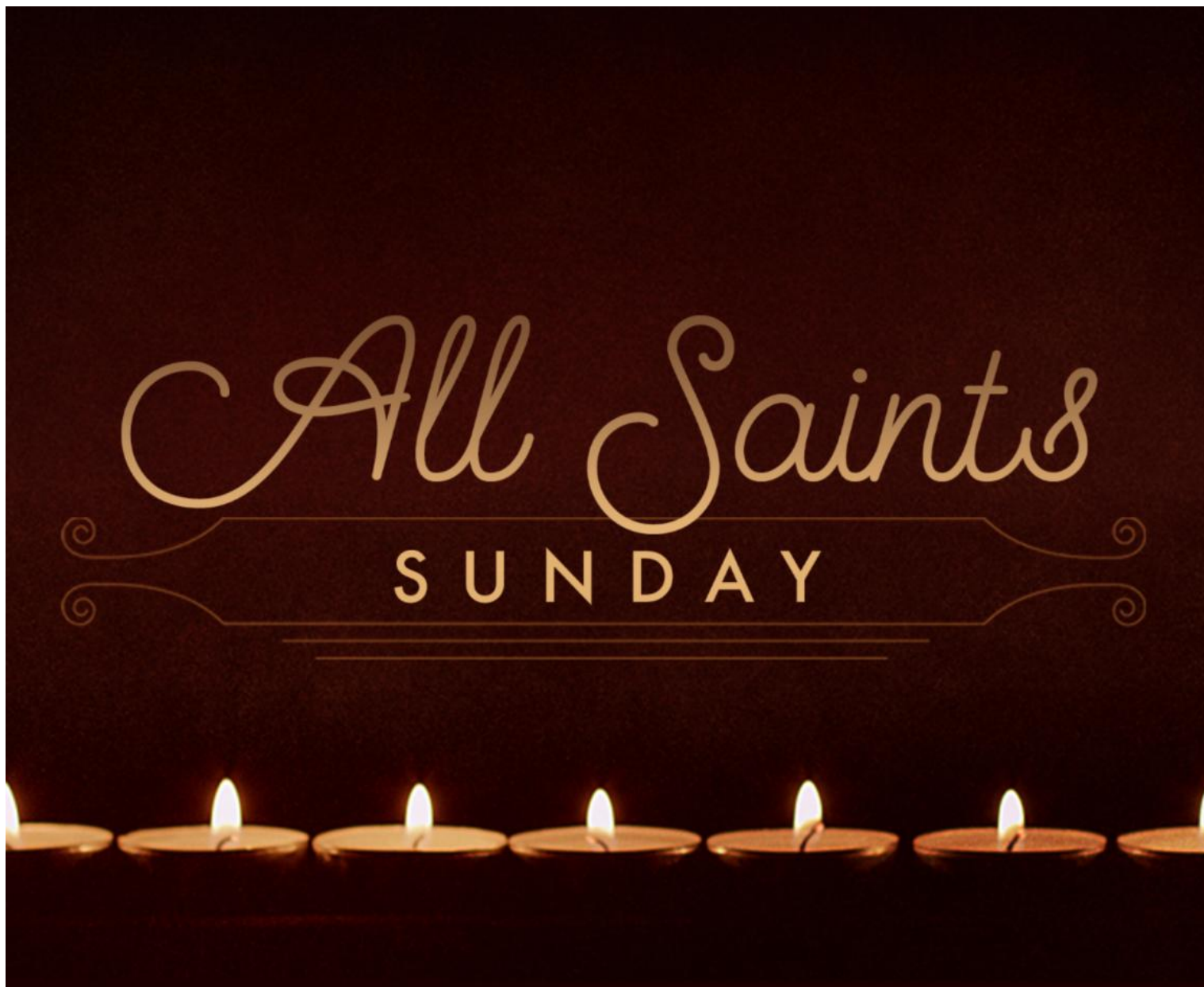


ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, November 1, 2026



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

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Service of Remembrance, the Sacrament of Holy Communion,
The All Saints and Communion Offerings

Rev. Ken McDowell, Pastor

Music Director- Rae Ann Borger
Organist- Colin Andrew

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

This morning we remember in prayer, from our Schuylkill Association Prayer Calendar, **All Saints Sunday and Christ Congregational (Fountain Springs), Ashland.**

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.

(Communion note: This morning, as some of us are gathered together here at church while many are gathering with us virtually from their homes, we all are invited to the same table. Those present this morning are invited to pick up a bag of individually prepared elements from the table in the narthex, as we will not be distributing the elements during the service. Those at home may gather bread and drink and partake as we do when we are gathered together.)

INVOCATION

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE

The congregation may stand.

SOLEMN DECLARATION.....Sung “Amen”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Bless the Lord, whose love shines upon us.

People: Bless the Lord, my soul!

Pastor: Bless our lives, that reflect God’s love.

People: Bless the Lord, my soul!

Pastor: Bless our worship, that it may glorify God.

People: Bless the Lord, my soul! Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 531.....“Rejoice in God’s Saints”

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

O God, Sainthood is hard! Yet, you call us to live into your blessings by loving and caring for all of your creation. Give us strength to answer our call. Give us wisdom to live your teachings. Give us courage to withstand the trials and tribulations of life. Give us humility to embrace sainthood, even when our sins and shortcomings haunt our days and cause us to judge ourselves and others. Love us into sainthood, that others may find us to be generous and compassionate friends. Amen.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.
People: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God saves us again and again and again, calling us to blessings and saintly living.
People: This hope and this grace are enough to purify us, even as Christ is pure.
Pastor: Beloved children of God, rejoice, for we are forgiven. 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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD:.....Lector, Mike Fessler

First Reading	Revelation 7:9–17	(Page 1076)
Psalm	Psalm 34:1–10, 22	(Read Responsively)

Lector: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Lector: O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

People: I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Lector: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

People: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

Lector: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

People: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Lector: O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

People: The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Lector: The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

New Testament	1 John 3:1–3	(Page 1066)
Gospel	Matthew 5:1–12	(Page 837)

Lector: 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.”

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM.....“He Restores My Soul” – Words and Music by Benton Stokes; Arr. by Kris Crunk

SERMON.....“Children of God”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The congregation may remain seated.

HYMN NO. 695.....“As We Gather at Your Table”

The congregation may stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

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

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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation:

Pastor: All who hunger for love, come to the bread of life.

People: Here, all are fed.

Pastor: All who thirst for the cup of blessing, come to the table of grace.

People: Here, all are made whole.

Pastor: All who need mercy and grace, come to the Lamb of God.

People: Here, all find a home.

The Communion Prayer:

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Pastor: Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Seraphic Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy glory, Hosanna, Hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

The congregation may be seated.

Words of Institution:

Prayer of Consecration:

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.

Breaking of the Bread:
Lifting of the Cup:
Call to the Supper:
The Sharing of the Elements:
Blessing of the Children:

The congregation may stand.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison):
We thank you God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
*(During the Service of Remembrance, after each name is read, a chime will be played and a candle lit.
We invite any family or friends to stand for a moment while your loved one’s name is read.
After the service, the family is welcome to come up and take a Remembrance Candle home.)*

Robert F. Deegan (December 9, 1930 – January 26, 2026)
Grayson Alexander Lee Weiser (February 15, 2026)

GOING WITH THE WORD

COMMISSION
Pastor: Blessed are you, beloved children of God.
People: We will walk in the love given to us.
Pastor: Be a blessing to all God’s children.
People: We will serve others with the grace we have received.
Pastor: Walk in the footsteps of the saints of old.
People: We will step gently upon the earth and leave puddles of light for others to follow.

BENEDICTION
THE THREEFOLD AMEN.....*Amen. Amen. Amen.*
CLOSING HYMN NO. 525.....“When We All Get to Heaven”
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, and
the 2026 Abingdon Worship Annuals edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu.
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-The altar flowers and bulletins are in honor of Brock and Pam Koch’s wedding anniversary by Deb, Ronnie, Brook, Bob, Shanelle, Gavin, Garrett, Gaige, Chase, Miranda, Logan and Paige.
-Offering on Sunday, October 25, 2026: \$3,142.00
-Weekly envelope & plate budget for 2026: \$3,368.52

-The November Communion Offering is designated to Servants to All- "My Father's House" which is a nonprofit organization that provides homeless services in Schuylkill County.

-TODAY we will collect the All Saints Offering, which assists retired pastors from our conference who are in need of financial assistance. Special envelopes are available on the bulletin table in the narthex.

-TODAY is the deadline for the Thirty-One Days of Giving Food Drive collection. Please contact Brook Guers at 570-449-0825 if you have any last-minute donations.

-TODAY is the deadline for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Please contact Laura Carll at (484) 269-4405 if you have any questions or would still like to donate.

-This year we are helping Schuylkill County Children & Youth in Pottsville for Christmas. All gifts need to be returned back to the church by December 6, 2026. Please place gifts in the back of the Sanctuary. All children's names will be on the nurse windows to pick from. All you need to do is: 1. Pick a child, 2. Write your name on the paper with the corresponding number, 3. Wrap gifts, stick in garbage bag with the tag attached to the bag. Thank you for helping a child have a great Christmas. Any Questions, please ask Amy Zimmerman.

-The ANNUAL GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER has begun. Order forms are available on the table in the Narthex of the church. **The due date for orders is Sunday, November 15th. Delivery of purchases will be Sunday, December 6th.** Don't forget that you can reload some gift cards online all year long with the profit automatically going to St. Paul's. There are many businesses listed on the order form found around our area with many more to choose from at raiseright.com. Any of those choices can be added on a separate sheet and included with your order form. C & C Candies and Country Store and Friedensburg Country Restaurant partner with us each year. Don't forget to shop local! Any questions about this sale, please speak to Rae Ann Borger.

-Order forms for Christmas poinsettias are available on the table in the narthex. The cost is \$11.00 each and they are coming from Kreider's Nursery. There are NO standing orders. If you always placed one in the past, you must re-order again this year. Money must accompany the order at the time it is placed. **The order deadline is Sunday, November 22.** Please give all orders & money to Lori Moyer, Ardith Moyer or the church office.

-Anyone interested in learning more about our Sunday School program is welcome and invited to attend the Board of Christian Education Meeting this Tuesday, November 3 at 7pm. The meeting will take place in the conference room. Please speak to Laura Carll, any Sunday School teacher, Pastor Ken/church office for more info.

-Fellowship Time: Join us for conversation, along with a cup of coffee and light refreshments following our 9:30am worship service next Sunday, November 8. We will gather in the rear of the sanctuary. Catch up with old friends, make new ones, and stay up to date on everything happening here. Donations of treats are greatly appreciated.

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

-A Fall Worship Night will be held at the Walk In Art Center in Schuylkill Haven on Friday, November 13 from 5-9pm. All are invited and encouraged to attend! Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more info.

-The Keystone Conference Fall Meeting will be held online only on Saturday, November 14 beginning at 9:00 AM. Please speak to Pastor Ken to learn more.

-Mark your calendars! We need your help!! Our outdoor church grounds fall clean-up day will be on Saturday, November 14 at 9:00 AM. With enough help, we can have it completed in just a few hours! Bring rakes, tarps, clippers and pruners. Invite your friends and family and neighbors too!

-Newsletter articles for the combined December 2026 and January 2027 newsletter are due to the office by November 15.

-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. **We will be helping on Monday, November 16** beginning at 8:30am **and Friday, November 20** beginning at 12pm. Please speak to Verna Ebling, Bill Reber or the church office.

-The Boy Scout Troop is doing Wreaths Across America. The sponsorship cost for a wreath is \$17. Please use the following link to order online: www.wreathsafteramerica.org/PA1030P. You may also speak to Lorna Palerino to order directly. **The cut-off date for mail-in orders is November 16th, and for online orders is December 2.** Please see the flyer on the church bulletin board in the narthex.

-The Consistory meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00pm in the conference room.

-We will decorate the church for Advent/Christmas on Sunday, November 22 following Worship. Help is needed to not only decorate, but to carry the many boxes out of the attic. If you are able, please stay and lend a hand— get in the holiday spirit too!!

-We will once again be collecting new or gently used hats, gloves and scarves to be given to those in need. All items will need to be received by Sunday, December 6, and can be placed on the Christmas tree or in the box that will be located in the back of the sanctuary on **November 22.** Please speak to Kelly Palerino if you have any questions.

