



Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Red Hill
Sharing Our Faith, Spreading God's Love
Rev. Kevin Compton - Pastor

SUNDAY – August 30, 2026 – Fourteenth SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“All are welcome in this place!”

This is the title of a popular modern hymn in the Lutheran tradition by Marty Haugen. He begins his hymn with this line, “Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.” These words testify to the meaning of the body of Christ in this world, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church has embodied the love and welcome of Christ in the Upper Perkiomen Valley since 1739. No matter who you are, if you are seeking a loving community of people following Christ, if you are curious about this man named Jesus that we call savior, or even if you are not sure what you are looking for, know that you are welcome. You are created in the image of God, and you are welcome.

Pastor Kevin Compton

We believe the sound of children in worship is not a distraction. It is evidence of life, growth, and the future of the church. If your child makes noise, you are not bothering us. You are blessing us.

This service is being streamed: By remaining, you consent to being recorded or live-streamed on the Internet. We do have no-camera areas in the balcony and in the back rows of the Sanctuary for you to help limit your exposure.

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in honor of all the students, staff and teachers beginning their school year presented by The McPherson Family.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Robert Mack presented by his children, Nancy, Sandy, Pat and Jim

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME (Pastor)

Today we welcome Pastor Paula Lebo to the pulpit while Pastor Kevin is on vacation.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(Please rise in body or in spirit)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.
(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – Will You Come and Follow Me – see the next page for the hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



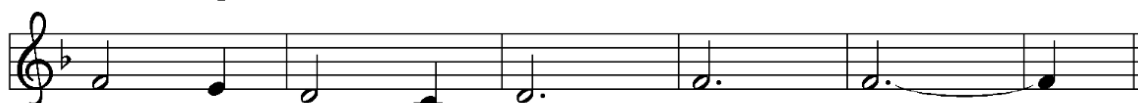
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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THE GREETING (Pastor)

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8 (Assistant)

Please read from Psalm 26 with me responsively

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:12-21 (Assistant)

Our second reading is from the book of Romans, the Eighth chapter.

¹² Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

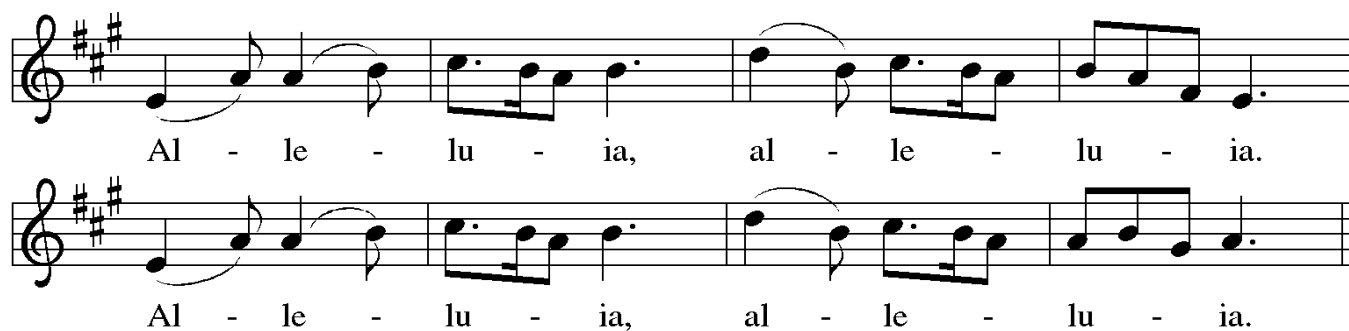
¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please rise in body or in spirit)



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GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28 (Pastor)

The Gospel is from St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ (Please be seated)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Pastor Paula Lebo

THE MESSAGE – Pastor Paula Lebo

SONG OF THE DAY - Above All

Lenny LeBlanc & Paul Baloche 1999 Integrity's Hosanna Music/LenSongs Publishing

Above all powers above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what You're worth

Crucified laid behind a stone
You lived to die rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all

repeat song

CREED (Assistant):

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith, sharing together the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again 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 INTERCESSION (Assistant)

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation
(Allow for a brief silence.)

For the church in every land, we pray that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the nations and all people in authority, that they seek peace and dignity for all people. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring reconciliation to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit. We pray especially for those on our prayer list and that who we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.
(Allow for a brief silence)
Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE (Pastor)

The Peace of the Lord be with you all!

And also with you!

(Please greet your neighbor with a sign of peace and return to your seats for the offering)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING We begin our celebration of communion by returning a portion of the blessings we have received from God to sustain the body of Christ.

OFFERTORY SONG - Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul

Bless the Lord, O My Soul



Text: Ps. 103:1

Music: PRAISE PSALM 103, traditional

OFFERTORY SONG – We Are An Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to You; We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord use our hands;
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours; We are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
All that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, We lift our lives up to You;
We are an offering, we are an offering.

