



St. Paul's
United Methodist Church
Journeying Together Since 1885

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

JULY 13, 2025

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome you to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. All are celebrated here and all are safe. This bulletin will guide our service today. More helpful information can be found following the order of worship.

(* - please stand in body or spirit)

Gathering for Worship

Announcements

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Prelude

Introducción

Jesús Guridi

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Come and worship the God who measures us by mercy
and calls us toward justice.

**All: God sets a plumb line among us,
guiding us into righteousness and truth.**

Leader: God calls prophets from unlikely places,
ordinary voices made strong by grace.

**All: May we hear God's call clearly today,
becoming people who speak truth and walk humbly
and may God align us to divine justice and compassion.**

*Hymn #108

God Hath Spoken by the Prophets

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

Holy and righteous God, You place your plumb line among us, calling us to lives that reflect your mercy, justice, and love. Open our hearts this day to hear your prophetic voice clearly. Strengthen us to be courageous and compassionate, to speak truth in love, and to align our actions with your vision for the world. Shape us today as your faithful witnesses, through Christ, who calls us and sends us forth. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

The Lord's Prayer

UM Hymnal #895

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. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

Amos 7:7-15 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

⁷This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.' "

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet nor a prophet’s son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

All children are invited forward. Following the Children’s Message, students in grades K-5 are invited to a Kids with Compassion activity in Room 109. This week we are assembling hygiene kits to be distributed by UMCOR during times of disaster or crisis.

Response to the Word

*Hymn #441

What Does the Lord Require

Sermon

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Invitation to Discipleship & Giving

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Offerings by check may be made out to St. Paul’s UMC. Scan the QR code to see one-time and recurring online giving options at stpaulsk.org. Thank you for supporting St. Paul’s efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory

Melody

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Sending Forth

*Hymn #433

All Who Love and Serve Your City

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude

Prelude on Ebenezer

Aaron David Miller



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today by **Martha Lipscomb**,
in loving memory of **Jack Lipscomb**, upon their wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, July 20, 2025

10:30 AM –Summer Worship



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly News – Visit stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news or scan the QR code to find all the announcements, links, and event details shared in our Weekly News. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org).



Welcome! – **Restrooms** including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office, near the water fountain. **Large-print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary. **Let us know you're here!** Members, friends, and visitors alike are encouraged to use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and note your attendance today. Please read more about worship at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Children's Programming Today – *Sunday, July 13.* Children in grades K-5 will begin in worship in the Sanctuary with their families. Following the Children's Message, students are invited to transition to the Kids with Compassion activity in Room 109 (just past the Library and stairwell). Nursery care is available for infants and preschoolers. Parents/Guardians should pick up kids immediately following worship. Busy bags with quiet children's activities may be borrowed from the Welcome Desk for use during worship. Restless friends with an adult are welcome to take a break in the Octagon room or the Library near the restrooms. Visit stpaulsk.org/community/children.

Summer Hours – Now through August 31, we worship for the summer at 10:30 AM only. Drop-in and phone hours for the office are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. To visit at other times, please make an appointment! Staff and clergy are still around, but on-site hours vary by individual.

Events and Information

- **New! Save the Date: Retirement Celebration** – *Sunday, July 27, 11:45 AM*. We are planning a celebration after worship on Sunday, July 27 to honor Dr. Meg Baker, our Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation, who will be retiring on August 1, 2025. Look for details in the coming days! Please communicate any needs or questions to Pastor Sheridan (sallmond@stpaulsk.org) or Pastor Joey (joeyhm@stpaulsk.org).
- **This Week: Still Wednesday** – *Wednesday, July 16, 7:00-8:00 PM*. We will meet once a month in the summer, on July 16 and August 13. All are welcome to light a candle in the Sanctuary and engage in a contemplative prayer experience. The exact format varies as leaders rotate. Contact: Kenzie Raulin (kenzier@rcn.com).
- **This Week: Project Transformation Spelling Bee Competition** – *July 17 at 7:00 PM*. Compete in the Project Transformation DC Spelling Bee and support childhood literacy through this DC-based program with close ties to the UMC! Play solo or as a team and compete for great prizes. Spelling Bee will be at St. Luke's Mission Center (3655 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC). Sign up: <https://evite.me/X4vr6EZWAZ>
- **This Week: Interview to Be a Stephen Minister** – *Interview deadline July 19*. If you are interested in exploring what it means to serve as caring presence for others in challenging times, please contact Martha Lipscomb at mmlipscomb@verizon.net or 301-518-1642 about the next class of Stephen Ministers. The deadline to set up an interview is July 19; training begins Sept. 8.
- **Next Week: SPY Summer Series** – *Sunday, July 20*. All rising-6 through rising-12 grade students – and their friends! – are invited! The next activity is bowling at the posh Bowlero lanes. There is no cost for youth to participate thanks to a grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference! Permission forms at stpaulsk.org/community/youth Pastor Joey leads the Bowlero trip; email any questions to joeyhm@stpaulsk.org. Looking ahead: all youth interested in the Aug. 10 day trip to Hershey Park should register by *August 3* so we can purchase tickets! Please find the special Hershey sign-up at stpaulsk.org/community/youth.
- **Update! Summer Movie Series** – Due to calendar challenges, we are rescheduling the July summer movie event originally set for July 20. Please look for a new date soon! We are excited to offer this series of thought-provoking films with time for discussion – and popcorn! Here is the schedule:

