

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, November 3, 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
Website: www.summerhillucc.com
Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Service of Remembrance / The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Communion & the All Saints Offerings

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **All Saints Sunday and the PSEC Fall Meeting (to be held on November 9th)** 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: The earth and all that is in it belongs to the Holy One.

People: Look, here is our God, for whom we have waited.

Pastor: This is the Holy One, for whom we have waited.

People: Let us be glad and rejoice in our salvation.

Pastor: Who shall ascend the hill of the Holy One? And who shall stand in this holy place?

People: We come, seeking the face of God. Amen!

OPENING HYMN NO. 176.....“Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Patient, Forgiving Spirit, we come seeking your face. We hold on to ancient angers and hurts, and refuse to believe that you alone can make all things new. Like Mary and Martha, we have forgotten your promises of eternal life. Like the crowd that mourned for Lazarus, we have not believed that we would see your glory. Forgive our unbelief, O God. Bring us back, and restore our trust in 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

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 Reber

Old Testament: Isaiah 25:6-9 (Page 605)

Epistle Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6a (Page 1085)

Gospel Lesson: John 11:32-44 (Page 935)

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.*”

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM.....“When We All Get to Heaven” by Dennis Allen

SERMON.....“Promises, Promises”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

Ushers will receive tithes and offerings at this time.

HYMN NO. 695.....“As We Gather at Your Table”

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: 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 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:

Prayer of Consecration:

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 remain seated

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison):

O God, who in Jesus Christ called us out of darkness into marvelous light, enable us now strengthened by this meal to declare your wonderful deed. Thank you, O God, for your steadfast love and may we praise you now and forever with heart, mind, soul and strength. Amen.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

(During the Service of Remembrance, after each name is read, a chime will be played and a candle lit. We invite any family or friends to stand for a moment while your loved one's name is read. After the service, the family is welcome to come up and take a Remembrance Candle home.)

Beverly A. Trumbo (November 12, 2023)

Robert E. Donton (November 30, 2023)

Brenda J. Fidler (December 3, 2023)

Ronald L. Reber (December 12, 2023)

Carolyn Rauenzahn (January 7, 2024)

Jason R. Yoder (March 23, 2024)

Donna J. Kratz (April 12, 2024)

Thomas L. Corondi (April 18, 2024)

Nathan M. L. Reedy (May 10, 2024)

Mary Ella Hoy (May 22, 2024)

Harold W. Berkheiser (June 10, 2024)

Robert L. Knittle (July 22, 2024)

Nicole P. Fessler (September 1, 2024)

Guy R. Fessler (September 13, 2024)

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: The pathway to eternal life is open before you this day.

People: It is a path of peace and hope, brought to all by God's mighty love and wondrous blessings.

Pastor: Go, blessed ones, to serve God all your days.

People: We go in peace, bringing hope to all we meet.

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 390.....“We're Marching to Zion”

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

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Portions of today's worship resources were reproduced or adapted from the UCC's Book of Worship, and Worship Elements by Deborah Sokolove from the 2021 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The bulletins are in honor of Claire Nagle's Birthday (November 2) and Noah Nagle's Birthday (November 27) by Grandparents, Tom and Lucinda Nagle.

-Offering on Sunday, October 27, 2024: \$2,348.00

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

-The November Communion offering will support My Fathers House. The December Communion Offering is designated to Samaritan's Purse.

-TODAY will collect the All Saints Offering which assists retired pastors from our conference who are in need of financial assistance. Special envelopes are available by the bulletin basket.

-The Thanksgiving Food Drive challenge donations are due TODAY! Please contact Brook Koch-Guers at 570-449-0825 if you have any questions.

-The ANNUAL GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER has begun! Order forms are available on the table in the Narthex of the church. All orders and money are due by **Sunday, November 24th**. Delivery of purchases will be **Sunday, December 8th**. Don't forget that you can reload some gift cards online all year long with the profit automatically going to St. Paul's. There are many businesses listed on the order form found around our area with many more to choose from at RaiseRight.com. Any of those choices can be added on a separate sheet and included with your order form. C & C Candies and Country Store and Friedensburg Country Restaurant partner with us each year. Don't forget to shop local! Any questions about this sale, please speak to Rae Ann Borger.

-Children of all ages are invited to take part in the creation of biblically based (either Advent or the biblical account of the Christmas story) worship bulletin cover artwork, which will be used throughout the season of Advent and Christmas. Colorful drawings are encouraged, but we can also use black and white sketches. Children should print their first and last name somewhere on the front of the drawing. A special recognition of children who participate will

take place during the December 22 worship service. The drawings will be used as bulletin covers beginning on the First Sunday of Advent which is December 3. Please either scan and email your child's drawing, or drop them off at the church office **by Sunday, November 24**. Please contact the church office if you need more information.

