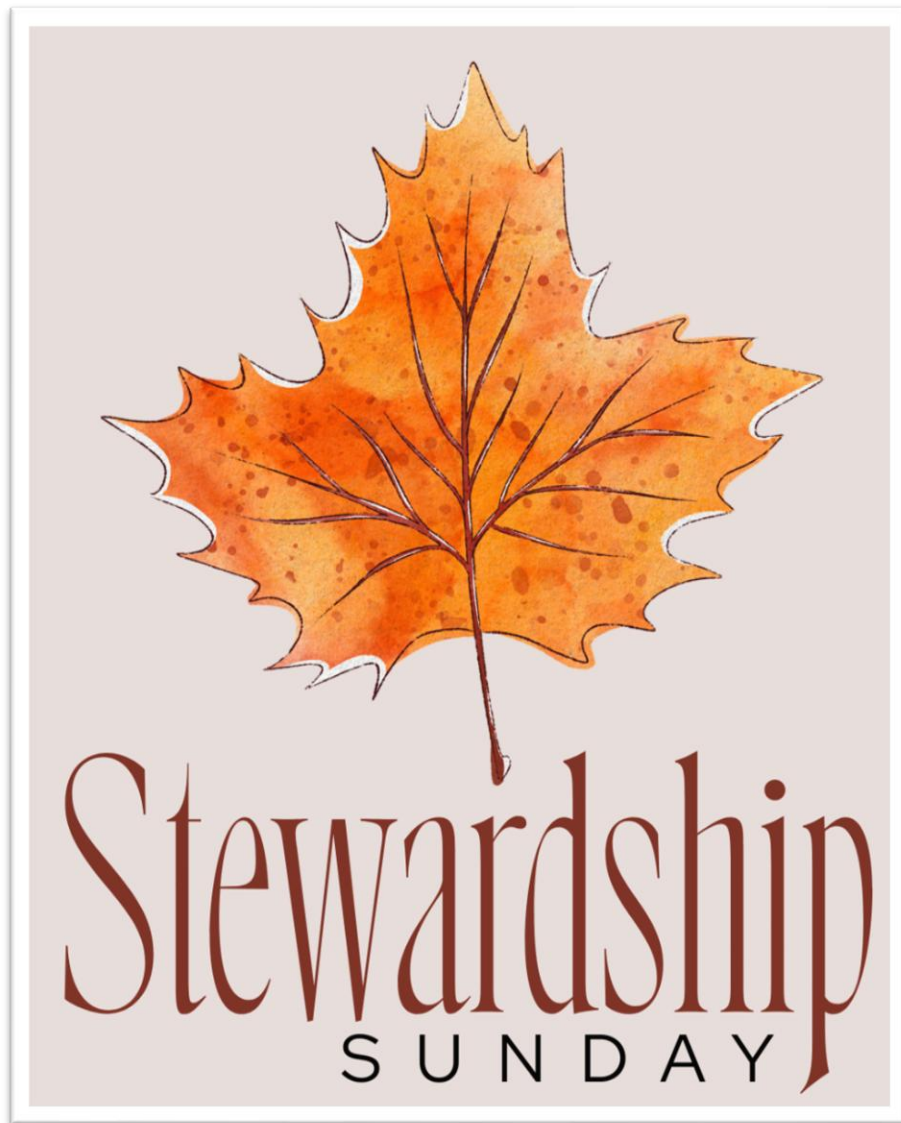


**Welcome to**  
**St. Paul's United Church of Christ**

*An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

November 9, 2025



**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**

,

*NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON  
LIFE'S JOURNEY YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*

### **Worship Leadership**

Preacher: The Rev. John J. Ward-Diorio  
The Rev. Allyssa A. Boyer  
Lector: Mary Runkle

### **Ministry of Music**

Minister of Music: Eric R. Dundore  
Assistant Music Director: Mark A. Dundore  
Organist: Sarah A. Myers  
Assistant Organist: Patrice G. Miller

### **Ministry of Audio and Video**

Jeffrey A. Dundore

### **Ministry of Service**

Lead Greeter: Mel Shaver-Durham  
Greeters: Don Dupes, Sherry Spencer, Crystal Cline  
Acolyte:  
Kids' Place: Maggie Gassert, LidiaAnn Edwards,  
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel  
Flower Delivery: Joan Moyer  
Counting Team: Sherry Spencer, Mary Runkle

### **Pastor Emeritus**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

### **Ministers**

The Entire Congregation

*Visit the church website, under the 'Sign Up' menu heading,  
to help as a Sunday volunteer or Worship Participant.*

*We're grateful for your generosity.*

*mj*

## **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**626 Williams Grove Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
(717)766-7931**

