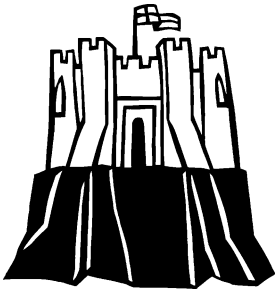
RE•FORMATION
THEN • NOW • ALWAYS



Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2026

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service—9:00 a.m.

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

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Sheila Kahler
Vice-President—Lauren McCloskey
Treasurer—Patty Rimel
Secretary—Gary Wachter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BELL RUNG

CANDLES LIT

****Stand as you are able***

****GATHERING***

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS***

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.
C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

A Might Fortress Is Our God.....ELW 504

(written by Martin Luther in 1529, inspired by Psalm 46).

****GREETING***

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 Glory to God in the Highest* (p. 148)**

****PRAYER OF THE DAY:***

P: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem.....***"Only God"*** Words and Music by Mary McDonald

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FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

[1] God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
[2] Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
[3] though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
[4] There is a river whose streams make glad the cit y of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
[5] God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

[6] The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
[7] The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
[8] Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up on the earth;
[9] behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
[10] "Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
[11] The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28
L: *The Word of the Lord.*
C: Thanks be to God.

****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION* (p. 151)**

Gospel: *John 8:31-36*
The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon.....Pastor Peter Roy

Silence for Reflection

Installation of the Call Committee
St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Bethel Lutheran Church

Following the sermon, the pastor invites the members of the Call Committee to come forward.

P: Today we install the members of the Call Committee, who have been entrusted with helping St. Paul's and Bethel discern whom God is calling to serve as your next pastor.
C: We give thanks for their willingness to serve and for the gifts each brings to this work.

The members may be introduced by name.

P: In baptism, God calls us into the body of Christ and gives us gifts to share in the church's ministry. You have been chosen for a particular responsibility within that shared calling: to listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to consider the needs and gifts of these congregations, and to prayerfully recommend a pastor to be called by the congregations.

C: As you begin this work, remember that Christ is the church's sure foundation. We undertake this process trusting in God's grace and the Spirit's presence among us.

P: Will you carry out this responsibility faithfully, grounding your work in prayer and Scripture, listening with care, and remaining open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

Committee: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: Will you work together with patience and respect, honor the confidentiality of this process, and treat each person considered with fairness and care?

Committee: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: Will you seek the good of both congregations and the ministry we share, attending to the needs of our neighbors and the mission to which Christ calls us?

Committee: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

P: People of God, will you support these members of the Call Committee, keep them in your prayers, respect the confidentiality of their work, and receive their service with patience and trust?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: Will you continue faithfully in worship, service, and care for one another, remaining open to the ways the Holy Spirit may be preparing these congregations for the next chapter of ministry?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: Let us pray.
Faithful God, you have guided your church through generations and continue to call your people into lives of witness and service. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon these members of the Call Committee. Give them wisdom in their discernment, honesty in their conversations, and patience in their work.

Bless the pastors who may enter this process. Surround them and these congregations with your care. Guide our partners in the synod and all who accompany us along the way.

Keep St. Paul's and Bethel steadfast in your Word. Strengthen our shared ministry, deepen our trust in your promises, and prepare us to welcome the pastor you call to serve among us. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: I now declare you installed as members of the Call Committee for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Bethel Lutheran Church. May the God who calls you give you wisdom and courage. May Christ's peace sustain you, and may the Holy Spirit guide your work.

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks to God for their willingness to serve.

The congregation may express its thanksgiving. Committee members return to their places.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.....ELW 517

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: ... God of grace, **C: Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

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

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

OFFERTORY HYMN
Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow .....ELW 884
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER
P: Let us pray.
God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

*__THE GREAT THANKSGIVING__ (ELW, p.152)

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.

***THE 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* **(p.153)**

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

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 153)**

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

P: 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.

P: 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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us…

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.

P: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The Table is set, the feast is prepared, come and eat.

