

YOUTH SUNDAY

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, May 12, 2024



1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922

Pastor: Rev. Ken McDowell, cell phone: 610-207-4783

Church Office Phone: 570-754-7225

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday

Church Email: summerhillucc@gmail.com

Website: www.summerhillucc.com

Livestream: www.facebook.com/summerhillucc

**Seventh Sunday of Easter, Ascension Sunday, Youth Sunday,
Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries and Mother’s Day**

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director and Pianist- Rae Ann Borger

CONFIRMANDS

First Year Confirmands: Jacoby Edwards, Emma Fessler, Blake Frantz Cole Frantz, Garrett Guers, Kolton Platt, Grayson Rollman, Adalynn Warke

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer **St. Mark’s, Cressona** from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar.

Please read the announcements that are in this downloadable bulletin, as well as those we post on our Facebook site, our emails, and our phone calls, and then help spread the word to those who do not have access to any of those messages.

INVOCATION..... Blake Frantz

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”..... Blake Frantz

CALL TO WORSHIP..... Blake Frantz

Blake: Shout to God with songs of great joy!

People: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

Blake: God has made us whole.

People: God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.

Blake: Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

People: Let us praise God’s name and serve God joyfully. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 607.....“Happy the Home When God Is There”

*Happy the home when God is there, and love fills everyone,
when with united work and prayer the Master’s will is done.*

*Happy the home where God's strong love is starting to appear,
where all the children hear his fame and parents hold him dear.*

*Happy the home where prayer is heard, and praise is everywhere,
where parents love the sacred Word, and its true wisdom share.*

*Lord, let us in our homes agree this blessed peace to gain;
unite our hearts and love to thee, and love to all will reign.*

CALL TO CONFESSION.....Grayson Rollman

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

O Lord, we have not lived our lives as kingdom people. We place our crowns on hopelessness, fear, and selfishness. We are ruled by our schedules and our need for control. We make kings of the things we acquire and queens of our immediate desires. We forget that your kingdom draws near to us on earth, as it is in heaven. Forgive us, we pray. Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom. Amen.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIEGrayson Rollman

Grayson: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Grayson: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Grayson: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDONGrayson Rollman

Grayson: May God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that the power of Jesus Christ may be visible in your life.

People: By the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered to serve. Amen!

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

ENGAGING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE.....Grayson Rollman

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION.....Kolton Platt

READING OF THE WORD

First reading: Acts 1:1-11 (Page 947).....Kolton Platt

Responsive Reading: Psalm 47 (**Read Responsively**)Jacoby Edwards

Jacoby: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Jacoby: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

People: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Jacoby: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Jacoby: For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

People: God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

Jacoby: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

People: For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

Epistle reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 (Page 1017).....Grayson Rollman

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53 (Page 920)..... Cole Frantz

Cole: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE.....“Let Thy word abide in us, O Lord.”

SPECIAL MUSIC..... “Amazing Grace” Emma Fessler and Addie Warke

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM.....“Born to Praise You” by Russell Mauldin

The congregation may remain seated.

SERMON.....“What I Believe”..... Cole Frantz, Blake Frantz, Addie Warke

RESPONDING TO THE WORD
The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 487“Kum Ba Yah”

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone’s crying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s crying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone’s crying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone’s singing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

CELEBRATION OF MAY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Maylee Grace, daughter of Bradley and Ashley Epler

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....Nicene Creed.....Jacoby Edwards

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER..... Kolton Platt

Kolton: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Kolton: Let us pray...

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING.....Jacoby Edwards

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE & DEDICATION.....DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER..... Emma Fessler

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION..... Emma Fessler

Emma: In the presence of Christ, we have gathered.

People: In the grace of Christ, we depart.

Emma: May God clothe you with power on high.

People: May God put this power to work in each of us.

BENEDICTION..... Emma Fessler

THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....*Amen. Amen. Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN NO. 319“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

*Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us,
shine on me, shine on me.*

*[Refrain] Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.*

*Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood, I may enter your brightness, search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
shine on me, shine on me. [Refrain]*

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story,
shine on me, shine on me. [Refrain]*

SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE

* * * * *

*Portions of today’s worship resources were reproduced or adapted from the UCC’s Book of Worship,
Worship Connection by Nancy C. Townley on MinistryMatters.com, Worship Elements by Bryan Schneider-Thomas
and By Susan Blain the 2021 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.*

CCLI Copyright License Number 3253621 and CCLI Streaming License Number 20179084.

-The altar flowers are in memory of our mothers and in honor of all mothers by Lorraine and Earl Phillips.

-The bulletins are in memory of our grandmothers by Jonathan, Julie, Joel, Debbie, and Elisa Phillips.

-Offering on Sunday, May 5, 2024: \$2,127.00
-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2024: \$3,243.09

-The May Communion offering is designated to Phoebe Ministries. The June Communion offering is designated to Locust Lake Camp Ministries.

-TODAY we will receive our annual Mother's Day offering for Phoebe Ministries. This ministry provides long-term care & programs for seniors. Special envelopes are available on the bulletin table in the narthex.

-Join us for Fellowship Time (aka, coffee hour) TODAY following worship. Enjoy conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments. We gather in the rear of the Sanctuary the second Sunday of each month. Catch up with old friends, make new ones, and stay up to date on everything happening at St. Paul's. And best of all, it's free of charge! Help is needed: If you would be interested in helping to assist in hosting a fellowship hour, please contact Lori Moyer, the church office, Pastor Ken or sign the sheet on the bulletin table.

-Order forms are available on the bulletin table for **the Sunday School sandwich sale on Saturday, May 18** to support VBS 2024. Sandwiches are \$6 each and **orders are due TODAY.** Thank you for your support!

-Today is the deadline for collecting your unwanted Eclipse Glasses to donate to the nonprofit organizations Astronomers without Borders and Eclipse Glasses USA. If you didn't get your glasses to church, please contact Brook Koch-Guers at 570-449-0825 and she will happily arrange for a pick up!

- A list of suggested items for the St. Paul's Food Challenge (through May 31) can be picked up in the Narthex of the church. These items can be used as a guide to help supply ingredients to provide three healthy meals as well as a treat! We are asking for at least 31 of our households to donate 31 food items in 31 days!! We will then provide the last 139 items to reach our goal of 1100 items. You may leave your donation at the back of the sanctuary or contact Brook Koch-Guers at 570-449-0825 or by email at bkochguers@comcast.net to arrange for one of the boys to pick up your donation at your home. Together we can provide families with summer blessings!!

-The Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry is in great need and accepts all non-perishable food items and paper products. Items can be dropped off at the church during the week or placed in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary. **NO OUTDATED FOOD PLEASE. We will be helping tomorrow at 8:30am and this Friday, May 17 at 1pm.** Please speak to Verna Ebling or the church office if you would like to help or donate items.

-The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10am-12noon in the conference room. **The next meeting will be this Tuesday, May 14.** If you are interested in crocheting and/or knitting, we can hook you up! If you know of someone who could use a prayer shawl, please contact the church office or Nancy Dewald.

-We are once again having a St Paul's UCC Church Golf Outing at Hidden Valley Golf Course on Monday, June 17 beginning at 10am. The cost is: \$20 for Juniors 15 or under; \$30 for 60+; \$39 for adults 16-59. The event is coordinated by Gavin, Gaige, and Chase Guers. **The deadline to sign up is this Wednesday, May 15.** Come and join us for a morning of fun, fellowship, and golf! Yes, it's a weekday morning, but what a better way to start your work week than by extending your weekend and golfing with friends? Whether you are a seasoned pro, a newbie, 9 years old, or 90 years young, there's fun for all on the golf course! For those who would like, we will begin the day with breakfast at the Friedensburg Country Restaurant at 8:00am. Please sign up on the signup sheet in the Narthex of the church or email Gavin Guers at gguers52@comcast.net.

-A few tickets remain for the group outing to see the Reading Fightin' Phils on Saturday, June 15 against the Portland Sea Dogs. First pitch is at 6:45pm. Tickets are \$36.00 each and includes admission to the game, AYCE Buffet supper (starts at 5pm) and incredible fireworks to follow the game! A sign-up sheet is on table as you enter the sanctuary. Payment for tix can be given to Kelly in the church office or paid directly to Mike Fessler.

