# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



August 3, 2025 10:00 am St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Eggertsville Campus Eighth Sunday after Pentecost August 3, 2025

Musician: Paul Storfer

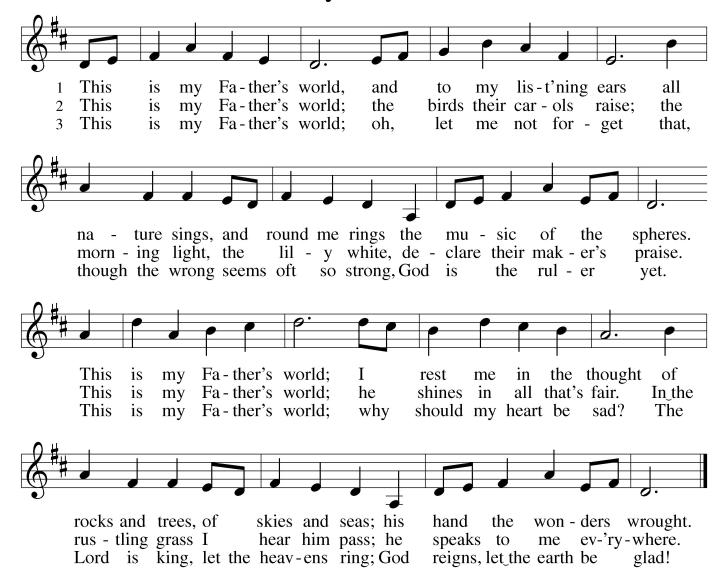




#### Confession and Forgiveness

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
- You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life in you. Amen.
- P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
- C Amen.

# This Is My Father's World



#### 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.

#### Prayer of the Day

- P Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen

# First Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

# Psalm 49:1-12 (read responsively)

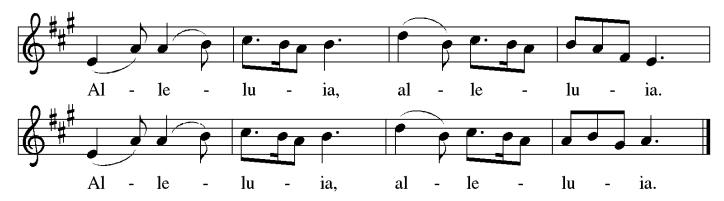
My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

- A Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
- C you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- A My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- C I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- A Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me.
- C the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?
- A One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;
- C for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,
- A in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.
- C For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

- A Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.
- C Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

# Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

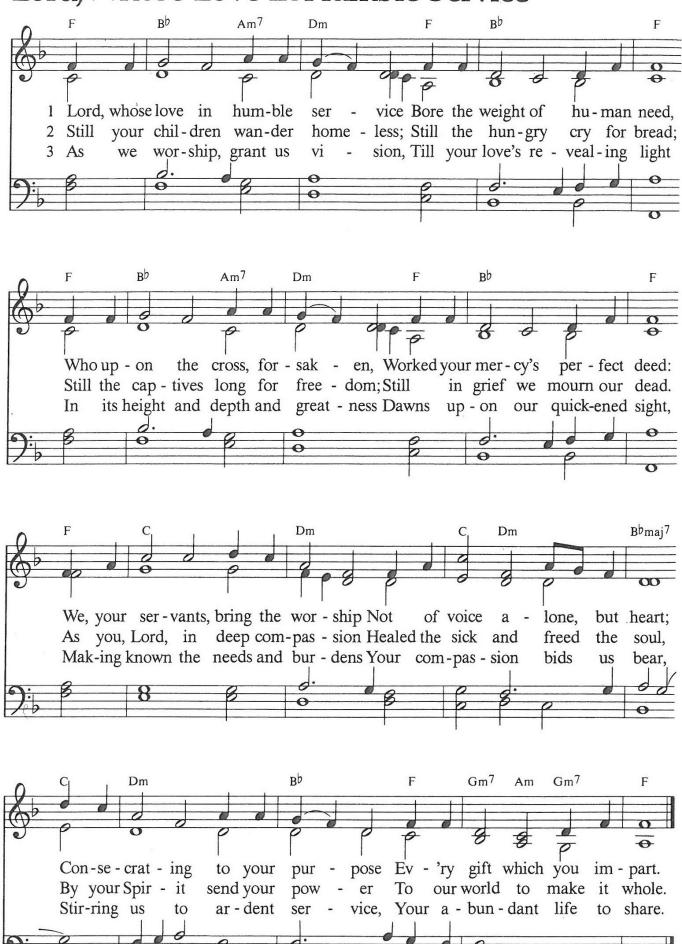
In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

#### Sermon

# Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service





Holy Baptism

#### Presentation

P In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsors present the candidate:

P Sponsors, who do you present for Baptism?

Response: We present Henry Gordon Vanthoff, Vivian Lynnette Vanthoff, Evelyn Rose Vanthoff, and Lilah Grace Spinuzza for Holy Baptism.

