St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Journeying Together Since 1885

REFORMATION SUNDAY

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM — OCTOBER 25, 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 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 (10:30 AM) *Choral & Prelude on Vater Unser Im Himmelreich, BWV 636* J.S. Bach
(Our Father in Heaven)

*Call to Worship — Lay Reader

Leader: Holy One, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
People: Alleluia! We love you!
Leader: Teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
People: Have mercy on us, and lead us to do your will.
Leader: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
People: Fill us with your love, that we may love fully, in the Spirit of Christ. Alleluia!

*Hymn #577 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Opening Prayer — Lay Reader

God of love, all that you do for us is love. All of Creation springs from your love. Christ embodies your love. And your loving Spirit lives within us. You create us in love, and for love. Speak your Word of love to us now. Help us to hear, and to let your Word of love become who we are, in the name and Spirit of Christ. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer — Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

The Lord's Prayer (10:30 AM) — 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.

Anthem (10:30 AM) — *Tranquility* — Matthew Compton
Joyful Ringers

Proclamation of the Word

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (NRSVUE) — Lay Reader
Pew Bible, Old Testament p. 191-192

1 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of
Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as
far as Dan, 2 all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as
far as the Western Sea, 3 the Negeb, and the Plain — that is, the valley of Jericho, the
city of palm trees — as far as Zoar. 4 The LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I
swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I
have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." 5 Then Moses,
the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD's command. 6 He
buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his
burial place to this day. 7 Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his

sight was unimpaired, and his vigor had not abated. [8]The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

[9]Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him, and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

[10]Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. [11]He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, [12]and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

*Hymn #606 *Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine*

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 (10:30 AM) *How Lovely Are the Messengers* Felix Mendelssohn
Sanctuary Choir

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace (repeat);
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words (repeat),
Throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

*Doxology #94 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion – 9:00 AM only

The Invitation, Confession & Pardon (9:00 only) *UM Hymnal p. 12*

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Passing the Peace (9:00 only)

The Great Thanksgiving (9:00 only) *UM Hymnal p. 13-14*

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*
People: ***And also with you.***
Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*
People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***
Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*
People: ***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 only) *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.

Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread & Cup (9:00 only)
All communion bread is gluten-free.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (9:00 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 #438 *Forth In Thy Name, O Lord*

*Benediction and Dismissal Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude (10:30 AM) *Prelude on CWM RHONDDA* Paul Manz

Following the 10:30 worship service, all are invited for fellowship time with drinks and snacks in the Octagon. This week's Sipping Ministry is hosted by Dean family.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given today by Anne Dean,
dedicated "to my best friend celebrating 18 years of marriage with a full heart."

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, November 1, 2026 – All Saints Day
9:00 AM – Worship with Communion
10:30 AM – Worship with Communion & Sanctuary Choir

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.

Drop-in & Telephone Hours – The office is open on our regular schedule for drop-in visits and phone calls: Mon.-Thurs., 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Appointments encouraged! Please find staff contact information on the last pages of this bulletin or at *stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff*. If you have an emergency after hours, please call 410-205-5568 and leave a message for Pastor Sheridan.

Sunday School and Nursery – *Sunday, October 25.* All children in grades K-5 are invited to Sunday School at 10:30. Grades K-2 meet in Room 200; grades 3-5 meet in the Parlor. The nursery is available for those Pre-K and younger. For children in worship, 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 Library near the family restroom.

Events, Activities, and Information

- **Ending Today: All Saints Sunday Information** – *due by Oct. 25.* On Sunday, November 1 we celebrate All Saints Day. We will especially remember those who have joined the saints in heaven during this past year. If you wish to share the name of a family member who died in the last 12 months, please use the paper slips in the Narthex, use the online form available at *stpaulsk.org/worship/memorials,* or contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org. All information must be submitted by Sunday, October 25 to be included in our special All Saints bulletin.
- **New! Save the Date for An Advent Evening of Biblical Storytelling** – *Thursday, Nov. 12, 7:00 PM via Zoom.* Join Meg Baker and friends for an evening of biblical storytelling presenting the birth narrative of Jesus. This online event is brought to you by Voices of the Heart, the Metro-DC Guild of the Network of Biblical Storytellers International (www.nbsint.org). The experience will help us prepare our hearts for the Advent and Christmas seasons to come. For the Zoom link, please contact Meg Baker at megbaker@verizon.net.
- **Seeing God's Love in Action** – At St. Paul's, our mission is to feed bodies, minds, and spirits. From worship and education to outreach and compassionate service, that mission comes alive through the generosity of our congregation. This week's reflection question: *Where do you see God's love at work through St. Paul's?* Your annual pledge helps sustain the ministries that make this work possible. Please consider your 2027

commitment and return your pledge form by mail, drop it off at the church office, or submit it online by November 20.

