

**September 11, 2011 | Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**The Readings from Scripture**

*(Please be seated)*

**The First Reading**

Genesis 50:15–21

*After Jacob's death, the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

A reading from Genesis 50:15–21

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"

<sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying,

"Your father gave this instruction before he died,

<sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'

Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves."

<sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

<sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.

<sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones."

In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Second Reading**

Romans 14:1–12

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans:

Welcome those who are weak in faith,

but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

<sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

<sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

<sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?

It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.

And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another,

while others judge all days to be alike.

Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

<sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.

Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord,

since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain,

abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

<sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;

so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

<sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again,

so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?

Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?

For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

<sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

*The Holy Gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter*

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came and said to him,

"Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

<sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

<sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'

<sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'

<sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

<sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

<sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him,

'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

<sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

<sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

*The Gospel of our Lord.*

## ***The Prayers of Intercession***

Confident in the knowledge that God comforts and lifts up those who call on the name of the Lord, let us pray for the church, the world and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the gift of life, O Lord, we give you thanks. Infuse us with your light, and make us vehicles of that life-giving light. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For all who live with fear, anxiety and uncertainty. Comfort and strengthen them, we pray, that they may know the healing power of your love. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations and all who are in positions of political authority, that they may hear your voice above all others and act in such a way that brings about healing and reconciliation. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For those who mourn and wonder, "O God, where were you?" May they know your presence and see how you use something that was meant for evil to bring about something that can be used for good. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For our enemies, the ones for whom we would rather not pray, and for ourselves:  
lead us from prejudice to truth; deliver us from hatred and revenge; give us courage to overcome our fears and build bridges, that we may stand before you reconciled through Christ our Lord. 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 merc, **hear our prayer.**

We remember with affection those who now rest from their labors, especially those we name before you now, on our lips or in our hearts. . . . Keep us in fellowship with all your saints and bring us at last to the joy of your heavenly kingdom. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayer, O Lord, increase in us the gift of faith that our lives may reflect your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**St. Paul's Prayer List ❖ Weekly update to the September Vision**

Franny Lechner - *Lehigh Valley Hospital*  
Pastor Bill Phillips – Luth Comm. Telford

Eugene Woehr – *Grandview Hospital*

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.

**Last Sunday** we received into congregational member through the sacrament of Holy Baptism Carly Rose Hitchcock daughter of Glenn Hitchcock & Karen (Learn) Hitchcock and her family.

**In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection** we commend Robert Mack to our Lord's eternal care and remember in our prayers the Mack, Reeder, Rehak, Walter, and Yerger families.

**The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God** and in loving memory of the birthday anniversary of Leroy Brey presented by wife Shirley, children and grand children.

**The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God** and in loving memory of our parents, Uncle Lin, brother Bill Brey, Leroy Brey and sister Ellen. Presented by Don & Esther Brey-Wood.

**The Sanctuary Lamp is given to the glory of God** and in honor of all who serve and in memory of all lives lost, presented by Frank and Nancy Grim.

**The Bulletin is given to the glory of God** and in loving memory of Ralph H. Nace (9.9.2001) presented by children and grandchildren.

**Capital Improvement Fund** ~ We have currently received a total of \$66,359 in our Capital Improvement fund toward our goal of \$225,000. Pledges amount to \$64,914.

<b>Elevator Fund</b> ~	Gifts Previously Committed	\$55,000.00
	Gifts Received as of 9.1.11	\$15,370.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$70,370.00</b>

**Fall Women's Event** - Saturday, October 1st from 9 to 12 noon in Fellowship Hall. Come join us for "Fallin' for Jesus". Morning refreshments and gathering at 9, program starts at 10. There will be guest speakers, fun, fellowship, games, video clips, singing, and prizes for all. A luncheon will follow. There is no cost for the program OR the luncheon. A free will offering for the day will be accepted. Please invite friends and family to join us. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in Fellowship hallway. Please sign up so we have enough food for all. Any questions see or call Bonnie Bonser 215-679-5553 ext. 125 or Jan Woertz 215-541-1027.

