



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church



Bluegrass Sunday

June 14, 2026

10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, KENSINGTON
BLUEGRASS SUNDAY & SUMMER KICK-OFF

10:30 AM

JUNE 14, 2026

Thank you for worshiping 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. Joey Heath-Mason

Prelude

Turn Your Radio On
Sanctuary Choir & Bluegrass Band

Albert E. Brumley

*Come and listen in to a radio station where the mighty hosts of heaven sing,
Turn your radio on, turn your radio on!
If you want to hear the songs of Zion coming from the land of endless spring,
Get in touch with God, turn your radio on.*

*Refrain: Turn your radio on, and listen to the music in the air,
Turn your radio on, heaven's glory share;
Turn the lights down low and listen to the Master's radio,
Get in touch with God, turn your radio on.*

*Brother, listen in to the glory-land chorus, listen to the glad hosannas roll,
Turn your radio on, turn your radio on!
Get a little taste of joy awaiting, get a little Heaven in your soul,
Get in touch with God, turn your radio on. (Refrain.)*

*Listen to the songs of the fathers and mothers and the many friends gone on before,
Turn your radio on, turn your radio on!
Some eternal morning we shall meet them over on the hallelujah shore,
Get in touch with God, turn your radio on. (Refrain.)*

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Friends, the Lord meets us on the front porch of grace,
in the fields of promise,
and in the songs that rise from grateful hearts.

Come — let us worship with joy.

Come, all who welcome the stranger,
and open your hearts to God's surprising grace.

Just as Abraham and Sarah received unexpected visitors,
so God meets us here with promise, with presence, with possibility.

**People: We come ready to listen,
ready to laugh,
ready to believe again.**

Leader: When God spoke a promise that seemed impossible,
Sarah's laughter turned into joy,
for nothing is too wonderful for the Lord.

**People: We come trusting the God who keeps promises,
the God who brings life out of barrenness,
the God who turns our laughter into praise.**

Leader: On this Bluegrass Sunday, let our music ring like Sarah's laughter —
full of hope, full of life, full of the Spirit's rhythm.

**People: We lift our voices, our instruments, and our hearts
to the God who shows up, stays with us,
and brings joy to our tents.**

Let us worship the Lord with gladness!

*Hymn #370

Victory in Jesus

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

**God, as you met Abraham in an ordinary moment of hospitality, meet us today in
the ordinary moments of our lives. Open our minds to recognize your presence
among us; open our hearts to receive your promises; open our arms to embrace
your miraculous works with joy, wonder, and laughter.**

**As we gather to worship, help us find the courage to hope, the wisdom to trust,
and the perseverance to cooperate with you as you fulfill our promises and as
you work for abundant life for all creation. Amen.**

Music

I Heard My Savior Calling Me
Sanctuary Choir & Bluegrass Band
Maureen Freshour, Alto

Rhonda Vincent

*There was a great revival in our little country church.
People came from miles around to hear about God's word.
Anointed in the Spirit, you could feel it in the air.
My life was changed that night as I bowed my head in prayer.*

*Refrain: I heard my Savior calling me,
On that blessed night I fell down on my knees.
Well, I raised my hand to Jesus; pure faith had set me free.
Oh praise God, I see the light; my Savior's calling me.*

*I'm so thankful for a Savior who would make the sacrifice.
In a selfless loving gesture, giving us eternal life.
Yes, an offer for the taking! Listen with an open heart.
It's a choice that's up to you. Hear the Savior calling too. (Refrain)*

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.**

Music

Do Lord
Children's Choir

Spiritual

*Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me. (repeat)
Way beyond the blue.*

*I took Jesus as my Savior, do remember me (repeat)
Way beyond the blue.*

*When I'm in trouble, Lord, do remember me (repeat)
Way beyond the blue.*

*I've got a home in glory-land that outshines the sun (repeat)
Way beyond the blue.*

*Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me (repeat)
Way beyond the blue.*

Proclamation of the Word

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7 (NRSVUE)
Pew Bible – Old Testament pp. 14, 16-17

Lay Reader

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ¹⁰Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?" ¹³The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." ¹⁵But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "Yes, you did laugh."