- **SPY Events** – St. Paul's Youth is for all friends of St. Paul's in grades 6-12.
    - We gather this Sunday, Oct. 25, 7:00-8:30 PM for our regular meeting in the MPR with fellowship, faith building, and dinner.
    - Youth going to the Campfire event at West River Center must RSVP to Rachel Stalcup (rachelstalcup@gmail.com) by Monday, Oct. 26! We'll depart St. Paul's on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 3:45 PM and return about 8:45 PM. Youth should expect cook-out style dinner (hamburgers, hotdogs), free time and games (like capture-the-flag or gaga ball), the Big Swing, info about IGNITE, and a worship experience around the campfire, plus s'mores. *Regular SPY will not meet November 1.*
    - IGNITE Earlybird Registration Ending Soon! Please RSVP with "yes" and "maybe yes" to Megan Montgomery (megan.w.montgomery@gmail.com) by Oct. 26 to help us secure the best rates. IGNITE takes place January 22-24, 2027 (earlier than previous years) in Ocean City MD. IGNITE is the Baltimore-Washington Conference's weekend youth retreat with a high-energy mix of worship, concerts, games, and workshops – plus time for pizza, the swimming pool, and the OC Boardwalk.
    - Be sure to fill out the registration & permissions form at *stpaulsk.org/community/youth*.
- **Next Week: Pancake Breakfast** – *Saturday, Nov. 7, 8:00-10:00 AM.* Invite your friends and neighbors to join us in the Fellowship Hall for the monthly community breakfast, with delicious pancakes, scrambled eggs, sides, and beverages. Diners are asked to make a generous donation at the door! Want to help behind the scenes? Contact Phil Rush (phil_rush@hotmail.com).
- **Coming Up: Save the Date for the Community Thanksgiving Service** – *Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7:30 PM.* St. Paul's is pleased to be serving as the host congregation this year for the Kensington-Chevy Chase Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Community members will come together in our Sanctuary to share grateful fellowship and faith through music, prayer, and inspirational texts.
- **Apple Sale Canceled** – With great regret, the UMM shares the news that the Apple Sale will not take place. Scenic View Orchards was severely hit by the late April frost that killed their apple tree blossoms. Our apple sale organizers contacted several other local orchards but none were able to help us. We invite you to pray for the farmers and farm workers whose livelihoods are impacted by this event.
- **Pastor Appreciation Month** – October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Join us as we celebrate and give thanks for our pastors and the faithful leadership, care, and

encouragement they provide to St. Paul's UMC. Before the end of the month, take time to share a kind word, write a note of appreciation, pray for Pastor Sheridan and Pastor Joey, and show our gratitude for all they do. Together, let's make October a special month of encouragement and appreciation! For questions, reach out to Lay Leader Anne Dean at annepdean@gmail.com.

- **Ongoing Activities** – ***Please contact group leaders directly to confirm meeting times!***
    - **Food Drive** – Thanks to your donations, St. Paul's can provide groceries to 170 food-insecure households in the 20895 ZIP code. Find the list of our essential needs on the Narthex table by the office, or at *stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry*. Financial contributions help us to order additional food, and provide a grocery gift card so our recipients can choose fresh foods, meat, dairy, or hygiene products. To volunteer, email hunger@stpaulsk.org.
    - **Sermon Safari** – *Wednesdays through Dec. 20, 4:00-5:00 via Zoom*. St. Paul's weekly virtual Sermon Safari is a drop-in Zoom study where participants watch a sermon together and then dive into a lively, thoughtful discussion. For more info or to receive the Zoom link, contact Dr. Meg Baker at megbaker@verizon.net.
    - **Children's Choir** – *Sundays, 11:45-12:30.* All children in grades K-6 are encouraged to be part of Children's Choir, under the direction of Ms. Christina Griffin. We meet after worship in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please contact childrenschoir@stpaulsk.org with questions.
    - **Still Wednesday** – Still Wednesday meets in the Octagon each Wednesday, 7:00-8:00 PM. Come light a candle and experience this time of calm reflection. The evening's exact format varies depending on the leader, but usually includes about 20 minutes of silent prayer.
    - **Sanctuary Choir** – This music ministry is for adult singers and youth in Grade 7 and up. We rehearse each week on Sunday at 9:30 AM in the Choir Room (Room 211), then sing in worship at 10:30 AM. Singers are welcome on a weekly or ongoing basis.
    - **Joyful Ringers** – *Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM.* Our handbell ensemble meets in Room 109 for weekly rehearsals, with plans to play in worship about once a month. Contact Tom Pedersen (tpedersen@stpaulsk.org) to join us!
    - **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, and held at a local restaurant where you can order beverages or food as you like. Contact Pastor Joey at joeyhm@stpaulsk.org with any questions! Sunday November 8 & December 13, 2026. Find more dates at *stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events.*

- **Taste & Sing** – *Third Tuesday of the month, 12:00-1:30 PM*. Enjoy this casual time of song, food, and fellowship in the Octagon. After a hymn-sing, we'll take a deep dive into the history behind a few of our worship songs. No musical experience necessary! The afternoon wraps up with a tasty fellowship lunch prepared by Ginny Hagberg ($5 donation).
- **Yarn Ministry** – *Meeting 7:00-8:30 PM on October 26, Nov 9 & 23, Dec 14.* Bring your knitting, needlework, or other projects and craft alongside friends in the Library at St. Paul's twice a month. Contact Karen Codner (kdc811@gmail.com) with questions.
- **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** – 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 after worship, sign up on the office bulletin board and take a "how to host" guide.
- **Your Church Leaders** – Go to *stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff* and scroll down to learn more about what we do! If God is calling you to join us, reach out to the pastors, Leadership Team chairperson Bill Stephens (wtstephens@verizon.net), or Lay Leader Anne Deane (annepdean@gmail.com).

SOURCES AND LICENSING

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

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** Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (LASST UNS ERFREUEN).* Words: Thomas Ken (1674), adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira (1978). Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesange* (1623), harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906). Adapt. copyright 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House.

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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 Readers: Deanna Hodgson (9:00 AM); Mary Revenis (10:30 AM)

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.



St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

Journeying Together Since 1885

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