

15th Sunday After Pentecost—September 10, 2023

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:00 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Web Site: http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7_-Q



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SERVING TODAY

Minister	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector	Phil Smith
Organist	Jeff Gentry
Ushers	Tom and Johanna Waters
Acolyte	Camden Plog

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Trish Valcarcel Vice-President—Patty Rimel Treasurer—Amy Mildenstein Secretary—Jackie Waas



*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

CHURCH BELL RUNG

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⁺ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C: Amen.
- P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P: Gracious God,
- C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
- P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ⁺ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN.....ELW 522

- As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.
- 2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.
- 3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*GREETING (ELW, p. 147)

- 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. 203) (Sung)





*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- P: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119

 ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.
 ³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.
 ³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.
 ³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees

and not to unjust gain.

 ³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.
 ³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.
 ³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.
 ⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW, p. 205)



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 18th chapter, **18:15-20 C: Glory to you, O Lord.** (Sung)

*THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAYELW 603					
1	God, when human bonds are broken and we lack the love or skill to restore the hope of healing, give us grace and make us still.	4	Send us, God of new beginnings, humbly hopeful into life. Use us as a means of blessing: make us stronger, give us faith.		
2	Through that stillness, with your Spirit come into our world of stress, for the sake of Christ forgiving all the failures we confess.	5	Give us faith to be more faithful, give us hope to be more true, give us love to go on learning: God, encourage and renew!		

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*THE APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 THE CHURCH

P: ... God, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

*The Peace

- P: The peace of Christ be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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 Pg. 207)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen (ELW Pg. 207)



*THE LORD'S PRAYER:

- P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...
- C: 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.

HOLY COMMUNION:

- P: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The feast is prepared, the table is set, come and eat.
- *P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW Pg. 208)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

- 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 HYMN......ELW 543

3

 "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story, here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

*DISMISSAL

GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD.

"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you,

here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.

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Joe Collins. Cousin of Joann Valainis Mark Holloway, Husband of Kate Stottlemyer Bob Schmidt, Brother of Dottie Titmas Gary Wachter, Member Michael Wachter, Son of Gary and Kay Wachter The Wynne Family, Friends of Lin Snider and Sue Snyder Lin Snider. *Member* Sue Snyder, Member The Valcarcel Family, Members Kim Currier, Daughter of Sam Purswell Family of Tommy Sorge, Nephew of the Purswells and Cousin to the Valcarcels Barb Callow, friend of Marie Purswell Susan and Paul Holloway, Family of Kate Stottlemyer Robert Hoff, Member, son of Betty Walker Lillian Foucart, Member Hank Holiday, Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemyer Chris Muesing, Family of Jacki Waas Parker Bazarewski, member of Ed Chaney's extended family John Baker. Member. Nancy McIntyre, Friend of St. Paul's Betty Walker, Member Elyse Acosta, friend of Dianne and Robb Port Shannon Smith, Friend of the Mildenstein Family Karin Petrovsky, Family of the Foucarts The Family of Audrey MacDougall, Member Caroline Dunning, Daughter of John and Regina Baker Gail Roehm Costa, Cousin of Dianne and Robb Port The Jones Family, Close family friends of Joann Valainis Greg, Dani and Dax Sorge, Family of Trish Valcarcel Family of Jonathan Eshelman, Nephew of Kay Wachter

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator

(<u>officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org</u>). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing! *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."* **Matthew 18:20**

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

+Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy, niece to Linwood Snider
+Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce, grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
+U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik, grandson of Sam Purswell
+Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
+Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of Marcia & Raj Gupta
+Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of Mary Ann Ferguson
+Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in law Do you have need for prayer? Do you know someone else who has need for prayer? If so, please know that we have a prayer team at St. Paul's that is ready to help. Simply contact the Church Office. All requests are confidential.

Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold. They have a specific current need for Christian love and support.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

"Give me a lever and a fulcrum," said the man of science, "and I'll shift the world." Archimedes wasn't talking to God, so his request wasn't granted; and in any case he was only thinking of the material world. But the saints really have enjoyed the privilege he asked for; the fulcrum God told them to use was nothing less than God's self, and the lever was prayer. Only it must be the kind of prayer that sets the heart all on fire with love; that's how the saints shift the world in our own day, and that how they'll do it to the end of time. —*Thérèse of Lisieux*

[Thérèse of Lisieux, Autobiography of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, trans. Ronald Knox (New York: P.J. Kenedy and Sons, 1958), 310-311.]





*****IMPORTANT*****

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. <u>https://youtu.be/2Q1nTo_DPWQ</u>

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXIow117_-Q</u>

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Joanne Travis' Birthday by Brian and Roxanne Smith





Can you smile and say "Good Morning", maybe even a "How are you today?"

Then you are a perfect candidate to be a greeter at Saint Paul's.

We need people like you to share in this ministry. To sign up, please contact Kate Stottlemyer after Worship or by calling the Parish Office.

"Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." <u>Hebrews 13:1-2</u>



Are you called to serve with a smile?

