## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



## April 21, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Easter

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

#### 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.** 



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

## Luke 17:13; Luke 18:38-39; Psalm 123:2-3

men.

#### **KYRIE**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

## That Easter Day with Joy was Bright



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray with one another. C: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father 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 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

#### A reading from Acts.

<sup>5</sup>The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' <sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

### PSALM: Psalm 23

## Refrain: (organist/cantor/then congregation)



<sup>1</sup>The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me be- side still waters.

<sup>3</sup>You restore my | soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall | fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. REFRAIN/ALL

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. REFRAIN/ALL

#### SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

#### A reading from 1 John.

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

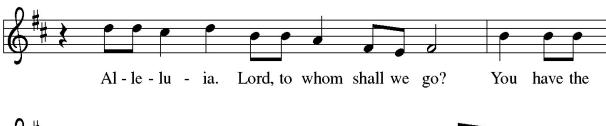
<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

The assembly stands.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





#### **GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

P: The holy gospel according to John, the tenth chapter. C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: <sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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

The assembly is seated.

#### **SERMON**

The assembly stands.

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

## The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.
   Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

#### **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

A: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

A: Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower us through our ministries to worship and serve alongside one another. We give special thanks for our shared ministry of the Indian Valley Cluster and the important ways we connect and serve in this community. God of grace, **C:** hear our prayer.

A: Nurturing God, in honoring Earth Day, we praise you for the lengthening daylight of spring, which stirs new life and reminds us of the light you bring into the world through the gift of Jesus Christ. Open our eyes to see the miracle of your good creation and direct our care for what you have made. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.** 

A: Almighty God, we remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ whose vocations pull them away from their family, friends, congregation, and community. We pray that you will sustain their faith and spirit and that we will express our thanksgiving as they return to be among us. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of abuse, those who feel alone, and all who live with chronic illness (especially). Continue to guide us in supporting and walking with those who are hurting, sick or lost. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.** 

A: Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

A: God of new life, we pray today for Paige Brasch and Brady Farrington who will celebrate their baptismal anniversaries. Walk with them and their families, as they live into the grace and love you have so graciously given them through their baptism. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.** 

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (*especially*). Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. 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.

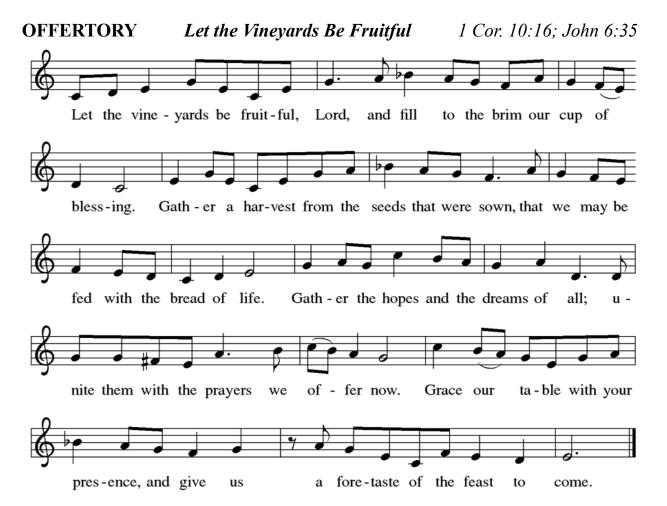
#### **CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM**

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need—V. Thomson

Tim Wolfe—Bass

*The assembly stands.* 

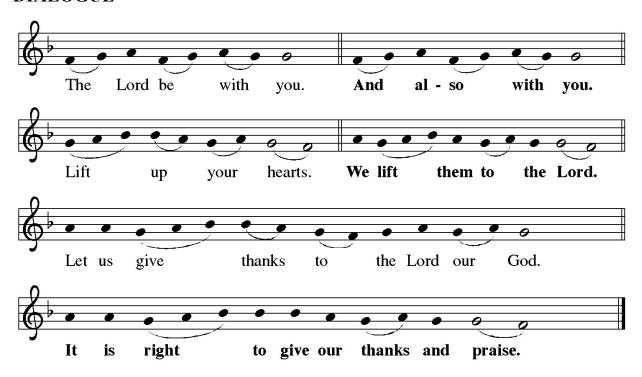
## MEAL—"God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ"



#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: As ones gathered into the arms of the Good Shepherd, we have been blessed with these gifts to share with those in need. 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.