-We have again designated the third Sunday of the month as **"Bring your motorcycle to church" Sunday**. The upcoming dates are **next Sunday, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, and September 15**. Spread the word, invite your friend, and join us for some fun and fellowship. If you would like to be notified of other rides throughout the summer, please notify the church office to have your name added to the "Biker" email list!

-There are DCNR forms on the table to allow you to give your opinion about outdoor recreation. The deadline to complete the survey is May 22.

-WELCOME TO SCUBA DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD! Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Paul's June 17-21. All children ages 4-12 (grade 6) are welcome and invited to attend. Please save the date and share with all your relatives, friends and neighbors. Registration forms are on the bulletin table and also included in the May newsletter. Forms can be submitted to the church office or to wareber@comcast.net. More information will follow via church newsletter, bulletins, email and Members of St. Paul's Facebook. **ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

-In an effort to keep our records up to date, we are asking that if you have had a change to any of your information, would like to add a cell phone number or email address, or just want to be sure we have your most current info., please contact the church office.

-Your help is needed!! We are still looking for some additional people to help run our new sound and video equipment on a Sunday morning! Please let us know if you would be willing to help. We will then figure out a good mutual time to "train" those who are interested! Ideally, we will get a few people interested, and then sign up for Sundays either on a weekly or monthly basis, somewhat like the lectors.

-When you or a loved one is sick or in the hospital for an extended stay, please notify the church office. Please do not assume that the pastor will know you are there. We are served by many different area hospitals and do not know which one you may utilize. So please do not hesitate to let us know your condition so that Pastor Ken can provide you with spiritual care! You may call the church office at 570-754-7225 and leave a message 24/7 with your name, number, and what you are calling about. The staff will be notified remotely of your call and will get back to you as soon as possible. You can also email us at summerhillucc@gmail.com.

-Our church services are livestreamed on Facebook! We continue to reach many people who are unable to worship with us in person, giving them God's message of hope and love. Call the church office if you or someone you know needs help getting online.

-Prayer is Powerful! Please continue to call the church office or email us your prayer concerns to be included on our prayer list. We believe in the power of prayer and want to pray for you. **We have a prayer concerns email group for anyone who would like to join.** Contact the church office and we will be happy to add you to the email distribution list. The Agape Committee continues to send cards to members on the prayer concerns list, so please continue sharing your concerns with us. Thank you!!

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National Leaders, *Fran Wolfe, family and friends of Sharon Koszyk, Holly Koscak, Amy Koons*, Dick Clauser, Mary Ella Hoy, Lori Edwards, Mathias Joseph Nagle, son of Joe and Tamara Nagle, Stacy Strause, Carol Fessler, Amy Crouse, Erinn Carll, Ernie Jones, Ron Mengel, Tom Toomey, Guy Fessler, Harold Berkheiser, Shirley German, Cassie Wolfe, Marion Bartolet, Mabel Edwards

CANCER PATIENTS: Wayne Alward, Boone, Marie Bleu, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Glennis Eifert, Rebecca Henderson, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Norma Koperna, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Carol Mallory, Carol Mengel, Tom Nagle, Judy Ohl, Pat Reading, Jim Thompson, Barry Webber, Terri Willard

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 12

Sunday, May 12 *Mother's Day

***Deadline for Sandwich Sale orders and Eclipse glasses collection**

-Fellowship Hour following worship

5:30 PM -Cub Scout Den Meetings

Monday, May 13

8:30 AM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

10:30 AM -Pastor Ken officiating Chapel Service at Luther Ridge

6 and 7:15 PM -Boy Scout Meetings

Tuesday, May 14

10:00 AM -Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

Wednesday, May 15 *Deadline to register for the Golf Outing

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 17

1:00 PM -Help at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry

Saturday, May 18

10-11:00 AM -Sandwich Sale Pick-up

Sunday, May 19 *Pentecost Sunday *Ride your motorcycle to church Sunday

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship with the Strengthen the Church special offering

-Motorcycle ride following worship

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15