¹The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. ²Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." ⁷And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Music

Power in the Blood

Lewis E. Jones

Sanctuary Choir & Bluegrass Band

Would you be free from the burden of sin? There's power in the blood.

Would you o'er evil a victory win? There's wonderful power in the blood.

Would you be free from your passion and pride? There's power in the blood.

Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide. There's wonderful power in the blood.

Refrain: There is power, power, wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb,

There is power, power, wonder-working power in the precious blood of the Lamb.

Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow? There's power in the blood.

Sin-stains are lost in life-giving flow. There's wonderful power in the blood. (Refrain)

Would you do service for Jesus your King? There's power in the blood.

Would you live daily His praises to sing? There's wonderful power in the blood. (Refrain)

Response to the Word

Sermon

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Music (Hymn #349)

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
Sanctuary Choir & Bluegrass Band

Helen H. Lemmel

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus.
Look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.*

Music (Hymn #301)

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross
Sanctuary Choir & Bluegrass Band

Fanny Crosby

*Jesus, keep me near the cross;
There a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain.*

*Refrain: In the cross, in the cross,
Be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.*

*Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the bright and morning star
Sheds its beams around me. (Refrain)*

*Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day
With its shadow o'er me. (Refrain)*

*Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever,
Till I reach the golden strand
Just beyond the river. (Refrain)*

Invitation to Giving

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

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 work engaging in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory

(All God's Critters Got) A Place in the Choir

Bill Staines

Children's Choir

Sanctuary Choir, and Bluegrass Band

Congregation is invited to join in singing the Refrain.

Refrain: All God's critters got a place in the choir.

Some sing low, some sing higher.

Some sing out loud on a telephone wire.

Some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything they got, now.

*Listen to the top, where the little bird sings, and melodies and the high notes ringing
And the hoot owl cries over everything, and the blackbird disagrees.*

*Singing in the night time, singing in the day, when the little duck quacks he's on his way
And the otter hasn't got much to say and the porcupine talks to himself.*

Refrain

Dogs and cats, they take up the middle where the honeybee hums and the cricket fiddles.

The donkey brays and pony neighs and the old gray badger sighs.

*Listen to the bass, it's one on the bottom, where the bullfrog croaks and hippopotamus
Moans and groans with a big to-do, and the old cow just goes moo.*

Refrain

It's a simple song, a little song everywhere by the ox and the fox and grizzly bear,

The dopey alligator and the hawk above, the sly old weasel and the turtle dove.

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,

"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!"

Refrain

*Doxology #95

OLD 100TH

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Sending Forth

I'll Fly Away

1. Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er, } I'll fly a-
 2. When the shad-ows of this life have gone, } fly a-way,
 3. Just a few more wea-ry days and then, }

way; fly a-way; { to a home on God's ce - les - tial shore,
 like a bird from pris - on bars has flown, }
 to a land where joys shall nev - er end, }

Refrain

I'll fly a-way, fly a-way. I'll fly a-way, O glo-ry,
 fly a-way, fly a-way. fly a-way,

I'll fly a-way, fly a-way. When I die, hal - le -
 fly a-way, in the morn-ing.

lu - jah, by and by, I'll fly a-way, fly a-way.
 fly a-way, fly a-way.

*Closing Hymn

I Saw the Light

Hank Williams

I wand-ered so aim - less, my life filled with sin, I would - n't
Just like a blind mand I wand-ered a - long, Wor - ries and
I was a fool to wan - der and stray Straight is the

7
let my dear Sav ior in; Then Je - sus came like a
fears I claimed for my own; Then like the blind man that
gate and nar - row the way; Now I have trad - ed the

12
strang - er in the night, Praise the Lord, I saw the light.
God gave back his sight,
wrong for the right.

