

ORDER OF WORSHIP
14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13/14, 2025
HARVEST HOME



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers
474 Yalick Road - PO Box 802 – Dallas, PA 18612
Phone: 570-675-3859; email: stpaul@epix.net
Website: www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor
Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist
Senior Choir & Chimes
Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

TODAY'S WORSHIP

WELCOME FRIENDS — new and familiar! The psalmist reminds us: “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24). May our hearts be open today to God’s presence, peace, and purpose.

THE GRUMBLING of the religious leaders in today’s gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, “The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP BEGINS in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God’s word.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

THE BLUE WELCOME PAD in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number). Please take a moment to complete it.

LEAVING THE SANCTUARY during worship, please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently. **TURNING OFF** cell phone and other electronic devices is greatly appreciated.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for September 20/21: Amos 8:4-7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13.

IF YOU’D LIKE someone’s name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week’s prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person’s name during the intercessory prayers.

GATHERING

PLEASE NOTE: Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Kevin J. Sadowski

BELL, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand as you are able to face the font for the confession.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Stand as you are able for the hymn.

GATHERING HYMN # 807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks for mercy for them.

A reading from Exodus:

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation." But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-10

Spoken responsively by whole verse by the lector and congregation.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear ¹ joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

A reading from First Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a

blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

There is joy in the presence of the an- | gels of God*
over one sinner | who repents.

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn

HYMN OF THE DAY #588

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and lord. **Amen**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

MEAL

OFFERTORY #181

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

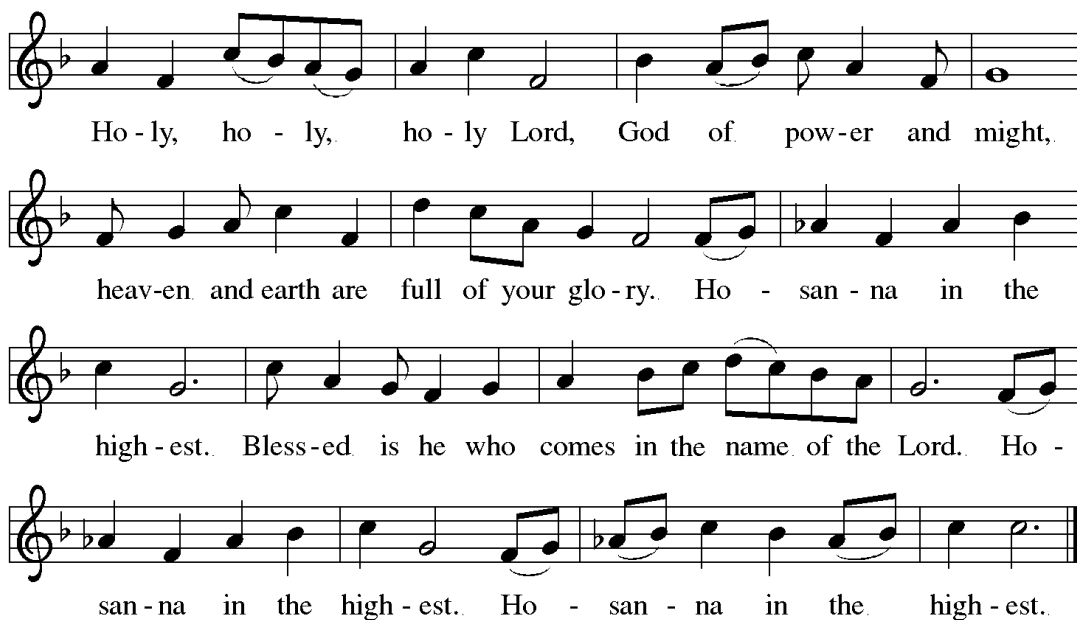
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



You are indeed holy, almighty...proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word, The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

