St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church A Community of Faith for 241 Years Sunday, October 5, 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

Sunday, October 5, 2025 17th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion *stand +kneel

GATHERING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "This Is My Father's World" -arr. by Mark Hayes; copyright 2006 Lorenz Publishing Co.

*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, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C - Amen.

P - Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P - Merciful and loving God,

C - we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.

Amen.

P - Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

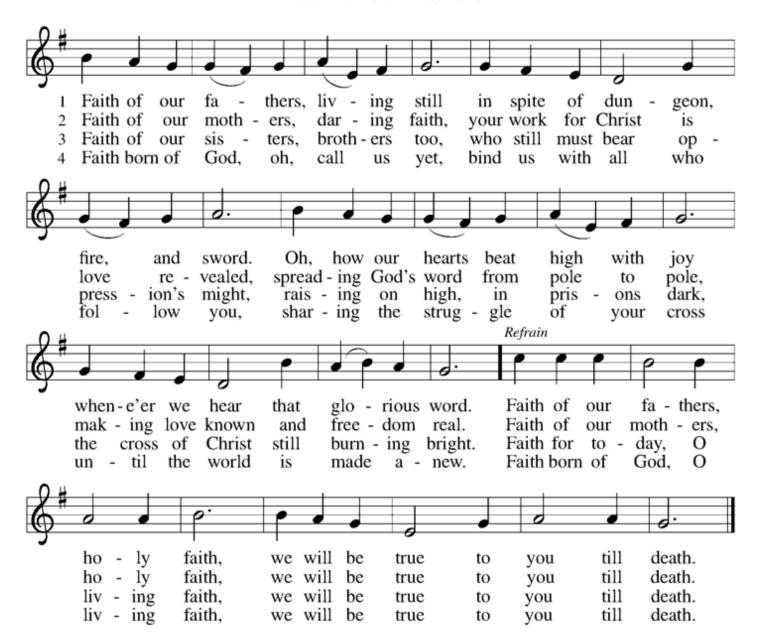
You who were lost have been found.

In the name of \bot Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C - Amen.

*GATHERING SONG......"Faith of Our Fathers" (ELW 813)

Faith of Our Fathers



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, st. 1, alt.; Joseph R. Alfred, b. 1947, sts. 2–4 Music: St. Catherine, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain Text sts. 2–4 © Joseph R. Alfred, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

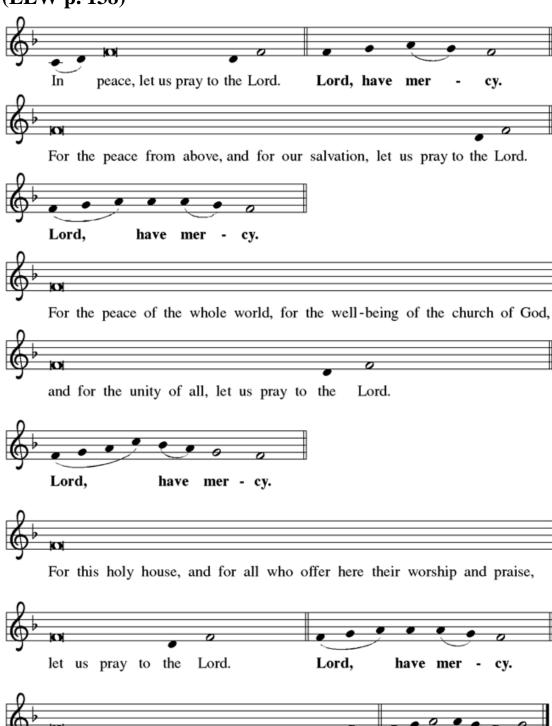
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*GREETING

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)



men.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)



*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 - Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake 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: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous;

therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,

so that a runner may read it.

