



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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 AM

AUGUST 31, 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. Joey Heath-Mason

Prelude

*IX. Allegretto (7th mode)*

Jean Langlais

\*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Sing in exultation, people of God.

**All: The Lord fills us with good things.**

Leader: Shout for joy, children of the Holy One.

**All: God feeds us with finest wheat.**

Leader: God satisfies us with the sweetest honey.

**All: The Lord sustains us with living water.**

\*Hymn #57

*O, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

**Merciful One, help us show hospitality to strangers, for many have entertained angels unaware while doing so. Move us to treat one another as we would have others treat us, lest we find ourselves tortured or imprisoned with no one to come to our aid. May we always seek to do good and share from our abundance, for these things are pleasing in your sight. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

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**

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 (NRSVUE) *Pew Bible – New Testament*, p. 227-228

Lay Reader

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual affection continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

<sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Response to the Word**

\*Hymn #340

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

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



Offertory

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

George Shearing

\*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

## **Sending Forth**

\*Hymn #557

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

\*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

Postlude

*Maple Leaf Rag*

Scott Joplin/Mills



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today to the glory of God by the Flower Ministry.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

9:00 AM – Worship with Communion

10:30 AM – Worship with Communion and Sanctuary Choir



## 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** – *Sundays in August*. All children will be in worship in the Sanctuary with their families. The nursery is available for Pre-K and younger. Restless friends (accompanied by an adult) are welcome to visit the Library near the restrooms or the Octagon room. Busy bags with quiet children's activities may be borrowed from the Welcome Desk.

**Worship Hours for Fall** – Starting the first Sunday in September, we will have two opportunities each Sunday to join in worship in-person. The worship service at 9:00 AM will include Communion each Sunday. The worship service at 10:30 AM will offer Communion on the first Sunday of the month and music led by the Sanctuary Choir each week. The 10:30 AM service will continue to be available by livestream at [stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home](http://stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home).

### Events and Information

- **Today: SPY Summer Series Finale** – *Sunday, August 31*. All youth in rising-6-through-rising-12 grades -and their friends- are welcome! We'll finish the summer with (weather permitting) water balloon tag, laser tag, a craft station, games, dinner, and a make-your-own ice cream sundae bar. Be sure to fill out the permission form, if you haven't already, at [stpaulsk.org/community/youth](http://stpaulsk.org/community/youth). Questions? Please contact activity leaders Megan Montgomery ([megan.w.montgomery@gmail.com](mailto:megan.w.montgomery@gmail.com)) or Anne Dean ([annepdean@gmail.com](mailto:annepdean@gmail.com)).
- **Today: Last Day for Love Offering** – *Aug. 31*. Dr. Meg Baker retired from her role as St. Paul's Minister of Spiritual Care and Formation as of August 1, 2025. As is our tradition, those who feel led to contribute to a financial gift for Meg may make a donation to her Love Offering. Find a secure donation option at [stpaulsk.org/giving](http://stpaulsk.org/giving) or, if you prefer cash or check, mark your contribution with "Love Offering" and place it in the offering plate today.
- **New! Save the Date: Special Art & Poetry Event** – *Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:00-8:00 PM, Octagon*. Join local artist Joy-Jayne Bassey, founder of MuseVerse Circle, for a special

night bringing poetry and visual art into dialogue during Still Wednesday. Joy-Jayne's spoken verse and multimedia artworks highlight the coexistence and tension between life's scars and transformations, impermanence and persistence, grief and hope. A selection of artworks curated from her Rust Series will be on display in the Octagon.

- **This Week: Labor Day & Lemonade** – *Monday, Sept. 1, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*. If you are out enjoying the Town of Kensington Labor Day parade and festival, feel free to stop by St. Paul's to say hello to Pastor Joey while he hands out refreshing lemonade and greets our neighbors. Please note: St. Paul's offices will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
- **This Week: Lydia Circle Sisters** – *Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2:30 PM*. All ladies interested in being part of the Lydia Circle are welcome at the first gathering of the year in the Octagon Room. Contact Susan Schwarz at 301-339-8242 or [susan10748@aol.com](mailto:susan10748@aol.com).
- **This Week: Community Pancake Breakfast** – *Saturday, Sept. 6, 8:00-10:30 AM*. The United Methodist Men and volunteers invite all members of the community to the Fellowship Hall for the first pancake breakfast of the season! We serve pancakes, scrambled eggs, fresh sage sausage, grits, fruit, and beverages. Instead of charging a fixed price, diners are encouraged to make a generous donation. (Suggested amount is \$20 for a family of four.) Proceeds this month will benefit Noyes Children's Library.
- **This Week: Kensington Train Show** – *Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 6-7, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM*. The annual Kensington Train Show will be held at Town Hall across from St. Paul's. Enjoy model trains, children's activities, live music, and storytelling. Admission is \$7 adult and \$2 per child, or \$15 per family.  
<https://tok.md.gov/event/kensington-train-show/2025-09-06/>
- **Next Week: St. Paul's Music Returns** – The Music Department has fantastic opportunities for all ages and skill levels this year! Whether you're a seasoned musician or just looking to explore your passion for singing and ringing, we have something for you! Contact Tom Pedersen, Director of Music: [tpedersen@stpaulsk.org](mailto:tpedersen@stpaulsk.org)
  - **Sanctuary Choir**: *Beginning Sunday, Sept. 7*. Open to grades 7 and up and adult singers who enjoy leading worship and singing in an ensemble. We meet at 9:30 AM on Sundays in room 211 and sing for the 10:30 AM worship service. Singers are welcome to participate week-to-week or on a continuing basis.
  - **Joyful Ringers**: *Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 17*. An exciting handbell choir for adults that promises fun and fellowship. We are looking for new ringers and begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 PM.
  - **Children's Choir**: *Beginning Sunday, Sept. 28*. Perfect for kids in grades K-6 who are eager to learn and sing together. Rehearsals begin September 28 in the Multi-Purpose Room. Children's choir is a great way for your child to grow in their faith, learn music skills, and be part of a meaningful group.

- **Next Week: Yarn Ministry Returns** – *Monday, Sept. 8 & 22, 7:00-8:30 PM.* Bring your knitting, crochet, or other craft project and craft alongside friends. We meet twice a month in the Library at St. Paul's. Find the full schedule for Fall 2025 at [stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events](http://stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events)
- **Next Month: Still Wednesday** – *Wednesdays starting Sept. 10, 7:00-8:00 PM.* Still Wednesday provides a weekly space for reflection and calm connection in a noisy world. Typically, Still Wednesday offers a guided time of poetry, scripture, music, or art, with about 20 minutes of silent prayer.
- **Next Month: St. Paul's Youth Info Session** – *Sept. 10, 7:00–7:45 PM.* Save the date! SPY plans to return for regular meetings on Sunday evenings starting Sept. 14. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for faith, friendship, and fun! Before we launch, we'll hold a SPY Parent Information Session on Sept. 10 (virtual). SPY parents are encouraged to attend to learn more. Email Rachel Stalcup to receive the link: [rachelstalcup@gmail.com](mailto:rachelstalcup@gmail.com).
- **Next Month: Taste & Sing** – *Tuesday, Sept. 23, 12:00-1:30 PM.* Taste & Sing returns with St. Paul's Director of Music, Mr. Tom Pedersen, at the keyboard for this casual time of music, learning, food, and fellowship. We start with a short hymn-sing - feel free to request your favorites! Then Dr. Erin Steele will guide us through a short program about a composer, lyricist, or theme. We finish with a tasty lunch prepared by Ginny Hagberg (\$5 donation). No musical expertise necessary!
- **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.
  - **Fall Craft Fair Plans** – Yarn Ministry will gratefully receive donations of craft items for our Craft Fair in the fall, with all proceeds going to charities. Please contact Karen Codner with questions at [KDC811@gmail.com](mailto:KDC811@gmail.com).
  - **Sanctuary Flower Sponsors** – To sponsor the flowers that grace the Sanctuary on Sunday morning, please add your name to the Flower Chart on the office bulletin board to reserve a date, then fill out a yellow form with the dedication information. The cost is \$45 and you may take your flowers after worship.

- **Hunger Ministry** – St. Paul’s year-round ministry provides grocery resources for about 150 households in our ZIP code. Learn more about this important way we serve the local community at [stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry](http://stpaulsk.org/service/hunger-ministry). Non-perishables pantry staples in good condition may be donated in the bins in the Narthex any time. Financial donations marked for “Hunger Ministry” help us place bulk orders and provide recipients with grocery store gift cards to enable them to buy fresh or frozen meat, dairy, produce, or hygiene products. Thank you for helping us serve beyond the walls of St. Paul’s!



## 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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\*\* Prelude: IX. *Allegretto (7th mode)* by Jean Langlais, from *Twelve Little Pieces*. Public domain.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025*, ed. B. J. Beu and Mary Scifres (Nashville TN: Abingdon Press, 2023). Used by permission.

Hymn: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*. Words: Charles Wesley (1739). Music: Carl G. Glaser, arr. Lowell Mason (1839). Public domain.

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\* Hymn: *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*. Words: Joseph Hart (1759). Music: *The Southern Harmony* (1835); harm. by Charles H. Webb (1987), copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.).

\*\* Offertory: *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* by George Shearing, from *Sacred Sounds for Organ*, copyright 1977 by the Sacred Music Press, Lorenz Publishing Company (Admin. by Music Services).

\*\* 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.

Hymn: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*. Words: John Fawcett (1782). Music: Johan G. Nageli, arr. Lowell Mason (1845). Public domain.

Postlude: *Maple Leaf Rag* by Scott Joplin, arr. Marvin Mills, copyright 1989/2011 by Marvin Mills. Streamed by permission of the composer.



## 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)

**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:** Kathleen Stephens



*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.*

