



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

SUNDAY – August 23, 2026 – Thirteenth 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.

Music is reprinted, podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-744022 & CCLI LICENSE #1083898. All rights reserved.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of the Birthday Anniversary of Floyd H. Smoll, presented by his son Daniel Smoll

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of our precious daughter, Jennifer, presented by parents Mr. and Mrs. John Cairns, son John and daughter Allison and their families.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

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 – My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
Green Book 293

THE GREETING

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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

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

Psalm 138 (Assistant)

Please read Psalm 138 with me responsively.

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right
hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works of your hands.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8 (Assistant)

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

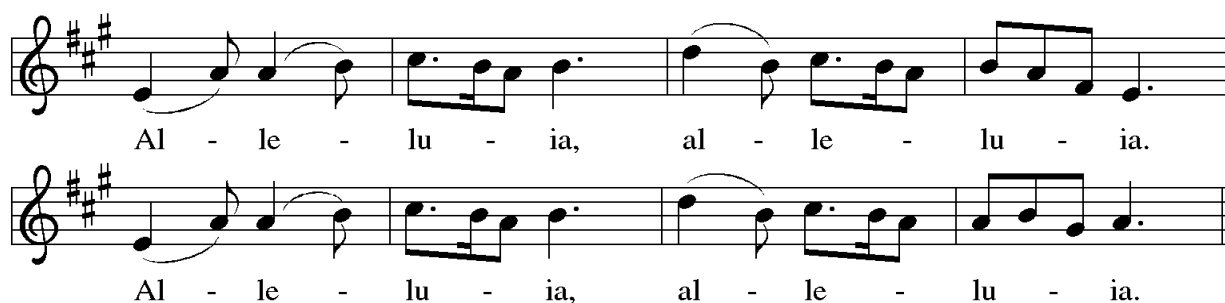
¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please rise in body or in spirit)



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20 (Pastor)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ** (Please be seated)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE – Pastor Kevin Compton



SONG OF THE DAY – Faithful One

© 1989 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Music Services) CCLI License No. 1083898

Faithful One, so unchanging
Ageless One, You're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on You
I call out to You again and again
I call out to You again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm
Your love is the anchor
My hope is in You alone

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.)

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all those who suffer with illness, injury, and chronic pain. We pray especially for the people on our prayer list, and all those we now name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. (Allow for a brief silence)

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. 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

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.

Anthem – Special Music Sung by Janet Hill

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

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 - Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me Green Book 327

SONG DURING COMMUNION - Come, Share the Lord

Bryan Jeffery Leech CCLI Song #106408 © 1984, 1987 Fred Bock Music Company For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #1083898

We gather here in Jesus' name
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord

We'll gather soon where angels sing
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord

He joins us here He breaks the bread
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead
The One we love the most is now our gracious host
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (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

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

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CONGREGATION



SENDING SONG All Things are Possible

Darlene Zschech CCLI License #1083898

Almighty God my Redeemer, My hiding place my safe refuge
No other name like Jesus, No pow'r can stand against You
My feet are planted on this rock, And I will not be shaken
My hope it comes from You alone, My Lord and my salvation

Chorus:

Your praise is always on my lips; Your word is living in my heart
And I will praise You with a new song; My soul will bless You, Lord
You fill my life with greater joy; Yes I delight myself in You and I will praise
You with a new song; My soul will bless You Lord

Musical Interlude

My feet are planted on this rock, And I will not be shaken
My hope it comes from You alone, My Lord and my salvation. ***Chorus***

When I am weak You make me strong, When I'm poor I know I'm rich;
For in the power of Your name All things are possible
All things are possible, All things are possible, All things are possible

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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 Eleanor Uber; ushers, Carol Elias and
Anne Gabel; live streaming team, Nicole Walter and Eric Virus; 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
Nancy Esterly
Dave and Gail
Gerhard
Barbara Green
Dave Hamblin
Janet Hill
John Hockenberger
Frances Lechner
Melissa Leinback

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

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 UPDATE!

**St. Paul's will be hosting a baked goods table
for the UPCCC 40th Anniversary Celebration!**

Come help us welcome our neighbors and celebrate an incredibly successful ministry of this church!

All interested bakers should reach out to Carol Elias.

Call or text: (215) 803-9164

Email: carolelias61@gmail.com

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!

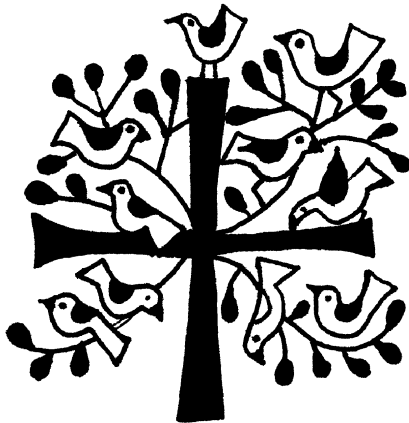
This service is centered on Christ's love for everyone. We are focused on making the worship accessible, contemporary in style, interactive, and intergenerational. We expect the service to last about **45 minutes**.

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!

CALLING ALL SINGERS AND MUSICIANS!
ALL SKILL LEVELS!

If you sing or play an instrument, come share your talents during the Offering at church over the summer? See our bulletin board for a sign-up sheet, or reach out to our music director, Eve Keane.

Cell: 267-875-8982, email: eve.keane@stpaulredhill.org.



**Important dates are coming up
before you know it!**

Monday, September 7th – Labor Day!

Saturday, September 12th – Community Day!

Sunday, September 13th – Rally Day!

Pastor Kevin is on vacation on Sunday, August 30th
So please come and welcome our guest pastors!
9:00am Morning Worship – Pastor Paula Lebo
4:00pm Welcome Worship – Pastor Leah Woehr-Grande

**DON'T MISS THE
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.

IMPORTANT!

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.