³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;

it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-9 (please read responsively)

- ¹ Do not be provoked by [|] evildoers; do not be jealous of those [|] who do wrong.
- ² For they shall soon wither | like the grass, and like the green grass | fade away.
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD | and do good; dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.
- ⁴ Take delight | in the LORD, who shall give you your | heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD, and see what | God will do.
- ⁶ The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

- ⁸ Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.
- ⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

- ¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
 - ² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

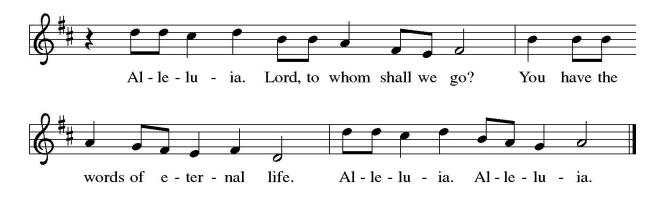
³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)



*GOSPEL: Luke 17:1-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

P - The holy gospel according to Luke.

C - Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus said to his disciples, "Occasions for sin are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come! ² It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Be on your guard! If a brother or sister sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive. ⁴ And if the same person sins against you seven times a day and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,' you must forgive." ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

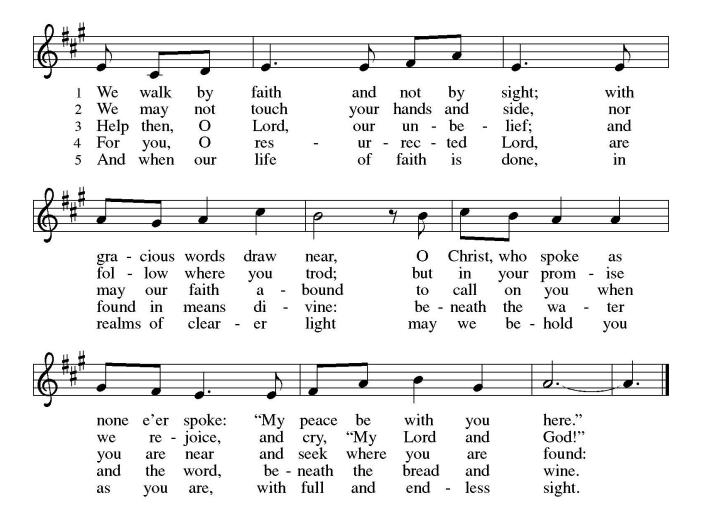
P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY.....""We Walk by Faith" (ELW 635)

We Walk by Faith



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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*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 - Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

P - O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of grace,

C - receive our prayer.

P - O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of grace,

C - receive our prayer.

P - O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence (*especially*). God of grace,

C - receive our prayer.

P - O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need (*especially*). Help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time. God of grace,

C - receive our prayer.

P - O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. God of grace,

C - receive our prayer.

P - We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, 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.

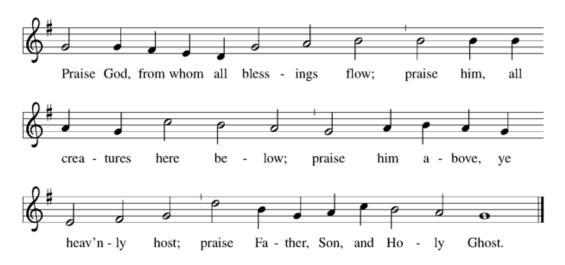
The assembly is seated.

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

*OFFERING PRAYER

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

P - Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,

but on you, who richly provides for us.

Multiply what we have gathered

to bless all who are suffering and in need,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C - Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P - The Lord be with you.

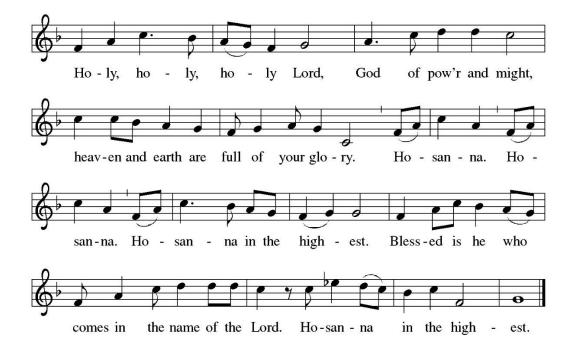
C - And also with you.

- 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)



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P - Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world. 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 life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body 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

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



COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

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.

P - O God.

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

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.