- **Date TBD** – *Will and Harper*. When comic Will Ferrell finds out his close friend of 30 years is coming out as a trans woman, the two decide to create a record of their cross-country road trip processing this new stage of life and friendship.
- **August 17** – *Elemental*. In this Disney/Pixar film, fire element Ember and water element Wade begin an unlikely relationship that challenges their assumptions about identity, family, and obligations.
- **Next Week: Bible & Brews** – *Sundays, July 20 & Aug. 17, 5:00-6:00 PM*. All are welcome at this monthly interfaith conversation with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. Meeting this month at BabyCat Brewery (10241 Kensington Pkwy, Kensington MD). All meetings are family-friendly! Questions? Contact Pastor Joey: joeyhm@stpaulsk.org.
- **Summer Break!** – Many groups modify their schedules or take a break during the summer season. Currently on Summer Break:
 - *Yarn Ministry*
 - *Joyful Ringers Bells*
 - *Taste & Sing*
 - *Pancake Breakfast*
 - *Lydia Circle Sisters*
 - *Sanctuary Choir*
 - *Children's Choir*
 - *Sermon Safari Zoom Bible Study*
- **Regular Activities** – Please contact group leaders for details!
 - **Prayerwaves** – *Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 AM*. To pray together by phone, dial 425-436-6326 a few minutes before 10:00 AM, then enter access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email, please contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.
 - **Sipping Ministry** – This fellowship time with beverages and snacks is held after worship whenever a group, family, or individual wishes to host. Sign up on the office bulletin board and take a “how to” instruction sheet.
 - **Stephen Ministers** – Please contact Martha Lipscomb (301-518-1642) to be connected to a Stephen Minister for confidential care and a listening ear.
 - **Mid-Year Pledges Welcome** – Pledges are welcome any time of year, and help us plan faithfully and wisely for the ministries ahead. Forms are available in the church office and at stpaulsk.org/giving.
 - **Summer Crafting and Fall Craft Fair** – Long summer days are perfect for crafting at home. The Yarn Ministry will gratefully receive donations of craft items for our Craft Fair in the fall, with all proceeds going to charities.



SOURCES AND LICENSING

Livestreaming each week at 10:30 AM at stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home.

* = Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.

** = Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A.

Prelude: *Introducción*, by Jesús Guridi from *Escuela Española de Organo*, copyright 1951 Jesús Guridi; 1992 Union Musical Ediciones, S.L. Madrid. All rights reserved.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: Inspired by Amos 7:7–15. (Adapted by Ministry Assistant.) Used by permission.

* Hymn: *God Hath Spoken By the Prophets*. Words: George W. Briggs (1952), copyright 1953, renewal 1981 The Hymn Society (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company). Music: Tomas J. Williams (1890), public domain.

Bible Reading: *New Revised Standard Version Bible Updated Edition (NRSVUE)*, copyright 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

* Hymn: *What Does the Lord Require*. Words: Albert F. Bayly (1949), copyright 1988 Oxford University Press. Music: Erik Routley (1968), copyright 1969 Hope Publishing Company.

Offertory: *Melody* by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, from *Three Short Pieces*. Public domain.

** Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (LASST UNS ERFREUEN)*. Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge* (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

* Hymn: *All Who Love and Serve Your City*. Words: Erik Reginald Routley (1966), copyright 1969 Stainer & Bell Ltd (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company). Music: USA melody, harmony by Carlton R. Young (1964), copyright 1965 Abingdon Press (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.).

** Postlude: *Prelude on Ebenezer* by Aaron David Miller from *Augsburg Organ Library*, copyright 2001 Augsburg Fortress.



LEADING AND SERVING

Senior Pastor: Rev. Sheridan Allmond, sallmond@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Music Director: Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Organist: Mr. Marvin Mills, mmills@stpaulsk.org

Bookkeeping & Facilities: Ms. Tracey Furman, tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation: Dr. Meg Baker, mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Communications & Administration: Dr. Erin Bone Steele, stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

A/V Team: John & Biljana Regan; John Stephens

Children's Choir Director: Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Debbie Zechar



We, the community of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Kensington, welcome you in love. Jesus Christ accepts all, excluding none. So we welcome and affirm you who are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer. We welcome you without regard to your sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, culture, race, ethnicity, ability, education, or age. We welcome you no matter your immigration, marital, or economic status. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe.

