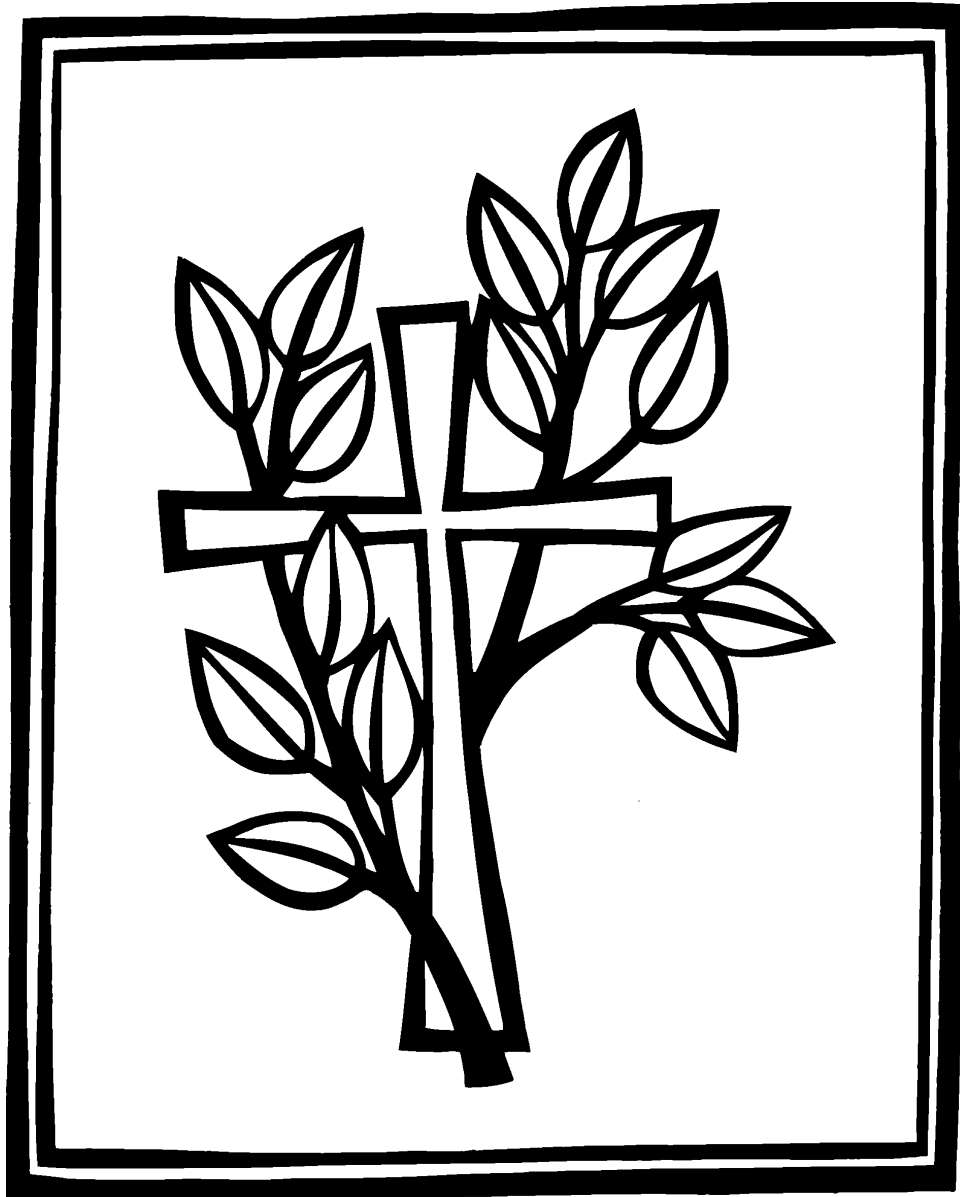


*14th Sunday after  
Pentecost*

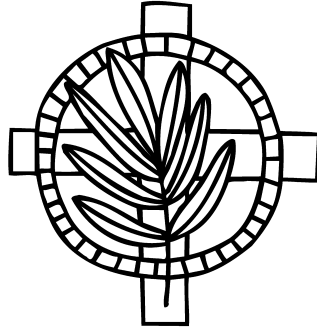


*September 3, 2023*

*10:00 am*

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Egbertsville Campus  
14th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 3, 2023*



*Prelude Music: Paul Storfer*

*Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness*

P Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✚ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin. Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✚ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C Amen.

