# St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023



If you are a guest with us today, we extend a special welcome in the name of Jesus! If you have questions or prayer requests or want to get in touch with us, please sign the guest book in the lobby (or use this QR code) or email or call.



Children's Bulletins are available in the lobby.

**Service Live-streamed In The Learning Center** Turn right when you leave the sanctuary and follow the hall around to The Learning Center if you need a break during the service.

**Prelude:** Please use the prelude as a time for quiet prayer and meditation before worship.

**Prayer before Worship:** O Lord, creator, redeemer, and comforter, I come to worship You in spirit and in truth. Open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus name. Amen.

## For Those Who Desire to Receive the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. Paul in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. (Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion trays.)

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School 2001 Old Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228 Church: 410-747-1897 School: 410-747-1924 www.stpaulcatonsville.org email: secretary@stpaulcatonsville.org Pastor Gregory Alms Renata O'Reilly, Organist & Choir Director

## The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023

Prelude: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

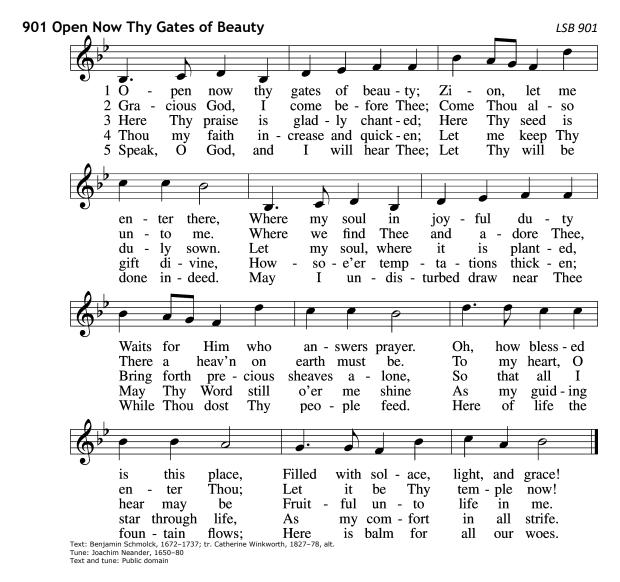
Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)

### Lutheran Women in Mission Litany

Psalm 24:7-10

- A King David wrote: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- C Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- A The King of glory comes because, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16 NIV).
- C For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him (John 3:17 NIV).
- A The King of glory comes because of the Gospel, it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek (Romans 1:16).
- C For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17).
- A The King of glory comes, because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).
- C And are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, (Romans 3:24)
- A The King of glory comes to encourage the church's proclamation to "Pray for All People."
- C First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way (1 Timothy 2:1–2).
- A What does all this mean?
- C "We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him" (LWML Pledge).

To the coming King be the glory, power, and majesty, forever and ever. Amen.



## **Confession and Absolution**

#### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### Exhortation

[John 20:19–23]

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### Kneel/Sit

### **Confession of Sins**

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

### Absolution

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### Stand

## Service of the Word

## Introit (sung responsively)

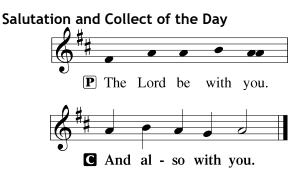
The LORD lifts up the | humble;\* he casts the wicked | to the ground. Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;\* for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting. The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;\* he gathers the outcasts of | Israel. He heals the broken- | hearted\* and binds | up their wounds. He determines the number | of the stars;\* he gives to all of | them their names.

Psalm 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6









- P Let us pray.
- C Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Sit* **Anthem:** Comfort, O Lord, the Soul of Thy Servant: Psalm 86

William Crotch (1775-1847)

Comfort, O Lord, the soul of Thy servant. For unto Thee do I lift up my soul.

### **Old Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die....

<sup>25</sup>"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way

of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

<sup>30</sup>"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

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

Gradual (spoken responsively)

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

## Epistle

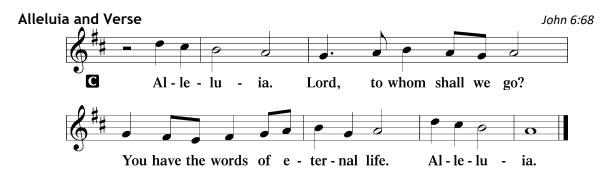
#### *Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18*

<sup>1</sup>If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others....

