

July 31, 2011 | Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

The Readings from Scripture

(Please be seated)

The First Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob wrestled all night with God, and when God wanted to get away as dawn was breaking, Jacob would not let God go until God had blessed him. Jacob's name is changed to Israel to mark his new relationship with God as he enters the land. Jacob is astonished that he remains alive after seeing God face to face.

A reading from the book of Genesis

²²The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said,

"I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him,

"What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said,

"You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him,

"Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?"

And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying,

"For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Romans 9:1–5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

A reading from the book of Romans

I am speaking the truth in Christ — I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit — ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen

The Word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Matthew 14:13–21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the _____ chapter

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children

The Gospel of our Lord.

Prayers of Intercession

Led by the Holy Spirit, and with the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

You desire that all people come to you. Give your church a passion to reach out to others with the good news of your love for all humankind. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You created a world in which all life is sustainable. Open wide our hearts and minds, that those who are blessed with abundance live simply so that others may simply live. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You are the Lord of all nations and all peoples. Create understanding among all people of faith so that we may together work for global peace (*especially*). Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You turn no one away. In your compassion feed the hungry, cure the sick, and calm the fearful (*especially*). Grant them the peace only you can give. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You provide the bread of life for your people. Nourish this congregation on the body and blood of your Son, that we may be strengthened to serve. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For what else do the people of God pray?

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You sustain us in our faith. We give you thanks for the witnesses who have gone before us. May their example guide us until we are joined with them in glory.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

St. Paul's Prayer List ✂ Weekly update to the July Vision

Joe DiCarlo
Kevin Langenback—*father of Kip & Kristen*
Betty Treffinger
Louise Mest
Eugene Woehr
Franklin Renninger
Gladys Sands – *at home*
The Blancheck Family & Gregg Fetterman
cousins of Diane McMurtrie

Harry Diehl – *Brother of Barbara Roeder*
The Blancheck Family & Gregg Fetterman
cousins of Diane McMurtrie
Gloria Bobyak – *Friend of Linda Shagg*
USN AT1 Steven Moyer –
Son of Nancy McClain
Marie Seever – *Friend of Grims*
Kevin Steinman— *Nephew of Ida Benner*

Please look in the current edition of the Vision Newsletter for other names on our prayer list. The Sunday bulletins only list updates to the complete list in the Vision.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florence Blank and Frances Blank presented by daughter Joyce Allebach.

Capital Improvement Fund ~ We have currently received a total of \$65,793. in our Capital Improvement fund toward our goal of \$225,000. Pledges amount to \$64,914.

Elevator Fund ~	Gifts Previously Committed	\$55,000.00
	Gifts Received as of 7.26.11	\$15,360.00
	Total	\$70,360.00

Victory House ~ We will be traveling to the Victory House on August 14th. A signup sheet is located outside fellowship hall on the bulletin board. If you are interested in traveling to the Victory House to help serve, would like to prepare food prior to the trip or have any questions about the Victory House at all, please contact Laura Foreman at 267-923-8895 or email foreman3@hotmail.com.

Can you help? | “Back to School Supplies”

Back to School Supplies are needed by *Open Line* for children in need within the Upper Perk Valley as families prepare for a new school year. The following items are needed:



backpacks | facial tissues | hand sanitizers | 3-ring binders | wide-ruled paper/notebooks
3-ring binders | pencils | colored pencils | pencil sharpeners | crayons| pens | markers
highlighters | rulers| pencil boxes | pocket folders | erasers | index cards | glue | scissors
book covers | protractors | calculators | dictionaries | college-ruled paper/notebooks

Donated items may be placed in the boxes located in the church hallways near the lower classroom office and fellowship hall. Your assistance with any of the above items would be appreciated. Thank you!

This Week at St. Paul's

Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service w/Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School - <i>resumes 2nd Sunday of September</i>	
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Generations Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Bell Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM
Monday	Property Committee	7:00 PM
	Praise Team	7:30 PM
Tuesday	No Council or Finance Committee Meetings this month	
Wednesday	Christian Education Committee	7:00 PM
Friday	Cub Pack Meeting	7:00 PM
Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service w/Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School - <i>resumes 2nd Sunday of September</i>	
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
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	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

~ Today's Worship Assistants ~

Altar Guild	8:00 AM	Sandy Landis		
Assistant	8:00 AM	Stan Rose	10:30 AM	Robert Walp
Ushers	9:15 AM	Craig and Lori Frank		
	10:30 AM	Brian Stever, Frank & Chad Grim		
Monday		Fern Roth, Linny Genszler, D Brendlinger		

The Vision for July and August ~ is available on the church web site, or in hardcopy on the information rack in the Fellowship hallway. Please note the article on page 12 that explains why the Vision will no longer be coming to you in the mail. If you do not have a computer or can not get to church to pick up your copy, please call the church office and we will see what arrangements we can make to get one to you

Lunch Bunch News ~ It is Lunch Bunch Picnic Time!!! Mark WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 11:30 am on your calendar. We enjoy and share picnic foods brought to our monthly gathering in fellowship hall. We will be entertaining ourselves with fun and new games for all. Come out and join us. Bring your friends and relatives, they do not have to be a member of St. Pauls to enjoy Lunch Bunch. You only need to be over the age of 50 male and female. Please bring your mug for a beverage! If you shop at Redners, use your Save-A-Tape Card, Lunch Bunch saves the tapes for program expenses. We will gladly accept your tapes. Hope you will join us!