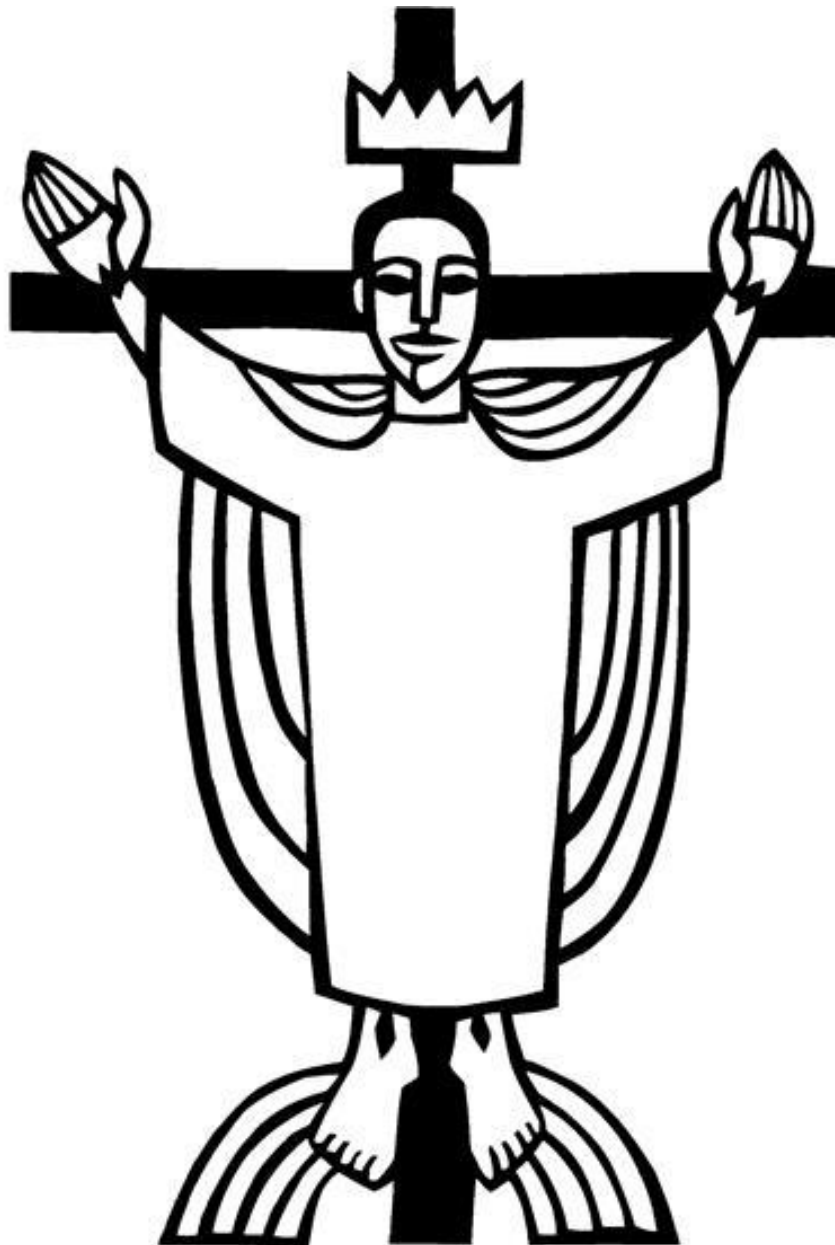


St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Community of Faith for 241 Years

Sunday, November 23, 2025



1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922

Pastor: Rev. Marie Meeks, Cell: 716-353-1610

Church Office Phone: 570-754-7350

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday

Church Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com

Website: www.SummerHillLutheran.org

Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

Worship Plan for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Christ the King

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

*stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE.....“Now Thank We All Our God” by J. S Bach; arranged by Virgil Fox

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P - Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C - Amen.

P - Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P - Faithful God,

C - you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P - Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✙ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C - Amen.