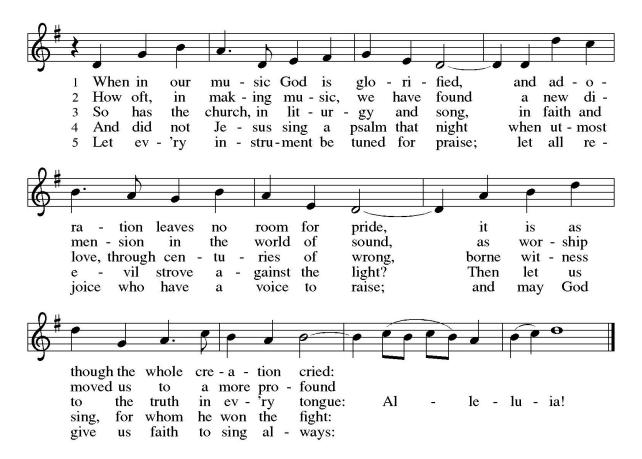
*BLESSING

P - The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C - Amen.

*SENDING SONG....."When in Our Music God Is Glorified" (ELW 851)

When in Our Music God Is Glorified



*DISMISSAL

P - Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C - Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "March Magnifique" - Mark L. Williams; copyright 2005 The FJH Music Company Inc.

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Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Visitors or members with a change of address, please complete the address section along with your 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.

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.

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.

A Christian Ed meeting will be held after church on Sunday, October 12.

The Summer Hill Youth Group will be hosting a movie night for kids and their families at 6 pm on October 18. It will be held at St. Paul's UCC and the event is free. Invite your friends for a movie and popcorn!

The Church is selling coasters of the Stain Glass Windows. The order sheet is on the table in the Narthex and envelopes are there to put money for payment. They are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Please put your name on the envelope and the payment amount. The deadline to order the coasters is October 19, 2025.

Faithful Fellowship: We will gather after church on Sunday, October 26 for a luncheon to celebrate Reformation Sunday and fellowship. A sign-up sheet for desserts is posted on the bulletin board.

The Social Ministry Committee is seeking the names and addresses of our young people who are college students. Each year care packages of items donated by our members are sent to the college students twice a year, at mid-terms and finals. Parents and/or grandparents, please give this information to the church office or to Harry Schwenk, Social Ministry Chairperson, so your student will be able to receive their care package.

The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex from Sunday, October 19th until Sunday, November 9th. We will be accepting donations of items to be sent to our college students, to have while they are taking their mid-term exams. Items to be donated include snacks, pens, pencils, or any other small appropriate items that the young people could use while studying for

their exams. The packages will be sent to the students, whose families have provided us with their names and addresses. We thank everyone for their continuing generosity in donating to our project.

A "Dinner and a Movie Night" is scheduled for Saturday, November 1 beginning at 5:45pm (following the church service). The movie is titled "90 Minutes in Heaven". We hope you will join us for fun and fellowship! Please speak to Karen Curtis for more information.

On All Saints' Sunday, November 2, we will remember those saints who have died during the past year. In addition, during the distribution of Holy Communion, we will remember any loved ones who have died, no matter what time has passed. If you would like a loved one's name to be read in remembrance, please call or email the church office.

A sign-up sheet for Bread for the Day 2026 is on Bulletin Board. The cost is \$12 per book.

Attendance September 28, 2025 – 59 in person, 215 online views, 3 shares as of September 30, 2025.

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

"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

Today: 10:30am – Worship Service

Thursday: 6:00pm – Bell Choir

Next Sunday: 9:15am – Sunday School

10:30am – Worship Service

- Christian Ed Meeting following worship

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, October 6: Psalm 3; Habakkuk 1:5-17; James 1:2-11

Tuesday, October 7: Psalm 3; Habakkuk 2:5-11; 1 John 5:1-5, 13-21

Wednesday, October 8: Psalm 3; Habakkuk 2:12-20; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Thursday, October 9: Psalm 111; Leviticus 14:33-53; 2 Timothy 1:13-18

Friday, October 10: Psalm 111; Numbers 4:34-5:4; 2 Timothy 2:1-7 Saturday, October 11: Psalm 111; Numbers 12:1-15; Luke 5:12-16

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: Jessica Rollman **Acolyte:** Lena Ferrance

Lector: Matt Platt

Usher: Holly Maldonado

Communion Assistant: Matt Platt

Counting Team: Matt Platt & Holly Maldonado

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, 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, Shirley Baker, *Betty Fromm Yarnell, family of George Watkins, family of Hannah Sterling*.

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