**[saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://saintpaulsucc-mech.org)**

**Office: [stpaulstaff@outlook.com](mailto:stpaulstaff@outlook.com)**

**Rev. John: [revjohnwd@outlook.com](mailto:revjohnwd@outlook.com)**

**Rev. Allyssa: [allyssaboyer@outlook.com](mailto:allyssaboyer@outlook.com)**

**ONLINE  
GIVING**



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

November 9, 2025

*The livestream starts with the Announcements. If you'd prefer not to be on camera, kindly choose a seat in the back three pews of the Sanctuary. Leave prayer requests in the bowl in the Common area or give them to the Lead Greeter.*

*\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.*

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

THE ORGAN PRELUDE "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

Gregg Sewell

CHORAL INTROIT

\*THE HYMN No. 565 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**Most Generous God, we thank You for the many gifts You bestow upon us. Guide us, transform us, into people who give out of gratitude, not guilt; who share to meet the needs of others, not to win Your favor. Remind us, each time we gather or connect with You, that Your Love is always there for us. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

So much of our lives are marked by transactions, both with strangers and loved ones. We have a hard time imagining that there is not some kind of cost for the gifts God gives us, because that is how many human relationships work. We have a hard time envisioning that things can be, are different with God, in God's Kingdom. Let us join in a time of Silent Prayers of Confession.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Responsive):

One: God forgives us, forgives our lack of trust in how God works.

**ALL: Let us accept that God desires for us to express our gratitude to God, through our giving to others, through working on behalf of others, through caring for those the world does not value but whom are indeed God's Children. Amen.**

*If you are able, please rise and greet one another with signs of Peace.*

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*THE GLORIA PATRI (#759 is the tune, but not all the same words)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*Children are invited to the front at this time.  
Everyone who comes forward will be on camera.*

SING THE CHILDREN TO THE FRONT

Jesus Loves the Little Children

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world**

**Shy and Joyful, Bold and Bright**

**They are precious in his sight**

**Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

THE WORD FOR THE YOUNG

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SEATS

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so**

**Little ones to him belong. They are weak but He is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me**

**Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Job 19:23-27

THE READING OF THE PSALM

Psalms 17:1-9

\*THE HYMN No. 562 "Take My Gifts"

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE:

Luke 20:27-38

"Transformed Relationships"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

THE CHORAL RESPONSE (unison)

## Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The musical score is written for a unison choral response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;" and "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace." The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a melody in the treble.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943  
Music: Ken Medema, b. 1943  
© 1971 Hope Publishing Co.

CHILDREN PRAYING  
irregular

*Please place your pew pad sheets in the Offering Plate.*

THE OFFERTORY "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

arr. Eithun

Hand Chimes

BRING PLEDGE CARDS FORWARD

\*DOXOLOGY

***From all who dwell beneath the skies,  
Let the Creator's praise arise!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung.  
Through every land, by every tongue! Amen.***

\*PRAYER OF BLESSING

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**For the future glory of Your church, we dedicate our gifts. Toward the reign of love in our midst, we consecrate ourselves. O God of all the ages, show Yourself to us in our time. Work within us individually and among us as a community of faith, that we may experience resurrection and carry Your good news into our world. Amen.**

\*THE HYMN “God, We See What You Have Given” (to the tune of no. 459, “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing.”)

**God, we see what you have given; Signs of grace are everywhere!  
All around are gifts from heaven — Gifts enough for all to share.  
We are stewards of your bounty, Called to give as we've received;  
And your blessings have been plenty From the day we first believed.**

**We are stewards of the richness That you send from heav'n above.  
For in Christ, you gave up greatness, Humbly showing us your love.  
In a manger — gift from heaven! On a cross — with love and pain!  
You proclaimed we are forgiven; Now you send us in your name.**

**We are stewards of your welcome That you showed through Christ the Son.  
In his living and his teaching, Jesus welcomed everyone.  
To the outcast and the stranger, He showed hospitality!  
By your Spirit, may we also Give the welcome we've received.**

**We are stewards, sent out sharing, Offering you our very best.  
Through our serving and our caring May we give as we've been blessed.  
God of love, may faithful living Be much more than Sunday talk.  
Send us loving, serving, giving; Help us daily walk your walk!**

Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

\*THE BIDDING TO MISSION

\*THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER

One: Lead us, O God.

