Welcome! May this time of worship strengthen your faith and desire to serve the Creator who loves us with everlasting love in Christ Jesus.

Visitors, we are glad you are here! Please sign a Visitor Card in the pew rack and place it in the basket on the Chancel Rail at the front of the Sanctuary.

This week our card is for Ginny Althouse. Please sign the card on the stand by the greeters

Serving Today

Scripture Reader: Bruce DeLong

Greeters: Susan Lincoln

Acolyte: Chase Doran

Crucifer: Vinny Doran

Tech: Joe Ceklosky

Last Sunday

Attendance: 157
Virtual worship viewings: 111 (as of 9/17)
Giving: $21,762

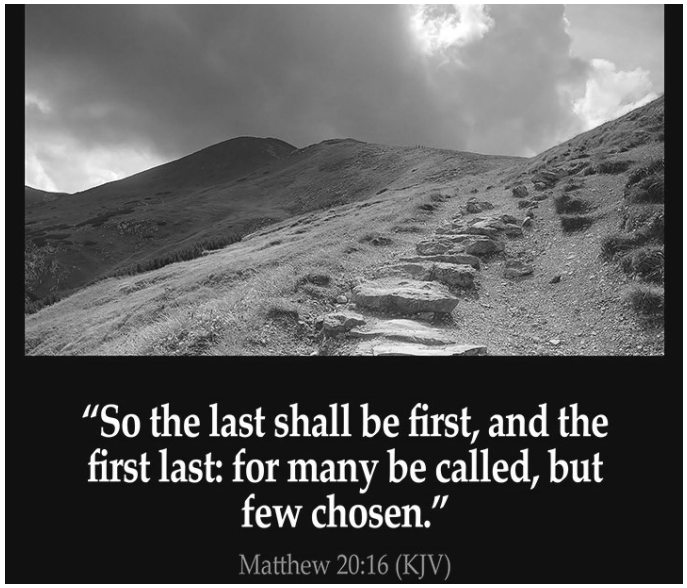
BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

September 21: Ethan Armstrong
September 22: Brodie Kulakowsky
September 23: Darryl Clear, Marian Kirlin, Deanne Leech
September 24: Jayce Pauley, Barbara Thompson, Sue Wunderlich
September 25: Ben Spotts
September 26: Brent Knerr, Caleb Lizbinski

ANNIVERSARIES - this week

September21: Richard & Gail Plank
September 23: Rod & Brenda Norman

Forgot your envelope?
Scan the QR code to make a contribution.



St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Joshua W. Rau, Pastor
Martha Sitler, Minister of Music
Brad Richards, Violinist
Joe Ceklosky: Leader of Technology/Video Team
Marlene Dadey, Director of Christian Education/Office Manager
Kathy Weller, Facility Coordinator
Sexton: Julia Leady

Pastor's Cell - 715-294-0157
Pastor's email - pastor@stpaulsuccamity.org
Church Office 610-689-9364
Church e-mail - office@stpaulsuccamity.org
Website: www.stpaulsuccamity.org

St. Paul's United Church of Christ Mission Statement

In its life and mission, St. Paul's UCC seeks to worship the triune God; proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ; practice loving service toward the needy; embody God's reign of peace and justice; establish a Christian community of faith; and be a faithful member of the church universal.

ORDER for WORSHIP

***Indicates congregation please stand if able.**
Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD type.**

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude — *Prelude Religioso* -Beethoven
O Day of Rest and Gladness -German melody/Smith

Ringing of the Trinity Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Choral Prompt — *Awesome Power* -Elliott

* Processional Hymn — *Great Is the Lord* Hymnal #140

* Solemn Declaration

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.

* Call to Worship

Come, let us gather as the people of God —
called together not by our own merit, but by grace.
From every corner of this community, we come —
united by one faith, one hope, one Lord.
Let us worship the God who brings us together.
We gather to lift our voices in worship and praise.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart, nor loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have chosen our own way over Your way, and comfort over the cross You have called us to bear. We have judged others while excusing ourselves, withheld forgiveness while asking for Your own, and grown weary of watching over one another in love. Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us from our transgressions, and by Your Spirit, give us new hearts to follow You. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing the Peace — The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

* Gloria Patri Hymnal #813

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

Children's Sermon

Choir Anthem — *Be Strong in the Lord* -Johnson/Fettke

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading — *Psalm 145:1-8*

Second Reading — *Philippians 1:21-30*

* Gospel Reading — The Holy Gospel According to Matthew 20
Glory to you, oh Lord.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, oh Christ.

Sermon — *The Last Will Be First*

* Responsive Hymn — *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* Hymnal #355

* Affirmation — *The Apostle's Creed* (inside hymnal cover)

Prayers of the People response: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

THANKSGIVING

God's gifts move us to responds with grateful words and actions.

Tithes & Offerings (there is an offering plate on the chancel rail if you did not give your offering when you arrived)

* Doxology Hymnal #815

* Prayer of Dedication

* Recessional Hymn — *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Hymnal #139

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

* Benediction & Threefold Amen

Postlude — *Gavotte* -Purcell