confirmation Classes will begin on Rally Day **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** at 9:15 AM, with a confirmand, parent and mentor meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Ken.

**-There will be an Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, August 25 at 9:30am.** 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.

**-Please note that our regular 10:30am worship schedule will begin on Sunday, September 1. On Sunday, September 8, everyone is invited to come celebrate the beginning of our Sunday School year on Rally Day.** There will be Sunday School at 9:15am, followed by worship at 10:30am that day. **Following our worship service, we will gather in the grove for a church wide picnic and enjoy fun, fellowship, games and food.** Hamburgers, hotdogs and other snacks will be served. You're welcome to bring your favorite dish to share but it certainly is not necessary. You may want to bring a lawn chair, blanket and any kid friendly outdoor games to play too. We can't wait to see you there!

**-Mark Your Calendars for the One Rock, One Community Free Community Music Festival on Saturday, September 14** from 11 AM-6:00 PM at the Stop 'N Rock off of Route 895 in Rock. Free admission & parking, FREE live music, FREE children's area including bounce houses, train, petting zoo, crafts and more! There will be food trucks, a car, truck, tractor & motorcycle show. **There are many volunteer opportunities for anyone who would like to help.** Please contact Pastor Ken if you are able to help in any way.

**-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, *Joan Berkheiser, family and friends of Robert Knittle, Aiden, Bob Hocker, family and friends of Woody Silver, Titus Richard, son of Josiah and Angela Meck,* Mark Ebling, Cheryl Zimmerman, Jonathan and Jane Warke, Mabel Edwards, 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, Terri Willard

## **FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 11**

### **Sunday, August 11**

-Fellowship time following worship

### **Monday, August 12**

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

10:30 AM -Pastor Ken conducts Chapel Service at Luther Ridge

### **Friday, August 16**

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

### **Sunday, August 18**

9:30 AM -Worship

-Motorcycle Ride following worship

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

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalms 34:9-14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

Proverbs 9:1-6

John 6:51-58