

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Community of Faith for 242 Years

Sunday, February 1, 2026



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

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

*stand +kneel

GATHERING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE.....“Adagio” by Cesar Franck

***CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

The assembly stands. 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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C - Amen.

P - Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P - Mighty God, lover of justice,

C - you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

P - The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in **+** Jesus’ name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C - Amen.

***GATHERING SONG.....**“We Are Called” (ELW 720)

1. Come! live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain: We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so hatred and blindness will be no more! **[Refrain]**

3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love! **[Refrain]**

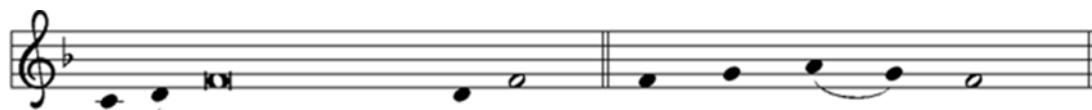
***GREETING**

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

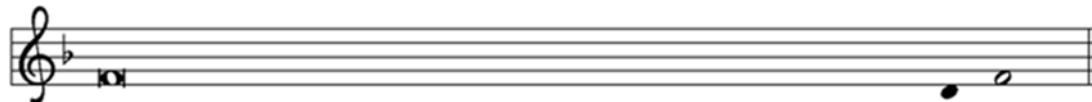
P - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

C - And also with you.

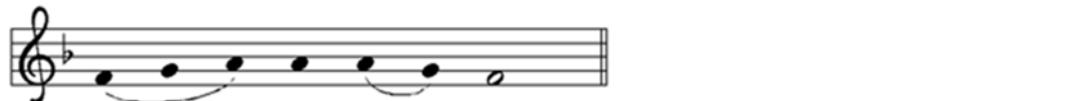
***KYRIE (ELW p. 138)**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.



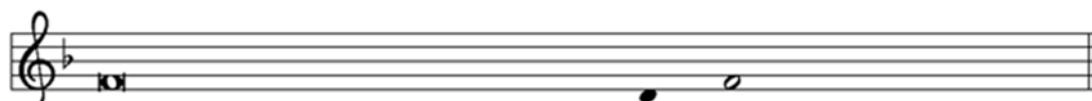
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



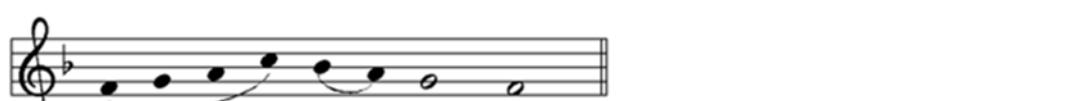
Lord, have mercy.



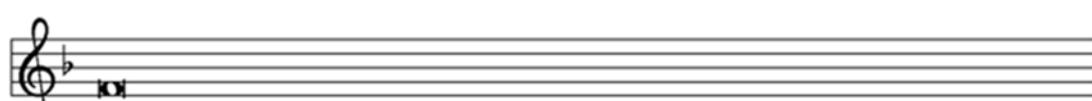
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P - Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P - Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C - Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

¹ Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

P - The word of the Lord.

C - **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 15 (please read responsively)

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your ¹ tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your ¹ holy hill?
² **Those who lead a blameless life and do ¹ what is right,
who speak the truth ¹ from their heart; R**
³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.
⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ¹ fear the
LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take ¹ back their word.**
⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ¹ gainst
the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be ¹ overthrown. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,
“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”
²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.
²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

P - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

P - The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C - Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY.....“Blest Are They” (ELW 728)**

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow,
they shall be consoled.

Refrain: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the Kingdom of God!

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;
they shall inherit the earth.

Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;
they shall have their fill. **[Refrain]**

3. Blest are they who show mercy;
mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are they, the pure of heart;
they shall see God! **[Refrain]**

4. Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.

Blest are they who suffer in faith,
the glory of God is theirs. **[Refrain]**

5. Blest are you who suffer hate
all because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom,
shine for all to see. **[Refrain]**

***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 - As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

P - God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you. Merciful God,

C - receive our prayer.

P - Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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")....."Rise Up, O Church Of God"
Arranged by Tammy Waldrop

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 majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P - Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the

brilliance of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C - Amen.