OFFERING PRAYER (Pastor)

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 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 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.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Pastor)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

Amen. (Please be seated)

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Follow the usher's directions.
Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.
Blessings are available in lieu of communion or for any young person who has not yet received communion instruction.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard

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**SONG DURING COMMUNION - Let Us Break Bread Together on
Our Knees - Green Book 212**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Pastor)

(Please rise in body or in spirit.)

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

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

THE BLESSING (Pastor)

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CONGREGATION

SENDING SONG - Almighty

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Chorus: Almighty, most holy God; faithful through the ages.
Almighty, most holy Lord; glorious Almighty God.

The beast of the field, the birds of the air
Are silent to call out Your name.
The earth has no voice and I have no choice
But to magnify God unashamed.
Let the rocks be kept silent for one more day.
Let the whole world sing out. Let the people say: **Chorus**

Well, time marches on with innocence gone,
And a darkness has covered the earth.
But His Spirit still dwells; He speaks, "It is well."
And the hopeless still offered new birth.
He will break the leash of death; it will have no sting.
Let the prisoner go free. Join the dance and sing. **Chorus**

DISMISSAL (Pastor)

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you to Pastor Paula Lebo for leading us in worship and presiding at our table today.

Our music today is led by St. Paul's Music Director, Eve Keane. Thank you Eve for your talents and your leadership!

Thank you to our worship assistant Donna Gerhart; ushers, Cindy and Alyssa Smith; live streaming team; Communion set up team, Pat Walter; sacristy team, Barbara Nace and Pat Walter; flower sponsors and all who help with worship.

We Remember in Prayer

Jason Adamczyk
Joyce Allebach
Anita Breyer
Shelby Chadwick
Nancy Esterly
Dave and Gail
Gerhard
Barbara Green
Dave Hamblin
Janet Hill
John Hockenberger
Frances Lechner

Melissa Leinback
Madalena McMahon
Jeff McMurtrie
Becky McIntosh
Becky McNeilly
Tricia Parker
Dennis Renninger
Alan Richard
Kirk Robinson
Donna Rodenberger
Tom Sands
Margarita Serbia

Linda Shagg
John Sheeran
Sarah Stever
Beth Ann Thomas
Arlene Vandenburg
Ryan Weaver
Larry Weiss
Dave Woodward
Pastor Jessica
Zurcher
Janet Zylinski

TAIZÉ EARLY EVENING WORSHIP! Third Wednesday of each month at 6pm.

The Center at The Open Link, 517 Jefferson Street, East Greenville.

The next Taizé Worship is on September 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Come and enjoy a brief, midweek sanctuary from our busy lives. Center your hearts in praise and prayer, song and silence, word and welcome.

WELCOME WORSHIP

Every Sunday at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall!

This service is centered on Christ's love for everyone. We are focused on making the worship accessible, contemporary in style, interactive, and intergenerational. We expect the service to last about **45 minutes**.

Come take part in worship, or pray for the new thing God is doing among us! Help us share the energy of St. Paul's and the love of Christ to the Upper Perk in a new way!

**FLYERS AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS SERVICE!
SEE PASTOR KEVIN AND HELP SPREAD THE WORD!**

UPCCC 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION September 18, 2026 at 5:30 pm!

Mark your calendar and come join the fun! Games, Dunk Tank, Craven Food Truck, Face Painting and so much more! All are welcome.

Important dates are coming up before you know it!

Monday, September 7th – Labor Day!

Saturday, September 12th – Community Day!

We are in need of volunteers for Community Day!

The sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board!

Sunday, September 13th – Rally Day!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

End of Summer Worship and Picnic with Our Neighbors!

Sunday, September 6, 2026, St. Paul's will be worshipping at New Goshenhoppen Park with our neighboring congregations in the Reformation Sister Churches of the Upper Perkiomen Valley.

All seven of the churches in our group will be gathered together for an outdoor worship in celebration of the end of the summer, our love for our friends and neighbors, and the presence of Christ in this community.

Worship Information for September 6

- Worship Location: **New Goshenhoppen Park**
- Worship Time: **10:30am**
- Pastor Kevin Compton will be preaching
- Music will be provided by the Red Hill Band
- Stick around after service for a picnic with our neighbors! New Goshenhoppen UCC will be cooking up hotdogs and hamburgers. There is no charge, but each guest is encouraged to bring a side to share.
- **The Red Hill Band will perform a concert at 1:00pm.**
- A concession stand will be selling ice cream.
- After the picnic, there will be games and entertainment, including a bounce house and a gaga pit.

There will be no worship at St. Paul's on Sunday, September 6th. If you are unable to attend the service at New Goshenhoppen Park, join Pastor Serena Sellers at **9:00am** for an **indoor worship** at **St. Mark's Lutheran** in Pennsburg. This service will be live-streamed.