***HOLY COMMUNION*:**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMN (p.155)

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (p. 155)**

P: Let us pray,
Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

***SENDING**

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

***BENEDICTION**

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation..... ELW 645

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

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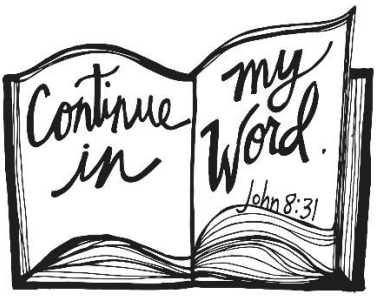
Dismissal

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God



PRAYER LIST

Betsy Galliher*, Member*
Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*
Sue Snyder, *Member*
Bert Fiske, *Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider*
Parker Bazarewski*, Extended family of Ed Chaney*
Dudley Cate*, Family friend of Ed Chaney*
Patty Plitt, *Cousin of Ed Chaney*
Leanne Colwell, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Kira Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Nancy Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Linda Koelsch, *Friend of Ed Chaney*
Emily Kilmon, *Daughter of Betsy Galliher*
Richard Pratt, *Brother of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima*
Regina Baker, *Member*
Mary Zeiman, *Mother of Amy Mildenstein*
Linda Brown, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*
Steve Jones**,** *very close personal friend of Joann Valainis*
Adrian Smith, *Grandson of Sam and Marie Purswell*
Our United States Military*, by Robb and Dianne Port*
Sheila Kahler*, Member*
Trish Valcarcel, *Member*
Jeff Gentry, *Music Director*
Davey Crockett*, Friend*
Caroline Dunning
Christine Hickerson, *Friend of Lauren McCloskey*
Lauren McCloskey, *Member*
The Family & Friends of John Chicago (Jordan)*, Friend of the Waas'*
Ed Chaney, *Member*
Geneva Corin, *Dear Friend of Kay Wachter*
Family of Carol Jean Beck*, Mother of Pastor Phil Beck*
Linda Leatherman*, Best Friend of Kay Wachter*
Dan Carroll and Mary Ann Ferguson*, Members*
The Family of Mark Holloway*, Husband of Kate Stottlemyer*

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). 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

† 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
† Aaron Martz, U.S. Navy, grandson of Ken Martz

Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold.

They have specific current need for Christian love and support.

Do you or someone you know have need for prayer?

If so, please know that we have a prayer team at St. Paul's that is ready to help.

Simply contact Merle Anderson through the Parish Office.

OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community. Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.
https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, October 25th	
Reformation Sunday	
Worship, (Live Stream)	9:00am
Faith Formation	10:00am
Monday, October 26h	
FEC	8am-5pm
Girl Scouts	6:30pm
Tuesday, October 27th	
FHS	10am-3pm
Wednesday, October 28th	
FEC	8am-5pm
Thursday, October 29th	
FHS	10am-3pm
Cub Scout 1070	6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
Saturday, October 31st	
Fall Festival	1pm-3pm
Sunday, November 1st	
All Saints	
Worship, (Live Stream)	9:00am
Ministry Sunday	10:00am
Troop 1070	5:00pm
Cub Scout Comm. Mtg.	7:00pm

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need:
$3,110.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:
$350.00

October 18, 2026
Electronic/Mail-ins Income

Weekly Contributions:	$
Property Loan Fund:	$
Total:	$

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions:	$
Property Loan Fund:	$
Total:	$

ATTENDANCE:
October 18, 2026

In Person:	30
Virtual:	5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*******IMPORTANT*******

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. Video link: https://youtu.be/kthfIzpFVzE *October 11*, 2026. Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1l7_-Q

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding anniversaries of Katie & Joe Walker and Lauren and Lee McCloskey by Candy Foucart.

Faith Formation

Every Second and Fourth Sunday of the Month. Hope to see you after worship today!
Please see Lauren McCloskey with any

COME JOIN US THIS AFTERNOON!

