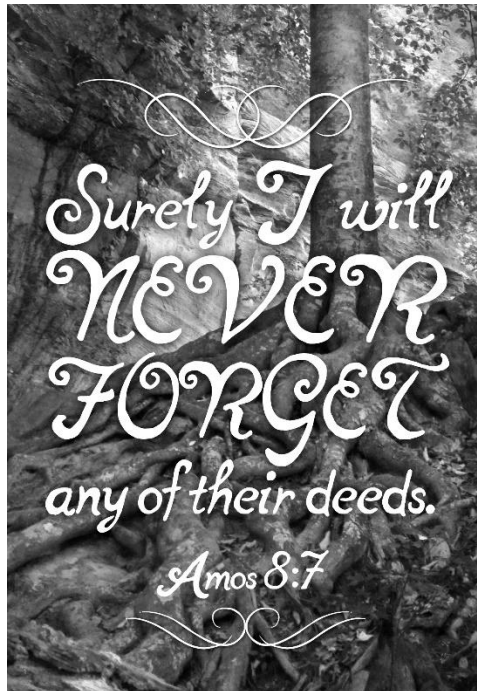


ORDER OF WORSHIP
15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20/21, 2025



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 to worship as we enter a new season. Autumn's turning leaves remind us of God's creative power and faithful rhythm of change. May this hour be one of reflection, gratitude, and renewal.

AS WE ARE INVITED today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, ... gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

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 27/28: Amos 6:1a, 4-7, Psalm 146, 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31.

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

As Saints of Old

John Leavitt

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 # 695

As Saints of Old

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.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

A reading from Amos:

Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113

Spoken responsively by whole verse by the lector and congregation.

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

² **Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.**

³ From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

⁴ **The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heavens.**

⁵ Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,

⁶ **who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?**

⁷ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸ **to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.**

⁹ He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

A reading from First Timothy.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gos- | pel of Christ;*
strive side by side for the faith | of the gospel.

GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY #678

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

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.

Sit.

ANTHEM

Take Me to the Alley

Trish Brosious

Gregory Porter

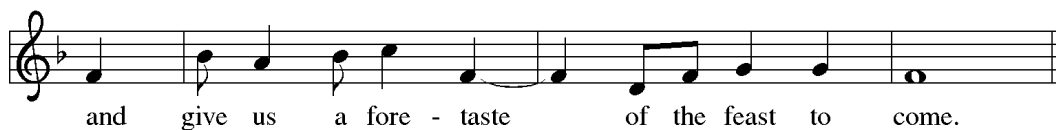
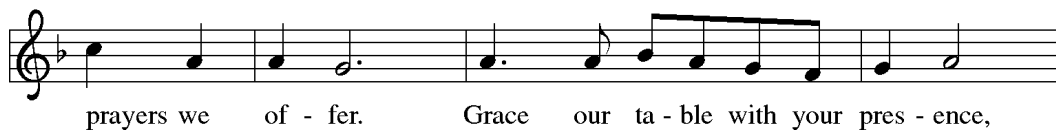
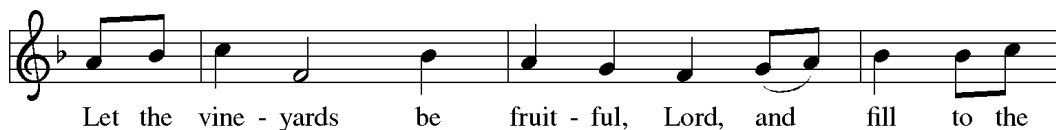
Arr. Jeff Pepper

Please sign the blue pew pads as you listen to the anthem.