The presiding minister addresses the parents:

P Richard and Elizabeth, in Christian love you have presented Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Creed. As they grows in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to help them grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: We do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

P Ryleigh and Anthony, do you promise to nurture Henry in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of his baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

P Justine and David, do you promise to nurture Vivian in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

P Alyssa and Robert, do you promise to nurture Evelyn in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

P Tyler and Jessica, do you promise to nurture Lilah in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

- People of God, do you promise to support Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah and pray for them in their new life in Christ?
- C We do.



# Prayers of the Church

A In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,

- C hear our prayer.
- A Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.

A Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

A Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

A Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

#### C Amen.

#### **Thanksgiving**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with

the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah, who are here baptized, may be given new life. Wash away their sin by this cleansing water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### C Amen

#### Renunciation

- P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C I renounce them.

# **Profession**

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C 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



# **Baptism**

P Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

# Laying on of Hands

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.
- C Amen

# Signing with the Cross

P Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah: child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen



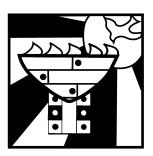
# Giving of the Light

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

#### Welcome

- P Through Baptism, God has made Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah new members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.
- C Henry, Vivian, Evelyn, and Lilah, we welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow missionaries in God's church, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God. Amen

(Congregation joins in singing: Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.)



# 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: Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/



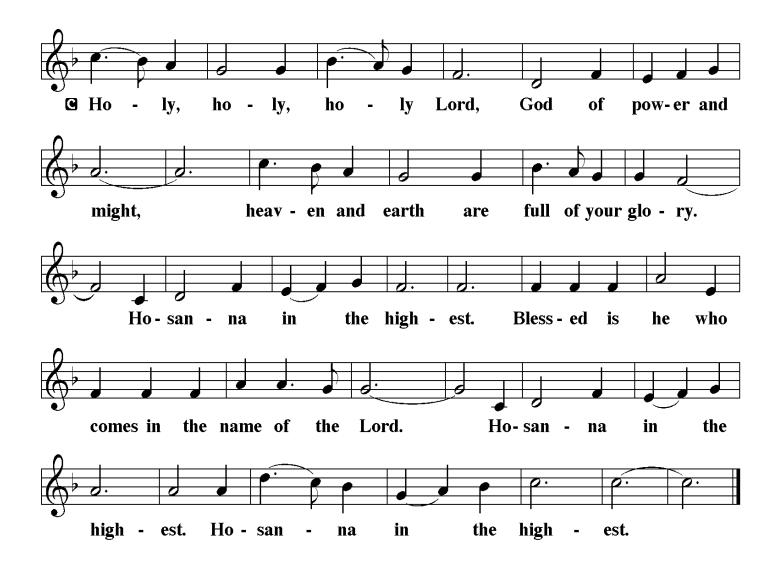
# Offering Music and Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C 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 and our labor. May the gifts we offer here and in our planned giving be used for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 sing their unending hymn:



#### 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 Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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 Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

#### Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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 699

# Blessed Assurance



- Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

#### Dismissal

- P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: August 3-10, 2025

\*Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus\*

Sunday: 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Baptisms of Henry Gordon Vanthoff, Vivian Lynette Vanthoff, Evelyn Rose Vanthoff, and Lilah Grace Spinuzza

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Monday: 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share

5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC

Tuesday: 5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)

Wednesday: 6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: No Events Planned No Events Planned

Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC

Sunday: 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship and Communion

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

*Deacons:* 8/3: Nancy Bartels-Holliman; 8/10: Sara Gallagher

Ushers: 8/3: Helen Gibson & Gerri Horton; 8/10: Mimi & Scott Fierle

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwarts; Marian Coco Reilly; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda LoTempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Sue Epstein

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

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

Charles Scofield: Beechwood, 2235 Millersport Highway, #706, Getzville, NY 14068

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

#### PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

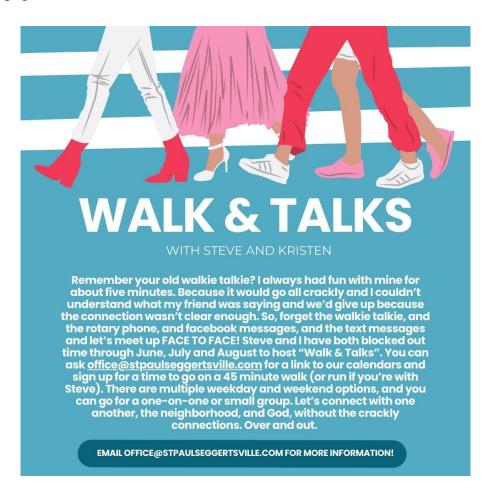
Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

**Prayer Team Ministry:** 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. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

#### **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. In order to abide by FeedMore requirements, the pantry days for August have changed. The pantry will be open Saturdays 8/9 and 8/23 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm; and Thursdays 8/14 and 8/28 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for August are: paper towels and coffee.





# + 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: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

#### Pastoral Leaders

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan

<u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka

<u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

# Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm