

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, February 2, 2025



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

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Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Boy Scout Sunday**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **St. John, Tamaqua** 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.)

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF SCOUTS AND LEADERS OF TROOP & PACK 651

Jason Wood – Boy Scout Scoutmaster

Kevin Huneke – Cub Scout Cubmaster

PRESENTATION OF COLORS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senior Patrol Leader: Mason Warg

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader: Connor Palerino

Color Guard: Connor Palerino and Sam Krawchuk

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us gather to listen deeply.

People: Word of God, speak.

Pastor: Let us gather with childlike faith.

People: Ageless wisdom, reveal.

Pastor: Word of God, speak.

People: Your servants are listening. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 411.....“How Firm a Foundation”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

Gracious, loving God, pour your love into our hearts and lives. Bless us with such overflowing grace that your love might flow within us and through us. Be patient with our impatience. Calm us with your patient love in all of our encounters. Forgive us and fill us with your grace, that we might extend loving forgiveness to others. In your loving 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

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:.....Lectors, Mason Warg, Brody Brand, Dominic Minchoff and Tanner Wood

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (Page 647)

Psalm: Psalm 71:1-6 (Read Responsively)

Lector: In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

People: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

Lector: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

People: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

Lector: For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

People: Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother’s womb.

Lector: My praise is continually of you. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Page 1000)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:21-30 (Page 892)

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.....“Love Is the Greatest of These” by Dennis Allen

SERMON.....“The Source of Wisdom”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

Ushers will receive tithes and offerings at this time.

Ushers: Tanner Wood, Austin Klepsch

HYMN NO. 446.....“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

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:

Pastor: In the fullness of time.....As we walk this journey of life, we remember these gifts, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is 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: Go with the courage of Christ.

People: We will go with the Spirit of love.

Pastor: Go to answer God’s call,

People: We will go wherever and however God leads.

BENEDICTION

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

RETIRE THE COLORS

CLOSING HYMN NO. 593.....“Lord, Speak to Me”

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 by Mary J. Scifres from the 2025 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.

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-The altar flowers are in memory of June Rose Ohlinger by David, Pauline, Lauren and Trevor Smith.

-The bulletins are in honor of our Grandson, Luke Allen Palerino’s 3rd Birthday on January 29 by Grandma and Pap.

-Offering on Sunday, January 26, 2025: \$10,211.00

-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2025: \$3,285.91

-The Communion offering for February 2025 will support Church World Service Blanket Drive. The March Communion offering will support the Palisades Fires impacting California.

-Join us for fellowship time- conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following our 10:30am worship service next Sunday, February 9. 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. We have been having a wonderful response to our monthly fellowship times! **Donations of treats (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, muffins, etc.) are very much appreciated.** Please speak to Lori Moyer if you would like to help.

–“Souper Bowl of Caring” will be held next Sunday, February 9. Please give \$1 and/or one food item to support the year-round ministry of the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches Food Pantry. Committed volunteers from Council churches gather every Monday morning to sort food at the Food Pantry, located in the basement of the Walk In Art Center, donating an average of 180 hours of volunteer time each month. On the Monday before the third Friday, they assemble about 200 boxes of food, each box containing 25-30 food items, to give out that Friday from noon to 3 PM. 4500-6000 items of food are needed for each month. In 2024, 1900 boxes were given to our neighbors in the Schuylkill Haven Area. **Look for the specially marked donation boxes and donation pots.**

-The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet the second Tuesday of each month from 10am-12noon in the conference room. **The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11.** 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.

-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, February 17, 2025 at 8:30am and Friday, February 21, 2025 at 12pm.** Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-We will be collecting monetary donations on Sunday, February 23 to be used toward the Church World Service Blankets+ Program. Blanket offering envelopes will be available by the bulletin basket on the table in the narthex.

-The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 23 following worship. In the event of worship cancellation, it will be held on **Sunday, March 2.** Annual reports will be available prior to the meeting.

-Summer Hill Youth Group wants you to ROLL WITH US! Join us on Saturday, March 1, 2025, from 12:30 to 3:30 PM at the Roller Roost Sports Arena for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Sunday School will pick a raffle winner and cover the cost of admission and skate rentals for children 18 and under. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Laura Carll with any questions.

-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](https://tithely.com/) 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. 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.

-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!

-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 Bob Fetherolf, Ronald Blue,* Nancy Shellhammer, Charlie Heim, Chris Berger, Jim Reibsane, Joe Maurer, Ardith Moyer, Ernie Jones, Jacob, Tom Kunkle, Dale Kunkle, Norma Koperna, Donald Rubinkam

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

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Sunday, February 2

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

Monday, February 3

7:15 PM -Boy Scout Meeting

Tuesday, February 4

5:30 PM -Confirmation Class

Wednesday, February 5

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 9

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship with the Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries, the Recognition of 50th Wedding Anniversaries and the "Souper Bowl of Caring" food and/or monetary Collection
-Fellowship time following worship

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

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The Scout Oath



On my honor, I will do my best.
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the scout law.
To help other people at all times.
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake and morally straight.