

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, October 6, 2024



WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

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

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
World Communion Sunday, Neighbors in Need Offering**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Jacob Challenger

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, **World Communion Sunday and the Neighbors in Need Offering.**

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: Your steadfast love is before our eyes, O God.

People: Help us move in faithfulness.

Pastor: When tests and trials come—when evil itself appears—we place our trust in you, O Knower of joy and suffering.

People: Help us move with integrity and place us on level ground, O Redeemer.

Pastor: Move us to sing songs of thanksgiving and to proclaim your wondrous deeds. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 17.....“Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

We are conscious this day, O God, of the world’s great needs: for love, for caring, for right relationships of all kinds. We are conscious, too, of the times we fall short: the small daily choices and the large systems in society that impede the loving world you envision. Save us from hypocrisy, we pray, and help us find the places your glory abides. 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: The psalmist says God made humanity but a little lower than the angels.

People: We are, God knows, sometimes not even close to angels at all, yet, God crowns us with glory and honor.

Pastor: In the name of that Jesus, the perfecter of our salvation, know that you are loved and forgiven. 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: Job 1:1, 2:1-10 (Page 434)

Psalm: Psalm 26 (Read Responsively)

Lector: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

People: Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

Lector: For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

People: I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

Lector: I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

People: I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,

Lector: singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

People: O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

Lector: Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty,

People: those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.

Lector: But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

People: My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 (Page 1044)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:2-16 (Page 877)

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.....“Hungry, I Come” by Craig Curry

SERMON.....“Through a Child’s Eyes”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

Ushers will receive tithes and offerings at this time.

HYMN NO. 706.....“I Come with Joy”

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:

Pastor: Let us pray.....And make us drink of one cup, that we may be united with Christ and sent forth to offer ourselves as instruments of reconciliation and peace. Amen
People: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.
Pastor: With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

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: Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ.....in Jesus Christ, we proclaim the mystery of faith.
All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

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 stand.

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.

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION

Pastor: As we depart this place, walk humbly before the Lord, even in hardship and pain.

People: We will live with integrity before God all the days of our lives.

Pastor: Walk faithfully before our God, even when put to the test.

People: We will honor the Lord our God all the days of our lives.

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 577.....“Sing a New Church”

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

* * * * *

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, Worship Elements by Deborah Sokolove and by B.J. Beu 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. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

CCLI Copyright License Number 3253621 and CCLI Streaming License Number 20179084.

-The altar flowers are in memory of Lewis Reber and William A. Spotts by the family.

-The bulletins are in memory of Myrtle Kohr by Wayne and Cathy Krause.

-Offering on Sunday, September 29, 2024: \$3,109.00

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

-The October Communion offering will support the families affected by the Tremont Fire.

-TODAY is World Wide Communion Sunday and we will receive the annual Neighbors in Need Offering, the 3rd of 4 special offerings taken for the national church. Special envelopes are on the table by the bulletin basket.

-TODAY is the annual CWS Crop Walk beginning at 1:00pm. Registration begins at 12:30pm at the Council of Churches Food Pantry in Schuylkill Haven. Please speak to Pastor Ken for more information. Please consider walking or financially supporting those that do. There is also a donation pot on the bulletin table. Let's help end hunger one step at a time!

-Thanksgiving Food Drive challenge now through October 31: Our local pantries remain in dire need of food. Families across our county struggle each month to meet their food needs let alone provide the traditional Thanksgiving dinner we all enjoy. We have nearly 50 households within our congregation and we are asking 31 of those households to donate 31 food items in 31 days!! We will then provide the remaining items to reach our goal of 1000 items. The list provided is a guide to help provide three meals as well as the components of Thanksgiving dinner. However, we understand every household budget is different. So do not feel obligated to conform to this list. **ANY 31 ITEMS WILL MAKE A HUGE IMPACT!** Shop as you see items on sale, then bring your items to church during the month! You may leave your donation at the back of the sanctuary or contact Brook Koch-Guers at 570-449-0825 or by email at bkochguers@comcast.net to arrange for one of the boys to pick up your donation at your home. Come on St Paul's, **TOGETHER** we can do this and provide families with the **BLESSING** of a Thanksgiving meal!!!

-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.

-The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet the second Tuesday of each month from 10am-12noon in the conference room. The next meeting will be **this Tuesday, October 8**. 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 **Budget Committee meeting** to begin planning the 2025 budget **this Tuesday, October 8** beginning at 6pm.

-Fellowship Time: Join us for conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following our 10:30am worship service **next Sunday, October 13**. 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!!

-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) Prize #1 is an outdoor pack and the winner will be drawn at the Hawk Mountain hike **next Sunday, October 13**. Please speak to Laura Carll (484-269-4405) for more information.

-Summer Hill Youth Group: Youth ages K-12 are invited to join in a hiking adventure at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary next Sunday, October 13. (Rain date is October 20) This is a free event! The group will meet at 1:30pm and enjoy an exciting day of hiking, learning, connecting with nature and making new friends. Youth must be accompanied by a responsible chaperone. Please speak to Laura Carll (484-269-4405) more information.

-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, October 14** at 8:30am and **Friday, October 18** at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-The next **Consistory Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, October 15** at 7:00pm.

-The **Schuylkill Association Fall Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, October 20** beginning at 3pm in Tamaqua.

-Sunday, October 27 is “Bring your motorcycle to church” Sunday, and a group ride will follow worship that day. Spread the word, invite your friend, and join us for some fun and fellowship. If you would like to be notified of rides, please notify the church office to have your name added to the “Biker” email list!

-This year we will celebrate All Saints’ Day on Sunday, November 3. That morning during the service of worship and communion, we will honor the saints of our congregation who passed away in the past year. **We will also collect the All Saints Offering,** which assists retired pastors from our conference who are in need of financial assistance. You do not need a special envelope, although they will be made available by the bulletin basket closer to the collection date.

-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!

-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](https://www.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, *victims of Hurricane Helene, Kathy Krause, Cheryl Zimmerman, Justine (Snipps) Reber,* Rick Moyer, Sue Terrey, Elaine Krause, Todd Yeich, Joan Berkheiser, Aiden, Bob Hocker, Mark Ebling, Jonathan Warke, 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, OCTOBER 6

Sunday, October 6 *World Communion Sunday

1:00 PM -Crop Walk (begins and ends at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry; Registration at 12:30pm)

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

Monday, October 7

7:15 PM -Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, October 8

10:00 AM -Prayer Shawl Meeting
6:00 PM -Budget Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 9

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM -Boy Scout Eagle Board of Review Meeting

Sunday, October 13

9:15 AM -Sunday School
10:30 AM -Worship
-Fellowship Hour following worship
1:30 PM -Hike at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 90:12-17

Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Mark 10:17-31

* * * * *



**JOIN OUR
YOUTH (K-12)
HIKING
ADVENTURE**

EXPLORE NATURE AND MAKE
FRIENDS TOGETHER

Join us for an exciting Autumn
day of hiking and connection
with nature.

YOUTH MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY
A RESPONSIBLE CHAPERONE. WE
WILL MEET AT THE HAWK
MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY FOR A
PRESENTATION FOLLOWED BY A
HIKE!



HAWK MOUNTAIN
GLOBAL RAPTOR CONSERVATION

1700 HAWK MOUNTAIN RD.
KEMPTON, PA 19529



RAIN
DATE:
OCTOBER
20TH

FREE
EVENT!

Sunday
October
13th at
1:30 pm

**The first Sunday
School Raffle
Drawing will
take place at
the hike!**

WINNER DOES NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT!