Visitors and members—Welcome to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church! We’re glad you’re here and pray that you experience God’s kindness with us in worship.

At St. Paul’s, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, all baptized persons are welcome at Holy Communion—the altar is God’s table. While the services are online, we are using individual Communion cups that can be picked up ahead of time at church when the office is open. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. We will announce Communion dates ahead of time.

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter’s bold confession of faith. God’s word of reconciliation and God’s mercy are keys to the church’s mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

Today’s Readings
Isaiah 51:1-6 - Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God’s deliverance will come soon and will never end.
Psalm 138 - O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)
Romans 12:1-8 - In response to God’s merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit’s renewing work. God’s grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.
Matthew 16:13-20 - At a climactic point in Jesus’ ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God,” and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

St. Paul’s Mission Statement
Rooted in God’s unconditional love, the congregation of Saint Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, commits mind, body, spirit, and treasure to encourage all people to become disciples of Christ, to share God’s abundance, and to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.
**Worship and Sunday School Update**

Moving forward, we will be worshiping outdoors, live in-person on the St. Paul’s Study House lawn whenever weather permits! Sunday School will be held during the Children’s Time. We will post an update on Facebook between 8 and 9 PM on Saturday based on the weather details. We will send a final call via a constant contact email by 8 AM Sunday morning if the weather forecast dictates a later decision.

Because it would be difficult to facilitate a virtual Coffee Time right after worship if we are able to have an outside service, we will suspend Coffee Time for now and revisit it in the future if people would like to see it continue.

If you weren’t able to catch it in person or live on Facebook, you can find the link to our YouTube channel on our website, www.stpaulsh.org. You will find all the worship and Sunday School videos there! Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel!

**Food Pantry Collection**

We continue to collect food for the food pantry. You can drop off donations Monday through Wednesday. Please call ahead to let Rosanne know you will be coming. You can leave your donations in the vestibule and Rosanne will bring them into the building.

Extended Hand Ministry has a great need for canned vegetables and fruits. If you could include those in your food donations, it would be greatly appreciated!

**Communion Sunday**

We will be having Communion on Sunday, August 30. Individual communion cups will be available for pick-up in the vestibule during church office hours. If you need to arrange a time for pick-up after outside of office hours, please call or email.

**Council Opening**

At the August Council meeting, Claudia O’Malley’s resignation was accepted with regret and great thanks. That leaves us with an open seat to fill. This seat would be appointed by Council and would serve through the annual meeting in December at which time they could stand for election, and the term would run through December 2022.

Please contact Karen Platt or Pastor Elaine if you are interested in filling this position.

**Open Study Hours**

Pastor Elaine’s open study hours for the upcoming week are listed below:

**Week of August 17**

There will be no open study hours during this time of physical distancing. Pastor Elaine will be making phone visits. Please do not hesitate to call me any time to ask for prayer for yourself or a loved one. I am happy - anytime - to pray with and for you. I’m never too busy for that. It’s why I’m here!

**Pastor Elaine’s Contact Info**

Cell: 609-410-2828  
Office: 609-267-0740 x 21  
Email: pastorecq@stpaulsh.org

**Summer Office Hours**

The church office will be closed on Fridays in August. The office will be open Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. Monday - Wednesday will be in-office. Thursday will be remote hours.

**Flu Shot Clinic**

It’s flu shot time again! This year, it will probably be even more important to immunize than before. A sign-up sheet is posted in the vestibule for your convenience. You can also call the office to sign-up. This year’s clinic will be Wednesday, September 9 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. Masks will be required. The clinic is for seniors with Medicare Part B coverage. Call Sharyn Lyden at (609) 893-6349 with questions.

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**Pandemic Ponderings**

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the way we live - temporarily or perhaps permanently. We are living through an historic time and we feel it is important to document this time for future generations.