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or questioning, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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

Stand



Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

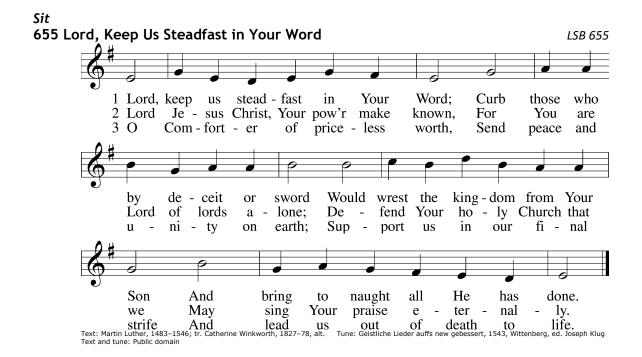


<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





#### Sermon

Stand Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

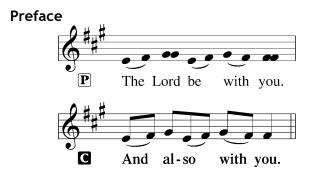
### Prayer of the Church

#### Offering

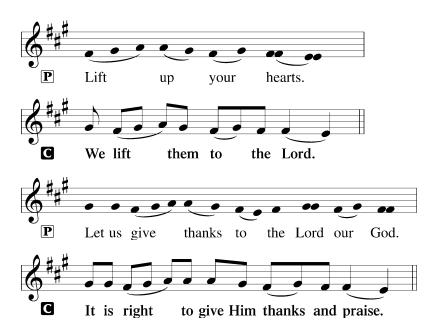
(Offering plates are available in the narthex. You may also give electronically through our website at stpaulcatonsville.org/donation. If you would like to send in an electronic offering via text, text the dollar amount you would like to give to 410-888-0161.)



## Service of the Sacrament

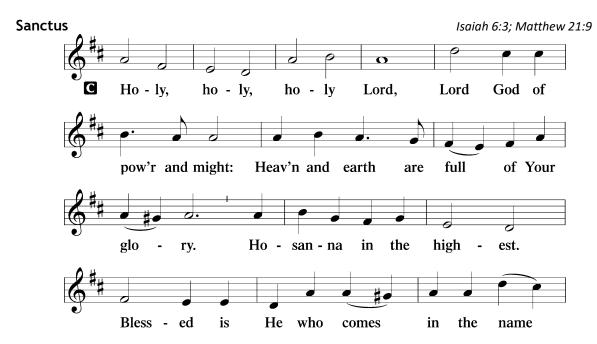


2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



#### **Proper Preface**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:





### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

- 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.

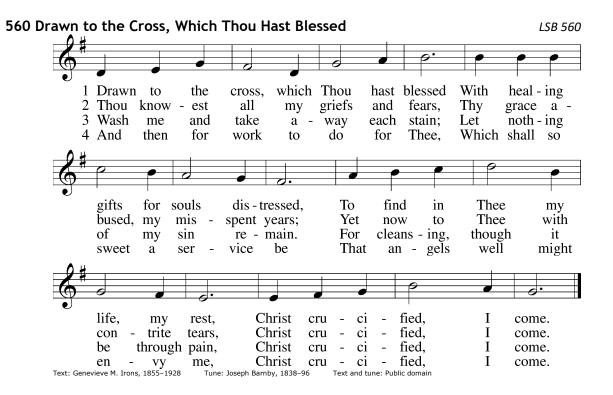
## The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

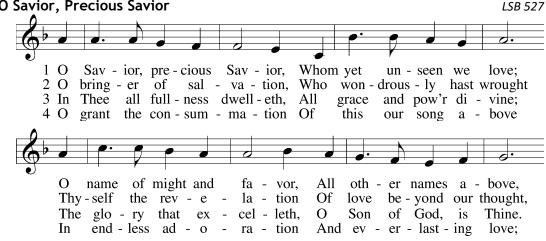
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

