Sunday, September 14, 2025 14th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion \* stand +kneel

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise arr. Mark Hayes

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

P - God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C - Amen.

P- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.* 

#### P- Most Merciful God,

C- we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

## \*GATHERING SONG – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (ELW #834)



# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

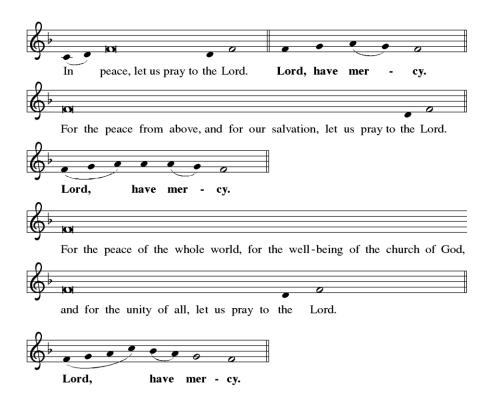
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

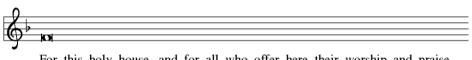
## \*GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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.** 

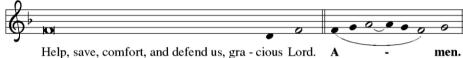
## \*KYRIE





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





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



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

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P- O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in 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: Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks for mercy for them.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup> they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" <sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup> Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " <sup>14</sup> And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

R - The Word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM: Psalm 51:1-10** (please read responsively)

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>|</sup> steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out <sup>|</sup> my offenses.
  - <sup>2</sup> Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know | my offenses, and my sin is ev- | er before me.
  - <sup>4</sup> Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.
- <sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my | mother's womb.
  - <sup>6</sup> Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me, and would have me know wisdom | deep within.
- <sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
  - <sup>8</sup> Let me hear | joy and gladness; that the body you have broken | may rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face | from my sins, and blot out | all my wickedness.
  - <sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean | heart, O God, and renew a right spir- | it within me.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

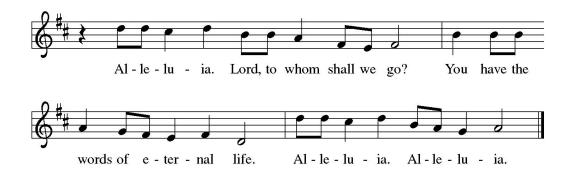
The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

R - The Word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### \*GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

P - The holy gospel according to Luke.

## C- Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

# P - The gospel of the Lord.

# C - Praise to you, O Christ.

### **SERMON**

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY – Amazing Grace (ELW #779)



# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

### \*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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence*.
- P Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,

## C - receive our prayer.

P - Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,

## C - receive our prayer.

P - Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,

# C - receive our prayer.

P - Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain (*especially*). Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,

# C - receive our prayer.

P - Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,

# C - receive our prayer.

P - Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

# C - receive our prayer.

P - We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

#### 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.

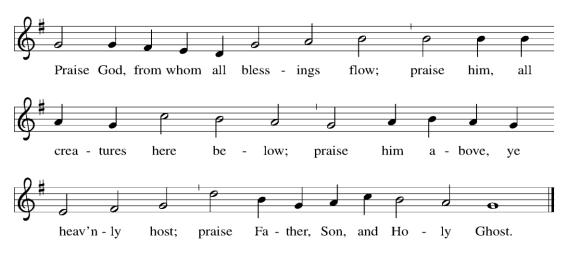
The assembly is seated.

#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## \*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING (ELW #884)

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

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

After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead one of the following or a similar prayer.

Let us pray.

P- Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C- Amen.

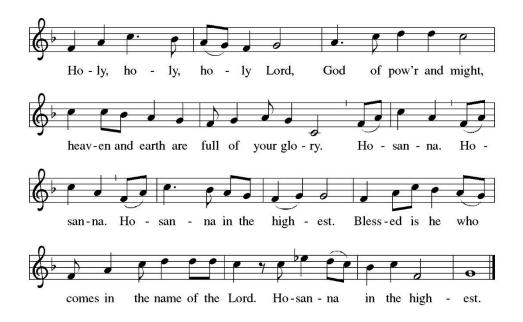
### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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

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



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P- Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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.

