Sunday, June 29, 2025 Third Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion \* stand +kneel

# **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE – Nocturne from A Midsummer Night's Dream

Felix Mendelssohn

Arr. Mark L. Williams

## \* 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 Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

0 111110111

P- Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.* 

P- Merciful God,

C- you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

P- You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. C- Amen.

# GATHERING SONG God, Whose Almighty Word (ELW 673)

# God, Whose Almighty Word



Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

# **GREETING (ELW p. 203)**

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.

# **CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)**



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

#### 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- Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

## C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

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

# FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

<sup>19</sup> So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup> He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" <sup>21</sup> He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The reading may be concluded: Word of God, word of life. The assembly responds:

# Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM: Psalm 16**

- <sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other."
- <sup>2</sup> All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land, upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.
- <sup>3</sup> But those who run after | other gods shall have their troubles | multiplied.
- <sup>4</sup> I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips. R
- <sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; it is you who up- | hold my lot.
- <sup>6</sup> My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night | after night.

- <sup>8</sup> I have set the LORD al- | ways before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken. R
- <sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices; my body also shall | rest in hope.
- <sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon me | to the grave, nor let your holy one | see the pit.
- You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for-evermore.

#### **SECOND READING Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

<sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The reading may be concluded: Word of God, word of life. The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

# God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt. Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

#### **GOSPEL:** Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

The holy gospel according to Luke the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

- P- <sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.
- <sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup> To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup> But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup> Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." <sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."
- <sup>26</sup> Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.
- <sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.
- <sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

# **SERMON**

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

# HYMN OF THE DAY - Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (ELW #712)

# Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



- Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- wor ship, grant us vi sion, till your love's re veal-ing light
- Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed: still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead. its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart; As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul. mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part. by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole. ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share. stir-ring us to that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844 Text © Oxford University Press

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### **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- Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

P- Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of (*your apostles Peter and Paul and*) Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

P- Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

P- Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,

# C- hear our prayer.

P- Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence (*especially*). Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

# C- hear our prayer.

P- Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries (*local ministries may be named*). Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,

# C- hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P- Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,

# C- hear our prayer.

P- Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, 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.

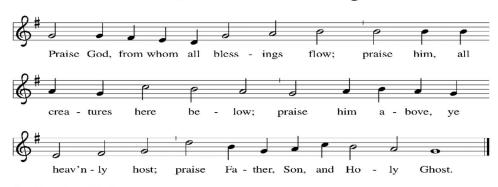
# C- And also with you.

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

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## \*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

# 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. Let us pray.

P- Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C- Amen.

# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE SPOKEN

P- The Lord be with you.

C- And also with you.

P- Lift up your hearts.

C- We lift them to the Lord.

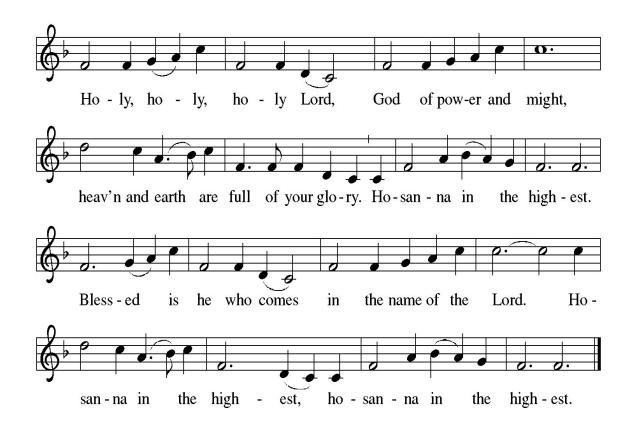
P- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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



#### 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

# ALL\_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- The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

## \*COMMUNION SONG



## **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- Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. C- Amen.

## **SENDING**

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

#### **BLESSING**

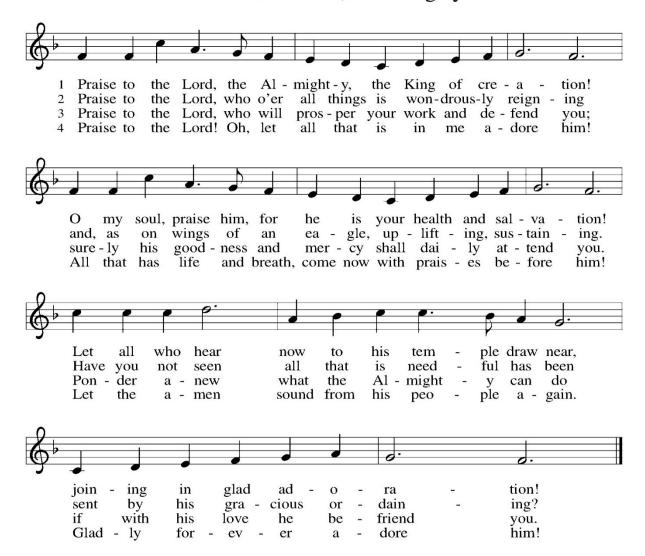
P- The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit

+ bless you and give you peace.

C- Amen.

# SENDING SONG Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (ELW 858)

# Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

## **DISMISSAL**

P- Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C- Thanks be to God.

# Postlude - Arise, My Soul, Arise

arr. Lani Smith

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Altar flowers are placed in honor of Ulysses and Ryker Staller by their Grandparents and Auntie Charity.

The bulletins are dedicated in Memory of Lillie Moyer by Brian, Pegi and Charity Staller.

Important 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.

Attendance June 22, 2025 42 in person, 169 online views, 3 shares as of June 24, 2025.

The Jolly Quilters are asking for donations of full, queen or king size sheets in good condition or new to use as backing for quilts.

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Council Meeting – 7:00 P.M.

July 5<sup>th--</sup> Saturday Service 5:00 P.M.

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Outdoor Service 9:00 A.M. followed by breakfast in the Pavilion.

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY FROM LAST WEEK:

Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$	29.00
Local Benevolence	\$	72.25
Current	\$2,	370.50
Plate Offering	\$	86.00
<b>Total Received</b>	<u>\$2,</u>	<u>557.75</u>

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

## "THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

**Today:** 9 am Worship Service

<u>Wednesday</u>: 7:00 pm Council Meeting <u>Next Saturday</u>: 5 pm Worship Service <u>Next Sunday</u>: 9 am Worship Service.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 140; Genesis 24:34-41, 50-67; 1 John 2:7-11 Tues: Psalm 140; Jeremiah 3:15-18; Ephesians 5:6-20 Wed: Psalm 140; Jeremiah 23:16-22; Matthew 10:16-25 Thu: Psalm 16; Leviticus 9:22—10:11; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Fri: Psalm 16; 2 Kings 1:1-16; Galatians 4:8-20

Sat: Psalm 16; Deuteronomy 32:15-27, 39-43; Luke 9:21-27

## ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: 9 am Kolton Platt Acolyte: 9 am Kolton Platt Lector: 9 am Troy Hollenbach Ushers: 9 am Brian Staller

Counting Team: Troy Hollenbach, Brian Staller Communion Assistants: Troy Hollenbach

Church Office Hours: Temporarily Closed – Call Pastor Marie or Brian Staller

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	
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, Chester Johnson, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Adam Brink, Arlene Moyer, Stephen Curtis, John Strauch, Jr., David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Stacey Rao, John and Betty Strauch, Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, Donovan Baker, Harry Russell, Carol Beenick, Brittany & Joshua Gallagher, Shawnette Keller, Neida

Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Betty Fromm Yarnell, Kermit Snyder, Joseph and Linda Catizone, Don MacIntyre, Maxine Vanst, and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. 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., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.