



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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

SEPTEMBER 7, 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. Sheridan Allmond

Prelude

Prelude on St. Peter

Malcolm Archer

*Call to Worship

Lay Reader

Leader: Creator God, we praise you!

All: We thank you and we worship you.

Leader: God, you search us and know us;

you are all about us, within us and among us.

All: Your presence is everywhere; help us to be aware.

Leader: Come be with us now, God, and help us in our worship.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace.

*Hymn #549

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Opening Prayer

Lay Reader

God of love, Christ calls us to take up our cross and follow him. But we confess that we hold back; we cling to many things. Grant us the faith to trust your grace, to let go of all that burdens us, and to take up Christ's love for the world and follow him in faith and service. Speak your Word to us, call to us in our fear, and give us courage to follow. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

Philemon 1-21 (NRSVUE)

Lay Reader

Pew Bible – New Testament pages 215-216

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker — ²also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier — and to the church that meets in your home:

³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. ⁷Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

⁸Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, ⁹yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul — an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus — ¹⁰that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

¹²I am sending him — who is my very heart — back to you. ¹³I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. ¹⁵Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever — ¹⁶no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back — not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Children's Message (10:30 only)

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

*Hymn #2175

Together We Serve



1. To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love, in -
2. We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope, a
3. We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor, the
4. To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work, re -



vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast. We
lamp for the heart and a light for the feet. We
bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care. We
mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong. To -



work and we pray through sor - row and joy, ex -
learn, year by year, to let love shine through un -
of - fer a home to those who will come, our
geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth, re -



tend - ing your love to the last and the least.
til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

Sermon

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Invitation to Discipleship and 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 efforts to engage in meaningful worship and vibrant ministry in our community.



Offertory (10:30 only)

With a Voice of Singing
Sanctuary Choir

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard: Alleluia. *(repeat)*

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,

O sing praises to the honor of his name,

Make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. *(repeat)*

*Doxology #94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Sheridan Allmond

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 #560

Help Us Accept Each Other

*Benediction and Dismissal

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason

Postlude (10:30 only)

Prelude in G major, BWV 541a

J. S. Bach



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers are given today by **Carlos & Jennifer, Kristina, and Carlos Falcón**
in honor of **Shannon Braddock**, loving father and grandfather

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, September 14, 2025

9:00 AM – Worship with Communion

10:30 AM – Worship with 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. For questions about announcements, please contact Erin Steele in the church office (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.

Children's Programming – All children will be in worship in the Sanctuary today 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 – We have two opportunities each Sunday to join in worship in-person. The worship service at 9:00 AM includes Communion each Sunday. The worship service at 10:30 AM offers 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.

Events and Information

- **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.
- **Kensington Train Show** – *Sunday, Sept. 7, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM.* The annual Kensington Train Show is 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/>
- **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
 - **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.
- **This 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
- **This Week: 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. We kick off the season on Sept. 10 with a special event featuring art and poetry from Joy-Jayne Bassey in the Octagon.
- **This Week: SPY Parent Info Session** – *Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:00–7:45 PM.* Before we launch St. Paul's Youth for the new programming year, 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.

- **Next Week: St. Paul's Youth Meetings Return!** – *Sunday, Sept. 14*. SPY will 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! Fill out the registration and permission form for the 2025-2026 year online at stpaulsk.org/community/youth and contact Pastor Sheridan (sallmond@stpaulsk.org) if you have questions.
- **Next Week: Blessing our Teachers** – *Sunday Sept. 14, 10:30 AM*. During worship, we will commission the Christian Education teachers and leaders who will be guiding Sunday School, St. Paul's Youth, Confirmation, and Adult Education opportunities throughout the 2025-2026 season. We are still in need of leaders willing to guide young people in faith-building classes and activities. Please contact Pastor Sheridan (sallmond@stpaulsk.org) or Pastor Joey (joeyhm@stpaulsk.org) to learn more.
- **Next Week: Bible & Brews** – *Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:00-6:00 PM*. All are welcome for this time of interfaith conversation with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and neighbors from Temple Emanuel. September's meeting is at BabyCat Brewery (10241 Kensington Pkwy, Kensington MD). Meetings are family friendly and you can purchase food or beverages as you like. Contact Pastor Joey with questions (joeyhm@stpaulsk.org).
- **New! This Month: Sunday Film Series** – *Sunday, Sept. 21 at 12:00-2:00 PM*. Join us for a series where we watch powerful films exploring justice and resilience together.
 - *Will & Harper* – Sept. 21. When comedian Will Ferrell's long-time friend comes out as trans, they embark on a cross-country road trip and make a documentary charting a new chapter in their relationship.
 - *Till* – Oct. 26. This feature film focuses on Mamie Till Mobley's brave quest for public accountability after her 14-year old son Emmett was brutally lynched while visiting relatives in Mississippi.

Screenings take place in the Octagon after worship. Free popcorn provided! Please bring your own lunch. All are welcome as we reflect, learn, and grow together through these impactful stories. Questions? Contact Pastor Joey (joeyhm@tpaulsk.org).

- **This 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!
 - **Community Pancake Breakfast** – *first Saturday of each month, 8:00-10:30 AM*. The United Methodist Men and volunteers invite all members of the

community to the Fellowship Hall monthly for pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and other breakfast specialties. Proceeds benefit local charities and St. Paul's programs.

- **Lydia Circle Sisters** – *first Wednesday of each month, 2:30 PM*. All ladies interested in being part of the Lydia Circle are welcome. Contact Susan Schwarz at 301-339-8242 or susan10748@aol.com.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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. 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.

* = Streamed by permission under CCLI license #24106074. All rights reserved.

** = Permission to stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735990-A.

** Prelude: *Prelude on St. Peter* by Malcolm Archer, from *Oxford Hymn Settings, Vol. 9*, copyright 2024 Oxford University Press All rights reserved.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer: by Steve Garnaas-Holmes for Unfolding Light, *unfoldinglight.net*. Used by permission.

* Hymn: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*. Words: 9th c. Latin, trans. Omer Westendorf (1961), copyright 1960 World Library Publications (Admin. by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.). Music: Alexander R. Reinagle (1836), harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861), public domain.

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.

* Hymn: *Together We Serve*. Words & Music: Daniel Charles Damon (1998), copyright 1998 by Hope Publishing.

* *With a Voice of Singing*. Words & Music: Martin Shaw. Copyright 1923 by J. Curwen & Sons Ltd. (Admin. by Music Sales Corporation) / G. Schirmer Inc.

** 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: *Help Us Accept Each Other*. Words: Fred Kaan (1974), copyright 1975. Music: John Ness Beck (1977), copyright 1977 by Hope Publishing Company.

Postlude: *Prelude in G major, BWV 541a* by J. S. Bach. Public domain.



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: John & Biljana Regan; John Stephens

Children's Choir Director: Christina Griffin

Lay Leader: Anne Dean

Usher Coordinator: Nathan Bazawada

Lay Reader: Lorraine Stalcup



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