*** GATHERING SONG**.....“Jesus Shall Reign” (ELW 434)

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

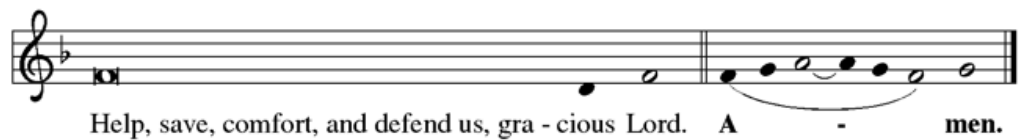
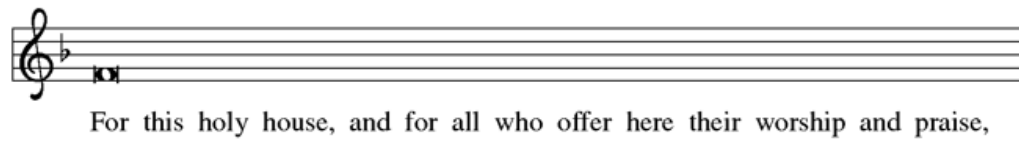
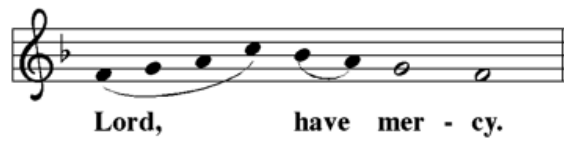
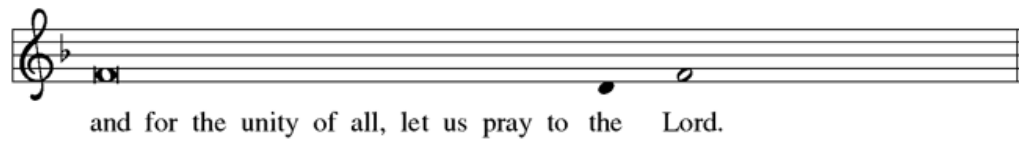
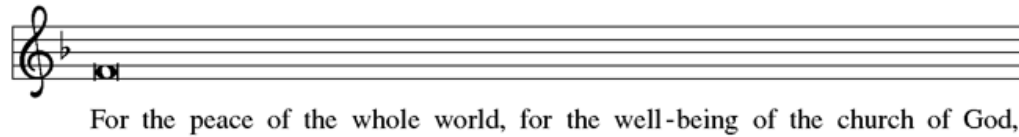
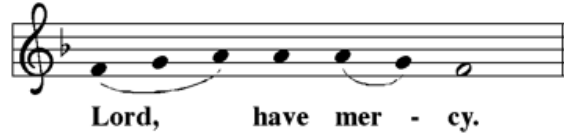
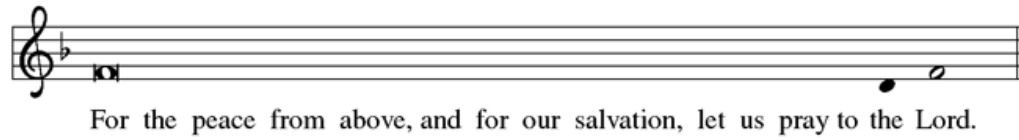
***GREETING**

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

P - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C - And also with you.

***KYRIE (ELW p. 138)**



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P - The Lord be with you.

C - And also with you.

P - Let us pray. O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C - Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46 (please read responsively)

¹ God is our ref-^luge and strength,
a very present^l help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the^l earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths^l of the sea;**

³ though its waters^l rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble^l with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-^ly of God,
the holy habitation of^l the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall^l not be shaken;
God shall help it at the^l break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the^l kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth^l melts away. R**

⁷ The Lord of^l hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works¹ of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**

¹¹ The Lord of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold. **R**

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*** GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43**

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

P - The holy gospel according to Luke.

C - Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY.....**"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" (ELW 634)

1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.

2 O seed of Israel's chosen race
now ransomed from the fall,

hail him who saves you by his grace
and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace
and crown him Lord of all.

3 Hail him, you heirs of David's line,
whom David Lord did call--
the God incarnate, man divine
and crown him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine--
and crown him Lord of all.

4 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

***APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

P - Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P - We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C - Amen.

***PEACE**

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P - The peace of Christ be with you always.

C - And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

BELL ANTHEM- JOYFUL NOISE....."We Bow Down"
by Twila Paris; arr. Peggy Bettcher

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (ELW 884)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P - God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

C - Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P - The Lord be with you.

C - And also with you.

P - Lift up your hearts.

C - We lift them to the Lord.

P - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C - It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE (ELW p. 144)**

P - It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)**



***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P - Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge. We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world. Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C – Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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 and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

P - Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

*COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)



COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

P - The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond

C - Amen.

*TABLE BLESSING

The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds

**P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
grace.**

C- Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P - Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C - Amen.


SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P - Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C - Amen.

***BLESSING**

P - The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you  and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

C - Amen.

***SENDING SONG.....**“Crown Him with Many Crowns (ELW 855)

1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

2 Crown him the virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won

which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose,
yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows,
the babe of Bethlehem.