**OKTOBERFEST** - Will be held on Saturday, October 1 from 2 - 6 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Glenside. Benefits Lutheran Disaster Relief.

**IMPORTANT:** Our office computer was lost during the hurricane and some email contacts were lost. If you have been on our group email and now you are not receiving the email version of the Bulletin or Vision, please send your contact information to the church office by completing the form at [www.stpaulredhill.org](http://www.stpaulredhill.org). At our website select "contact-us" and "join-our-email-list." If you were not previously on the list and would like to receive email updates from the church office please send us your contact information.

**Lunch Bunch** - is Wednesday, September 14 at 11:30 am in Church Fellowship Hall. Everyone age 50+ is welcome. Bring your friends and relatives. You need to bring your lunch and a mug. Dessert and beverage are provided. Entertainment for the month will be an Antique Appraiser from Alderfer Auctions. Everyone is invited to bring one item to be appraised. Try to arrive early to have your item logged in. This is free of charge. September is our "Shower of Blessing" month. Please bring a paper product or non-perishable food item. Thank You. Don't forget your Redner Tapes for Lunch Bunch. Use your Save-A-Tape card when you shop Redners.

**Can you help?** | "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!

**Victory House** – We will travel to Victory House today at 4:30 PM. Contact Laura Foreman with questions: foreman3@hotmail.com.

**One combined worship hour on Sunday, October 2 at 9:15 AM** where we will dedicate the elevator, recognize service ministries in the congregation, and have a blessing for students and teachers as a new school year begins. A luncheon follows.

**Sunday School** | Ages 2 - grade 6 resumes TODAY at 9:15 AM.

**Confirmation Ministry** | Grades 7, 8 & 9 - Orientation meeting with youth & parents TODAY at 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall.

**First Communion Instruction** for those in kindergarten or older to be held in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> • 9:30 AM.

**The Vision can be picked up in the Narthex in a box marked "Vision"**. You can also view the Vision on our website at [www.stpaulredhill.org](http://www.stpaulredhill.org). If you would like to receive the Vision by email and have email access, please email Karen Quinn in the church office with your contact information. Her address is: [info@stpaulredhill.org](mailto:info@stpaulredhill.org) .

**Remembering "9/11"** - A community service will be hosted at St. Philip's this afternoon at 3 PM.



As each has  
received a gift,  
employ it for  
one another,  
as good stewards  
of God's varied  
grace.

1 Peter 4:10

***This Week at St. Paul's***

<b>Sunday</b>	Early Service with Holy Communion/Baptism	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Confirmation Ministry Grades 7-8-9	10:30 AM
	<i>Community Service hosted at St. Philip</i>	3:00 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous – <i>Pavilion for picnic</i>	6:00 PM
	<b>Monday</b>	Cub Scouts
Property Committee		7:00 PM
Praise Team		7:30 PM
<b>Tuesday</b>	Robotics Team	6:30 PM
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunch Bunch	11:30 AM
	AA	8:00 PM
<b>Thursday</b>	Bible Study – at home of Bonnie Bonser	7:00 PM
<b>Friday</b>	Frontier Girls, Brownies & Daisies	6:30 PM
<b>Saturday</b>	Robotic Team	9:00 AM
<b>Sunday</b>	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Table Talk	4:30 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

***Today's Worship Assistants***

***Next Sunday's Worship Assistants***

Altar Guild:	8:00 AM	Walter	Barb Miller
	10:30 AM	None	
Assistant:	8:00 AM	Henry Thomas	Stan Rose
	10:30 AM	Robert Walp	Jan Woertz
Ushers:	9:15 AM	Sue Jarrett	Ron Leister
		John Ferrero	Diane Leister
	10:30 AM	Nancy Yerger	Jeff Bird
Monday:		Pat Walter	Tyler Bird
		Tom Sands	Sandy Bergey
		Charles Shagg	Alan & Diane Richard