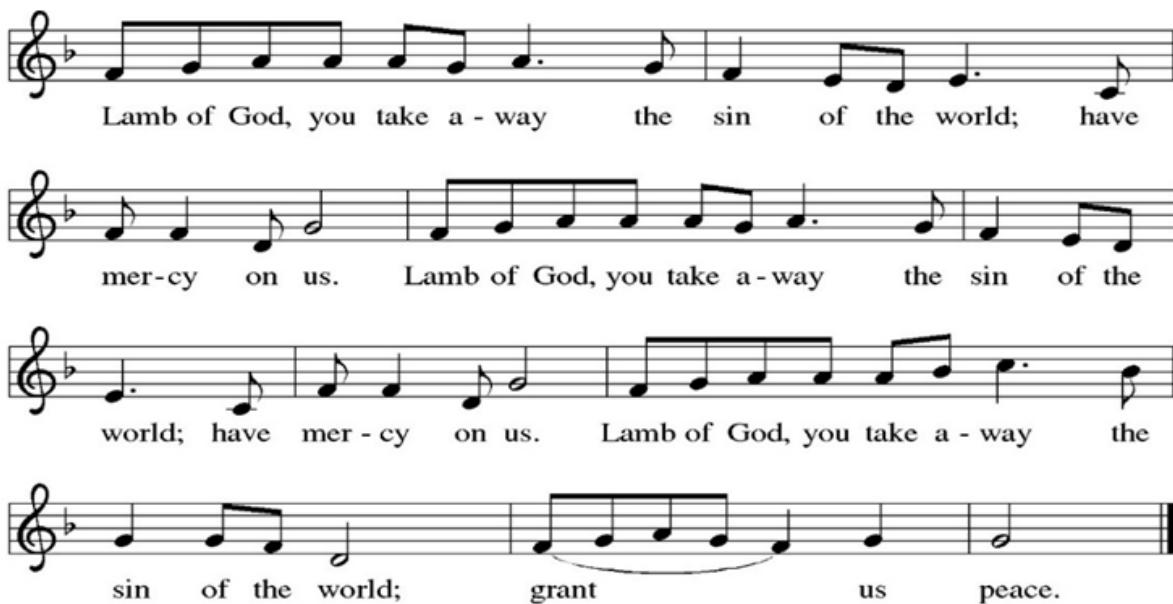
***LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

P - Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

***COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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 - Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 - May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  bless you now and forever.

C - Amen.

***SENDING SONG.....“Let Streams of Living Justice” (ELW 710)**

1 Let streams of living justice
 flow down upon the earth;
 give freedom's light to captives,
 let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading,
 the workers claim their rights,

the mourners long for laughter,
the blinded seek for sight.
 Make liberty a beacon,
 strike down the iron pow'r;
 abolish ancient vengeance:
 proclaim your people's hour.

2 For healing of the nations,
 for peace that will not end,
 for love that makes us lovers,
 God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together;
 knit our lives as they are spun;
 on your loom of time enroll us
 till our thread of life is run.
O great weaver of our fabric,
 bind church and world in one;
 dye our texture with your radiance,
 light our colors with your sun.

3 Your city's built to music;
 we are the stones you seek;
 your harmony is language;
 we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service,
 our hope in others' dreams,
 our love in hand of neighbor;
 our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice;
 your way--the path untried;
 your truth--the heart of stranger;
 your life--the Crucified.

***DISMISSAL**

P - Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C - Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE.....“Fanfare” by Jaques- Nicolas Lemmens

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One vase of flowers is in honor of Helen Miller's Birthday presented by Glenn and Helen Miller.

Altar flower and bulletin sponsorship: There are many openings available throughout the year to sponsor the fresh altar flowers and bulletins on a Sunday morning. You can celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, etc. Sponsorships can be in honor of, or in memory of someone. There are sign-up sheets for a few months at a time on the bulletin board in the hallway. You can also call the church office and speak to Kelly to be added at any time throughout the year. The cost of altar flowers is: \$17.50 to sponsor one vase, or \$35 to sponsor both vases. The bulletins are \$10 per sponsored Sunday.

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.

2026 Offering Envelopes: If you have not already picked up your envelopes, they are available on the table in the Narthex. If you do not want to receive envelopes because you are contributing online, please contact the church office.

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.

Council Meeting: The Council will meet this Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00pm.

Souper Bowl Sunday will be observed next Sunday, February 8th. Food and monetary donations will be accepted in the narthex. The food will be donated to the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry, and the money will be donated to Helping Harvest. Your generosity is appreciated.

Faithful Fellowship Time: Mardi Gras Faithful Fellowship, following the service on Sunday, February 15. Let's get together and sample some Louisiana culture. Not too spicy, we promise! Please check out the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to add your contribution. We're excited to hear what you come up with! Perhaps you'd like to bring a friend!

Mark your calendars! There will be an Ash Wednesday worship service on February 18 beginning at 7:00pm. The service will include the imposition of ashes and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. There will also be Wednesday night Lenten worship services with the theme of making change. The services will take place each Wednesday at 7:00pm from February 25 through March 25. We hope you will join us!

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.

The 2026 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$2,951.25.

January 18, 2026 – Weather/Low Attendance – Offering needs to be counted.

January 19-23, 2026 On-line Offering

Current	\$195.55
Benevolence/Synod	\$ 15.00
Local Benevolence	\$ 5.00
Total	\$215.55

January 25, 2026 – No Service

THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Sunday, February 1

9:15am -Sunday School
10:30am -Worship Service

Wednesday, February 4

7:00 PM -Council Meeting

Thursday, February 5

6:00 PM -Bell Choir practice

Saturday, February 7

5:00 PM -Spoken Worship Service

Sunday, February 8

9:15am -Sunday School
10:30am -Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, February 2: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25

Tuesday, February 3: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6

Wednesday, February 4: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26

Thursday, February 5: Psalm 112:1-9; Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5

Friday, February 6: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18

Saturday, February 7: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8

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

Interpreter- Pegi Staller

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, Terry Tryon

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