MEAL

OFFERTORY #181

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



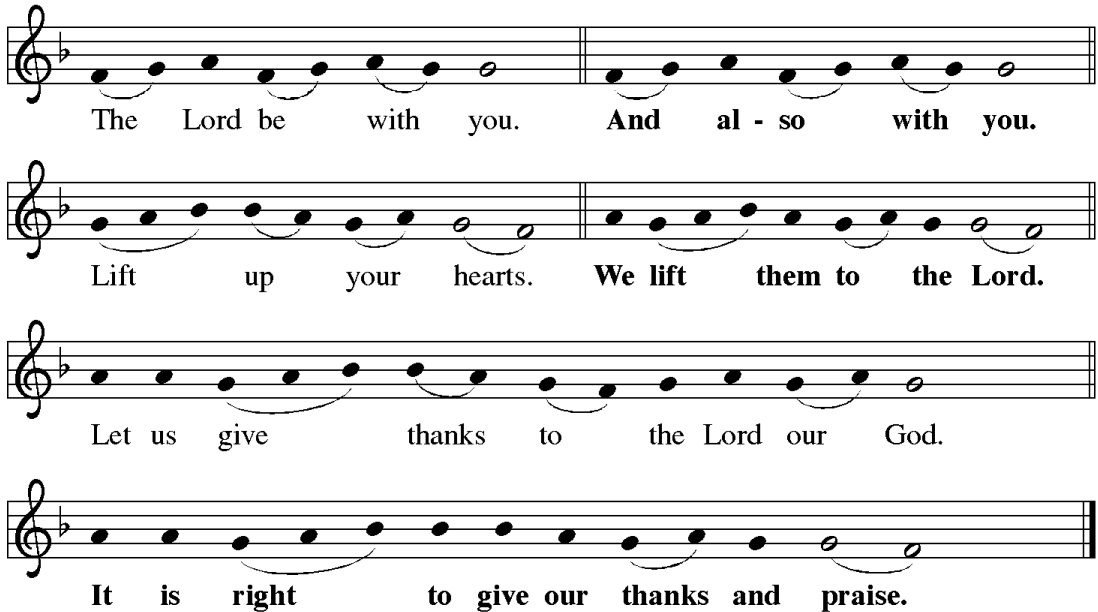
OFFERING PRAYER

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.

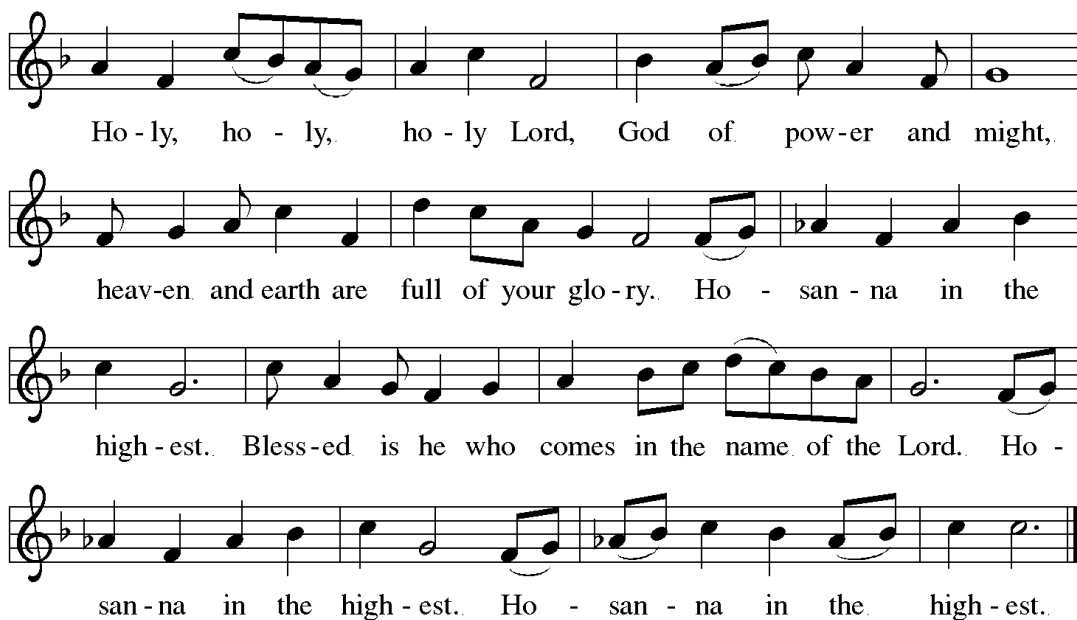
The image shows four staves of musical notation in G-clef, F-sharp key signature, and common time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first phrase. The third and fourth staves do not have double bar lines. The lyrics are: '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.', and '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.

