

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, November 10, 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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1782
Sunday, November 10, 2024

242 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

2024
10:30am

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries
New Member Reception
Harvest Home Remembrance

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director and Pianist- Rae Ann Berger

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **Christ Congregational (Fountain Springs), Ashland** 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.

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is a time for giving thanks; a time to be mindful of the good that encircles us.

People: Thank you, God, for all you have given us!

Pastor: Friends and family encourage and care, and this community shows us God’s loving ways.

People: Thank you, God, for you have provided all we need!

Pastor: We find a home in God’s creation and the earth gives us good food to make us grow.

People: Come, let us lift our voices in praise!

Pastor: The seasons change. Sunshine comes and goes, yet your loving care for us is eternal.

People: Come let us worship God, for all that we have been given. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 723.....“For the Fruit of All Creation”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Gracious God, when we are cautious with our time, we miss the chance to give of ourselves to those in need. When we are protective of our hearts, we miss the chance to make meaningful connections with those in pain. Teach us to truly live and to fully love. Let our faith be greater than our fears. Guide us in your way, dear Christ, until we discover the abundant life that you desire for every person, and for every creature of the earth. This we pray in your holy name. 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 has given to each one of us blessings and talents.

People: With joy we bring these gifts to God.

Pastor: You are blessed by God's absolute love and forgiveness for you.

People: We rejoice in that love and find healing and hope. 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, Nancy Dewald

Epistle reading: Hebrews 9:24-28 (Page 1049)

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44 (Page 881)

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.....“All That I Am” by David Das

SERMON.....“Bring Your Gifts”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

Ushers will receive tithes and offerings at this time.

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 724.....“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

CELEBRATION OF NOVEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Owen Luther, Evan William and Grant Donald sons of Craig and Vicky Borger
Kiyah Skye, daughter of Justin and Kelly Clauser

The congregation may stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Apostles Creed in the form of a Litany

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, 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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

- Invitation
- Sentences
- Questions of the Candidates
- Address
- Question About Participation
- Welcome and Reception

The congregation may stand.

Elder: Let us, the members of St. Paul’s Summer Hill, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

People: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

- Greeting of Christian Love
- Prayer

The congregation may be seated.

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: Having received the love of God, go into the world following the way of Christ.
- People: We go to share the gifts of the Spirit with a weary world, today and always.**

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN NO. 687.....“All Things Are Yours!”

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

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Connection by Nancy C. Townley on MinistryMatters.com, Worship Elements by Joanne Carlson Brown and the 2024 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The altar flowers are in honor of, with a wish for a Happy Anniversary to Mommy and Daddy, from Kaitlyn and Kelly Reber. (Their 25th Anniversary is November 13)

-Offering on Sunday, November 3, 2024: \$2,609.00

-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.

-Join us today for fellowship time- 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 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 **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, November 11** at 8:30am and **this 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 **this 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 this 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 this **Thursday, November 14** from 1-6pm.

-Our outdoor church grounds fall clean-up day will be this 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.

-St. Paul's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 1 following Worship (the snow date will be December 8). The purpose of the meeting will be to review and vote on the proposed budget for 2025, and to elect new Consistory members. Please plan on attending this very important meeting.

-Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 8th for our CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY sponsored by the Sunday School. The party will follow our 10:30am worship that day. Hot Dogs and fix'ins will be provided along with drinks and snacks. You are welcome to bring your favorite treat or covered dish to share, but it is not necessary to bring anything other than yourself! Come enjoy the fun as we welcome our special visitor, Santa! Kids will receive a goodie bag. If you have any questions, please speak to any Sunday School teacher or Board of Christian Education Chairperson, Laura Carll. (snow date for the party is **Sunday, December 15**)

-St. Paul's Summer Hill will be Christmas Caroling along with St. Paul's Lutheran church on Sunday, December 8 at 2pm. We will meet in the parking lot here at St. Paul's UCC. All are invited to participate. Please speak to Pastor Ken for more information.

-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.

-Following many natural disasters, **Clean-Up Buckets** provide those affected with the essentials to begin getting their lives back in order. The Schuylkill Association, working with the UCC Disaster Ministries, helps provide these kits through Church World Services anywhere they are needed, to include right here in Schuylkill County. Our Association currently has over sixty empty five gallon buckets that need to be filled. **If you would like to help in this ministry by coordinating the filling of some of the buckets or can donate materials or money to buy the required materials, please contact the church office.** Learn more at <https://cwskits.org/>.

-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, *family and friends of Dean Herring, 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 10

Sunday, November 10

-Fellowship Hour following worship

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meeting

Monday, November 11 *Veterans Day

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

Tuesday, November 12

10:00 AM -Prayer Shawl Ministry

7:00 PM -Board of Christian Education Meeting

Wednesday, November 13

7:00PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 14

1:00 – 6:00 PM -Council of Churches Blood Drive at Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Friday, November 15

12:00 PM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

Saturday, November 16

9:00 AM -Outdoor church grounds clean up

Sunday, November 17

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meeting

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

1 Samuel 1:4-20

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mark 13:1-8