St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

107 W. Lincoln Ave, Telford, PA 18969 215-723-8981



May 12, 2024 Seventh Sunday of Easter

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

GATHERING— "The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God."

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

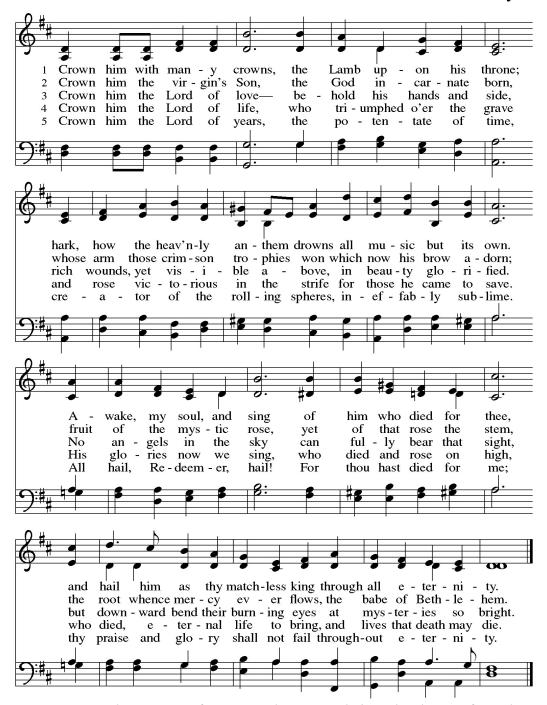
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Crown Him with Many Crowns



GREETING—P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you 2 Cor 13:13



HYMN OF PRAISE

This Joyful Eastertide



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray with one another. C: Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

WORD— "God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song."

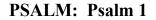
FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

A reading from Acts.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.





¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,

nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD,

and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. REFRAIN/ALL

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that [|] do not wither;

everything they | do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so [|] with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed. REFRAIN/ALL

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

A reading from 1 John.

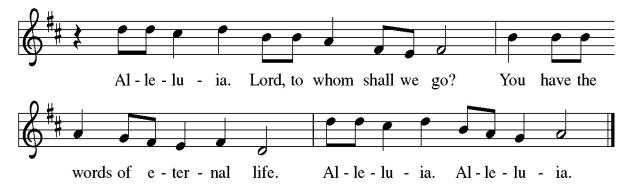
⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

P: The holy gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus prayed: ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Vs 1—All women			Vs 3—Choir Only		
Vs 2—All men			Vs 4 & 5—All		
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4	Thine the	king-dom thine the prize	thine the won - der full sur - prise		
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	thine the thine the	mer - cy all from the	thine the glo - ry yet to be		
	thine the	ban-quet then the praise riv - er thine the tree	then the jus - tice of thy ways then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly		
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	gone the		g gone the plead-ing gone the cry		
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6					
L.				1	
	thine the	vine - yard then the cup is	lift - ed up lift - ed up.		
	gone the	sigh - ing gone the dy - ing			
	thine the	liv - ing thine the lov - in	g ev - er - more ev - er - more.		
	then the	won - der all in - creas - ing			
	thine the	splen-dor thine the bright-net	ss on - ly thee on - ly thee.		

APOSTLES' CREED

A: As beloved children of God, we now confess our faith. C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.

Please be seated or kneel for the prayers of intercession.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1st Timothy 2:1

A: In our Gospel lesson this morning, Jesus is praying for us and for this world, and so join Jesus in prayer this morning, trusting in his generous and abiding love.

A brief silence.

A: We pray, holy God, for the unity of the church, for the national and regional church, for this church and all who gather in this community to worship you. O God, empower the church, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray, omnipotent God, for the well-being of creation, for the will and wisdom to care for the earth, for lands facing climate change, for local waters, and for species of endangered animals. O God, of promise, preserve the earth, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray, righteous God, for peace and justice in the world, for efforts toward international cooperation, for peace in countries in conflict or at war, especially in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti. O God, guide the nations, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray, benevolent God, for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, lonely, for the hungry and the homeless, for persons without family or friends, for people with addictions, and for those searching for answers. O God, our Shepherd, protect the needy, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray, compassionate God, for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, for those in hospitals and other institutions of care, for those who have no medical care, for those who are incarcerated, and for names of the sick (especially). O God, heal the sick, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray, faithful God, for our congregation, St. Paul's, for deeper faith and stronger commitment for us all, for our homebound members, for our outreach to others, and for your continued hand of leading. O God, embrace this assembly, and in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We ask you, O God, to strengthen and be with all mothers — biological, adoptive, and foster — in the daily joys and challenges of teaching values, passing on faith, and protecting and guiding their children. We give you thanks for the gift of love. O God of the deepest love, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Finally, we pray, loving God, for the deepest desires of our hearts...

