



Scripture **1 Peter 1:8-9** Liturgist Tom Bell  
Message **Inexpressible Joy** Pastor Mike Derflinger  
Chorus **♫641 “Fill My Cup, Lord”, 2x**

Holy Communion

*Our Service of Holy Communion can be found on p. 14 and on the screen.  
When you come forward, please kneel or stand, whichever you are more comfortable doing.  
After you receive the bread, receive the pre-poured juice and take, eat, and drink them with one another.  
Please let an Usher know if you would like us to bring Communion to you.*

*After you receive Communion, you’re invited to receive prayer at our Prayer Station on our front pew before returning to your seat.*

Our Communion Offering

You may leave a cash or check Communion offering, payable to St. Paul UMC.  
Today’s offering goes to Life Recovery Group. Thank you!

Prayer after Communion Liturgist Tom Bell

**Lord Jesus, though I have not seen you with my eyes, I love you. Though I do not see you now, I believe in you and know you and my life is filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. Thank you for this communion, a foretaste of the goal of my faith: the salvation of my soul. Let this joy sustain me until I see you face-to-face. I pray in your holy name. Amen.**

Prayers

After each petition, all pray: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Unison Offertory Prayer Liturgist Tom Bell

**Generous God, as we begin this month, we bring these tithes and offerings. May these gifts be used to advance Your kingdom, reflecting the love and hope we have in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Offertory Carolyn Mills, pianist and Brandis Garwood, violinist

**“Break Thou The Bread of Life”** William F. Sherwin  
**“Blest Be The Tie”** Hans G. Nargeli

\*Doxology

\*Recap

\*Closing Hymn **♫380 “There’s Within My Heart a Melody”, vv. 1,3,4**

\*Circle Benediction *Let’s form a circle around the inside of the sanctuary.*

\*Postlude Carolyn Mills, pianist and Brandis Garwood, violinist  
**“Since Jesus Came Into My Heart”** C.H. Gabriel  
**“I’ve Found A Friend”** G.C. Stebbins, 1846

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*If you are new to St. Paul, we hope you will worship with us again very soon.  
To catch all of our previous services, please go to our YouTube Channel  
StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA.*

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**Text: 1 Peter 1:8-9**

**Title: Inexpressible Joy**

What are some of your moments of inexpressible joy? \_\_\_\_\_

Your soul is that part of you that experiences \_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_. You are the manager of your soul. It is important to

\_\_\_\_\_ your soul and talk with \_\_\_\_\_.

Write your main takeaway from the parable of Adam and his soul. \_\_\_\_\_

Write your main takeaway from the final story \_\_\_\_\_

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**Youth Group**

We meet 5:30 – 7:30pm (dinner will be served). Come to the St. Paul entrance facing the playground when you arrive at 5:30. Youth group will be a time of food, fun and faith formation. All middle and high schoolers are welcome to attend!  
Adults - If you are interested in assisting with youth group from time to time, please let our director of Youth Ministry know!

**Offering Counters** – we are in need of 2 new offering counters. If anyone can volunteer, please contact Ken Skidmore, [kskidmo52@gmail.com](mailto:kskidmo52@gmail.com). Thank you.

Worship Attendance April 26, 2026				
In-Person Adults	Children's Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
73	10	16	85	184

**May Stewardship**

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR MAY \$32,500. We have five Sundays in May.  
May Offering Counters: David Johnson, Sabrina Porter

TOTAL APRIL STEWARDSHIP	04/26	Total
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$2,615	\$33,407
General Fund – Online Giving	\$379.35	\$3,896.91

SPECIAL OFFERINGS APRIL	04/26	Total
Communion Offering (To Our House)	\$20	\$160
Baby Shop	\$	\$260
Palm/Easter Flowers	\$	\$125
Youth Group	\$	\$200
Facility Use	\$	\$75

**St Paul envisions**

**“Growing into a most Vibrant, Joyful Christian Community,  
Unified in Loving Service to our Neighbors, for the Glory of God.”**

--Vision Statement, approved by Church Council, 2018--

**Phone: (540)382-2410 Fax: (540)382-1373**

**Church Website: [www.stpaulvaumc.org](http://www.stpaulvaumc.org)**

**Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 3:30PM**

**Our Church Staff**

**Mike Derflinger, Pastor,** [mikederflinger@vaumc.org](mailto:mikederflinger@vaumc.org), 540-631-4469

**Carol Slaughter, Administrative Assistant,** [office@stpaulvaumc.org](mailto:office@stpaulvaumc.org), 540-382-2410

**Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministries,** [youth@stpaulvaumc.org](mailto:youth@stpaulvaumc.org), 540-250-5587

**Carolyn Mills, Organist & Director of Choirs,** [organist@stpaulvaumc.org](mailto:organist@stpaulvaumc.org)

**Robin Raines, Custodian,** [rainesrobin88@yahoo.com](mailto:rainesrobin88@yahoo.com)

**PRAYER LIST – Team Mark is our Caring Team this week**

SPUMC Congregation, *friends, family members and neighbors*

**Cancer Patients:**

*Rob Bedford, Kathy G. Davis, Jamie Epperly, Susan Perry, Marvin Steele*

**Parkinson's:** Jim Clark

**Alzheimer's:** Roger Woolwine

*Kenny J.*

**Health Issues:** Wayne Bishop, Bob Dickenson, Ed & Sandra Hayes, Ashley Johnson,

Barry King, Jim Simpkins

*Amos Blair, Jerry Dowdy, Mike & Caren Gallimore, Phyllis Osmond (niece of Judi Eanes),*