3 Crown him the Lord of love--
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.

4 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

5 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

***DISMISSAL**

P - Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C - Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE.....“Come, Thou Almighty King”
by Felice De Giardini; arranged by Don Hustad

* * * * *

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One vase of flowers is in honor of Tanner Gormley’s Birthday by Matt, Mom and Carly.

Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Visitors, or members with a change of address, please complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors may also include the name and address of your home church so they can be notified that you have received communion.

Prayer Requests – Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may also give names to the person leading service prior to the start of the service.

The poinsettia order deadline is today. Forms are available on the table in the narthex. The cost is \$12 for one 6.5” pot of red blooms. Orders can be placed in the offering plate.

The annual Thanksgiving Eve joint worship service, with the sacrament of Holy Communion, will be held this Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00pm. This year the service will be hosted by St. Paul’s UCC and all are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Social Ministry’s Angel Tree is in the narthex with ornaments with children’s names from Schuylkill Children and Youth and some ideas for Christmas gifts for them. Please select an ornament and write your name on the paper at the appropriate place. Everything listed on the ornament does not have to be purchased for the child. Please have gifts wrapped or bagged, with the ornament attached to the gift, under the tree by Sunday, December 7th.

The Mitten Tree will be in the narthex during the Advent and Christmas seasons to accept donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, etc. After the Christmas season, these items will be donated to Schuylkill Women in Crisis and Servants to All.

Christmas Caroling to the shut-ins and elderly, sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee, will take place on Sunday, December 7. We will be joining our sister congregation, St. Paul’s U.C.C. for this event. Everyone is invited to join us. We will be carpooling and leaving from St. Paul’s U.C.C. at 2:00pm.

The Christmas tree will be decorated on Wednesday, December 10th at 6pm. Please come and lend a hand— get in the holiday spirit too!!

Faithful Fellowship- A time of fun, fellowship and yummy treats will be held following the 10:30am worship service on Sunday, December 14. We would like our treats to be Christmas cookies. If anyone would like to donate a dozen cookies, it would be greatly appreciated.

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24: Join us for a 6:30pm musical prelude followed by the 7pm worship service. The service will feature candlelight and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Helping Harvest donations will take place the first weekend of every month. This organization has put food trucks in areas to help the needy in place of the closed Pottsville Soup Kitchen. **A sign-up sheet for Bread for the Day 2026** is on Bulletin Board. The cost is \$12 per book.

Pastoral visits and home communions are available at any time. Please call the church office at 570-754-7350 or Pastor Marie at 716-353-1610.

Reminder for hospital visits: The church is not informed by the hospital when someone is admitted. Please call the church to let us know if a pastoral visit is desired.

Attendance November 16, 2025 – 34 in person, 198 online views, 3 shares as of November 20, 2025.

The 2025 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$3,166.75.

THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Sunday, November 23 *Poinsettia order deadline

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

Monday, November 24

5:30 – 7:00pm -Confirmation Class

Wednesday, November 26

7:00 PM -Thanksgiving Eve joint Worship Service at St. Paul's UCC

Thursday, November 27 *Thanksgiving Day *Church Offices Closed

Sunday, November 30 *First Sunday of Advent

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, November 24: Psalm 24; Jeremiah 46:18-28; Revelation 21:5-27

Tuesday, November 25: Psalm 24; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:8-21

Wednesday, November 26: Psalm 24; Isaiah 60:8-16; Luke 1:1-4

Thursday, November 27: Psalm 122; Daniel 9:15-19; James 4:1-10

Friday, November 28: Psalm 122; Genesis 6:1-10; Hebrews 11:1-7

Saturday, November 29: Psalm 122; Genesis 6:11-22; Matthew 24:1-22

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: Helen Miller

Acolyte: Grayson Rollman

Lector: Elizabeth Thomas

Usher: Kathie Faust

Communion Assistant: Debbie Hummel

Counting Team: Debbie Hummel & Jeff Freeman

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor	716-353-1610; Email: preachymarie@gmail.com
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music	484-794-7902; Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com
Kelly Palerino, Church Secretary	570-754-7350; Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton	570-345-1279
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton	570-754-7350
Eva Waldman, Treasurer	570-754-7350

Student Loan Committee email: stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Stephen Curtis, John & Betty Strauch, John Strauch, Jr., Greg Phillips, Jerry Heffleger, Harry Russell, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Tonia McKague, Robert & Joyce Zeledonis, Earl & Grace Paxson, Betty Fromm Yarnell, Wayne Brensinger, Ralph Hueske, Shawnette Keller, Brittany Gallagher, Kay & Jerome Hayes, Debbie Toro, **Pete and Stacy Smulligan**

Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Mark Weinus, Jr., Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

