



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

SUNDAY – Sept. 20, 2026 – SEVENTEENTH 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 Given to the Glory of God in honor of all students and teachers, presented by Carol Elias.

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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – There is a Wideness in God's Mercy

(see next page)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in his jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the e - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more sim - ple, we should take him at his word;



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the head.
and our lives would be all sun - shine in the sweet - ness of our Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863

Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

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

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

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

Psalm: Psalm 145:1-8 (Assistant)

Please join me in a responsive reading from Psalm 145.

¹ I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

² **Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30 (Assistant)

Our second reading is from the book of Philippians, the First chapter.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.

²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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
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GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16 (Pastor)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going

to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius.

¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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 - The Power of Your Love

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Lord, I come to You, let my heart be changed, renewed.
Flowing from your grace that I've found in You.
And Lord, I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me
Will be stripped away by the power of Your love.

Refrain Hold me close, let Your love surround me;
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.
And as I wait I'll rise up like the eagle
And I will soar with You,
Your Spirit leads me on in the power of Your love.

Lord, unveil my eyes, let me see You face to face,
The knowledge of Your love as You live in me.
Lord, renew my mind, as Your will unfolds in my life,
In living every day in the power of your love.

Refrain

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)

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

(Allow for a brief silence.)

Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good news. Show us how to love as you have loved us. Nourish us by your grace to be witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Empower and embolden scientists and researchers and policymakers developing responses to our climate crisis. May the glory of your creation inspire us to learn from them and take action. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show corporations and producers the benefits of investing in their employees' health and welfare. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill our workplaces with positive and healthy relationships, and bring an end to employment disparity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Encourage any who cannot work or who cannot work a full day with the truth that their value comes from your everlasting love for them. Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need. We pray especially for those on our prayer list and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. (Allow for a brief silence)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of people who live on the margins, who struggle to make ends meet. We pray especially for The Open Link. Inspire all in this congregation to support our community with our time and talents. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, spoken or left unsaid, and provide for us in your love and wisdom. We ask these things in Jesus' name.

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.

OFFERTORY SONG - For the Fruit of All Creation

(see next page)

For the Fruit of All Creation



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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OFFERTORY SONG - Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul

Bless the Lord, O My Soul



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

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

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

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
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

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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SONG DURING COMMUNION - You are My All in All

Dennis Jernigan | CCLI License #1083898

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking you as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Chorus Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up,
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Chorus

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Please rise in body or in spirit.)

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

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

THE BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CONGREGATION

SENDING SONG - Trading My Sorrows

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Chorus

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down
For the joy of the Lord

Bridge

Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord amen

Verse

I am pressed but not crushed
Persecuted not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes with the morning

Chorus

Bridge x 3

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 Anne Gabel; ushers, Shae Reinhart & Carol Elias; live streaming team Nicole Walter and Eric Virus; 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
Shelby Chadwick
Nancy Esterly
Rev Dr. David
Genszler
Dave and Gail
Gerhard
Barbara Green
Dave Hamblin
Janet Hill
John Hockenberger
Frances Lechner

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

John Sheeran
Sarah Stever
Beth Ann Thomas
Arlene Vandenburg
Ryan Weaver
Larry Weiss
The Family of
Geraldine Weller
Dave Woodward
Pastor Jessica
Zurcher
Janet Zylinski

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!

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 October 21, 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!

The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News A Six-Week Bible Study

**Thursdays from 1:30pm to 3:00pm
October 1 to November 5**

The Reformation Sister Churches of the Upper Perkiomen Valley are working together to bring you an exciting introduction to the Gospel of Mark this fall! This will be a practical, engaging, and even challenging study that is sure to enrich your understanding of Jesus and his life.

- The classes meet at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.
 - Each class will be led by a pastor from one of the sister churches, including our own Pastor Kevin!
 - Sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office to let us know you would like to attend!
-

Octoberfest at St. John's Lutheran in Sumneytown! Wednesday, September 23rd! 5:00pm to 8:00pm!

Join our friends at St. John's Lutheran for
Octoberfest and support The Open Link!
3104 Main Street in Green Lane!

TONS OF FOOD TRUCKS!!!

Wrap n' Roll - Fry's Scratch Kitchen - Pig-'N-Out
Kresha's Creations - Hardy Funnel Cakes
Free Will Brewery - Cardinal Hollow Winery
Music from Gabe Delp and Wes Johnson