The Legacy Committee is inviting everyone in the congregation to share your pandemic story. We would like to hear how this lockdown has affected your life, the ways you and your family are dealing with it and how you think it could create a ‘new normal’ for all of us. You can write a short essay, a poem, create artwork—the best way you know how to share your story.

Please either email your story to Rosanne at stpaulslutheran@stpaulsh.org or send it to her at the church office. Thank you.
Prelude:  All For You

Parish Concerns

Hymn  Faith of Our Fathers  812

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:  Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C:  Amen.

Children’s Time / Sunday School – Bev Grazioli

First Reading  Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalm  Psalm 138

Second Reading  Romans 12:1-8

Alleluia Verse

Holy Gospel  Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon: Pastor Elaine C. Quincey

Hymn of the Day  There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy  588
Apostles’ Creed
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
L: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.
L: Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we
confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to
Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of
creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will
arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of
countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways.
Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in
the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill
your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness
to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care
especially those afflicted with or recovering from Covid-19. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: You call us into St. Paul’s, in which we, though many, are one in Christ. May
we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for
the building up of the church for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: Living God of the past, present, and future, you are our Rock of Ages. Be with the pastor who you know is best for St. Paul’s in the years ahead. May the Holy Spirit fill her or him with the understanding and desire to share in the ministry of this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
L: You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead Elsa, Jean and Pastor Maurice. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Offering My Feet are on the Rock

Offering Prayer
L: Siblings in Christ, your generosity is a blessing to St. Paul’s, the Hainesport community, and beyond. Thank you for your offerings.
L: Let us pray.
C: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen

The Lord’s Prayer, page 154
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing
P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.
C: Amen.

Hymn We Are All One in Mission 576
Dismissal
L:  Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C:  Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Denisemarie Porter
First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

1Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
2Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
3For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

4Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
5I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
6Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm: Psalm 138

1I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods will sing your praise.  
2I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.  
3When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.
All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.
All for You

This time, this place is set apart
I stand amazed at who You are
I'm overcome by what You've done, Oh
I'm here right now, I need You now
I lift Your name above the doubt
This is my offering for You, For You

‘Cause it's all for You, all for You
Every heart will proclaim
Every tongue will shout Your praise
All for You, oh, oh, oh
All for You, oh, oh, oh

I leave my burden at Your feet
In You I find my victory
There is nothing You can't do, Oh
I'll live my life for your renown
I'll give it all and lay it down
‘Cause I owe everything to You, To You

‘Cause it's all for You, all for You
Every heart will proclaim
Every tongue will shout Your praise
All for You, oh, oh, oh
All for You, oh, oh, oh

All will hear, all will see
Love came down and we are free

Faith of Our Fathers

Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
whene'er we hear that glorious word.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.

The martyrs, chained in prisons dark,
were still in heart and conscience free;
and blest would be their children's fate
if they, like them, should die for thee.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.

Faith of our fathers! We will love
both friend and foe in all our strife;
proclaim thee too, as love knows how,
by saving word and faithful life.
Faith born of God, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.

There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

There is grace enough
for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.
For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

’Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all: greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.

Make our love, O God, More faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

My Feet are on the Rock

I can see the clouds roll in I can feel the wind as they try to shake me I will not be moved My feet are on the rock

I can feel the waters rise I can hear the howling lies that haunt me Fear won't hold me now My feet are on the rock

When I feel my hope about to break I will cling to Your unchanging grace Let the waters come and the earth give way I'll be dancing in the rain! My feet are on the rock

I can see the morning light I can feel the joy on the horizon Here my faith is found I stand on solid ground!

When I feel my hope about to break I will cling to Your unchanging grace Let the waters come and the earth give way I'll be dancing in the rain! My feet are on the rock

On Christ, the solid rock I stand All other ground is sinking sand So stomp your feet and clap your hands My feet are on the rock (repeat as led)

When I feel my hope about to break I will cling to Your unchanging grace Let the waters come and the earth give way I'll be dancing in the rain! My feet are on the rock

We Are All One in Mission

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called to service, to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace, so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united, and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.