



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

Are we
there
yet?



May 21, 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE / ASCENSION SUNDAY

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MAY 21, 2023

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Welcome to St. Paul's, a Reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we invite 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. Announcements and helpful information can be found on the pages following the order of worship.

Gathering for Worship

(* - please stand in body or spirit)

Announcements (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Leader

Prelude (10:30 AM only)

Prelude on Grosser Gott

Paul Manz

Call to Worship (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Leader: Surely the dead go on living—

All: The dust of their DNA clings to our clothes.

L: Time turns them to soil, out of soil blooms a wild meadow. And still –

All: we long for the dead in the form that we knew them—

L: a laugh recognizable, an embrace familiar.

All: The power of the Holy Spirit is her longing for intimacy—

L: to know and to be known. To love and to be loved.

All: And so it is with us— we long, we cherish, we embrace, we yearn. We miss the dead and we, courageously, go on living.

*Hymn #79 (9:00 & 10:30) Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (*verses 1-4*)

Opening Prayer (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

Mysterious Compassion, we long to honor each other's differences, to make room for the many ways to live a life. We want to protect each other's right to self-determination. At the same time, we desire to be united in purpose. We desire soulful relationships across differences. Guide us in wisdom as we ebb and flow between the personal and the collective. Unite our individual longing with the longings of Interdependent Love. Amen.

*Passing the Peace (9:00 & 10:30)

The Lord's Prayer (10:30 AM only)

The United Methodist 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.

Anthem (10:30 AM only)

Kumbaya
Sanctuary Choir

Paul Sjolund

Kumbaya, my Lord, Kumbaya. (repeat)
Someone's prayin' Lord, Kumbaya. (repeat)
Someone's cryin' Lord, Kumbaya. (repeat)
Someone's singin' Lord, Kumbaya. (repeat)
Sing Alleluia! Lord! Alleluia! (repeat)

Proclamation of the Word

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 (NRSVUE) (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

John 17:1-11 (NRSVUE) (9:00 & 10:30)

Lay Reader

¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #354 (9:00 & 10:30)

I Surrender All

Sermon (9:00 & 10:30)

“Are We There Yet?”

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Response to the Word

Invitation to Giving (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

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 all of St. Paul's efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory (10:30 AM only)

Prelude on Marching to Zion

Robert Buckley Farlee

*Doxology #94 (9:00 & 10:30)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion (9:00 AM only)

The Invitation (9:00 AM only)

The Great Thanksgiving (9:00 AM only)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation and concludes:

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues the thanksgiving and concludes:

L: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

P: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor continues and concludes:

L: All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

P: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (9:00 AM only)

The United Methodist 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.

Breaking the Bread (9:00 AM only)

Giving the Bread & Cup (9:00 AM only)
All St. Paul's communion bread is gluten-free.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (9:00 AM only)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn #733 (9:00 & 10:30)

Marching to Zion

*Benediction and Dismissal (9:00 & 10:30)

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen

Postlude (10:30 AM only)

Allegro maestoso e vivace;
from *Sonata in c, Op. 65, No. 2*

Felix Mendelssohn



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers today are given by **Bill Butz**
in loving memory of **Jack Lipscomb**.

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathies to the loved ones of
Sarah Boyer Jenkins
following her death on May 2.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

May 28, 2023 – Pentecost

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

10:30 AM livestreaming through stpaulsk.org

Preaching: Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

9:00 AM – 41 10:30 AM – 103 online – 48

Total: 192



Sources and Licensing Information

Prelude: *Prelude on Grosser Gott* by Paul Manz, copyright 1992 MorningStar Music Publishers.

Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: M Barclay, *enfleshed.com*. Used by permission.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name. Words: Ignaz Franz, 18th c., trans. Clarence Walworth (1853). Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch* (1774). Public domain.

Anthem: *Kumbaya*, by Paul Sjölund. Copyright 1983 by Hinshaw Music (administered worldwide by the Fred Bock Publishing Group). Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

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. All rights reserved.

I Surrender All. Words: J. W. Van Deventer (1896). Music: W. S. Weeden (1896). Public domain.

Offertory: *Prelude on Marching to Zion* by Robert Buckley Farlee, copyright 2000 Augsburg Fortress. Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

Doxology: *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. Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A. All rights reserved.

Marching to Zion. Words: Isaac Watts (1707), refrain by Robert Lowry (1867). Music: Robert Lowry (1867). Public domain.

Postlude: *Allegro maestoso e vivace* from *Sonata in c, Op. 65, No. 2* by Felix Mendelssohn. Public domain.

Cover art and all graphics designed by St. Paul's staff with canva.com, granting non-exclusive perpetual use rights without citation unless otherwise noted.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements – News of events and activities at St. Paul's are shared through our Weekly News message. Read the latest message at stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news.

