



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

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

AUGUST 2, 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 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

Let Us Break Bread Together

Wilbur Held

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: My people are hungry.

People: There are too many to feed.

Leader: Give them something to eat.

People: We only have five loaves and two fish.

Leader: You have everything you need.

People: It would take a miracle.

Leader: With God, all things are possible.

People: In Christ, new hope has dawned.

*Hymn #351

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

Even when our faith falters, O Lord, we will not let you go. Even though we are battered and bruised, O God, we will not let you go. Even when our bellies are empty, we know your presence will satisfy us. We need your blessing, O God, and we will not let you go. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

Matthew 14:13-21 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

Pew Bible, New Testament p. 16

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Children’s Moment

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

*Hymn #618

Let Us Break Bread Together

Sermon

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Invitation to Discipleship & Giving

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

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

IV. Allegretto piacevole

Edward Elgar

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The Great Thanksgiving and Communion

The Invitation, Confession & Pardon

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

The Great Thanksgiving

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

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

All communion bread is gluten-free.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 #673

God Be with You till We Meet Again

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Postlude

Fugue in F major

Alexandre Guilmant



ALTAR FLOWER

The flower on the altar is given today in celebration of the birth of
Scarlett Kathleen Best, born July 28, 2026,
daughter of **Halcyon & Ian Best**.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, August 9, 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 Update! – For Sunday, August 2, our nursery workers are out of town, so there will be no nursery care provided today! All children will worship in the Sanctuary with their families today. Restless friends are welcome to take a break in the Octagon or the Library near the restrooms. Busy Bags with quiet activities are available at the Welcome Desk.

Events, Activities, and Information

- **New! 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.
- **Celebrating Ruby's 100th Birthday** – *Sunday, Aug. 9.* Plan to stay for a special sipping ministry next Sunday to celebrate Ruby Meyers on her 100th birthday. Help shower her with cards! Blank cards are available on the activities table in the Narthex. You can fill one out and drop it in the basket, or mail a card to her directly. Please pick up the Congregational Care list or contact the church office if you need her home address.
- **Backpacks & School Supplies** – *due Aug. 9.* Each year, we partner with Interfaith Works to help students in need across Montgomery County before the start of school. Thank you for donating NEW school supplies! Look for donation bins in the Narthex. Requested items: Backpacks (approx. 15-19"), Composition or spiral-bound notebook, Markers (10-color box), Crayons (24-color box), 2-pocket folders, 1-inch three ring binder, Lined filler paper for binders (college rule or wide rule), Pens (blue or black ink), Colored pencils, Pencil pouches or boxes, Pencils, Scissors, Erasers, Ruler, Index cards, Highlighters, Glue Sticks.
- **This Month: Bible & Brews** – *Saturday, Aug. 15, 5:00-6:00 PM.* Gather for this monthly 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 (10241 Kensington Pkwy, Kensington MD) where you can purchase food or beverages as you like. Questions? Contact Pastor Joey at joeyhm@stpaulsk.org.

- **This Month: 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.
- **This Month: 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.
- **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!
- **This Month: 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 which can be used for 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
 - Sanctuary Choir – returning Sept. 13
 - Yarn Ministry – returning Sept. 14
 - Taste & Sing – returning Sept. 15
 - United Methodist Men – returning Sept. 16
 - Children's Choir – returning Sept. 27
 - Joyful Ringers Bell Ensemble – returning Sept. 30
 - St. Paul's Youth (SPY)
 - Lydia Circle Sisters
 - Sunday School
 - Sermon Safari

- **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** – 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

Children's Choir Director: Ms. Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Mrs. Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Mr. Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Mrs. Marge Higgins



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.