If you would like to serve St. Paul's congregation by creating a welcoming environment and setting the tone for their worship experience, please consider joining our Usher team. We would love to have you share in this ministry. To sign up, contact Kate Stottlemyer through the Parish Office.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:" <u>I Peter 4:10</u>



Caring for the Body of Christ, September 2023

September! The kick-off for fall, with back-to-school activities, fall sports like football and also the beginning of the season of preparation for the winter!

Please see the bulletin board, weekly email or September Epistle for more information on "Falling into Health and Wellness".

Deb Horton



*****DATE CHANGE***** We will be knotting quilts on Saturday, September 23rd, 9am until approximately 3pm in the parish hall.

Drop by any time and stay for as long as you like. (If you're making a day of it, bring lunch!)

Many hands make light work!



Save the Date!

September 24, 2023

"Come the end of summer, we need "a renewal of energy" when it comes to spiritual matters. It's hard to renew your energy on your own. But it's much easier in a group. That's why we set aside one special day at the end of the summer to "rally" - to "draw together for a common purpose" seeking the Holy Spirit's power to "renew our energy" for worship, for digging into God's Word, for praying, for serving, and for witnessing." - Pastor David Eibel More details coming soon! "God's work. Our hands." Sunday

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 LOVE THY NEIGHBOR "BLESSING BAGS"

As we prepare for "God's Work. Our hands" Sunday, we are asking our Congregation to help us fill Nylon Backpacks with everyday basic hygiene necessities for the displaced and homeless in our community. We will be collecting the following items to be put in each backpack.

> **Bottled Water** Hand-Warmers First Aid kit travel size **Toilet Paper** Crackers Socks Single Pack Raisins Towel & wash cloth Travel size soap Flushable wipes Toothpaste & toothbrush Lip balm Hand sanitizer **Travel Size shampoo** Notes of encouragement List of local resources Puzzle books & Pens

See Flyer on either bulletin board, contact Marie or Roxanne, or call the Parish Office for more details!

Items must be dropped off at worship or the Parish Hall by Sept. 17, 2023 for packing and delivery of backpacks.



Thrift Shop –

St. Paul's provides, the space in the Parish Hall basement. There is a drop off box for gently used clothing items, etc. in the front parking lot of the Parish Hall. The Thrift Shop is open on Saturdays from 10 to 2. Members of St. Paul's also volunteer their time to help staff the Thrift Shop during the month of October.

If you are interested in volunteering your time on a Saturday in October or any Saturday through the end of 2023, please contact the Church Office.



Even though it is September we are beginning preparations for the 6th annual Christkindl Market. It will happen on **Saturday, December 2nd** from 10am-3pm. Once again, the Walkersville Historical Society will be the event host. St. Paul's will have vendors, food and host the Wreath contest similar to last year. Look for more information on those items as we get closer to the date.

We will be looking for donations of gently used Christmas items for "Mrs. Claus' attic." These are items that are affordable for children or individuals without a lot of funds to buy as gifts or decoration. So, keep on the lookout if you hit up the local yard sales. If anyone has a good idea for a craft to do as a small group that we can add to the sale let us know. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the different areas so make sure you mark it on your calendars.

Co-chairs are Amy Mildenstein and Trish Valcarcel with an assist from Russ Mildenstein



Are you looking to spread God's word to the future of our church?

We are looking for volunteers to help out our Children's Faith Formation classes!

This volunteer position does not have to be for every Sunday. We will work up a schedule to see what days benefit for everyone.

Lessons and activities will be created and pre-made by the Christian Education Committee so there is **no prep work needed!**

The future of Saint Paul's depends on our youth and spreading the good word of Christ to the next generation.

Please consider becoming a partner in this important mission to spread God's love to our children.

Please contact Lauren McCloskey for more information. <u>lefoucart@gmail.com</u>

Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp & Retreat Center

We will gather at 9 a.m., and end with lunch at 12 p.m. The fee of \$25 includes all supplies and the meal. Please RSVP: https://form.jotform.com/220455890396060

September 19: Quilting for Lutheran World Relief—Join us as we sew and assemble quilts for LWR. No experience necessary – we will teach you!

October 17: Dr. Guy Davis – Climate and Antartica—Antarctica, the seventh continent, is one that few get a chance to visit. Guy Davis discusses his trips to Antarctica and the sub-Antarctic region. Penguins, whales, and seals abound amidst the ice and rocky shores. But global warming is occurring. How will it affect Antarctica and the rest of the world?

November 14: Rev. Madeline Tallman – Deep Roots: What Native Plants Can Teach us About Faith. Learning more about our natural world, our watershed, and native plants through the lens of faith.

Donations for Glade Valley Food Bank are always accepted!

Updated Items of need are: Soup, hamburger helper, boxed potatoes, canned pasta, peanut butter, canned green beans and corn, baked beans, bar soap and kids juice boxes.

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you.



<u>Staff</u>

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Administration/Purchasing	Ed Chaney
Sexton	Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry	Linda Yopp.
Property CoordinatorT	om Waters
Financial SecretaryT	roy Keeney