-The **Pennsylvania Conference Fall Meeting will be held this Saturday, November 9** at Good Shepherd Tuckerton, Reading. Registration opens at 9:00am and the meeting begins at 10:00am.

-**Fellowship Time:** Join us **next Sunday, November 10** for conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following worship. 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. And best of all, it's free of charge!!

-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, November 11** at 8:30am and **Friday, November 15** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

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

-There will be a **Board of Christian Education Meeting on Tuesday, November 12** beginning at 7pm. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

-**The Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches will be hosting a blood drive** at Jerusalem Lutheran Church on **Thursday, November 14** from 1-6pm.

-Mark your calendars! We will need your help!! **Our outdoor church grounds fall clean-up day will be on Saturday, November 16** at 9:00am. With enough help, we can have it completed in just a few hours! Bring rakes, tarps, clippers and pruners. Invite your friends and family and neighbors too!

-**The Consistory will meet on Tuesday, November 19 at 7pm.**

-**We will once again be collecting new or gently used hats, gloves and scarves to be given to those in need.** All items will need to be received **by Sunday, December 8**, and can be placed on or around the Christmas tree that will be located in the back of the sanctuary on or prior to Sunday, November 24. You may also call the church office to drop things at the door. Please speak to Kelly Palerino if you have any questions.

-**We will decorate the church for Advent/Christmas on Sunday, November 24** following Worship. Help is needed to not only decorate, but to carry the many boxes out of the attic. If you are able, please stay and lend a hand— get in the holiday spirit too!!

-**A joint (with our Lutheran friends) Thanksgiving Eve worship service, with the Sacrament of Holy Communion, will be held on Wednesday, November 27** at 7:00 pm. The service will be held at St. Paul's Summer Hill Lutheran Church with Pastor Ken delivering the message.

-**Motorcycle Ministry:** With the colder and more unpredictable weather ahead, we will not schedule another group ride on the third Sunday of the month, but that does not mean we are done riding yet! We will keep an eye out for good riding weather and will send out an email when we get a good opportunity to ride. If you are not on our motorcycle riders email distribution list but want to know when we are going, please contact Pastor Ken and provide your email address so that you won't miss any of the fun and fellowship!

-If you are CPR/AED certified, please contact the church office. We are updating our church certification list for our AED machine on site here at the church.

-Sunday School Raffle: Every week that our youth participate in Sunday School, they will get a raffle ticket that will be entered into a drawing for a prize. Drawings will then happen quarterly at the Youth Group Events. (winners do not need to be present) Please speak to Laura Carll (484-269-4405) for more information.

-Our members, friends and visitors give their offerings and donations to the church in many different ways, to include electronically via apps like Tithe.ly and bank transfers. To help accommodate the varied ways of giving, we have an offering box in the narthex as well as offering plates by the pews in the rear of the sanctuary to place Sunday morning offerings as you enter or leave the sanctuary. However, we have heard that some forget to drop their offerings off, while visitors may be unaware of the remote offering collection. **The Consistory has decided that we will continue to have the offering box and plates to drop off your offering before or after the service, but we will also have two ushers accept offerings during the Hymn of Reflection after the sermon as another option.** Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of St. Paul's and your faithful giving in response to what God has given us!

-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 online!

-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, *Dean Dewald, Penelope Prichard, Pearl Yurenko, family and friends of Laverne Lafferty*, Marion Bartolet, victims of hurricane Milton, victims of Hurricane Helene, Cathy Krause, Rick Moyer, Elaine Krause, Joan Berkheiser, Mabel Edwards, Dick Clauser, Al Herring, Ron Mengel

CANCER PATIENTS: Wayne Alward, Boone, Marie Bleu, Cindy Boyer, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Yvonne Edling, Glennis Eifert, Joanne Forbes, Thomas Galligan, Meg Goodwin, Rebecca Henderson, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Norma Koperna, Holly Koscak, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Carol Mallory, Carol Mengel, Tom Nagle, Rich Nickel, Judy Ohl, Pat Reading, Jim Thompson, Terri Willard

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Sunday, November 3 *Daylight Savings Time Ends; Food donations due for Food Challenge

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

Monday, November 4

7:15 PM -Boy Scout Meeting

Wednesday, November 6

7:00PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, November 9

9:00 AM -PSEC Fall Meeting at Good Shepherd Tuckerton, Reading

Sunday, November 10

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship with a New Member Reception; Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries and Harvest Home

-Fellowship Hour following worship

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meeting

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17	Psalm 127
1 Kings 17:8-16	Psalm 146
Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 12:38-44