



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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

AUGUST 16, 2026

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 summer worship 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

Prelude on Coronation

Jean Langlais

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

People: We gather together to worship the Holy One in unity!

Leader: How very good and powerful it is when we commit to the kingdom of God!

People: We gather together to discern God's will and declare God's reign!

Leader: How very good and hopeful it is when we reconcile and repair our
brokenness and bless one another!

People: We gather together to love and to serve! Praise the Holy One!

*Hymn #154

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

Gracious and Healing God, in your presence, we find the fullness of joy, love, and life. Expand our vision and write a new way forward upon our hearts. We seek your wisdom and guidance. We need your comfort and conviction. We trust your provision and power. As we come near to you, we affirm your goodness and the goodness within us. Receive our presence and our dreams of the world you help us make possible. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

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

Matthew 15:21–28 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

*Hymn #620

One Bread, One Body

Sermon

“God Expands”

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



Offertory

Improvisation

Nadia Boulanger

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Sending Forth

*Hymn #452

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude

Fanfare on Olivet

David Blackwell



While we are not celebrating Holy Communion as part of the worship service this Sunday, blessed “all in one” communion elements are available in the basket at the chancel rail for those who wish to receive communion today.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today to the glory of God by the flower team.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, August 23, 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. **Sign in!** Please use the attendance pads in the pews to share your name and note your attendance with us today. **Large-print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary. Read more at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Summer Office Hours – Drop-in visits and phone calls: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM during the summer. Staff and building access are available outside these times by appointment! If you have an emergency after hours, please call 410-205-5568 and leave a message for Pastor Sheridan.

Children and Nursery News – All children in grades K-5 will worship in the Sanctuary with their families this summer. Nursery care is available today for children in Pre-K and younger. Busy Bags with quiet activities can be borrowed from the Welcome Desk. Restless friends (accompanied by an adult) are welcome to take a break in the Octagon or the Library.

Events, Activities, and Information

- **New! Camp Chairs** – The last of our lightweight, comfortable St. Paul's folding camp chairs are ready for new homes! Make a donation of \$10 or more using the Camp Chair donation box or use the QR code on the sign in the Narthex (put "camp chair" in the memo line), and pick up your chair on Sunday near the office door. We have about 20 chairs available, while supplies last! Camp Chair proceeds benefit the Hunger Ministry.
- **This Week: Still Wednesday** – *Wednesday, Aug. 19, 7:00-8:00 PM.* This hour of reflection, togetherness, and silent prayer is a haven in the midst of busy days. Come to the Octagon to light and candle and enjoy this contemplative experience. We are meeting once a month this summer and will return to weekly meetings in September.
- **Next Week: Let's Go Volunteer!** – *Sunday, Aug. 23.* On August 23, during the 10:30 worship service, all kids in grades K-5 will be invited to hear local author Zawadi Sakapalla-Ukondwa read her new book, "Let's Go Volunteer," an original story with fun lessons about sharing, learning, and being kind.
- **Next Month: Pancake Breakfast Returns!** – *Saturday, Sept. 5, 8:00-10:00 AM.* The all-you-can-eat community breakfast will have delicious buttermilk pancakes, fresh sage sausage, scrambled eggs, grits, fruit, and coffee, tea, or hot chocolate. There will also

be a specialty pancake. *Please note the updated hours – we will be serving 8:00-10:00 AM.* Invite your friends and neighbors to join us in the Fellowship Hall. Diners are asked to make a generous donation at the door. Feel like helping out? A few key individuals have recently retired from their duties, so if you enjoy cooking or helping out in a kitchen once a month, please consider joining this ministry that has been part of St. Paul's since 1970! Contact Phil Rush (phil_rush@hotmail.com) for more information.

- **Confirmation Class Plans** – The pastors will be offering a Confirmation Class this year. Confirmation Class is designed for young people in Grade 6 (age 12) and up, who have not yet become full members of the church and would like to learn more about faith, beliefs, history, the present day United Methodist Church, and what it means to be a member. If someone in your family is a good fit for Confirmation Class, please reach out to Pastor Sheridan at sallmond@stpaulsk.org.
- **Your Church Leaders** – The Church Leadership Team has talked about the unique Spiritual Gifts we each hold. We have shared what it means to serve St. Paul's mission and ministry through leadership. We have told our own stories of why serving feels right for us. Now, we invite you to join us. If God is calling you, reach out to the Pastor Sheridan, Pastor Joey, Leadership Team chair Bill Stephens (wtstephens@verizon.net), Lay Leader Anne Deane (annepdean@gmail.com), or another Leadership Team member. Go to stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff and scroll down to see more!
- **Food Drive** – While we are working on connecting with new food pantry suppliers, we are relying on our individual donors just like we did when we founded the “Hunger Free Zone” more than a decade ago! Please place nonperishables (no glass please) in the Narthex bin by the office door. Find the list of our essential needs at stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry. Financial contributions help us to order food when we're lacking something, and provide a grocery gift card so our recipients can choose fresh or frozen foods or hygiene products. To volunteer, email hunger@stpaulsk.org.
- **Summer Break!** – Many groups adjust their schedules or take a break between Memorial Day and Labor Day, then return refreshed for the Fall! Currently on break:
 - Pancake Breakfast – returning Sept. 5
 - Still Wednesday – returning to weekly meetings Sept. 9
 - St. Paul's Youth (SPY) – returning Sept. 12
 - Sanctuary Choir – returning Sept. 13
 - Yarn Ministry – returning Sept. 14
 - Taste & Sing – returning Sept. 15
 - Sermon Safari by Zoom – returning Sept. 16
 - United Methodist Men – returning Sept. 16
 - Children's Choir – returning Sept. 27
 - Joyful Ringers Bell Ensemble – returning Sept. 30

- Lydia Circle Sisters
- Sunday School
- **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.
 - **Bible & Brews** – Gather once a month for this casual interfaith conversation with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. All our meetings are family friendly! For the summer we are meeting at BabyCat Brewery where you can purchase food or beverages as you like. For the meeting schedule, contact Pastor Joey at joeyhm@stpaulsk.org.
 - **Sanctuary Flower Sponsors** – To sponsor Sanctuary flowers, add your name to the chart in the church office 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.





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 and Biljana Regan, Mr. John Stephens

Children's Choir Director: Ms. Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Mrs. Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Mr. Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Ms. Jan Aamodt



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.

