INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR THE REV. MARIE MEEKS PASTOR OF ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SUMMER HILL

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

* stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE A Mighty Fortress Is Our God arr. Diane Bish

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- P- God, our rock and refuge,

C- we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another

and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit

dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P- The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are God's beloved.

C- Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P- Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C- Amen.

*GATHERING SONG Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons (ELW 798)

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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*GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

*KYRIE



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P- Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to proclaim your word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Micah 6:6-8

6"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

7Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

8He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader - The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C- Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34 read responsively

¹I will bless the Lord at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²I will glory in the Lord; let the lowly hear and rejoice.

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; let us exalt God's name together.

⁴I sought the Lord, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the Lord and be radiant, and let not your faces be downcast.

⁶I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me and saved me from all my troubles.

⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord and delivers them.

⁸Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!

⁹Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord, for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:4-8

⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The reading may be concluded:

Reader - The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C- Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

The gospel is announced.

P- The holy gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C- Glory to you, O Lord.

P- ²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel concludes:

P- The gospel of the Lord.

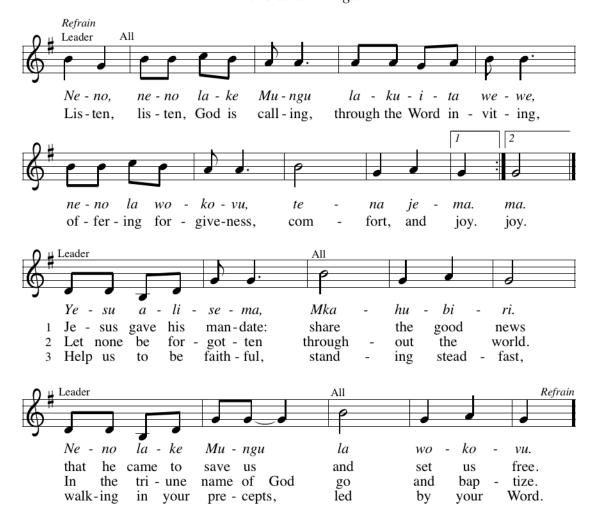
C- Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated. **SERMON** The Rev. Kenneth McDowell

Pastor, St. Paul's UCC, Summer Hill

*HYMN OF THE DAY Listen, God Is Calling: Neno lake Mungu (ELW 513)

Listen, God Is Calling Neno lake Mungu



Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune

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ALL-*APOSTLE'S 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.

Installation of a Pastor

PRESENTATION

The assembly stands. The pastor being installed and a representative of the calling body come before the presiding minister and the assembly.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Having been authorized by the church to install The Rev. Marie Meeks, our co-worker in the gospel, as pastor, I now ask for certification of this call.

A representative of the calling body addresses the presiding minister.

After prayerful deliberation,
we, of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Summer Hill
have called The Rev. Marie Meeks to serve as a minister of word and sacrament
in the position of pastor
I present The Rev. Marie Meeks and this letter certifying the call.

The representative gives the presiding minister the letter certifying that the call has been received and accepted.

The representative moves aside, and the assembly is seated.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

The presiding minister addresses the minister of word and sacrament.

A reading from John: Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:21-23)

A reading from Matthew: Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of

the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

A reading from First Timothy: Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Attend to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers. (1 Timothy 4:12-16)

The presiding minister addresses questions to the minister of word and sacrament. Pastor Meeks, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church? *Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church? Will you carry out this ministry in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America? *Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace? *Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

Trusting in God's care, will you love, serve, and pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living? *Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do? *Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. *The assembly responds:* **Amen.**

The assembly stands.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,

will you receive Pastor Meeks as a messenger of Jesus Christ sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation?
Will you regard Pastor Meeks as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

C- We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for Pastor Meeks?
Will you help and honor Pastor Meeks in carrying out this ministry?

In all things, will you strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ? C- We will, and we ask God to help us.

The presiding minister addresses the minister of word and sacrament.

Rev. Meeks the office of pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Summer Hill is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

BLESSING

The newly installed pastor may kneel as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

The pastor stands. The following procession to the places of the word and sacraments may be used.

The presiding minister escorts the pastor to the place of baptism. A representative of the congregation says:

You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.

They proceed to the place of the word. A representative of the congregation says: You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.

They proceed to the place of the meal. A representative of the congregation says: You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's supper.

The presiding minister may address the assembly with these or similar words. People of God, I present to you Pastor Marie Meeks, your pastor.

Let us welcome Pastor Meeks in the name of Christ.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

The assembly kneels or sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P- Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P- We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new

relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve (*especially*). Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P- We remember our beloved dead (*especially*), who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes.

P- We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C- Amen.

*PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P- The peace of Christ be with you always.

C- And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

BELL ANTHEM A Grand Celebration Derek K. Hakes

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

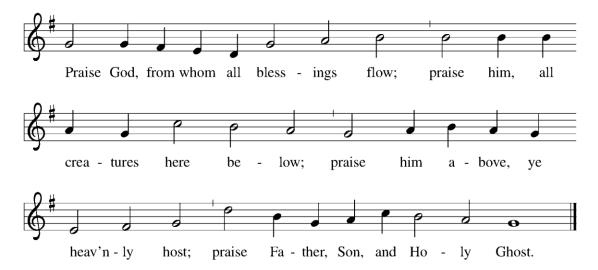
OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. You are invited to use your cellphone to text the peace of Christ to someone you missed in church today while the offering is being collected.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands.

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

*OFFERING PRAYER

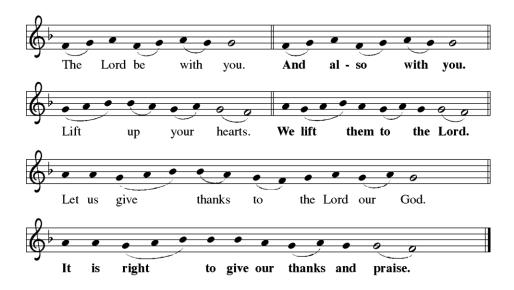
After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the following prayer.

P- Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C- Amen.

*DIALOGUE

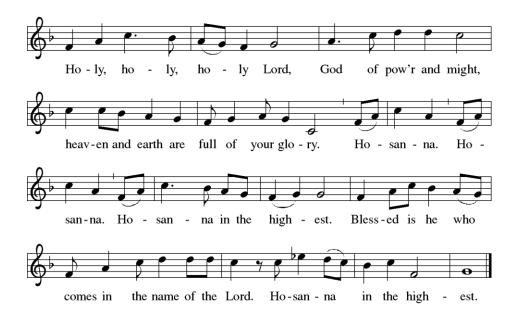
The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.



*PREFACE

P- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The presiding minister continues.

P- Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C- Amen

ALL-*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P- Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

One Bread, One Body



Text: John Foley, sJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SI
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COMMUNION

All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction. Please receive the wafer from the pastor and proceed to the communion assistant holding the chalice to receive the wine

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say P- The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

*TABLE BLESSING

The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C- Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the following prayer after communion. P- Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,

now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

C- Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BLESSING

P- Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C- Amen.

*SENDING SONG Here I Am, Lord (ELW 574)

Featuring the Signs of Faith

Here I Am, Lord



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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*DISMISSAL

The minister may send the assembly into mission.

P- Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C- Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Carillon from 24 Pieces En Style Libre Op. 31 No. 2 Louis Vierne

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We welcome special guests: The Rev. Linda Bonfiglio, Dr. Rev. Zach Labaugh, associate to the Bishop for the Schuylkill Mission District, Dr. Don Boyer, Treasurer of the Schuylkill Mission District. The Rev. Kenneth McDowell, pastor St. Paul's UCC Church, Summer Hill.

The service will be followed by a reception (with food) in The Pavilion.

Thank you to the many people who worked many hours to make this day one of celebration for Pastor Marie and the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran. Thank you to the Worship and Music Committee, The Bell Choir, The Signs of Faith, The Tech Group and the church secretary. A special thank you to Pegi Staller and Charity Staller who handled the invitations and a lot of little things to free up time for the secretary.

Church Office Hours: 9 am - 3pm Monday - Friday
Office closed for lunch 12 pm until 12:30 pm
Church Telephone 570-754-7350
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Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill
Student Loan Committee email:
stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

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Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton	570-754-7350
Eva Waldman, Treasurer	570-754-7350