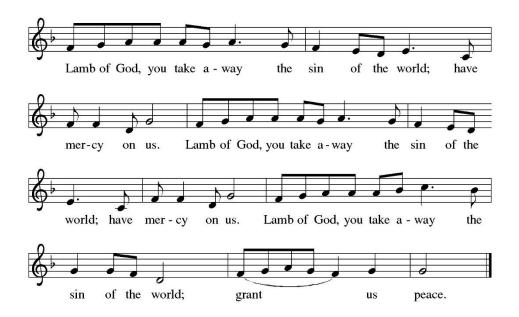
#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away 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

Amen.

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

### \*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

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

P - 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 Lord bless you and keep you.

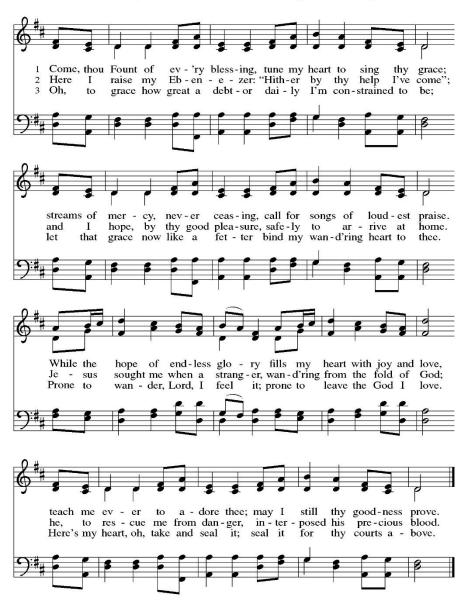
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C- Amen.

## \*SENDING SONG – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (ELW #807)

# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt. Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

- Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love, teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come"; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be; let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

#### \*DISMISSAL

P- Go in peace. Share the good news.

C- Thanks be to God.

# Postlude – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing John Wyeth arr. Joel Raney

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Members with a change of address or visitors should complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors should also include the name and address of their home church so your home church can be notified that you 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 give names to the person leading service prior to start of service.

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want a pastoral visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

Please join us after the service today for Faithful Fellowship in the Annex. Stay and enjoy some conversation, coffee and goodies.

The Summer Hill Youth Group will be hosting a movie night for kids and their families at 6 p.m. on October 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at St. Paul's UCC and the event is free. Invite your friends and join us for a movie and popcorn!

Thank you to all who assisted in last Saturday's concert after the service. It was a great success. There were many in attendance. All enjoyed hearing Dave Hartranft sing during the service and at the concert afterwards.

**Attendance September 6-7, 2025 – 73 in person**, 240 online views, 2 shares as of September 12, 2025.

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

## "THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

**Today:** 10:30 am Worship Service

<u>Monday:</u> 6:30 p.m. – Finance Meeting <u>Wednesday:</u> 6:30 p.m. – Property Meeting

**Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. – Bell Choir

Next Sunday: 9:15 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship Service

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

Mon: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 5:1-17; 1 Timothy 1:18-20 Tues: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 5:18-31; 2 Peter 3:8-13

Wed: Psalm 94; Jeremiah 14:1-10, 17-22; Luke 22:31-33, 54-62 Thu: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 12:14 – 13:11; Romans 3:1-8

Fri: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 8:1-13; Romans 8:31-39

Sat: Psalm 79:1-9; Jeremiah 8:14-17; 9:2-11; Mark 12:41-44

## ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: Pegi Staller

Acolyte: Tanner Gormley Lector: Troy Hollenbach Usher: Troy Hollenbach

**Communion Assistant: Becky Mairose** 

Counting Team: Becky Mairose and Troy Hollenbach

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Church Telephone: 570-754-7350

www.SummerHillLutheran.org — Church's website Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

Student Loan Committee email:

stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

| 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 |



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Arlene Moyer, 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 and Earl & Grace Paxson, Shirley Baker. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.

## **QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING**