Extended silent prayer...

O God, our heart's desire, grant us peace, and in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith (*especially*). Inspire us by their witness. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **C: Amen.**

The assembly stands.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

You are asked to remain in place and exchange a sign of peace with those around you. You may give a wave or peace sign to others beyond a safe reach.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERTORY

The assembly stands.

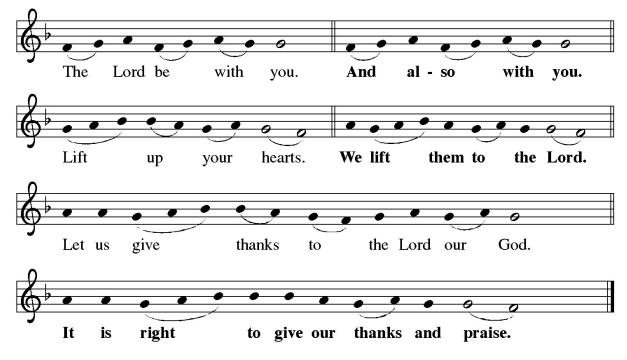
MEAL—"God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ"



OFFERING PRAYER

A: Because we live in a broken world, we can be tempted to withdraw or disengage from others, but Jesus sends us out into the world to be bearers of God's love and light. Let us pray. C: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.



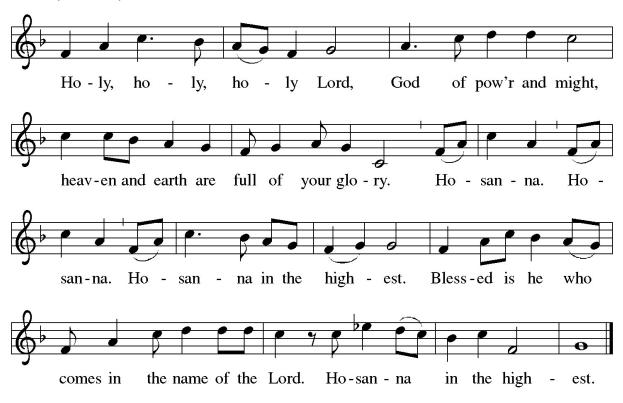


PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *Matt. 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-23*

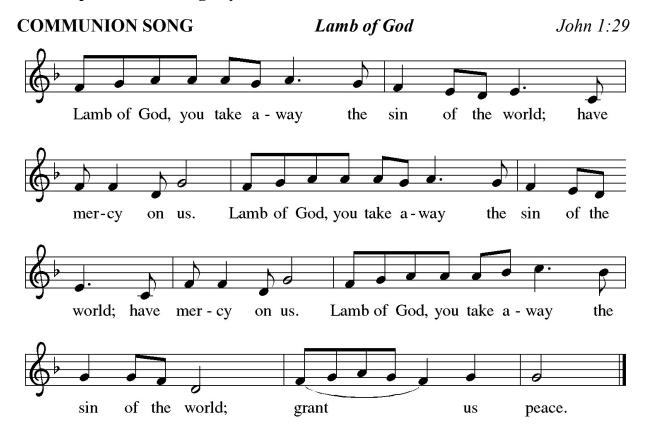
P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory and offer our words of gratitude and thanksgiving. C: Amen.

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

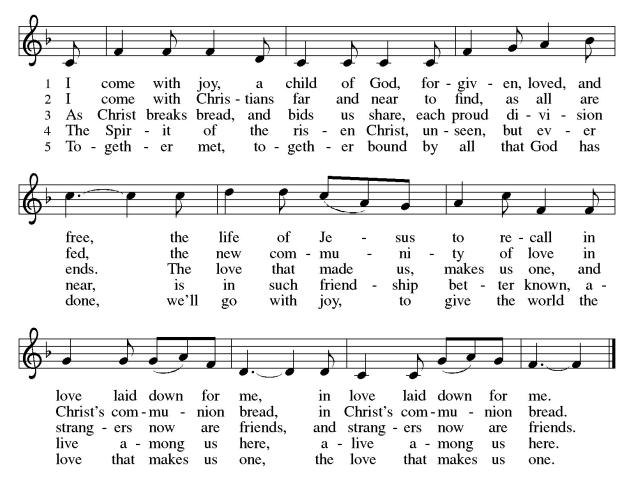
COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. C: Amen.

