Welcome to

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

June 7, 2026

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

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

Worship Leadership
The Rev. Jeffrey Whitman
Lector: Paula Boyer

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: Mark Dundore
Greeters: Nancy Richey
Acolyte:
Flower Preparation: Susan Gabriel
Flower Delivery: Darryl & Winnie Wentz
Word for the Young: Patrice Miller

Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold

Ministers
The Entire Congregation

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
626 Williams Grove Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717)766-7931
saintpaulsucc-mech.org
Office: stpaulstaff@outlook.com
Rev. John: revjohnwd@outlook.com
Rev. Allyssa: allyssaboyer@outlook.com

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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 7, 2026
PEACE CHURCH

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

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Pastor: We gather for worship in the name of the one who was and is and is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before God our Maker. For we are God's people and the sheep of Christ's pasture.

ALL: Let us worship God together.

*THE HYMN No 191 "Before Your Cross, O Jesus"

Before the cross of Jesus Our lives are judged today;
The meaning of our eager strife Is tested by His Way.
Across our restless living The light streams from His cross,
And by its clear, revealing beams We measure gain and loss.

The hopes that lead us onward, The fears that hold us back,
Our will to dare great things for God, The courage that we lack,
The faith we keep in goodness, Our love, as low or pure -
On all, the judgment of the cross Falls steady, clear, and sure.

Yet humbly, in our striving, O God, we face its test.
We crave the pow'r to do Thy will With Him who did it best.
On us let now the healing Of His great Spirit fall,
And make us brave and full of joy To answer to His call.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Holy God, we come before You with awe, for You are great in love and power. Some of us come with reluctance and some with joy; some with sadness and others full of fear, yet we know You receive us as we are. Mighty God, stay with us always, as we worship and as we share the risk and challenge of living our faith. By Your powerful Spirit, turn our fear into courage and our confusion to confidence. Speak to us now and send us back into the world renewed and eager to do your will. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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.

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 Genesis 12:1-9

THE READING OF THE PSALM Psalm 107:1-9

*THE HYMN No. 25 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood Or Earth received her frame,
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op’ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home.

THE RESPONSE:

One: God is Still Speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

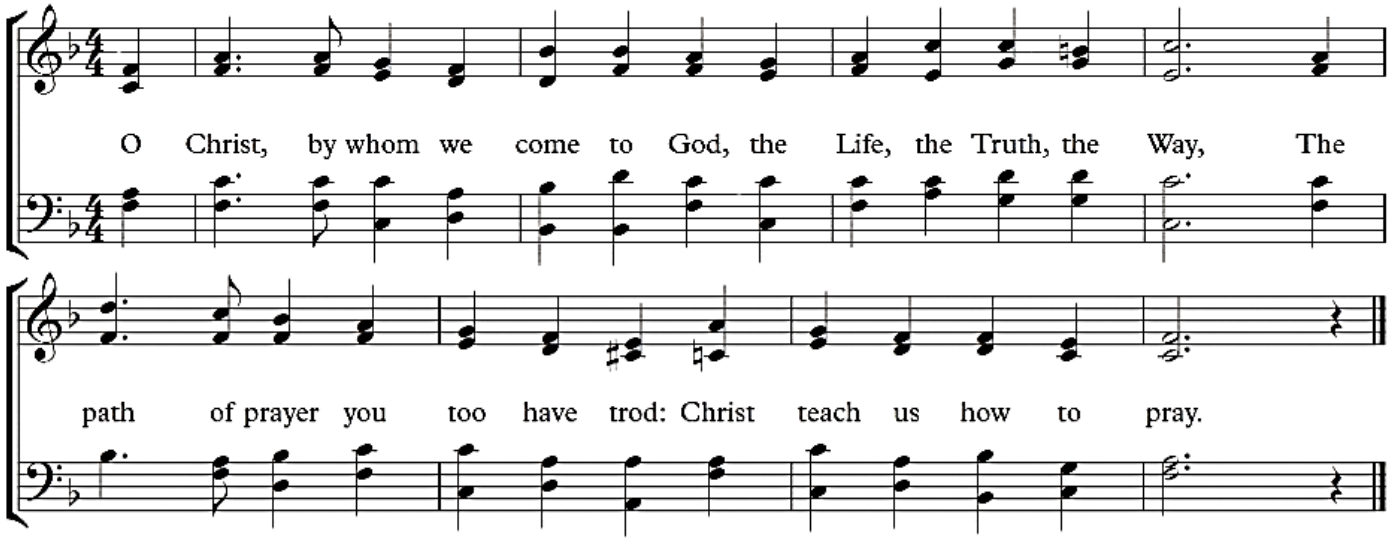
THE GOSPEL READING & MESSAGE: Matthew 4:12-17