Welcome Visitors! – Thank you for joining us. **Restrooms** including a family restroom with changing table can be found past the church office and down the hall near the water fountain. **Large print Bibles and Hymnals** are available from our ushers. **T-coil hearing aids** work in our Sanctuary and ushers can provide headsets. **Attendance pads** in the pews provide a space

to share your name and, if you wish, contact information so we may welcome you. **Masks** are optional in almost all St. Paul's spaces. You can read more at stpaulsk.org/worship.

Today: Love Offering for Marco Palma – After 20 years caring for the building and people of St. Paul's, Mr. Marco Palma moves to a new career this summer. Join us in wishing him well! If you are moved to contribute toward a financial gift, checks should be made out to St. Paul's UMC with "Marco Love Offering" in the memo line. You may also donate by credit card; go to stpaulsk.org/giving and click on "Additional Contribution Options" then type Marco Love Offering for the designated fund or cause. Questions? Contact Ari Brooks at arizbrooks@yahoo.com.

Today: Sunday School & Nursery – *Sunday, May 21. Note: today is the last day of "regular" Sunday School programming. The summertime Kids With Compassion series will begin June 11!* Children in grade 5 and younger begin Sunday School in the Chapel at 10:30 AM (with a surprise guest this week!) then transition with their teachers to their classrooms. Adults should pick up children from the classrooms immediately following worship. Grades K-2 meet in Room 200; Grades 3-5 meet in the Parlor. Childcare for infants and preschoolers is available in the Nursery. Children are welcome in worship; "busy bags" are available at the Welcome Desk and families who need a break may make use of the Octagon room opposite the Sanctuary doors or the Library down the hall by the restrooms. For email updates about Children's programs, contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Today: UMC 101 – *Sundays, May 21; 12:00-1:00 PM, in the Octagon.* Join us for the final session! Each week we cover a different part of what makes the UMC unique. All you need to bring is yourself! Email Pastor Joey with any questions, joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

This Week: St. Paul's Educational Award Application – *due June 4.* The Educational Award from St. Paul's is a monetary award meant for graduating high school seniors preparing to attend college, trade school, or other post-secondary education. Only those that apply can be considered! Go to stpaulsk.org/community/youth and click the button for the streamlined, online application form. Awards will be presented in worship at 10:30 AM during Senior Recognition Sunday, June 25, 2023. Contact Mr. Micah Smartt (msmartt@stpaulsk.org) if you have questions.

This Week: VBS Registration Extended! – St. Paul's is partnering with Bethesda UMC for a week of "Hero Hotline" Vacation Bible School at their location (8300 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda MD), June 19-23! For more information, and to register as a camper or a volunteer, please visit stpaulsk.org/community/children or contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

This Week: “After the Sermon” – Reflection questions about Sunday’s Scripture, posed by Jim Holland, can be found in the Weekly News email and at stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education. Share your thoughts with Jim: hollandjim1357@gmail.com.

This Month: Musical Theatre Camp Sign-Up – *Accepting the first 24 applicants!* For one week in July, musical theatre camp hosts middle-school age performers, plus youth and parent helpers, as they put together a one-act musical on a biblical theme under the direction of Mrs. Robin Mayhew. Camp sessions for 2023 are held July 10-14, Monday-Friday, 9AM to 3PM with performances Sunday, July 16 during worship. Camp registration forms and more info can be found online at stpaulsk.org/community/musical-theatre-camp.

Next Week: Annual Conference – *May 31-June 3.* The UMC’s Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference will be in-person this year with Pastor Pat and Pastor Joey both planning to attend. Pastors will only be checking emails periodically during this time.

Next Week: Pancake Breakfast – *Saturday, June 3.* Come enjoy the Community Pancake Breakfast run by our UMM. We’ll serve pancakes and other breakfast foods and beverages in the Fellowship Hall, 8:00-10:30 AM. Instead of a fixed price, those attending are asked to make a donation (suggestion: \$8 per adult, \$2 per child, or \$20/family of 4). This will be our last breakfast before we take a short summer break; we’ll return in September!

Next Week: Bluegrass Sunday – *June 4, 10:30 AM.* Enjoy old-timey music with a bluegrass flavor as guest musicians join the Sanctuary Choir for worship, led by our Director of Music, Tom Pedersen. The Sanctuary Choir’s last Sunday will be June 11, then they go on summer break.

Next Month: Summer Schedule – Summer is coming! Here is information about what our summer schedule will look like.

- **Worship:** Beginning June 4, 2023 we will have one service at 10:30 AM only. We will offer communion each week.
- **Announcements:** All announcements during the summer will be shared through the weekly Thursday email blast and church website. The Epistle will also be a source of news. There will not be announcements printed in the bulletin during the summer.
- **Drop-In Office Hours:** Beginning June 6, 2023 our drop-in office hours will be Tuesday - Thursday 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Staff and access to the building will also be available by appointment.

Next Month: Pastor Vacation – Pastor Pat will be on vacation June 5-10. During that time, Pastor Joey will lead and tend to the needs of the St. Paul’s community.

Looking Ahead: Save the Date for “Stillness, Simplicity, and Silence” Retreat – St. Paul’s member Kenzie Raulin will be leading a weekend retreat this autumn at the Dayspring Silent Retreat Center, Sept. 15-17. Read more at stpaulsk.org/worship/still-wednesday.

ONGOING

Hunger Ministry – This signature ministry serves over 100 households monthly with pantry staples and grocery store cards. Please donate non-perishables in the bins in the Narthex. (Please note, we can’t give out expired food or glass containers.) To find the list of most-needed food items and other ways to help, visit stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry.

SPY News – *Most Sundays, 4:30-6:00 PM.* St. Paul’s Youth offers fun and fellowship for all friends of St. Paul’s in grades 6-12. Be sure to sign up for the SPY email newsletter to get updates in your inbox. Questions? Contact Mr. Micah Smartt (msmartt@stpaulsk.org).

Wednesday Sermon Safari – *Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 PM.* The Wednesday Bible Study group meets over Zoom. Each week we’ll watch a sermon and engage in a discussion. For more info or receive the Zoom link, contact Meg Baker at mbaker@stpaulsk.org.

Still Wednesday – *Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 PM.* Gather in-person most Wednesdays in the Sanctuary for quiet prayer and contemplative, creative reflection. Contact Kenzie Raulin at 301-237-1520 or Kenzie@krdesign.net.

Prayerwaves – *Wednesdays, 10:00 AM.* All are welcome at this time of prayer by conference-call over the phone. Dial 425-436-6326, then use the access code 774042 followed by the # sign. To receive the prayer list by email contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org).

Daily Breath – *Wednesdays, 9:00 AM.* Enjoy about 10-20 minutes of sharing, prayer, or music led by St. Paul’s clergy, staff, or volunteer leaders. Go to facebook.com/stpaulskensington.

Tuesday with Friends – *Third Tuesday of each month, 11:00 AM.* This group, open to all men and women, meets for fellowship and lessons. Contact Ginny Hagberg: 301-770-7624.

Lydia Circle – *First Wednesday of each month, 2:30 PM.* Ladies interested in joining the Lydia Circle sisters should contact Susan Schwarz at susan10748@aol.com or 301-339-8242.

2-Year Read-Thru-the-Bible – Find the reading plan at stpaulsk.org/community/adult-education.

Altar Flowers in 2023 – The flower chart for 2023 is now available in the church office.

UMM Driver Service – Volunteer drivers are listed on the office bulletin board and are available to take adult St. Paul’s members to medical appointments around the county.

Stephen Ministers – We offer a listening ear to those going through a difficult situation or life change. Contact Meg Baker (mbaker@stpaulsk.org) or Virginia Bickford (301-598-5496).

Sipping Ministry – Coffee and treats are offered following worship whenever a group, family, or class volunteers to sponsor this time of fellowship. Contact Erin Steele in the church office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) to find available dates.



Visitor Information

Thank you for joining us! You are invited to tear out this section and leave this form with the offerings to let us know a little about yourself, or how we might be in touch. You may also email the office (stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org) or staff to say hello!

Name(s):

Email:

Phone:

Home Address:

How did you find us? (circle all that apply)

Family/friend. Passing by. Internet search. Other:

Are you interested in learning more about St. Paul's? (circle all that apply)

No, just visiting. Maybe; I have questions. Please tell me about joining St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Patricia Allen
pallen@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation

Dr. Meg Baker
mbaker@stpaulsk.org

Director of Music

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen
tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

Minister of Youth and Design

Mr. Micah Smartt
msmartt@stpaulsk.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason
joeyhm@stpaulsk.org

Director of Communications and Administration

Dr. Erin Bone Steele
stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org

Organist

Mr. Marvin Mills
mmills@stpaulsk.org

Facilities Manager

Ms. Tracey Furman
tfurman@stpaulsk.org

Facilities Maintenance

Mr. Marco Palma

Assisting with Worship

Tech Team

John & Biljana Regan
John Stephens & Thomas Stephens

Lay Reader

9:00 AM - Meg Baker
10:30 AM - Peggy Graham

Usher Coordinator

Nathan Bazawada

Lay Leader

Marge Higgins

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Appointments encouraged!

10401 Armory Ave, Kensington, MD 20895 | 301 - 933 - 7933 | stpaulsk.org