Chorus

18
I saw the light I saw the light; No more dark-ness no more

25
night. Now I'm so hap - py, no sor-row in sight; Praise the Lord,

32
I saw the light.



Please join us for lunch in the fellowship hall after worship. All are welcome!

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by **Susan Schwarz**
in loving memory of her parents **Eva & Hans Schwarz**.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, June 21, 2026

10:30 AM – Summer Worship

There is no 9:00 worship service.



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. You can also find the submission buttons to share news and announcements.



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. **Sign in!** Please use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and note your attendance with us today. Read more at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Summer Office Hours – St. Paul's office is open this summer for weekday drop-in visits and phone calls Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Staff, clergy, and building access are available outside these times by appointment! If you have a pastoral emergency when the office is closed, please call the emergency line for Rev. Sheridan Allmond (410-205-5568) and she will be notified of your call.

Children's Programming – *June 14*. All children in grades K-5 will worship in the Sanctuary with their families. If you would be interested in helping to lead activities for a Summer Sunday School experience, please contact Rev. Sheridan Allmond (sallmond@stpaulsk.org). Nursery care is available for children in Pre-K and younger during the 10:30 worship hour. Busy Bags with quiet children's activities are can be borrowed from the Welcome Desk near the front doors. Restless friends (accompanied by an adult) are welcome to take a break in the Octagon or the Library near the restrooms. Looking for a last-minute mini-camp? The summer Vacation Bible School mini-camp will be taking place at Bethesda UMC this year! Look below for more details.

Events, Activities, and Information

- **Today: Summer Kick Off Lunch – Plus Ice Cream!** – *Sunday, June 14.* After today's bluegrass-infused worship service, come to the fellowship hall and kick off the start of the summer season with a Fellowship Lunch. Serving hours are 11:45 AM - 1:45 PM. This lunch is FREE and our cooks made enough for everyone! All are invited! The menu follows a picnic theme: Sloppy Joe's & Hot Dogs with fixin's, Summer Salads, Cookies & Brownies, and Beverages. The ice cream cart from our neighbors at La Gelateria will be here serving four of their most popular flavors of ice cream, gelato, or sorbet for a special frozen treat! This special lunch is organized by the Sanctuary Choir, and underwritten by generous donors to support the Music Ministry and celebrate the St. Paul's community.
- **Today! "Echoes of Freedom" Reception** – *June 14, 4:00-6:00 PM.* We are hosting a special art exhibit in the Octagon, in collaboration with the Kensington Juneteenth celebrations. Please join us for an Opening Night reception today, June 14, 4:00-6:00 PM in the Octagon! The theme is "Echoes of Freedom: Finding Our Path," and features works by several artists in a variety of mediums. The exhibit is also open to the public through July 7. If none of the viewing times listed below work for you, contact the church office to see about other availability! Please visit:
 - Sundays 12:00-2:00 PM
 - Tuesdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM & 5:00-7:00 PM
 - Wednesdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 - Thursdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- **Today: Last SPY Meeting** – *Sunday, June 14, 7:00-8:30 PM.* This is our last meeting for St. Paul's Youth before we go on summer break! We'll gather at our usual time in the Multi-Purpose Room. All friends of St. Paul's in grades 6-12 are invited for fellowship, fun activities, Bible study, and food! Contact Pastor Sheridan at sallmond@stpaulsk.org with questions. Go to stpaulsk.org/community/youth for more!
- **Looking for a Last-Minute Mini-Camp? Look at VBS!** – *June 22-26, 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon.* Vacation Bible School is on! This summer the "Snowball Mountain Challenge" VBS is the minicamp that will take kids on a playful, winter-themed journey through Bible stories, songs, and fun. There are still spots for campers and for volunteers, including youth! VBS is for children in pre-K (age 4 and potty-trained) to rising-5th-grade. All events will be held with our partners at Bethesda United Methodist Church at 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 21704. Register at <https://vbspro.events/pl/events/6ca1be> or email Pastor Joey if you want to volunteer!
- **This Week: Still Wednesday Summer Schedule** – *Wednesday, June 17, 7:00-8:00 PM.* This hour of reflection, contemplation, togetherness, and silent prayer is a haven in the midst of busy days. Still Wednesday will meet in the Sanctuary or Octagon once a

month this summer, on June 17, July 15, and August 19. We will return to weekly meetings in September.