“When the Cross Gets in the Way”

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)



THE OFFERTORY "One Day We'll Stand" Paige

Chancel Choir

*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.

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Thank you, God, for hearing our prayers and restoring our strength. Thank you for drawing us apart from our selfish ways and self-serving pursuits. Let our offering today fulfill Your purposes, not ours. Let these gifts summon others to follow Christ. Let them know the joy of breaking bread with the Great Physician who offers healing to all who dare to trust your mercy. Amen.

*THE HYMN No. 522 "I Love to Tell the Story."

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story because I know it's true.
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:
I love to tell the story! 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story; it did so much for me,
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story; for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

*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 ORGAN POSTLUDE

References:
The Call to Confession and Words of Assurance are from The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church copyright 1942 Eden Publishing House.
The Prayer of Dedication is from “Taught 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.
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ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Candy LaRue and Corky Short, “In honor of our daughter, Julie, and granddaughter, Katie.”

Stay in the Loop!

FELLOWSHIP HALL BATHROOM RENOVATIONS

We are beginning the bathroom renovation project in the Fellowship Hall. Please remember that work will be ongoing through the month of June. Plan accordingly as you use the building.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering with kids at St. Paul's is one of the most heartwarming and fulfilling ministries! We are excited to provide our church's kids with an opportunity to learn and grow closer to God through Vacation Bible School, and we would love for you to help! If you'd like to volunteer, or if you'd like more info on how you can help, please contact Becky Thompson or Rev. Allyssa. Thank you.

GARDEN BLESSING

Our congregation grows over 1,000 pounds of veggies every year in our Lee Jackson Memorial Community Garden. Many St. Paul's members work hard throughout the year to prepare the earth, plant, tend, water, weed, and harvest the produce from our garden, which is donated to local food aid programs. We will join together at the garden following worship on June 14 to add our congregational blessing to the garden, its volunteers, and the fresh, healthy food it produces. Please join us!

RACIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT

SPARCC (St. Paul's Against Racism, Creating Change) is sponsoring a movie night on June 18th. 5:30-8:30PM We'll be watching AMISTAD which recounts the circumstances aboard the Spanish slave ship La Amistad in 1839. Bring dinner along. Please note this movie is rated "R".

Peace Church

Old Peace Church, located at the corner of Trindle Road and St. John's Road in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, was built in 1798 by a German Reformed Congregation on land originally granted by William Penn. The white limestone building features simple Georgian architecture, antique glass windows, hand-wrought iron hinges, and a notable Conrad Doll pipe organ — one of only six ever built — that remains in its original location. Inside, the church retains its original straight-back pews, a wineglass pulpit, a Queen Anne communion table, and various historic furnishings that reflect its early 19th-century character.

The church served both Lutheran and German Reformed congregations until the Reformed congregation dissolved in 1866, after which the Lutherans continued using it until it fell out of regular use. Notably, during the Civil War, 800 Confederate soldiers camped on the grounds just before the Battle of Gettysburg — reportedly the farthest north the Confederate Army reached in an organized manner. We are grateful for the continued care of this property and our access for worship annually.