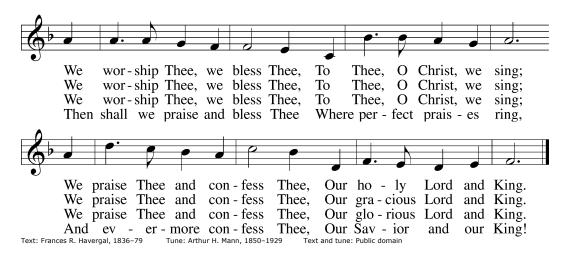




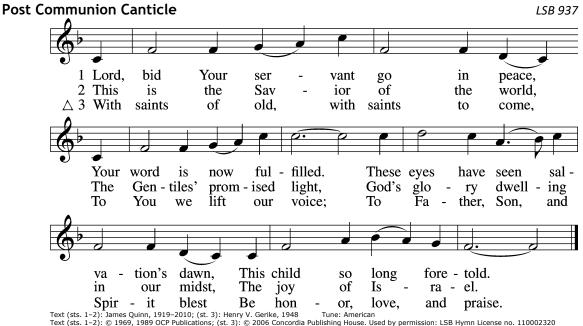


## 527 O Savior, Precious Savior





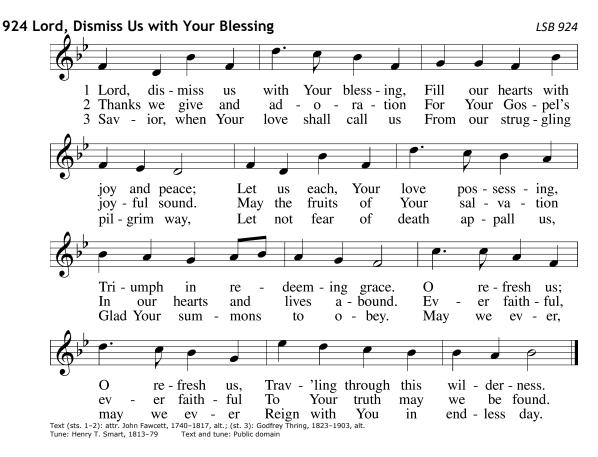
#### Stand Post Communion Blessing



Tune: Public domain

**Post-Communion Collect** 

А Let us pray. . . . Α men. Benediction Numbers 6:24-26 0 94 **P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. Θ **C** A men. Serve the Lord



#### Dismissal

Postlude: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

#### Acknowledgments

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## News & Notes

## Altar Flowers

Flowers on the altar today are given by LaVerne Kyne in celebration of Jim's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## LWML Celebration Sunday!

Lutheran Women in Mission praise the Lord for opportunities to share His message and love with people from all walks of life throughout our community and the world. Today the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) invites you to join us in celebrating the joy of serving the Lord with gladness in this congregation. Together, we will offer our praise using the theme, "The King is Coming", Psalm 24:7–10.

Throughout human history, God pictured the coming redemptive King through various images of His promise, providence, provision, and protection for His people. We could easily become down and out because of the evil of our world, and quickly give up because of the constant bad news; but hope, peace, joy, and love is the promise of our God for His people. Christ is the King of Glory! The Gospel is our only hope, as the King of glory comes in, with, and through the Gospel, as we were buried with Him in Baptism and raised with Him to a new life!

We invite you to learn more about the mission and ministry of the Lutheran Women in Mission by asking a member or going to the LWML website, www.lwml.org. Thank you for supporting the LWML through your mite offerings and prayers.

## Lutheran Woman's Quarterly

The Fall 2023 issue of Lutheran Woman's Quarterly is available in the narthex.

## Community Craft Day

The Fellowship Hall will be open this Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9-4. Come and bring the craft of your choice. Spend some time in fellowship while you work on your project.

## St. Paul Øktoberfest

OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 PM. Tickets on sale now. Buy tickets online or in the narthex. The menu is listed in the newsletter. Any questions about the event, ask Pastor Alms, Chris Parsons or J.B. Jaeger.