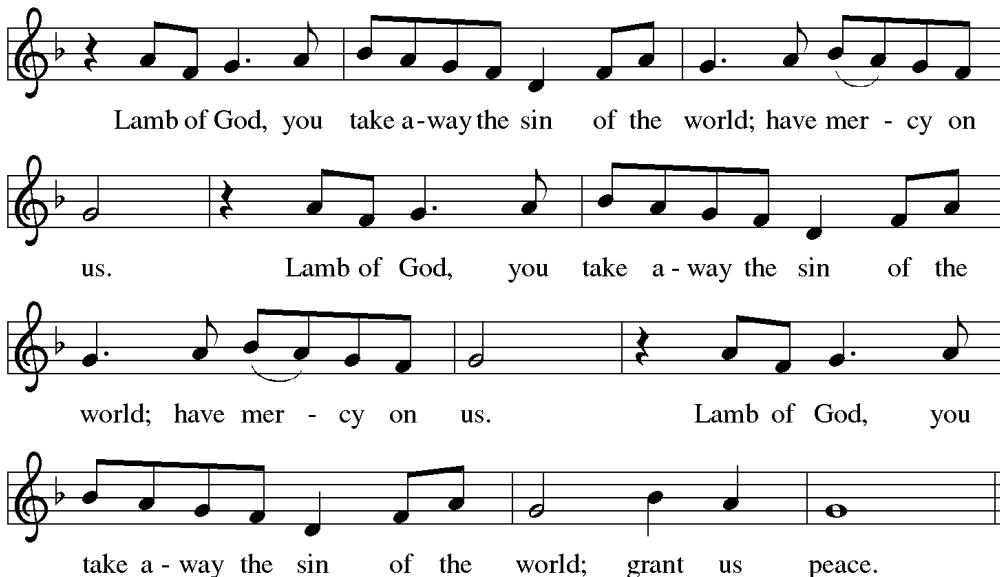
We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step beginning with the person seated closest to the ambo. The communion ministers will come to you, beginning with the bread. Then, take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice or a prefilled glass 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 #793

Be Thou My vision

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Ronald Arnatt

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SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeter:	Karen Mertz
Acolyte:	Volunteer needed
Assisting Minister:	Keith Brosious
Lector:	Ellen Babuscak
Communion Bread:	In memory of Jan Martinchak
Saturday Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Sunday Altar Clean Up:	Martha Kush
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AS OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR continues, we thank Rev. Lynn Rothrock for participating in our worship this weekend. Pastor Rothrock served St. Paul's from February 1973 until October 1987.

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, by Dorcas. **THE SIDE VASE** of flowers is given to the Glory of God, in loving memory of Anna Covert, by Robert & Nancy Kline.

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!

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

ST PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL Invites Prayer Pals for 2025-2026: Church members are invited to sign up to be a Prayer Pal for a child in Sunday School this year. What will it entail? You will get a name of your pal who is a Sunday School student. You will pray for that person and they will pray for you. Through the months of October 2025 to May 2026, the Sunday School may invite you to visit the Sunday School opening. The time of the opening is about 10:45 am to 11 am, after the worship service at church. We expect Prayer Pals may visit about 3 times during the year and we will have social time, refreshments and a small activity at those special openings. You might write a couple cards to your Pal during the year. It promises to be a grace-filled relationship with a young person in our church family. Please give it some prayerful consideration. If you have any questions, Julie Miller Holbrook is our Prayer Pal coordinator; the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE to submit articles/information for the October GOOD NEWS.

RUMMAGE SALE--The Dorcas Society is getting ready for its two-day fall rummage/bake sale, to be held Friday, October 3, 8:00 am till 2:00 pm & 5:00 till 7:00 pm; and Saturday, October 4, 8:00 am – Noon (Bag Day all day). Donations of good clean, usable clothes, household items, dishes, pots and pans, holiday decorations, jewelry, books, games, puzzles, etc., are happily accepted. The church building will be open on the following days/times for donation drop off:

Monday, Sept. 29 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 30 9:30 am – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 1 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, Oct. 2 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

(Note: donations not accepted after 2:00 pm on Thursday so Dorcas members will have time to price baked goods.) **PLEASE DO NOT DONATE televisions, computers/printers, exercise equipment, large appliances, encyclopedias, cribs, strollers, artificial Christmas trees, VHS tapes, electrical cords, and old telephones.** All bakers of St. Paul's are asked to donate homemade baked goods for the Bake Sale; the items should be brought to the church by 1:00 pm on Thursday, October 2.

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.

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.

FRANCIS OF ASSISI, renewer of the church, died 1226: Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this act as being "wedded to Lady Poverty." Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) was formed, and they took literally Jesus' words to his disciples that they should take nothing on their journey and receive no payment for their work. Their task in preaching was to use words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God's creation. This commemoration has been a traditional time to bless pets and animals, creatures Francis called his brothers and sisters. A

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today:	9:30 am Worship
	11:00 am 100 th Anniversary Brunch at Irem (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)
	Deadline for October Newsletter
	12:00 -3:00 pm Scouts Pack Carnival
Tuesday:	10:30 am The Bible This Week
Wednesday:	10:30 am Social Ministry meeting
Saturday:	11:00 am Blessing of Animals service
	5:30 pm Worship
Sunday:	9:30 am Worship
	10:45 am Sunday School

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:* Linda Ash, Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi & 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, 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, Ashley Hutchins, 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, Alan Pugh, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, John Sheeran and family, 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).