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 Bette Mooney.
Please sign the card on the stand by the greeters

Serving Today

Scripture Reader:	Autumn Herbst
Greeters:	Nancy Houck
Acolyte:	Payton Haupt
Crucifer:	Susan Newland
Tech:	Pat Leady

Last Sunday

Attendance: 143
Virtual worship viewings: 87 (as of 10/8)
Giving: $3,965

BIRTHDAYS ~ this week

October 11: Rob Hettel
October 12: Donald Breitenstein, Jonny Hartline
October 13: Sophia Carrera, Linda Okuniewski, Tim Prout
October 14: Bette Mooney
October 15: Tyler Czeiner
October 16: Emily Dunning, Betsy Groller

ANNIVERSARIES - this week

October 12: Peter & Marlene Dadey, Dennis & Virginia Stoudt
October 13: Jeff & Renee Kline, Garry & Carol Labe
October 16: Dave & Karen Nuscher-Creasy

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

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Amityville, Pennsylvania

October 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Joshua W. Rau, Pastor

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 — *The Sheltering Rock* -Penn/Bartlett
Trumpet Tune -Lau

Welcome & Announcements

Trinity Chimes

* Processional Hymn — *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* Hymnal #686

* 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

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.
Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?
Rejoice in the Lord always. Again we will say: Rejoice!
The Lord is near.
In every circumstance, bring your prayers to God with thanksgiving.
We come to worship with grateful hearts, trusting in the peace of God through Christ Jesus. Amen.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing the Peace — The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

* Gloria Patri Hymnal #813

WORD

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

Children's Sermon

Choir Anthem — *Peace Hymn of the Republic* -VanDyke/McDonald

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading — *Exodus 32:1-14*

Second Reading — *Philippians 4:1-9*

* Gospel Reading — The Holy Gospel According to Matthew chapter 22
Glory to you, oh Lord.

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

Sermon — *The Invitation Still Stands*

* Responsive Hymn — *Be Still, My Soul* Hymnal #712

First Responders Appreciation see insert

* 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

* Doxology Hymnal #815

* Prayer of Dedication

* Benediction

* Recessional Hymn — *Soldiers of Christ Arise* Hymnal #723

SENDING

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

* Dismissal & Threefold Amen

Postlude — *With Majesty and Pomp* -Boalt

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

Scout Troop 597 is participating in the Friends Helping Friends fundraiser at Boscov's. A $5 donation will provide you with a coupon for up to 25% off your purchase at any Boscov's store or online on **Wednesday, October 21.** 100% of the proceed of this fundraiser go directly to the Troop. See Carson Weller or Alex Falstich for coupons.

HOAGIES

The Order of the Eastern Star sponsors a Hoagie Sale each month. Hoagies are made by Oliviero's and cost $10. There is an order sheet on the table in the Library. Orders are due by Friday, October 16 for pick up in the Social Room on Tuesday, October 20. Thank you for your support.

CORN MAZE–OCTOBER 11

St. Paul's Youth Ministry is hosting a trip to Wilcox Corn Maze this Sunday, October 11. Calling all youth! Join us in exploring the 8 miles of corn maze. Bring a friend! RSVP to sambrose4@gmail.com

SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown invites the brave individuals who served our nation a special event sponsored by Boyertown Rotary. The program will feature inspiring performances by talented Boyertown Middle School singers. Highlighting the afternoon will be a powerful keynote address from distinguished Bronze Star recipient, Commander John Greason, U.S. Coast Guard (Retired), offering reflections on service, sacrifice, and patriotism. Come together with our community to pay tribute to our heroes and celebrate the enduring spirit of those who protect our freedom. Join us Sunday, November 8 at 3 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown 45 North Reading Avenue.

ST. PAUL'S ACTIVITIES–this week

Sunday 10/11	Adult Sunday School	8:30 AM
	Worship & Sunday School	9:45 AM
	First Responders Luncheon	11:00 AM
	Fostering Hope Open Hours	1-3 PM
	Youth Group @ Wilcox Farms	4:00 PM
	Cub Scouts	6:00 PM
	Girl Scouts 1709	6:00 PM
Monday 10/12	Fostering Hope Open Hours	10-12 AM
	Spiritual Council	6:30 PM
	Scouts 597	7:00 PM
Tuesday 10/13	Circle of Friends	11:00 AM
	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
	The Chosen Bible Study	7:00 PM
Wednesday 10/14	Mid-Week Communion	5:30 PM
	Consistory	7:00 PM
Thursday 10/15	Missions Committee	6:30 PM
	Choir	7:00 PM
Friday 10/16	Chess Club	7:00 PM

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Circle of Friends will meet Tuesday, October 13 for lunch at noon in the Social Room (downstairs). Sheila Martin will have an entertaining and informative bird and nature presentation.