At the direction of the Pastor you will be invited to receive Holy Communion at the altar or in your seats. For those receiving Holy Communion in your seats you will be invited first to receive communion by peeling back the tab and receive the wafer with the rest of the congregation as the Pastor says, "The Body of Christ given for you." Then turn the packet upside down so the wine/juice side is on top. Peel back the tab and receive the wine/juice with the rest of the congregation as the Pastor says, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." Please discard the empty packet and tabs after worship in the small bowls provided.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Come With Joy



COMMUNION HYMN

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C: Amen.**

SENDING—"God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world"

BLESSING

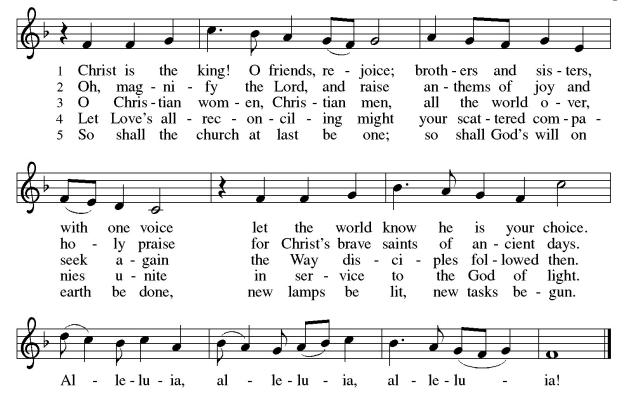
Numbers 6:24-26

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen! C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Christ is the King



DISMISSAL

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Today's Worship Assistants

Altar Guild: Ruth Sommers, Ron and Sandy Schneck, Becky Fritzges Assisting Minister: Diane King Communion Assistants: Jim McMichael and Dale Souder Greeters: Ruth and Fred Johns Lector: Mallory Prediger Ushers: Rod Hange, Fred Johns, and Joan O'Connor

Calendar of Events - Week of May 12, 2024

Monday 5/13: Church Council 7:00 pm Tuesday 5/14: Easter Wondering and Wandering Walk 9:30 am Wednesday 5/15: Thursday 5/16: Bible Study and Lunch 12-1:30 pm Friday 5/17: Saturday 5/18: Sunday 5/19: Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry 9:30 am

> Readings for Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Romans 8:22-27, John 15:26;16:4b-15

Bulletin and Flower Sponsors

Altar Flowers for today are sponsored by Harvey and Sandy Groff in honor of their grandchildren.

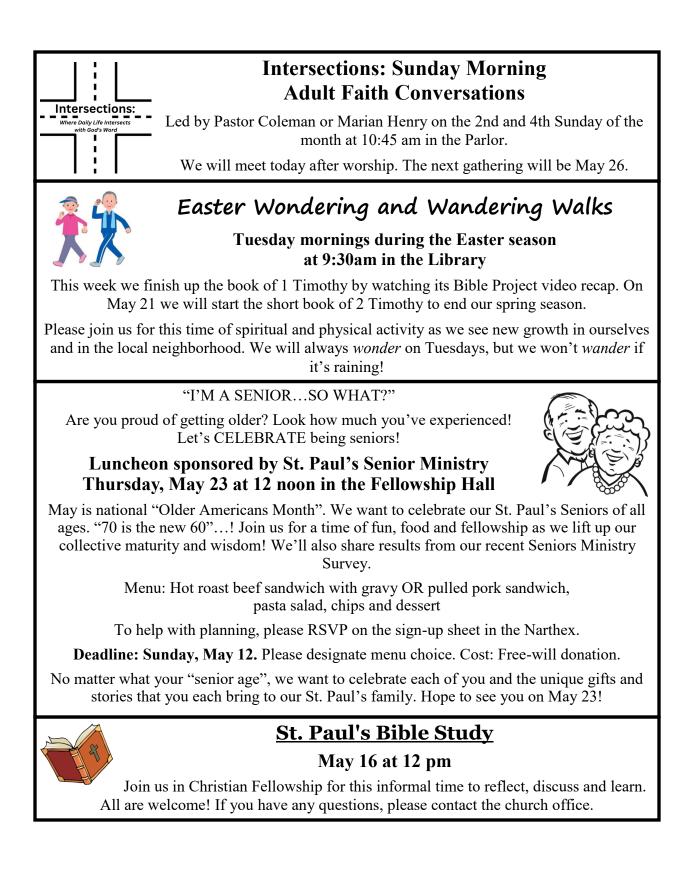
Bulletins for today are sponsored by Tom and Karen Dunlap in honor of their grandson Solomon's first birthday.

Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Schedule



May 12—Mother's Day Project May 19—Happy Birthday Church Celebration

May 26—class time June 2—help in worship





Bear Creek Summer Camp Registration Information

St. Paul's loves Bear Creek Camp and we want more of our kids and youth to love it also! Summer camp registration is now open! Registration information is located on the Youth bulletin board across from the Library. Several camperships are available to St. Paul's youth. Speak with Janet Lincoln or Marian Henry for more information.

Honoring Our Graduates



On **Sunday**, **June 2**, we will be honoring those who have graduated this year from high school, college, or any degree program. If you or anyone you know is graduating this year, please contact the church office with the graduates name, what school they are graduating from, and any plans for the fall the graduate

might have. Please return this information to the church office by Wednesday, May 29. Thank you!

Annual Summer Youth Service Camp

Open to all youth who have completed 3rd grade through High School

REGISTER ONLINE at through the link in the weekly email announcements or on our website



Monday, June 24 – held at Grace Lutheran Church in Hatfield (8:30am-3pm) Tuesday, June 25 – held at St. Paul's (8:30am – 3pm)

Wednesday, June 26 – held at Emmanuel Lutheran in Souderton (8:30am-3pm) Thursday, June 27 – a service & fun day in Philadelphia! (8:30am - ?)

Our days will be spent using our hands and feet to do God's service for local non-profits.



2024 Summer Vacation Bible Camp!

Monday, July 29 – Thursday August 1 from 9am until noon Being held at Little Zion Lutheran Church on Morwood Rd in Telford

For children ages 4 (potty trained) through entering 5th grade. Register using the link in the email announcements our on our website by **July 21!**

Mark Your Calendars!



We will be having a **Pig Roast** on **Saturday**, **July 13**. Watch for more details next month!

Our annual Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Game will be Saturday, August 24 for a 6:35pm game against the Rochester Red Wings

Prayer List

In order to keep the prayer list as up to date as possible, names will be kept on the list for four weeks unless notified otherwise.

Please Pray For...

Rod Alderfer Norm Driscoll Rylin Graham Marge Lukens Anne Macy

Kayla Novak Ray Nyce Scott Schucker James Spencer

Please Continue to Pray For...

Lisa Bealer Carolyn Evans Susan Farrington Roland Fernandez Suzanne Fernandez Dottie Fogel Tim Greiser Harvey Groff Gloria Harpel Leslie Harpel

Cheryl Hutchison Jim Hurley Roger Jones Brent Johnson Gayle King Al Landis Keith Landis Jim Lombardo Bill Lincoln Stacey Lusk Gene Moyer Joanne Romano Carrie Scary David Somers Jeff and Heather Spillane Andrew Strauss Claudette Strauss Linda Tierrmo Amber Voehringer Carole Ann Vogel

Comfort for the Bereaved

Family and Friends of Tony LoRusso Family and Friends of Jean Uehling



For Large print copies of the worship service, please see an Usher. Hearing devices are on the rack at the Visitor's Center.

Welcome Kids!!

Children are ALWAYS welcome in worship! Our kid-friendly Pray-Ground is located in the front-left section of the Sanctuary. Activity bags are located on the rack in the Gathering Space. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them..." Matthew 19:14

Contact Information:

Pastor - Rev. Bill Coleman Office: 215-723-8981, Cell: 814-823-9742 pastor@stpaulstelford.org Office Administrator – Ashley Bromley 215-723-8981 secretary@stpaulstelford.org Director of Christian Education – Marian Henry 215-723-8981 dce@stpaulstelford.org Director of Music/Organist-Kristine Fosbenner 215-257-4707 Feast and Celebration Service – Mike King 215-723-8981 610-287-5499 Congregation President – Ray Landis council@stpaulstelford.org Sexton - Al Lightner 215-368-0374 www.stpaulstelford.org

St. Paul's on the Web

Mobile Giving at St. Paul's! - Scan this code with your mobile device, or visit www.stpaulstelford.org/giving to see other ways to give to our ministry.

Most Recent Financial Information (Last Updated 4/30/2024)							
Checking Account - Apri	1 2024	Checking Account - YTD					
Beginning Balance 4/1/2024	\$4,214.59	Beginning Balance 1/1/2024	\$21,496.43				
Deposits (monthly)*	\$80,366.21	Deposits to Date*	\$161,902.25				
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$84,580.80	Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$183,398.68				
Expenses (monthly)	\$72,710.96	Expenses to Date	\$171,528.84				
Ending Balance 4/30/2024	\$11,869.84	Ending Balance 4/30/2024	\$11,869.84				
Ending Fund Balances as of April 30, 2024							
Memorial Fund	\$38,092.04	Benevolence	\$3,823.23				
Capital Reserve	\$69,468.06	Special	\$125,829.13				
Liabilities as of April 30,	2024						
Mortgage Balance	\$0.00						