**Oct - Dec Portals of Prayer:** is available in the narthex.

## Calling All "Trunk-sters!"

Looking for a fun way to serve the community? Decorate your trunk for Halloween and join us on Saturday, Oct 28th for our annual Trunk-or-Treat event. Share the Gospel and lots of candy! Contact Karyn Borth to reserve your spot!



### Newsletter

Denise and Debbie need some help with a few things at Dottie's house. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Denise if you can help with any of this.

- Several fence posts need to be replaced and the fence reattached.
- Forsythia bush needs to be trimmed.
- The deck railing could be painted.
- The ceiling tiles in the small bathroom need to either be replaced or cleaned really well.
- The screen on the door leading to the pool needs to be replaced.

### Join the Bell Choir

Practice begin *THIS TUESDAY, October 3<sup>rd</sup>* from 6:15 - 7:15. If you can count to 4, please join us, even if you don't read music. Contact Carol Taylor with questions.

### Newsletter

The October newsletter was emailed on Friday. Hard copies are available in the narthex.

	This week	Next week
Cantor	Steve Haar	Steve Haar
Reader	Ken Waibel	Michelle Johnson
Usher	Don Easton	Greg McDonald
Usher	Bill Oldhouser	Jeffrey Hemmeter
Greeter	Melissa Sunstrom	Debbie Oldhouser
Acolyte	Charlotte McKay	Danny McKay

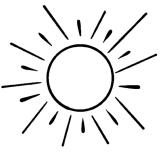
### Serving at St. Paul

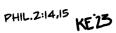
**Daily Readings:** *Oct 1*: Deut 2:16–37, Matt 6:16–34; *Oct 2*: Deut 3:1–29, Matt 7:1–12; *Oct 3*: Deut 4:1–20, Matt 7:13–29; *Oct 4*: Deut 4:21–40, Matt 8:1–17; *Oct 5*: Deut 5:1–21, Matt 8:18–34; *Oct 6*: Deut 5:22–6:9, Matt 9:1–17; *Oct 7*: Deut 6:10–25, Matt 9:18–38.

Sermon	Notes
	Sermon

PO ALL THINGS WITHOUT GRUMBLING OR PISPUTING, THAT YOU MAY BE BLAMELESS AND INNOCENT, CHILDREN OF GOD WITHOUT BLEMISH IN THE MIDST OF A CROOKED & TWISTED GENERATION, AMONG WHOM YOU

SHINE AS LIGHTS THE WORLD





## Prayer List

## **CHURCH MEMBERS**

Stan and Dana Stigdon as they consider a call to serve as missionaries in the Dominican Republic.

Barbara Kester (recovering from gallbladder surgery)

David Nguyen (back issues, surgery scheduled for Oct 18)

Lindsey Gay (recovering from recent hospitalization)

John Gay (cancer, accepted into clinical trial of new treatment)

Janice Gay (caretaker)

Sandy Hayes (recovering from surgery)

Merilyn Blomster (blood pressure issues)

Debbie Frech (cancer, chemotherapy treatments)

Marilyn Haberl (scleroderma)



## SHUT-INS

Mildred Klein, Betty Blackburn, and Janet Conklin.

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

The friends and family of Mike McTighe, friend of the Lister family, who was killed in a motorcycle accident last week.

Harold Reider, father of Pam Piegols (discernment for best way to treat blocked arteries) 9/24 Mike Martin, friend of the Fields family (heart issues) 9/24 Rich Strauss, friend of the Fields family (hospitalized, recovering) 9/24 Debbie, Doug, and Gwen Warner, friend of the Fields family (recovering from a multicar accident) John Hahn, former member (issues due to melanoma surgery) 9/17 Walt O'Reilly, husband of Renata (recovering from surgery, cancer treatments) 9/3 Tyler Stevenson, Erwin family member (blood disorder) 9/3 Steve Schafer, father of Alicia Dreessen (skin cancer) 9/3

Prayer is a great gift and privilege for Christians. To add people to the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please email pastoralms@stpaulcatonsville.org or dana.stigdon@splscatonsville.org or call the church office at 410-747-1897. Family and friends will automatically be removed after one month. If you want your request to stay on for another month, just contact the office.