



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

SUNDAY – August 16, 2026 – TWELFTH 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 loving memory of Edna and Clifford Renninger presented by daughters Louise and JoANN

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of the 93rd birthday of Betty Treffinger presented by Lori Frank and Family

GATHERING

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

WELCOME – Today is the Blessing of the Backpacks!

Anyone who is returning to school as a student, a teacher, or an administrator is welcome to bring a book bag, a backpack, a laptop case, or whatever you use to carry your things to school up to the front before service and place them on the altar rail to be blessed. If you did not bring the thing you would like to have blessed, that is okay! We are also blessing tags to place on your backpack or bag to remind you that the people of St. Paul's have blessed you and prayed for you this school year!

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 – Oh God Our Help in Ages Past
Green Book: 383

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

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

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

First Reading: Joshua 1:1-9 (Assistant)

Our first reading is from the book of Joshua, the first chapter.

¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant, saying, ²"My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. ⁵No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. ⁹I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

The Word of The Lord

Thanks be to God.



Second Reading: Romans 12:1-3 (Assistant)

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

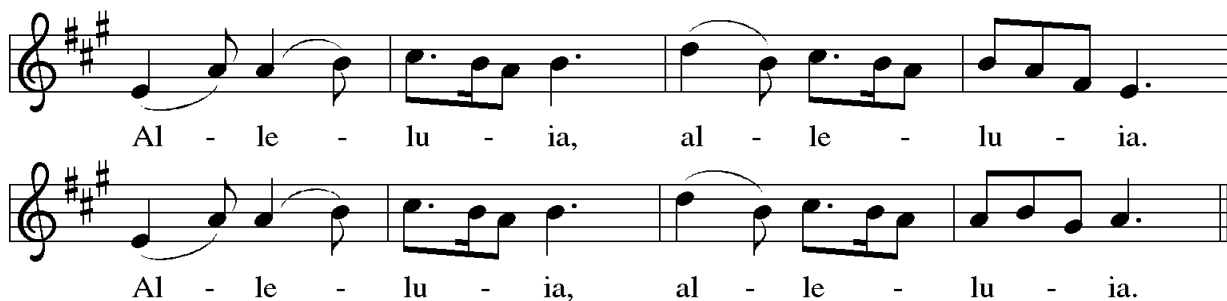
¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what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

³For 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.

The Word of The Lord

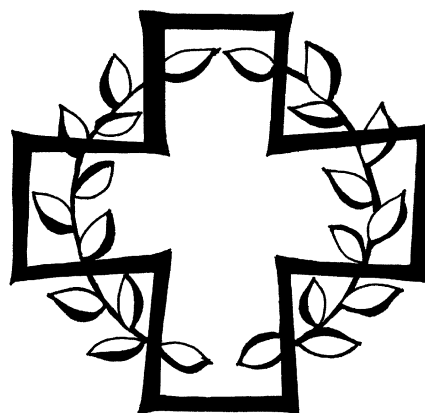
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please rise in body or in spirit)



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-34 (Pastor)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

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

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – THE BLESSING OF BACKPACKS!

THE MESSAGE – Pastor Kevin Compton



SONG OF THE DAY – God Will Make a Way

Don Moen/©1990,2006 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/CCLI#1083898

Chorus: God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
with love and strength for each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way

Verse: By a roadway in the wilderness he'll lead me
And rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But his Word will still remain
He will do something new today

Chorus

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 believers around the world, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For your wondrous creation, that it will thrive and flourish as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and provide care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind. 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)

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. 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 Played by Amy McPherson

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 - How Firm A Foundation

Green Book 507

SONG DURING COMMUNION - One Bread One Body

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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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 We Are Marching

Anders Nyberg | Andrew Maries © 1987, 1991 Sovereign Music UK

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Marching in the light verse!

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God

We are marching, we are marching O-oh!
We are marching in the light of God
We are marching, we are marching O-oh!
We are marching in the light of God

Living in the love verse!

We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God

We are living, we are living O-oh!
We are living in the light of God
We are living, we are living O-oh!
We are living in the light of God

Moving in the power verse!

We are moving in the power of God
We are moving in the power of God
We are moving in the power of God
We are moving in the power of God

We are moving, we are moving O-oh!
We are moving in the light of God
We are moving, we are moving O-oh!
We are moving in the light of God

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 Emily Foreman; ushers, Jeff McMurtire and Anne Gabel; live streaming team,; 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
Nancy Esterly
Barbara Green
Dave Hamblin
Christina
Harmonosky
Janet Hill
John Hockenberger
Frances Lechner
Melissa Leinback

Becky McIntosh
Jeff McMurtrie
Becky McNeilly
Tricia Parker
Dennis Renninger
Alan Richard
Kirk Robinson
Donna Rodenberger
Tom and Gladys
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

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!

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!

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 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.