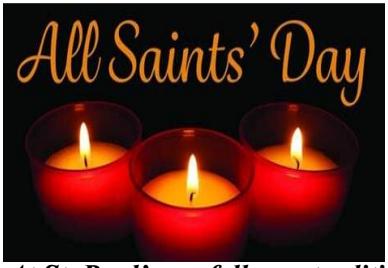
Bring the whole family together for a fun afternoon of faith, fellowship, and Bingo! Enjoy a great time, complete with pizza and refreshments. It's the perfect opportunity to spend time together! Invite friends and neighbors to join the fun. Sunday, **October 25th @ 2:00pm** in the Parish Hall. Please remember to **RSVP by Friday, October 23rd** so we can make sure we have enough pizza!

The Turkey Tree is up in the overflow area!

From October 5th through November 9th, please, fill an envelope with a generous donation, and put it in the offering plate so we can assist GVCS to help families have a blessed meal on Thanksgiving.

—Thank You.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



All Saints Sunday resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God. At St. Paul's we follow a tradition of honoring all the saints who have passed away since last All Saints Day. We will light a candle and ring the bell for each person named.

Please call the Parish Office or email @ officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org to name the person you would like to remember in this way throughout the month of October. Please give the name, relationship to you and date of death. ***We will need these names by 10/27/2026.***

Please address any questions to the Worship and Arts Committee.

Donations for ***Glade Valley Food Bank*** are always accepted!

****UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:***
Cereal, Juice (64 oz), Boxed Crackers, Spaghetti Sauce, Soup, Jams/Jelly

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!

Glade Valley Community Services

Saint Paul's Choir Rehearsals
Thursdays @ 7:00pm
in the Sanctuary

Would you like to schedule a date to sponsor Altar Flowers? Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or contact the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to honor or remember.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear St. Paul's Family,

As Thanksgiving approaches, we have a wonderful opportunity to share our blessings with our neighbors. On **Saturday, November 14th**, St. Paul's is partnering with **Autumn's Table** to provide holiday meals for families in need.

We invite you to join us in the Parish Hall to help assemble Thanksgiving meal bags. Beyond giving your time, you can also directly sponsor a family's Thanksgiving dinner for a donation of just **$8.00**. Please contact Roxanne Smith at your earliest convenience if you feel called to support a family or two this Thanksgiving Season.

Our collective goal is to support **130 FCPS families**, ensuring they can enjoy a warm, worry-free holiday. Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful difference. Thank you so much for your continued kindness and support!

Get ready to embrace the Christkindl Magic!

Preparations are officially underway for the 9th Annual **Christkindl Market**, returning on Saturday, **December 5th** from 10am to 2:00pm.

Once again, our fantastic hosts at the Walkersville Historical Society are bringing the festive tradition to life. Here at St. Paul's, we will fill our halls with amazing local vendors, our famously delicious roasted nuts, our extraordinary bake sale along with our renowned Quilt sales and raffles.

We need your help to make this year's event shines! Please mark your calendars and consider sharing your time or talents. Please see the weekly email for more details!

Let's come together to make this the best Christkindl Market yet!

Co-chairs are Amy and Russ Mildenstein.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Nominating Committee of St. Paul's Lutheran church is seeking nominations for three to five voting members to fill the open seats in serving a two year term from January 31, 2027 to January 31, 2029. *Nominations will be accepted through December 31, 2026.*

You might be asking yourself, "Why me?" and the response would be "Why not you!" This is an opportunity for personal growth and stepping outside one's comfort zone.

Please prayerfully consider serving on the Congregational Council. Please reach out to anyone on council, the Nominating Committee or Pastor Roy if you have any questions or are interested in serving on Council. Feel free to attend a council meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Nominating Committee
Ellen Buckheimer, Jamie Salina, and Roxanne Smith

See the Weekly Email or Epistle for more information

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Peter Roy
Lector.....Ed Chaney
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Kay Wachter and Betsy Galliher
Acolyte.....Noah King, Camden Plog, Journey Gardner & Kay Wachter

Staff

Minister:.....Pastor Peter Roy
Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)....Joann Valainis
Music Coordinator .....Jeff Gentry
Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
Administration/Purchasing .....Ed Chaney
Sexton .....Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator.....
Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney

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. From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved | License # SAS103410, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #736745-A. All rights reserved CCLI Copyright © 2026 License 21412874, Streaming 21412867. All rights reserved.