*Opening Hymn: ELW 798 (on the following page)*

# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



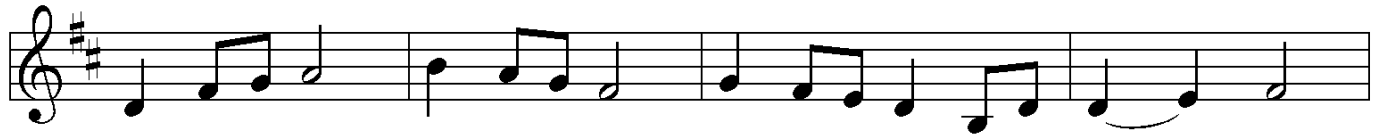
grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

## *Apostolic Greeting*

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

**C** And also with you.

## *Hymn of Praise*



**☩** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



**I**  
**II** For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



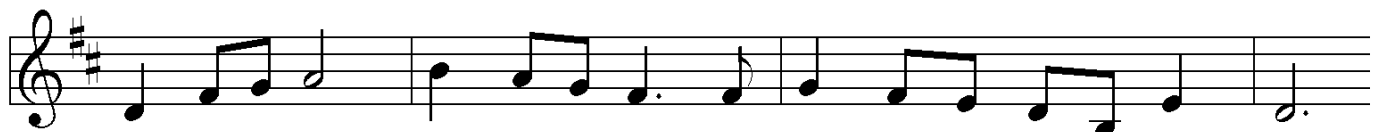
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



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



**☩** Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### *Prayer of the Day*

P O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

### *Children's Time*

#### *First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21*

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."*

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

#### *Psalm 26:1-8 (read responsively)*

*Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)*

A Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

- C **Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**  
A For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.  
C **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**  
A I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.  
C **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession  
round your altar,**  
A singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.  
C **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory  
abides.**  
A This is the Word of the Lord  
C **Thanks be to God.**

***Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21***

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- A This is the Word of the Lord  
C **Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel Acclamation

## *Celtic Alleluia*

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

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

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th Chapter.  
**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

### ***Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28***

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

### ***Sermon***

## Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, since you are our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, pil - grims here, our home a - bove,  
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:  
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Fa - ther's bid - ding.  
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
then by grace we all may win un - told fruits of his cre - a - tion.  
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
Je - sus, un - to you I die, there to live with you on high.  
Je - sus, if I faith - ful be, life e - ter - nal grant to me.



## *Apostle's Creed*

**A** Let's join to proclaim our faith in the Apostles' Creed:

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the Church*

**A** Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. (Please kneel or sit as your are able.)

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain, especially the people on our Prayer Lists, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

- A God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor. Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

### *Offering Music and Prayer*

#### *Ways to Give to St. Paul's*

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate.

The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

- P Let us pray.
- C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence, and your love. Amen

### *Dialogue and Preface*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

### *Sanctus (spoken)*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### *Words of Institution*

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### *Lord's Prayer*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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

***Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.***

### ***Communion Blessing***

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen.

### ***Prayer After Communion***

**P** Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C** Amen.

### ***Benediction***

**P** And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

**C** Amen

***Closing Hymn: WOV 754 (on the following page)***

### ***Sharing the Peace and Sending***

**P** Go in peace to serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 3-10, 2023

- TODAY:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC  
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: Worship and Communion at Eggertsville Campus  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** Labor Day: Church Office Closed
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group at ALC  
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tigers Den Food Pantry Open  
6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II (previously incorrectly listed as Alanon)
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC  
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
4:00 pm: Wedding of Travis Griner and Victoria Soucy  
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at Amherst Lutheran Campus followed by  
Bills Tailgate Family Fun Night  
7:00 pm: Youth Group at ALC
- Sunday:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC  
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: Pastor Steve returns: Worship and Communion at Eggertsville Campus  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

#### *Prayer List: Shut-Ins (\* indicates new names or changes added this week)*

Robert Baus: 30 Westchester Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221  
Evelyn Berger: 644 Campbell Boulevard, Getzville, NY 14068  
Neal DeLeo: Bristol Village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032  
Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004  
Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580  
Dave Lampe: Elderwood of Lakeside, Room #314D, 170 West Avenue, Brockport, NY 14420  
Ralph Mast: 150 Bissel Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14211  
Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Williamsville, 245 Bassett Rd., #54, Williamsville, NY 14221  
Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221  
\*John Schunak: 193 E. Pinelake Court, Williamsville, NY 14221  
David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051  
Ron Wolfe: 324 Village Park Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

*Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Mary Regan (mother of Ken Regan); Lynn Arends; David Gajewski; Ruth Blank; Sharon Biondi; David Stephans; Kathy Greenwalt; Neal Okonzak; Augustino Punturiero; Nancy Durkin; David Ihrig; Kurt Parker Venator (Richard Venator's grandson); Elwood & Jaroslava Chase (Karlen Chase's parents); Shaun Woods; Tracy Robinson; Michael Wallace; Rick Schmidt; Laura Sweet; Greyson Knox; Ira Striejewski; Gary Schmidt; Thomas Maier; Joanne Heizmann; Joan Chatham; Jerry Bucklaew; Joe Falletta; Debbie Lingenfelter; Maureen Kraus; Sally O'Connell; Patrick Irving; Jennifer Ryszkiewicz; Don Irving; Gail Adema; Gail Andrews; Dean Honsberger; Suzanne Gustafson*

**Deacons:** 9/3: John Schunak; 9/10: Barbara Walter

**Ushers:** 9/3: Mike & Michele Degen; 9/10: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In-Person Worship:** *St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Lutheran Campus, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.*

**Church Unleashed:** *If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook. (We were recently advised that Church Unleashed was not broadcast on WBBZ the past several Sundays. This was due to equipment damaged during a recent storm. Once the equipment is repaired, Church Unleashed will return to WBBZ at 10:00 am.)*

**Tigers Den Food Pantry:** *The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, anyone associated with Amherst Lutheran Campus, or by referral. The pantry hours for September are: Thursdays 9/7 and 9/21 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturdays 9/9 and 9/23 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for August: soup, cereal, pasta, and spaghetti sauce.*

**Daily Bread Food Truck:** *Our 2023-2024 Monday Meal Share will begin again in October. For more information to volunteer or donate, please contact the church office at 716-835-0407 or email [dailybread4007@gmail.com](mailto:dailybread4007@gmail.com).*

**ALC Book Club:** *The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the narthex at Amherst Lutheran Campus beginning at 7:15 pm. All are welcome! Book for September 14: *The Last Cuentista (Storyteller)* by Donna Barba Higuera. For more information contact Karin Johnson at 716-689-6365 or [karinej@roadrunner.com](mailto:karinej@roadrunner.com).*

**Prayer Team Ministry:** *We are forming a Prayer Team Ministry and need pray-ers! Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. The Prayer Team Ministry began August 10. If you'd like to join us, please contact Heidi at: [Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com)*



### Bills Tailgate Family Fun Night

September 9th after 5pm  
service at Amherst campus

Cookout and lawn games

Wear Bills attire

Sign-up for choice of hamburger/hotdog  
and indicate if you would  
like to bring a dish (side dish/dessert)  
to share.



**We missed you!**

**Mark your calendar!**

**Monday, 9/4: Labor Day, Church Office closed**

**Wednesday 9/6 at 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group at ALC**

**Saturday 9/9 following 5:00 pm service at ALC:  
Bills Tailgate Family Fun Night  
followed at 7:00 pm by Youth Night at ALC**

**Sunday, 9/10 at 10:00 am: Pastor Steve returns  
for worship and communion**

**Tuesday, 9/12 at 10:00 am: Bible Study  
Tuesday, 9/12 at 7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, 9/13 at 10:00 am: Comforters meeting  
Wednesday, 9/13 at 12:00 noon: Staff Meeting**

**Thursday, 9/14 at 7:15 pm: Book Club returns to ALC  
Thursday, 9/14 at 7:30 pm: Choir Practice**

**Saturday, 9/16 at 9:00 am: Grand Reopening of  
Amherst Family Support Center**

**Sunday, 9/17 at 10:00 am: Sunday School begins  
and backpack blessings  
Sunday, 9/17 at 11:00 am: National Youth Gathering  
information meeting for parents and students**

**Tuesday, 9/19 at 6:00 pm: Burrito Project**





*+ St. Paul's Mission +  
To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.  
We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,  
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

**St. Paul's Congregation Council**

*President: Kathryn Francis*

*Vice-President: David Schunak*

*Treasurer: William Niblock*

*Secretary: Gerri Horton*

*Bob Brown   David Dahlberg   Susan Epstein   Sara Hannon  
Janet Schmidt   Robert Simpson   Vanessa Solomon   Scott Vahue*

**Pastors**

*Steve Biegner: (Away for renewal until September)*

*Kristen Arends: Cell: 716-481-8728; Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com*

**Directors of Music**

*Paul H. Storfer (SPEC)*

*Adam Schmidt (ALC)*

**Christian Education Coordinator**

*June Piette*

**Youth Ministry**

*Adam Weber*

**Digital Ministry**

*Andrew Gruszka*

**Church Office Staff**

*Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Polowy*

*E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com*

*Telephone: (716) 835-0407*

*Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com*