



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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

JULY 20, 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

*II. Prière (Prayer)*

Denis Bédard

\*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Gather together in the presence of God,  
who speaks words of life and truth.

**All: We come seeking nourishment for our hearts and souls.**

Leader: The Lord warns of famine — not of bread, but of hearing God's word.

**All: May we never grow deaf to God's voice,  
nor ignore the cries of the hungry and broken.**

Leader: Today, let us listen deeply, hunger for righteousness, and thirst for justice.

**All: Speak to us, Lord. We are ready to hear and respond.**

\*Hymn #698

*God of the Ages*

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

**Faithful God, You who speak to us clearly and tenderly,  
draw us near so we might never know famine of your Word.  
Awaken us from spiritual complacency,  
open our ears, our hearts, and our hands  
to the cries of injustice and need around us.  
Feed us with your grace, nourish us with truth,  
and send us forth as people filled with your compassion and strength.  
In the name of Jesus, the Living Word, we pray. 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 8:1-2, 4-12 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

<sup>1</sup>This is what the Lord GOD showed me: a basket of summer fruit. <sup>2</sup>He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me,

"The end has come upon my people Israel;  
I will spare them no longer.

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you who trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

<sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier  
and practice deceit with false balances,

<sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver

and the needy for a pair of sandals

and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:

Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

<sup>8</sup>Shall not the land tremble on this account,

and everyone mourn who lives in it,

and all of it rise like the Nile,

and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

<sup>9</sup>On that day, says the Lord GOD,

I will make the sun go down at noon

and darken the earth in broad daylight.

<sup>10</sup>I will turn your feasts into mourning

and all your songs into lamentation;

I will bring sackcloth on all loins

and baldness on every head;

I will make it like the mourning for an only son

and the end of it like a bitter day.

<sup>11</sup>The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD,

when I will send a famine on the land,

not a famine of bread or a thirst for water,

but of hearing the words of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>They shall wander from sea to sea

and from north to east;

they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD,

but they shall not find it.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Children’s Message

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

*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 making cards for the “From the Heart” program that sends caring notes to seniors at risk of isolation or loneliness.*

## Response to the Word

\*Hymn #99

*My Tribute*

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](http://stpaulsk.org). Thank you for supporting St. Paul's efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.*



Offertory

*My Lord, What a Morning*

Raymond H. Haan

\*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn #561

*Jesus, United by Thy Grace*

\*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude

*Tu es petra et portæ inferi non prævalebunt adversus te*  
(*Thou Art the Rock and the Gates of Hell Will Not Prevail Against You.*)

Henri Mulet



### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today by the family of **Tom Bickford** in honor of his 93rd birthday.

### WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

**Sunday, July 27, 2025**

10:30 AM –Summer Worship



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Weekly News** – Visit [stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news](http://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](mailto: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. **Sign in!** 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](http://stpaulsk.org/worship).

**Children's Programming Today** – *Sunday, July 20*. 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 activities may be borrowed from the Welcome Desk during worship. Restless friends are welcome to take a break in the Octagon or the Library near the restrooms.

**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 hours vary.

### Events and Information

- **New! Love Offering for Dr. Meg Baker** – As is our tradition, St. Paul's is collecting a Love Offering for Dr. Meg Baker, Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation, upon her retirement. Those who feel led to give a financial gift to Meg may make a secure donation online at our [stpaulsk.org/giving](http://stpaulsk.org/giving) page. If you prefer cash or check, please mark your contribution with "Love Offering" and place it in the Sunday offering plate, or mail it to St. Paul's UMC, Attn: Tracey Furman, 10401 Armory Ave., Kensington MD 20895. All gifts received by August 31 will be pooled and presented to Meg. Please look below for additional ways to thank Meg for her years of service, including a potluck on Sunday, July 27.
- **New! Potluck Retirement Celebration** – *Sunday, July 27, 11:45 AM*. Come to the Octagon for a potluck celebration after worship next Sunday to honor Dr. Meg Baker upon her retirement. The potluck theme is "Comfort Food," in recognition of the many ways Meg has provided comfort and care to members of the St. Paul's community as

our Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation. Call Pastor Sheridan at 301-933-7933 ext. 101 or email [sallmond@stpaulsk.org](mailto:sallmond@stpaulsk.org) to let her know what dish you can bring!

- **Today: SPY Summer Series** – *Sunday, July 20, 11:45 AM -2:30 PM*. All rising-6 through rising-12 grade students – and their friends! – are invited! Meet in the Octagon immediately after worship or meet directly at Bowlero (5353 Westbard Ave, Bethesda, MD). We will have tacos, a short faith-building time, and plenty of fun bowling. Please bring socks! There is no cost for youth thanks to a grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Permission forms at [stpaulsk.org/community/youth](http://stpaulsk.org/community/youth) Pastor Joey leads the Bowlero trip. Please note: 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](http://stpaulsk.org/community/youth).
- **Today: Bible & Brews** – *Sundays, July 20, 5:00-6:00 PM*. All are welcome at this monthly interfaith conversation with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel, meeting at BabyCat Brewery (10241 Kensington Pkwy, Kensington MD). All meetings are family-friendly! Contact Pastor Joey: [joeyhm@stpaulsk.org](mailto:joeyhm@stpaulsk.org).
- **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 Month: Still Wednesday** – *Wednesday, Aug. 13, 7:00-8:00 PM*. All are welcome to come, light a candle in the Sanctuary, and engage in guided contemplative prayer
- **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](mailto: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.
- **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](http://stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home).

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Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: Inspired by Amos 8:1–12. Adapted by Ministry Assistant. Used by permission.

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\* Hymn: *My Tribute*. Words & Music: Andraé Crouch (1971). Copyright 1971, Communiqué Music, Inc. and Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).

\*\* . Offertory: *My Lord, What a Morning* by Raymond H. Haan, from *Three Spirituals for Organ*, copyright 1994 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved.

\*\* 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: *Jesus, United by Thy Grace*. Words: Charles Wesley (1742). Music: John B. Dykes (1866). Public domain.

Postlude: *Tu es petra et portæ inferi non prævalebunt adversus te (Thou Art the Rock and the Gates of Hell Will Not Prevail Against You.)* by Henri Mulet, from *Esquisses Byzantines (Byzantine Sketches)*. Public domain.



## LEADING AND SERVING

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Sheridan Allmond, [sallmond@stpaulsk.org](mailto:sallmond@stpaulsk.org)

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, [joeyhm@stpaulsk.org](mailto:joeyhm@stpaulsk.org)

**Music Director:** Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen, [tpedersen@stpaulsk.org](mailto:tpedersen@stpaulsk.org)

**Organist:** Mr. Marvin Mills, [mmills@stpaulsk.org](mailto:mmills@stpaulsk.org)

**Bookkeeping & Facilities:** Ms. Tracey Furman, [tfurman@stpaulsk.org](mailto:tfurman@stpaulsk.org)

**Minister of Spiritual Care & Formation:** Dr. Meg Baker, [mbaker@stpaulsk.org](mailto:mbaker@stpaulsk.org)

**Communications & Administration:** Dr. Erin Bone Steele, [stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org](mailto: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:** Cathy Knepper



*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.*

