

October 16, 2011 | Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The Readings from Scripture

(Please be seated)

The First Reading

Isaiah 45:1–7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him —
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul is giving pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic pagan environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

A Reading from St. Paul first letter to the Thessalonians:

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction;

just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of

persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit,

⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known,

so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you,

and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the _____ chapter

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of our Lord.



For in the one spirit
we were all baptized
into one body.

1 Corinthians 12:13

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In grateful response to God's endless bounty of grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God in heaven, send your Holy Spirit upon the church, that it might receive your word with joy and faithfully proclaim the gospel through word and deed.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Creating God, the heavens rejoice and the earth is glad, for you made them. Sustain all creation with your breath of life, and raise up from your people faithful stewards of creation. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all, the nations declare your glory, the people proclaim your wonders. Unite the people of this world in your love, and show them the way of peace.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Living God, grant your healing and mercy to all who are sick (*especially*). May the promise of the gospel come in word and in power to all who suffer.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, give this congregation the desire to sing to you a new song of your glory. Bless the work of volunteers and staff, of elected and rostered leaders, that through them you might be made known. 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.

God the beginning and the end, you hold in your care those who have gone before us. Comfort those who mourn with the promise of the resurrection (*especially*), and at the last gather all the faithful in your holy kingdom.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.



The following persons received First Communion Sunday, October 9 ~ Congratulations and prayers are offered to them and their families:

*Maria Louise Grim
Donovan Hanney
Andrew Kelly
Aiden Kelly
Sara Oswald
Allison Sattler
Thomas Uber*

Lunch Bunch ~ Lunch Bunch invites you to join us for our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon Meeting, Wednesday, November 9 at 11:30 AM in Church Fellowship Hall. No need to pack your lunch. You need to make a luncheon reservation. **Sign-up deadline is October 31.** The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall. The Rev. Robert Gerhart will entertain us with his talent of story in chalk art. Lunch Bunch is our active group of ladies and men aged 50 +, not limited to St Pauls' members. Don't forget to save your Redners Tapes and us your Save-A-Tape /Gas Card at Redners. Bring your tapes to Lunch Bunch . Hope to see you on November 9.

Autumn Family Event ~ October 23rd on the grounds of St. Paul's Red Hill 3 to 5 PM Scarecrow Making & Judging; Family Apple Launch; Hot Dog Roast; Healthy Family Information. Please Join Us! Sponsored by Youth & Family Services, Nate Clemens Substance Recovery Fund, Upper Perkiomen Ministerium, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and YMCA of Upper Perk.

St. Paul's Prayer List ☞ Weekly update to the October Vision

Gene Woehr – *Manor Care*
Barbara Woehr- *Recovering at home*
Norman Benner – *Recovering at home*

Robert Stevens – *Recovering at home*
Pastor Bill Phillips – *Luth Comm. Telford*

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.

We remember in our prayers Renee Thomas and Ina Beebe and their families on the death of their sister Judy Shupe who was laid to rest on October 11, 2011. We also keep in prayer the family and friends of Gordon Leister who passed away this week.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 27th birthday of Amy Stever on October 21 presented by parents Donna and Brian Stever and brother Matthew.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 27th wedding anniversary on October 15th of Judy and Thomas Zepp presented by Agnes and Charles Zepp.

Capital Improvement Fund ~ We have currently received a total of \$66,819 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 10.10.11	\$18,050.00
	Total	\$73,050.00

Ham Dinner ~ The ASP will be hosting its Ham Dinner on November 12, 2011 at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This event benefits the Appalachian Service Project's home repairs ministry. Come enjoy food and fellowship while supporting a great cause.



The Upper Perkiomen Child Care Center will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with an evening celebration on October 21 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM at the pavilion. Visitors Welcome!

The Appalachia Service Project at St. Paul's will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with an ASP reunion picnic on July 28, 2012. A combined worship hour will be held at 9:15 on July 29 with Pastor Bill Bixby as the guest preacher. Pastor Bixby was associate pastor during the initial years of ASP.

This Week at St. Paul's

Sunday	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
Monday	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:00 PM
	Cemetery Committee	7:00 PM
	Praise Team	7:30 PM
Tuesday	Robotics Team	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Health Advocates at Pennsburg Manor	10:00 AM
	Men's Bible Study	7:00 PM
	AA	8:00 PM
Thursday	Bible Study – at home of Bonnie Bonser	1:00 PM
	Bible Study – at home of Bonnie Bonser	7:00 PM
Friday	UPCCC Fall Festival	6:30 PM
	Brownies & Daisies	6:30 PM
Saturday	Robotics Team	9:00 AM
Sunday	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
	Autumn Family Event	3:00 PM
	Generations Choir	6:30 PM
	Bell Choir	7:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

Today's Worship Assistants

Altar Guild:	8:00AM	Nicole Walter
	Wash:	
Assistant:	8:00AM	Henry Thomas
	10:30AM	Jan Woertz
Ushers:	9:15AM	Debbie Gryshuk
		Katie Gryshuk
	10:30AM	Leroy Stevens
		Tom Landis
		Sandy Landis
Monday:		Fern Roth
		Dorie Brendlinger
		Linwood Genszler

Next Sunday's Worship Assistants

	8:00AM	Barb Miller
	Wash:	
	8:00AM	Sandy Bergey
	10:30AM	Vicar Ryan
	9:15AM	Ron Rodenberger
		George Bonekemper
	10:30AM	Bruse Baver
		Laverne Keyser
Monday:		Tom Sands
		Charles Shagg