



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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / FATHER'S DAY

10:30 AM

JUNE 21, 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. Sheridan Allmond

Prelude (10:30 AM)

Prelude on LAUDA ANIMA

Marvin Mills

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Glory be to you, God of all people,
you who have made us as siblings in one family.

People: Thanks be to you, Christ of compassion:

when we were lonely and cast out, you claimed us as your own.

Leader: Praise be to you, Spirit, for when we were in danger you saved us.

Come again, and make us your own

People: Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

*Hymn #100

God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

Gracious God, giver of life, lover of all beings, we live within your embrace, and our hearts are filled with wonder at your presence. We set aside this gentle time to listen to you, and to rest in your care. Speak to us, and shape our hearts by the power of your Word. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Proclamation of the Word

Genesis 21:8-14 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

Pew Bible – Old Testament page 17

⁸The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. ¹⁰So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” ¹¹The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” ¹⁴So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Response to the Word

*Hymn #140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

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



Offertory

Prelude on Tryggare kan ingen vara

Robert A. Hobby

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Sending Forth

*Hymn #141

Children of the Heavenly Father

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude

Fugue in g minor, BWV 578

J. S. Bach



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.

Please join us in the Narthex following worship for Sipping Ministry fellowship time, hosted by the Smith family.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers are given today by **Gary & Martha Frances Burak**
in celebration of our St. Paul's church family.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, June 28, 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 21*. 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? Vacation Bible School will be taking place at Bethesda UMC starting Monday and registration is still open! Look below for more details.

Events, Activities, and Information

- **New! Lydia Circle Leader Updates** – After 13 years of service, Susan Schwarz is stepping down as the leader of the Lydia Circle. Any ladies interested in leading the Lydia Circle starting in Fall 2026 may contact Susan at susan10748@aol.com or 301-339-8242 to find out more.
- **Today: 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 joeyhm@stpaulsk.org with any questions.

- **This Week: “Echoes of Freedom” Art Exhibit** – We are hosting a special art exhibit in the Octagon, in collaboration with the Kensington Juneteenth celebrations. The theme is “Echoes of Freedom: Finding Our Path,” and features works by several artists in a variety of mediums. The exhibit is open to the public through July 7. If none of the viewing times listed below work for you, contact the church office for other times! 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
- **This Week: Looking for a Last-Minute Mini-Camp?** – *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. Camp registration is still open! 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://obspro.events/p/events/6ca1be> or email Pastor Joey if you want to volunteer!
- **This Month: Food Drive** – We are stocking the shelves now so we have enough for our July food distribution. We especially request: spaghetti or other pasta, cold cereal, quick-cook or instant oatmeal, peanut butter, and canned chicken. The St. Paul’s community provides food for about 170 households in the 20895 ZIP code and we can only do it thanks to you!
- **Next Month: Community Blood Drive** – *Thursday, July 9.* Help alleviate the summertime blood shortage by donating at the Red Cross Blood Drive in the North Bethesda community on Thursday, July 9 at Trinity Lutheran Church (11200 Old Georgetown Road). As a thank you, the American Red Cross will be giving away Looney Tunes t-shirts to celebrate the country's 250th birthday. Sign up on the American Red Cross Website www.redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor ID: “TrinityLutheranNBethesda” or call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule a life-saving donation.
- **Next Month: Still Wednesday Summer Schedule** – *Wednesday, July 15, 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 July 15 and August 19. We will return to weekly meetings in September.
- **St. Paul’s Leadership Team** – The Church Leadership Team commitment is simpler than many expect: one evening meeting each month, with occasional emails/conversations between meetings. Team members pray, discuss ministry

opportunities, review church updates, and help guide our mission and future together. No special expertise is required — just a willingness to serve and to care about the ministry and business of our church. Reach out to Lay Leader Anne Dean (annepdean@gmail.com) to learn more!

- **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
 - St. Paul’s Youth (SPY)
 - 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.



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

Children's Choir Director: Ms. Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Mrs. Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Mr. Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Ms. MaryAnn Steele



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.