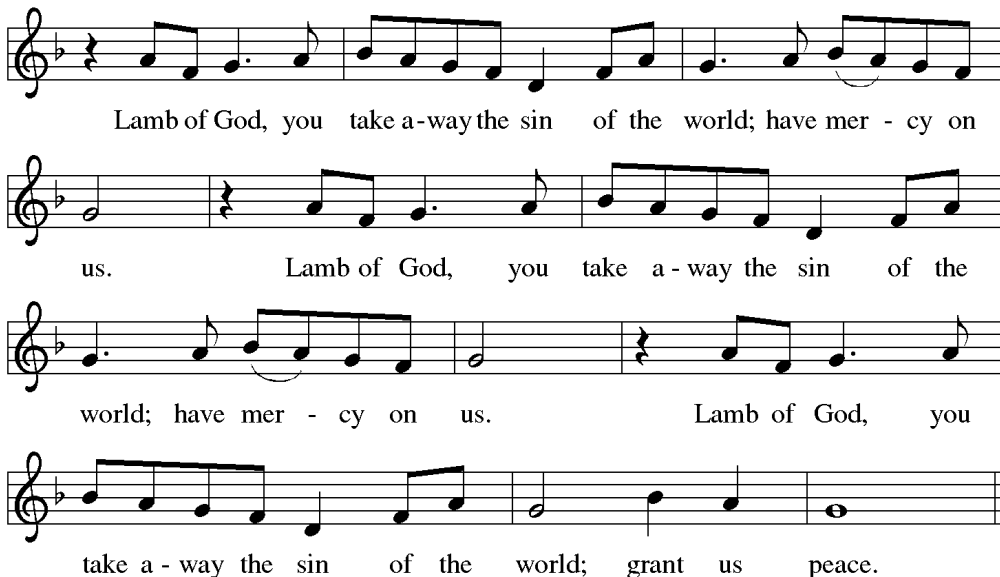
We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step beginning with the person seated closest to the ambo. The communion ministers will come to you, beginning with the bread. Then, take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice or a prefilled glass of juice for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine. When you have communed, return to your seat by the opposite end.

We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say,

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

During the distribution, Lamb of God is sung:



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our goods with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

The service concludes with the blessing and the dismissal.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #694 *Sing to the Lord of Harvest*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Nancy Raabe

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SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Greeter: | John Thomas |
| Acolyte: | Ava Brezovsky |
| Assisting Minister: | Keith Brosious |
| Lector: | Melissa Janoski |
| Communion Bread: | Fran Dierolf |
| Saturday Altar Set Up: | Cookie Fetterman |
| Sunday Altar Clean Up: | Martha Kush |
| Minister of Technology: | Marissa Miller |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, by Dorcas.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED—The Dallas Fall Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, September 14 from 12 noon-5:00 pm. Help would be greatly appreciated for setting up and taking down the church's display, and to sit at the display at hours of your convenience. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Come join the fun, see friends and show them all that St. Paul's has to offer. For more information contact Gail Ide at gdirnpn@epix.net.

ST. PAUL'S BROTHERHOOD wishes to thank everyone who supported their Roast Beef Dinner; it was a week of hard work, lots of fellowship and all the volunteer work, as always, is greatly appreciated.

HARVEST HOME SERVICES – during worship this weekend, our focus will be on the bounty God provides us from the field and orchard, and the rich harvest of that bounty for our health and well-being. Our thanks to the Arts & Environment Committee for the decoration and to the Social Ministry Committee for focusing on assisting the Back Mountain Food Pantry with special items that have been noted each of the four weeks leading up to harvest Home. Our final request for the week of September 13/14: Pasta, Rice, Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce, etc.

NEW COLLECTION FOR PYRAMID: Pyramid Health is in immediate need of donated men's socks as well as shorts and shirts in sizes large and extra-large, and also has one client who needs sneakers in men's size 9.5. If you have any sneakers or clothing to donate, please bring them to the church and place them in the Pyramid basket in the church hallway. Thank you!

A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated items to the Sunday School Rally Day project for Pyramid. We were able to assemble 24 bags due to your acts of kindness! **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** there will be a Sunday School teachers meeting on Tuesday, September 16, at 6:30 pm.