#### **DIALOGUE**



#### **PREFACE**

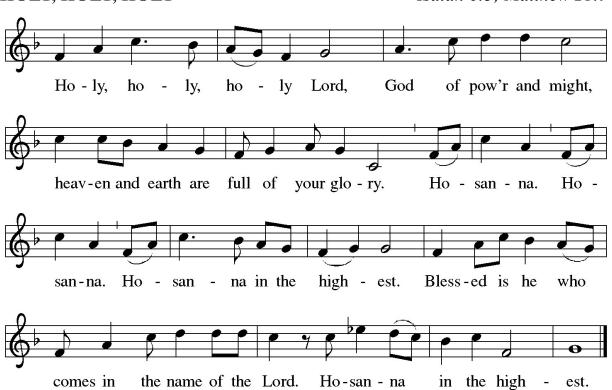
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death,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

comes in

## Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



#### **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.

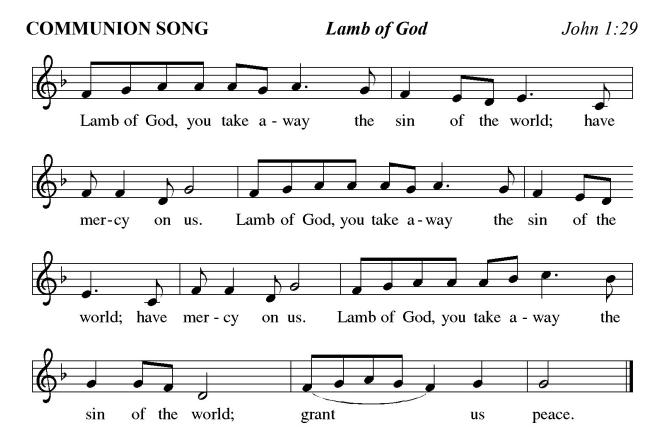
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **C: Amen.** 

#### LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4* 

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**

#### Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us



#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives



- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name!He lives, my Savior, still the same;what joy this blest assurance gives:I know that my Redeemer lives!

#### 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**

### The Lord's My Shepherd



DISMISSAL Luke 7:50

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: Jayne Poole, Judy Heckler, Gloria Beer, Janet Lincoln, Debra Croissette

**Assisting Minister:** Diane King

Communion Assistants: Shirley Schimpf and Cathy Hurley

**Greeters:** Jayne and Richard Poole

Lectors: Bob Bell

Ushers: Richard Poole, Tors Ahlman and Joan O'Connor

#### Calendar of Events - Week of April 21, 2024

**Monday 4/22:** 

Tuesday 4/23: Easter Wondering and Wandering Walk 9:30 am, Pub Theology 7pm at Free

Will Brewing Co. in Perkasie

Wednesday 4/24:

Thursday 4/25: Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Friday 4/26: Saturday 4/27:

Sunday 4/28: Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry 9:30 am, Sunday Morning Faith

Conversations 10:45 am, New Member Class 10:45 am

Readings for Next Sunday: Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

#### **Bulletin and Flower Sponsors**

Altar Flowers for today are sponsored by the Frank and Donna Bucher in honor of their 51st wedding anniversary.

Bulletins for today are sponsored by Deb Bitner in memory of "JD" and all of the other four legged pets who always love unconditionally.



This morning the churches of the Indian Valley Cluster is participating in a pulpit exchange. Pastor Coleman is preaching at Advent Lutheran Church in Harleysville. We welcome Pastor Erika Wesch from Little Zion Lutheran Church in Telford as our guest pastor. Thank you, Pastor Wesch, for preaching and presiding today!



## Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Schedule

April 21 – Earth Day walk April 28—class time May 5—help in worship
May 12—Mother's Day Project

## **Souderton End Gun Violence March**

Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church 149 Cherry Lane, Souderton

Join us as the Souderton faith community organizes a peaceful outdoor march and letter writing to support legislation to help end gun violence

## Easter Wondering and Wandering Walks

# Tuesday mornings during the Easter season at 9:30am in the Library



An uplifting morning that starts with wondering about the chapters in 1 Timothy, followed by wandering the streets and alleys of Telford.

Please join us for this time of spiritual and physical activity as we see new growth in ourselves and in the local neighborhood. We will always *wonder* on Tuesdays, but we won't *wander* if it's raining!



## Tuesday, April 23 at 7pm at Free Will Brewing Co.

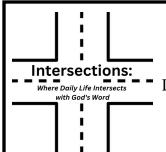
For the past several years, members from several local congregations have been gathering on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month for Pub Theology. Each month features a different leader and topic. Conversations are always lively and thought-provoking. Won't you consider joining us? No previous Bible knowledge needed!