-Jerusalem Lutheran Church will be holding a Thanksgiving Community Service and Choir Festival on Sunday, November 22, at 3:00 PM. All are invited!

-A joint (with our Lutheran friends) Thanksgiving Eve worship service with the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be held on Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm. The service will be held at St. Paul's Summer Hill Lutheran Church, with Pastor Ken and Pastor Marie leading the service.

-We are looking for young artists to draw bulletin cover artwork: Children of all ages are invited to take part in the creation of biblically based (either Advent or the biblical account of the Christmas story) worship bulletin cover artwork, which will be used throughout the season of Advent and Christmas. Colorful drawings are encouraged, but we can also use black and white sketches. Children should print their first and last name somewhere on the front of the drawing. **A special recognition of children who participate will take place during the December 20 worship service.** The drawings will be used as bulletin covers beginning on the First Sunday of Advent which is **November 29.** Please either scan and email your child's drawing, or drop them off at the church office. Please see Kelly, call or email the church office if you need more information.

-We are looking for youth to serve as acolytes on Sunday mornings during the worship services. If your child is interested in helping and would like to learn more, please speak to Laura Carll, Pastor Ken or the church office. Training will be provided.

-In an effort to keep our records up to date, please contact the church office if you have had a change to any of your information, including phone or cell phone numbers, email or home addresses, or any family updates.

-When you or a loved one is sick or in the hospital for an extended stay, do not assume that the pastor will know you are there. Please call or email the church office so that Pastor Ken can provide you with spiritual care!

-Prayer is Powerful! Please call or email the church office with your prayer concerns. We believe in the power of prayer and want to pray for you. **We have a prayer concerns email group AND also a prayer phone call chain for anyone interested.** Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to these lists.

-Prayer Concern Privacy: As Christians, we fervently believe in the power of prayer — that's why we include prayer concerns in the weekly bulletin and lift folks up in prayer during worship! That said, the Consistory respectfully asks that before you add somebody to the prayer list or bring up their name during worship, please obtain that person's permission. We take medical privacy very seriously and make every effort to respect the wishes of individuals who do not want to be named publicly in a bulletin or live-streamed worship service. Thank you for your cooperation!

PRAYER CONCERNS: All those earnestly seeking God's help in difficult times, Military personnel & National leaders, ***Marci Luckenbill-Felty***, Marion Bartolet, Mikayla, Lou Borgatta, Verna Fidler, Autumn, Taylor and Parker, Joe Palerino, Donald Rubinkam, Ron Koch, Dick Clauser, Ronnie Mengel, Brian Moyer, Earl Phillips

CANCER PATIENTS: Rev. Gene Aulenbach, Al Basci, James Connelly, Bill Dobrowsky, Alex DuVee, John Eckert, Glennis Eifert, Kristen Gately, Laura Haupt Grapsy, Rebecca Henderson, Lisa Hoynoski, Donna Jenan, Sherri Jo Jennar, Deb Kemmerling, Clara Kramer, Joan Krause, Lori Krug, Mary Anne Maccarone, Carol Mallory, Meir Mazuz, Nicole McFarland-Bish, Tara Moss, Judy Ohl, Dana Osborne, Nick Reading, Pat Reading, Amy Reed, Noah Richardson, Jen Semenco, Jim Thompson, Tim Wapinsky

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Sunday, November 1 -All Saints Sunday -Daylight Savings Time Ends

-Deadline for Shoebox gifts and the Food Challenge Collection

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

Tuesday, November 3

7:00 PM -Board of Christian Education Meeting

Wednesday, November 4

7:00 PM -Senior Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 8

9:15 AM -Sunday School

10:30 AM -Worship with the Celebration of Baptismal Anniversaries and Blessing of the Shoeboxes

-Fellowship Hour following worship

4:00 PM -Cub Scout Meetings

***Lectionary Readings for next week:**

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

Amos 5:18-24

Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

QR Code for Online Giving

Our members, friends, and visitors give their offerings and donations to the church in many different ways, including electronically via apps like Tithe.ly and bank transfers. To accommodate the varied ways of giving, we have an offering box at the rear of the sanctuary for placing Sunday morning offerings as you enter or leave. We will also have ushers accept offerings during the Offertory as another option. Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of St. Paul's and your faithful giving in response to what God has given us!