St. Paul's UCC, Amityville
1979 Weavertown Road, Douglassville, PA 19518

Office: 610.689.9364 ~ **Email:** office@stpaulsuccamity.org
Website: www.stpaulsuccamity.org
Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 - 11:30

Pastor: Rev. Joshua W. Rau
Cell: 715.294.0157 ~ **Email:** pastor@stpaulsuccamity.org

Minister of Music: Martha Sitler
Violinist: Brad Richards
Sexton: Julia Leady

Litany of Appreciation for First Responders

Gracious and loving God, we give You thanks for the men and women who answer the call to serve in times of danger, crisis, and need.
We thank You, Lord.

For firefighters who enter places of smoke, flame, and uncertainty in order to protect life and property.
We thank You, Lord.

For police officers who stand watch in our communities, seek peace, uphold justice, and place themselves in harm's way for the safety of others.
We thank You, Lord.

For emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nurses, doctors, and all who provide urgent care with skill, compassion, and steadiness.
We thank You, Lord.

For dispatchers and communications personnel whose calm voices, careful attention, and quick action help guide assistance where it is needed.
We thank You, Lord.

For rescue workers, emergency-management teams, public-safety personnel, and volunteers who respond when disaster, accident, or tragedy strikes.
We thank You, Lord.

For those who serve during long nights, holidays, storms, and difficult moments, often leaving their own families to care for the families of others.
We thank You, Lord.

For the spouses, children, parents, friends, and loved ones who share the burdens and sacrifices of those who serve.
We thank You, Lord.

When first responders face fear, fatigue, grief, trauma, or loss, grant them strength, wisdom, courage, and peace.
Lord, sustain and protect them.

When they must make difficult decisions in moments of urgency, give them clear minds, steady hands, and compassionate hearts.
Lord, guide and equip them.

When they witness suffering and carry memories that others may never see, surround them with comfort, healing, and faithful support.
Lord, bring healing and hope.

Help us never to take their service for granted. Teach us to honor them not only with our words, but also through our prayers, encouragement, and care.
Lord, make us grateful and faithful.

May Your protecting hand rest upon every first responder, and may Your peace guard their hearts, their homes, and their service.
Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

BE STILL MY SOUL verse 4

Verse 4 written by Martha Sitler

4. We give You thanks for all our first responders;
For those who help when dangers come our way.
They give their time and face unnumbered dangers.
Be Thou their strength throughout the night and day.
From flame or flood or evil man's intentions
Please keep them safe, O God of Life, we pray.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship is scheduled for 10/18 AND 10/25 being held immediately after service & before the scheduled safety presentations. PLEASE join us for fun, food & fellowship. We welcome donations of snacks & treats! Contact Michelle at 484-256-5309.

SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

October 18- SCAMS AND WHAT TO DO
Focus: Financial exploitation, fraud prevention, and digital safety awareness tailored for older adults and their families.
Key Topics: Common tactics used by scammers (e.g., grandparent scams, IRS/government impersonation, tech support scams, and romance fraud). Red flags to watch out for over the phone, via email, and at the door. Practical steps for securing personal and financial information. Resources and reporting mechanisms if a scam is suspected or occurs.

October 25- Civilian Response to Active Shooters (CRASE)
Focus: Preparedness, situational awareness, and life-saving survival strategies during a critical incident.
Key Topics: Understanding the anatomy of active shooter events and historical lessons learned. The Avoid, Deny, Defend strategy (or equivalent situational response frameworks) detailing how to evacuate, barricade, or take action if avoidance is impossible. What to expect when law enforcement arrives (how to interact safely with responding officers). Basic principles of immediate trauma care (such as severe bleeding control).

Presentations take place in Fellowship Hall following worship and last between 45-60 minutes followed by Q and A.

WE'RE COLLECTING....

Water and Gatorade - We are collecting bottles of water and 12 oz. bottles of Gatorade for the fire companies. You can bring donations anytime and place them in the Library. John 15:13 *Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*