17th Sunday after Pentecost, September 20, 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

Stand as you are able

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BELL RUNG

CANDLES LIT

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

Lord of Light.....ELW 688

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860-1953, alt.,Text © Union of Welsh Independents

****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 and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem*.....*High King of Heaven (Be Thou My Vision) .....*Choir*

Traditional Irish Hymn, Music by Marty Parks

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FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145

[1] I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.
[2] Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
[3] Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.
[4] One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.
[5] I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.
[6] They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.
[7] They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
[8] The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

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

Gospel: *Matthew 20:1-16*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon.....Pastor Peter Roy

Silence for Reflection

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

As Saints of Old.....ELW 695

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900-1996, alt.
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****THE APOSTLES' CREED***

P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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

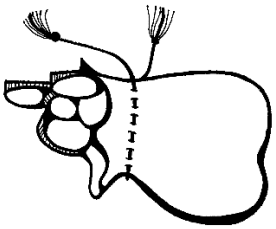
Lord of All Hopefulness..... ELW 765

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953, Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

Dismissal

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God



PRAYER LIST

Betsy Galliher*, Member*
Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*
Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemyer*
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*
Dawn Lee Knoebel*, daughter of Robb and Dianne Port*
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*

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, September 20th
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship, (Live Stream) 9:00am
Worship and Arts Meeting 10:15am

Monday, September 21st
FEC 8am-5pm

Tuesday, September 22nd
FHS 10am-3pm

Wednesday, September 23rd
FEC 8am-5pm

Thursday, September 24th
FHS 10am-3pm
Cub Scout 1070 6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm

Sunday, September 27th
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship, (Live Stream) 9:00am

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need:
$3,110.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:
$350.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income

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

In Worship Offerings

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

ATTENDANCE:
September 13, 2026

In Person:	52
Virtual:	2

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/0koqbWTMlNI *August 30*, 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 Clarissa, Sabrina and Lilly on their Birthday by Candy Foucart.

Reminder: Today after worship, we will work on mailing out our advocacy letters. This Synod-wide collection urges lawmakers to support food assistance and SNAP benefits.

Community Dinners for October and November have been cancelled. Please see Roxanne with any questions or concerns.

Fall Festival Candy Donations Needed! It's officially time for pumpkin spice and everything nice! To help make **St. Paul's Fall Festival** a success, please consider bringing **individually wrapped candies** to worship with you up until October 11th. All donations will be given out at the festival on **Saturday, October 24th**. Thank you for helping us share some sweetness with our community!

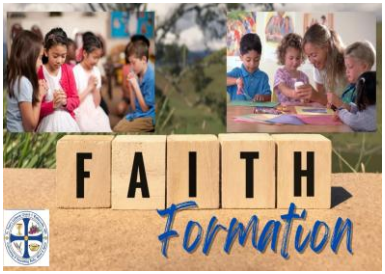
ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 11, 2026

Harvest Home Sunday is quickly approaching!

An annual tradition in our congregation is to celebrate the harvest by returning a portion of God's gifts to be distributed to others in need. On Sunday, October 11th, please bring non-perishable food items to the church. We will be collecting these items at the communion rail. After Service, they will be counted and taken to the Glade Valley Food Bank. Check the Wednesday email and bulletins for current Food Bank Needs.

It's also Pumpkin Sunday! Please pick up a pumpkin to enjoy at home on your way out after worship!



Dear families, Faith Formation classes begin on October 4th. We warmly invite you to enroll your children to help them grow in faith, have a fun and safe learning space, engaging Bible lessons and community.

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

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

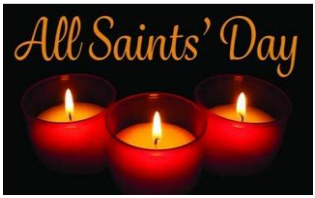
christkindl MARKET

We are beginning preparations for the 9th annual Christkindl market happening on **Saturday, December 5th** from 10am-2pm. Once again, the Walkersville Historical Society will be the event host. St. Paul's will have vendors and food similar to last year. Look for more information on those items as we get closer to the date. We will also be looking for volunteers to help with the different areas so make sure you mark it on your calendars. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Co-chairs are Amy and Russ Mildenstein.

Thank you!

Robb and Dianne Port would like to offer their gratitude for the prayers St. Paul's has offered for their daughter, Dawn. Your prayers are working and they asked that you keep them coming.



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.

Betsy Galliher

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Peter Roy
Lector.....Marie Purswell
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Patty Rimel & Mary Sulima
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.