**All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.  
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.  
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.  
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.**

\*THE BENEDICTION

\* THE THREE-FOLD AMEN

*The livestream ends after the Postlude. You're welcome to converse in the Narthex after the Three-fold Amen.  
However, if you choose to stay for the Postlude, please remain silent until the conclusion.*

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE “Sing With All The Sons of Glory”

James Mansfield

#### References:

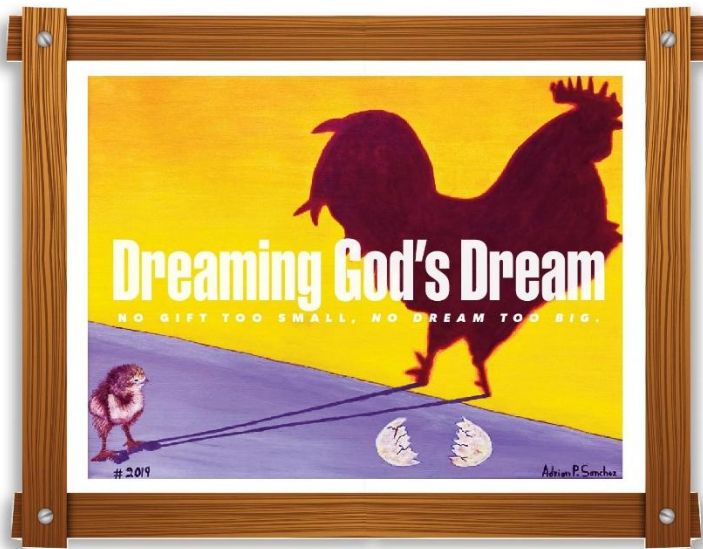
The Prayer of Dedication is from “Gathered by Love” by Lavon Bayler, 1996, United Church Press.

The World Peace Prayer is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine nuns.

Songs, music, and lyrics used by permission. CCLI License #11380019 CSPL128945

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by  
Susan Stump, “In memory of Margaret Kline”  
Mary Runkle, “In honor of Gavin’s 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.”



While there are many ways to support the congregation, our annual campaign provides a chance to think in a particular and prayerful way about the choices we make with our money in support of the church.

Your financial gifts make possible all the programs, projects, ministry and worship experiences that define our community life.

Deciding how much of our income to donate to charitable organizations can

### Deciding on a Financial Commitment

be difficult. Our faith tradition lifts up the model of a tithe, a gift of 10% of one’s income to charity. There are a variety of ways to think about a tithe. Some view a tithe as 10% of one’s income given to the church. Gifts given over and above that 10% are offerings to other meaningful organizations. Others think of a tithe as giving 5% of income to the work of our congregation and 5% to the work of other charities. We see tithing as the goal in our practice of abundant generosity.

Some in our community already tithe, providing 5% or more of their annual income to our congregation. We are grateful for the leadership and example giving at this level sets.

Many more of us are on the journey towards abundant generosity.

As you think about your resources, could you take a step towards greater sharing? That might look like giving half a percent or one percent more of your income in the coming year.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HARVEST DINNER, STEWARDSHIP AUCTION

Be sure to join us in the fellowship hall after worship for our annual Harvest Dinner and Stewardship Auction.

## CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS EXPRESS

Get an early start on your shopping and help spread Christmas cheer in Mechanicsburg! New Hope Ministries needs our help to supply items for their “*Christmas Blessing Express*”, providing clients the opportunity to select gifts for their family members. \*\* Please note - They are no longer collecting clothing unless those items are specified on the wish list or tags. These general items are always appreciated: Books, toys and games for all ages, toddler-teen; Basic household items like sheets, towels and small cooking appliances. For more specific gift ideas, see the tags on the Christmas tree in The Commons. Please consider donating gift cards up to \$25 to Target, Kohl's or Wal-Mart. These are used to supplement the program in categories where donations are lowest. Gift cards should be marked for "New Hope", indicate the value, and placed in the offering plate. **New, unwrapped** gifts may be placed in the marked bins in the Commons no later than Sunday, Nov 30. Thanks to your generous support, we're making Christmas brighter for local families!

## POINSETTIA ORDERS

Next Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for ordering poinsettias for Christmas Eve worship.. They will be 5-8 bloom plants in foil-wrapped containers for \$10.00. Four colors will be available – red, white, pink, and pink/white marbled. Forms for ordering can be found below and on the table in the Commons area. Orders are due by November 17<sup>th</sup>.

## POLLYANNAS

Pollyannas will be having their next lunch meeting at 11:30 am, Tuesday, Nov 25 at Perkins on Erford Rd. We will be meeting in the small back room as usual. Please contact Bonnie Plymette if you are planning to attend.

## STAFF SCHEDULES NEXT WEEK

Please note that Renee will be off Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and Rev. John, Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

## EPISTLE DEADLINE

The deadline for the final Epistle of 2025f, is this coming Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your timely submissions.

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

The annual devotional for the advent season is now available in the Common. They are \$5.