SEPTEMBER BRUNCH – a 100th Anniversary fundraiser – to be held at Irem Country Club at 11:00 am on Sunday, September 21 (no Sunday School), cost \$32.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to St. Paul's and must be paid by **September 14**. Payment envelopes are available on the sign-up poster and may be placed in the offering plate. Proceeds to benefit Pastor's Helping Hand Fund.

NEXT LABYRINTH WALK will be Wednesday, September 17, from 3:00 pm till 6:00 pm; the **Grief Support Group** meets at 6:30 pm on Thursday, September 18.

THE FIRST MEETING of the fall for the Social Ministry Committee will be on Wednesday, September 24 at 10:30 am.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – Bring your pet to the Blessing of the Animals service on Saturday, September 27 at 11:00 am at St. Paul's. All furry, spiky, slimy, or feathery friends great and small are welcome; just make sure your pet is on a leash or secured safely. Those who would prefer to leave their pets at home may attend and receive a blessing on the pets' behalf; bringing a photo of the pet is encouraged. Also, in conjunction with our Blessing of the Animals service, we are collecting needed items for the SPCA. A list of suggested items is located on the display table in the Narthex; please feel free to take one and bring your donation by Thursday, September 25.

RIC – We need your help! Council has approved participating in the Reconciling In Christ program (RIC) and we have reached the point in the process that requires a Core Team. RIC is a long journey exploring how we can be more welcoming to groups of people who are often marginalized or persecuted for who they are: LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and other cultures. Our church building is already intentionally designed to accommodate those children of God with physical impairments. Now we can be as intentional about welcoming the rest of God's children. Are you passionate about this issue to expand our love? If you would like to be part of the Core Team or if you have questions about it, please contact Gail Ide by texting 570-899-1059 and putting RIC in the title or call the church office (570.675.3859) – email: stpaul@epix.net.

THE WORD IN SEASON, a daily devotional booklet for October, November and December, is available in the Information Kiosk in the Narthex; please feel free to take one.

THE DEADLINE to submit articles/information for the October GOOD NEWS is Sunday, September 21.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

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| Today: | 9:30 am Worship – Harvest Home Sunday |
| | 10:45 am Sunday School |
| | 5:00 pm Den Meetings |
| Monday | 6:30 pm Railroad Club Business Meeting |
| Tuesday: | 10:30 am The Bible This Week |
| | 1:00 pm Sunday School Teacher's Meeting |
| Wednesday: | 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Labyrinth Walk |
| Thursday: | 6:30 pm – Grief Support Meeting |
| Saturday: | 5:30 pm Worship – Rev. Lynn Rothrock preaching |
| Sunday: | 9:30 am Worship – Rev. Lynn Rothrock preaching |
| | 100 th Anniversary Brunch at Irem following service; |
| | No Sunday School |
| | Noon till 3:00 pm Scout Pack Carnival |
| | Deadline for October Newsletter |

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregations of Faith United, Nescopeck, St. Peter, Hughestown and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.**

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi Fassett, Wayne Fassett, Marge Fritzinger, Morgan Holbrook, Gail Ide, Robert Kline, June Lorah, Linda Lundberg, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Anita Weiss, Geri Williams, Peter & Carol Wittkamp, Alyson Wood, Shirley Zimmerman.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Robert Binger, Michael Bowanko, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janice DeFebo, John Diel, Manfred Diel, Denise Ekdahl, Grace Sunglee Emmett, Karen Evanish, John Fisher, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenny Graveira, Jenn Hubbard, Joe Hudak, Pam Husted, Mike Iannuzzi, Christine Ide, Michael Kaminski, Joe Kerestes, Bradley Kessler, Elsie Kosmach, Rebecca & Ryan Kozloski, Alice Laskowski, Lindsey Lattari, Kevin Loeffler, Carol Marker, Sue & Dan McConnell, Lillian McGrady, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Betty Jane Mokychic, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Debbie Smith, Gloria Smith, Mark Sokolowski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Lori Strobel, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Judi Vietz and family, Jere Vietz, Karen Wise, Frank and Cheryl Wright, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Keith, Diane, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Greg, Justin, Jim, Megan, April, Connie, Jill, Henry, Denny, Kara, Becky, Danny, the M family (no last names given).