## **New Member Classes**

New Member Class—April 28 at 10:45 am



New Member Reception—Sunday, May 5 during 9:30 am worship service with a time of fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after worship



# **Intersections: Sunday Morning Adult Faith Conversations**

Led by Pastor Coleman or Marian Henry on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 10:45 am in the Parlor.

The next gathering will be April 28.

## St. Paul's Bible Study

May 2 at 12 pm

Join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



## 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.

## **Green Team Scrap Metal Recycling Event**

Saturday, May 11 from 8am—12pm in the parking lot

Stop by to drop off any metal objects you no longer need. We will accept bicycles, lawn mowers, car batteries, copper, metal, or cast iron plumbing fittings, aluminum lawn furniture, grills, wheels, brake drums, etc. Practically anything metal will be accepted. We will also accept room air conditioners and dehumidifiers free of charge! Please DO NOT bring tin cans, paint cans, vacuums, microwaves, refrigerators, freezers, hazardous material or electronics. Thank you, in advance, for your donated metals!!!

#### "I'M A SENIOR...SO WHAT?"

Are you proud of getting older? Look how much you've experienced!

Let's CELEBRATE being seniors!

## Luncheon sponsored by St. Paul's Senior Ministry Thursday, May 23 at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall



May is national "Older Americans Month". We want to celebrate our St. Paul's Seniors of all ages. "70 is the new 60"...! Join us for a time of fun, food and fellowship as we lift up our collective maturity and wisdom! We'll also share results from our recent Seniors

Ministry Survey.

Menu: Hot roast beef sandwich with gravy OR pulled pork sandwich, pasta salad, chips and dessert

To help with planning, please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

**Deadline: Sunday, May 12.** Please designate menu choice. Cost: Free-will donation.

No matter what your "senior age", we want to celebrate each of you and the unique gifts and stories that you each bring to our St. Paul's family. Hope to see you on May 23!



## **Mark Your Calendars!**

Our annual **Youth Work Camp** (for youth going into 4<sup>th</sup> grade through Senior High) will be held **June 24-27 from 8:30am-3pm**. Each day our youth will volunteer at a variety of local non-profits with other youth from Grace Lutheran in Hatfield and Emmanuel in Souderton.

Vacation Bible Camp will be held at Little Zion Lutheran July 29-August 1 from 9am until noon. This summer theme is "Camp Firelight" where kids will be reminded about several Bible heroes who trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. Each morning will include lively music, a puppet skit, science, crafts, Bible stories, snacks and outdoor game activities!

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 Kayla Novak
Norm Driscoll Scott Schucker
Dottie Fogel Amber Voehringer

Anne Macy

#### Please Continue to Pray For...

Lisa Bealer Jim Hurley Gene Moyer

Dick Clark Roger Jones Joanne Romano

Maxine Detweiler Brent Johnson Carrie Scary

Carolyn Evans Gayle King Dean Shollenberger

Susan Farrington Al Landis David Somers

Roland Fernandez Keith Landis Jeff and Heather Spillane

Suzanne Fernandez Jim Lombardo Andrew Strauss
Tim Greiser Tracey Leinen Claudette Strauss
Harvey Groff Bill Lincoln Linda Tierrmo
Gloria Harpel Anna Long Carole Ann Vogel

Gloria Harpel Anna Long Carole Ann V Leslie Harpel Stacey Lusk Fred Wahl

Cheryl Hutchison

#### **Comfort for the Bereaved**

Family and Friends of Diane Planutis (Niece of Barbara Potucek)

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

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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

Congregation President – Ray Landis 610-287-5499

Sexton - Al Lightner 215-368-0374
St. Paul's on the Web www.stpaulstelford.org



**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 3/31/2024)			
Checking Account - March 2024		Checking Account - YTD	
Beginning Balance 3/1/2024	\$10,181.47	Beginning Balance 1/1/2024	\$21,496.43
Deposits (monthly)*	\$21,372.97	Deposits to Date*	\$81,536.04
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$31,554.44	Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$103,032.47
Expenses (monthly)	\$27,339.85	Expenses to Date	\$98,817.88
Ending Balance 3/31/2024	\$4,214.59	Ending Balance 3/31/2024	\$4,214.59
Ending Fund Balances as of March 31, 2024			
Memorial Fund	\$39,059.43	Benevolence	\$2,905.23
Capital Reserve	\$69,465.21	Special	\$123,989.13
Liabilities as of March 31, 2024			
Mortgage Balance	\$0.00		