



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

SUNDAY – JULY 19, 2026 – EIGHTH 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 to honor the birth and life of Scott Reeder. Presented by parents Sandra and Steve, and his sister Shae.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of my father, Michael Spiro Jr. Presented by daughter Jennifer Eisenberger.

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 – O Word of God Incarnate
Green Book 231

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

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

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

Isaiah 55: 10-13 (Assistant)

Our first reading is from the book of Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 86:11-17 (Assistant)

Please read from Psalm 86 with me responsively.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of
violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of
your handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me
may see it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please rise in body or in spirit)



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (Pastor)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE – Pastor Kevin Compton

Sermon Series: "Gather, Word, Meal, and Send -- Why We Do What We Do"

This Sunday's theme: Word

SONG OF THE DAY – Ancient Words

(Please rise in body or in spirit)

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Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Words of life, words of hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Ancient Words ever true
Changing me and changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

(Musical Interlude)

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world.
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Ancient Words ever true
Changing me and changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

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)

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
(Allow for a brief silence.)

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; life in the depths of oceans, the abundant microscopic life teeming beneath a scientist's microscope, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, unemployment, harassment, illness or injury. We pray especially for the people on our prayer list and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.
(Allow for a brief silence.)

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, and teachers preparing for the coming academic year. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

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.

OFFERING SONG

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is with - in me bless God's ho - ly name.

Text: Ps. 103:1

Music: PRAISE PSALM 103, traditional

OFFERTORY SONG – Just as Jesus Told Us (Please rise as you are able)

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Just as Jesus told us, we will break this bread.

Just as Jesus told us, we shall all be fed; and we will remember
what he did and said, and how he goes on living in the bread.

Just as Jesus told us, we will pour this wine.

Just as Jesus told us, we will come and dine; and we will remember
How he lived in time, and how he goes on living in the wine.

Just as Jesus told us, pass the bread around.

Just as Jesus told us, more wine can be found; and we will remember
Bread and wine abound. So break the loaf and pass the cup around

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 – O Living Bread from Heaven **Green Book 197**

SONG DURING COMMUNION – One Bread, One Body **Blue Book 710**

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 – Thy Word

Grant, Am / Smith, Michael W. 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company(Admin, by EMI Christian Music Publishing)/Word Music, Inc.(a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.)

Chorus

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

Verse 1

When I feel afraid
Think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end.

Chorus

Verse 2

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide
Hold me to your side,
And I will love you to the end.

Chorus

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 Sandy Bergey; ushers, Sheila Krause and Gary Hager; live streaming team, Alice and Gary Hager; communion set up team, Nicole Walter; sacristy team, Barbara Nace and Pat Walter; flower sponsors and all who help with worship.

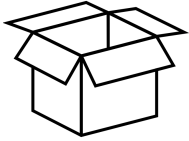
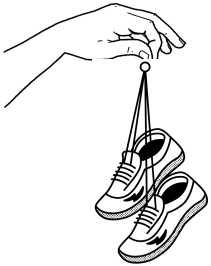
We Remember in Prayer

Jason Adamczyk
Joyce Allebach
Anita Breyer
Heather Cammann
Nancy Esterly
Barbara Green
April Hall and Kirk
Robinson
Dave Hamblin
Janet Hill
Roy Himmelwright
John Hockenberger
Ryan Humphreys
The Family of Dianne
Knorr

Frances Lechner
Melissa Leinback
Gary Mammele
Jeff McMurtrie
Becky McIntosh
Sally Mixer
Amy Moorhus
Baumgardner
Tricia Parker
Peter Reigner
Joy Reiss
Dennis Renninger
Alan Richard
Kirk Robinson
Donna Rodenberger

Gladys Sands
Margarita Serbia
Sally Schwenk
Linda Shagg
John Sheeran
Beth Ann Thomas
Arlene Vandenburg
David Wargo
Ryan Weaver
Larry Weiss
Dave Woodward
Janet Zylinski

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE OPEN LINK SHOE DRIVE!!!

Got gently worn or new shoes you no longer need?
Give them a second life by donating to help our neighbors!

**Drop-off your donations in the well-marked boxes
in the church entryway
or in front of the Child Care Center office
before August 15!**



**Proceeds help benefit
The OpenLink Summer Kids Meals Program**

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 August 19, 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!**

 FAITH NIGHT AT THE IRON PIGS

Friday, August 28th at 6:45pm!

Join us for Faith Night with the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown!

The Iron Pigs will be taking on the Syracuse Mets.

Tickets are \$13 per person.

Ticket price includes a \$2 credit toward food or beverages.

The evening events include:

- Live music on the plaza before the game!
- Player faith testimonies
- And a fireworks show at the end of the game!

DEADLINE FOR BUYING TICKETS: JULY 22 at 11:59pm!

Sign-up on the bulletin board in front of the office, or you can text/call Avah Virus (484) 637-3895 for tickets.

YOU MUST HAVE CONFIRMATION FROM AVAH TO ATTEND!

Thank you to Avah for organizing this inspiring and fun-filled night out!

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.

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!

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.