- **This Week: Capital Pride Parade** – *Saturday, June 20*. Join St. Paul's and dozens of other United Methodists as we celebrate love, inclusion, and community at the Capital Pride Parade! We have reserved 10 spots for those who would like to walk with us. Exact time and location details will be shared closer to the date. Learn more at <https://capitalumcpride.com/>. To reserve a spot or ask questions, contact Rev. Joey Heath-Mason at joeym@stpaulsk.org.
- **Next Week: Bible & Brews** – *Sunday, June 21, 5:00-6:00 PM*. Gather for casual interfaith conversations with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. All our meetings are family friendly! We meet at local restaurants offering food and drink that you can purchase as you like. For June we will be at BabyCat Brewery (10241 Kensington Pkwy). We plan to meet again July 18 and August 15. Contact Pastor Joey at joeym@stpaulsk.org with any questions.
- **Next Month: Hunger Ministry** – The St. Paul's community provides food for about 170 households in the 20895 ZIP code and we need your help! We are stocking the shelves now so we have enough for our July food distribution. We especially request: spaghetti, cold cereal, quick-cook or instant oatmeal, peanut butter, and canned chicken.
- **Summer Break!** – Many groups adjust their schedules or take a break between Memorial Day and Labor Day. We encourage everyone to check directly with group leaders to confirm changes in meeting hours! Currently on break:
 - Taste & Sing
 - Sunday School
 - Yarn Ministry
 - Lydia Circle Sisters
 - Sermon Safari
 - Pancake Breakfast
 - Joyful Ringers Bell Ensemble
 - Children's Choir
 - Sanctuary Choir
 - Still Wednesday (reduced meeting schedule)
- **Ongoing Activities** – *Please contact group leaders directly to confirm meeting times!*
 - **Prayerwaves** – *Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 AM*. To pray together by phone, dial 425-436-6326 then enter access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email, please contact Erin at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.

- **Stephen Ministers** – Move through difficult seasons of life with a Stephen Minister by your side. Contact Martha Lipscomb (301-518-1642) to be connected to a trained Stephen Minister.
- **Sanctuary Flower Sponsors** – The flower chart for 2026 is available in the church office! Please add your name to the chart to reserve a date, then fill out a yellow form with dedication information. The cost is \$45.
- **Sipping Ministry** – To host this fellowship time with coffee and snacks, sign up on the office bulletin board and take a “how to host” guide.
- **St. Paul’s Leadership** – St. Paul’s leaders will be meeting on the fourth Monday of the month throughout the year to attend to the mission, ministry, and wellbeing of the church. All meetings are open to the public. To confirm meeting times or for virtual attendance options, contact Chairperson Bill Stephens (wtstephens@verizon.net). To learn more about our leaders, go to stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff and scroll down to the Leadership Team section.



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.





SOURCES AND LICENSING

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

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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

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

A/V Team: Mr. & Mrs. John & Biljana Regan, Ms. Adriana Teitel

Children's Choir Director: Ms. Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Mrs. Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Mr. Nathan Bazawada

Lay Readers: Mrs. Martha Lipscomb

Guest Musicians:

Rev. Maureen Freshour, alto

William Yanesh, piano

Matt Carroll, bass

Jamie Williams, guitar

Bob Spates, fiddle

Jo Huling, drums



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

Journeying Together Since 1885