*Cliff Thompson (nephew of Judi Eanes)*

**Recuperating from Surgery at Home:** Sherri King, Cam Mallory, Gary Sparks

**Praises:** Skip Fenton finished treatments and is now cancer free

*If you wish to place someone on the prayer list for prayer only, please contact the church office, or write their name on the attendance pad with “prayer” after their name. If a person would like to receive ministry from our caring teams (cards, phone calls, visits, food, etc.) please list an address/phone number for our caring teams. Thank you!*

**Flowers are placed on the altar today** for our granddaughter Jillian Tucker who was 17 on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Tom & Connie Bell

**Birthday Celebrations this week** – Theresa Thompson on May 3<sup>rd</sup>; Sara Beth Morris, Dale Nelson, & Carmen Recupero on May 4<sup>th</sup> Paula Epperly, Edward Nelson, & Greg Wade on May 5<sup>th</sup>; Doug Kanney on May 6<sup>th</sup>; Michael Reed, Gary Seagraves, & Chris Skidmore on May 7<sup>th</sup>; Kris Buhrdorf & Rusty McCoy on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

***Happy Birthday to all!***

**Parents of children and youth:**

Please take a few minutes to fill out our ministry registration form. This covers participation in: children's church, community children's choir, youth group and our other children and youth activities.

It is a simple form that helps our ministry leaders have the information they need to plan a safe and appropriate program for your kids and teens and communicate easily with families.

The digital form will only take a couple of minutes to complete and can be accessed by visiting [tinyurl.com/kidsandyouth](http://tinyurl.com/kidsandyouth) or using this QR code:



**July Mission Trip! 12-18 July 2026** the Western North Carolina Conference will host our annual regional mission trip. If you want to help people, you are qualified! No special skills, church affiliation, or faith background is required. Prayerfully consider joining the team and contact Todd Fitch at [missions@stpaulvaumc.org](mailto:missions@stpaulvaumc.org) for forms and details. We stop recruiting after 17 May 2026 so book your spot today with a \$50 deposit. Total cost will be \$175, \$160 to St. Paul UMC + \$15 for the WNCC online background check. If you're unable to join in person, support the team with a cash donation toward travel, material costs, and local home repair work. Write checks to "St. Paul UMC" with "Mission Trip 201-200-4353" in the memo area. The team will also need food donations so contact Todd for details on that. Pray for the team's safety and the power to uplift people they touch who are recovering from flooding and other hardships.

**The Board of Trustees reviewed the status of our HVAC at their recent meeting.**

It was determined that while some aspects of addressing the status of our HVAC are moving forward, other aspects have reached an impasse. After discussion, it was decided that a dedicated management approach is needed to move forward. To ensure our project moves ahead, a specialized project management team (PMT) has been tasked with overseeing our HVAC project. Trustee Bob Hockett is forming the team. Once the team has created their purpose statement, our PMT will schedule individuals and companies to make presentations and conduct a time for question-and-answers.

**May is Mental Health Awareness Month - Overall Theme: See the Person. Support the Journey.**

Mental health is part of everyday life. It shapes how we think, feel, connect with others, and move through the world. This year's theme highlights the importance of:

- Noticing early signs of mental health concerns
- Strengthening the support around us
- Responding with care and compassion during challenging moments

Mental health touches every part of life — from housing and work to relationships and community. When mental health challenges arise, they often intersect with substance use, and whole person care that addresses both is essential to lasting recovery and well-being.

These key messages and weekly themes are your starting point. Sample social media shareables are also included. Please feel free to use them as-is or adapt for your audience.

**Week 1 (May 1 – 8): Understanding Mental Illness, Including Serious Mental Illness: Awareness Leads to Compassion.**

- Mental illnesses are medical conditions involving changes in emotion, appetite, thinking, or behavior that can affect daily functioning.
- Serious mental illness can substantially interfere with major life activities, including work, school, relationships, and self-care.
- Economic instability, housing insecurity, unemployment, and limited access to healthcare can increase stress and worsen mental health conditions.
- Chronic stress related to financial hardship or unstable housing can contribute to the development or worsening of serious mental illness.
- Early support, including access to stable housing, employment assistance, healthcare, and community programs, improves long-term stability and well-being.
- When people feel respected and understood, they are more likely to seek care and remain connected to services.

**Please remember our members and *neighbors* in assisted living:**

**Kroontje Health Care Center, 1000 Litton Ln., Blacksburg, VA 24060**

Ruth Boothe, rm 308, Cell: 919-906-5097

**English Meadows, 3400 South Point Dr., Blacksburg, VA 24060**

Wayne & Dolores Brockenbrough, Apt.217

Margaret Woolwine, rm. 235

**Commonwealth Senior Living, 201 Wheatland Ct., Christiansburg, VA 24073**

Bonnie Cochran, rm. 208

*Mary Childress, rm. 113*

**328 Fieldstone Ln., Blacksburg, VA 24060**

Kathy Davis

(540-250-2163 - mail cards to Rachel Link, 1534 Catawba Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24060)

**3719 Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153**

Marg Modlin

**Manchester Commons – Woodside Place, 6351 West Lake Road, Erie, PA 16505**

Roger & Brenda Woolwine, Brenda's Cell Number: 540-320-0986

**And our dear friends and neighbors:**

**650 N Jefferson St., Apt. 218, Roanoke, VA 24016**

*Former Pastor: Rev. Art & Willie Wingfield*