



**PAXTON**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



WHILE PAUL WAS WAITING  
IN ATHENS

MAY 10, 2026 | 10:30 AM

# WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"Partita on 'St. Denio'"

-F.D. Ashdown

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

-arr. E. L. Diemer

WORSHIP PREPARATION

**In preparing for our worship together please quiet yourself and allow God's Spirit to ready your heart, mind, and soul.**

During this time, we invite you to sign the **guest book**, pass it down your row and back again and note friends and guests worshipping next to you. Please also complete a **prayer request card** at this time if you have a joy or concern for which you would like special prayers during the service. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GREETINGS AND NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

"We Declare Your Majesty"

-C. Tornquist

## THE WORD GATHERS US

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (*adapted from Lavon Bayler's Fresh Winds of the Spirit*)

Come, worship the source of all truth, the author of all life.

**We dare to approach our Creator in humility and thanksgiving.**

God calls us away from the worship of things, from idols that block our view of God.

**God is unknown to us only when we have shut off the contact.**

Remember, in Jesus Christ, God comes to us again and again.

**Let us worship our God whose steadfast love endures forever.**

\* HYMN - 10

"Sing Glory to the Name of God"

\* OPENING PRAYER

**O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

\* PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

\* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

**Creator God, if we are honest, we live and move and have our beings in pantheons of our own making, surrounded by gods of our own creating. Forgive us for the times when we are unfaithful and put our trust in human power, war, and money to solve the problems we have made for ourselves. Deep down, we know that our created gods are no gods at all, they are simply idols which makes our faith simply idolatry at times. Please forgive us and direct us to the real worship of you, the real God. Forgive us for searching for false gods when you are not far from each one of us. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.**

\* GOD'S ASSURANCE OF RECONCILIATION

We will all someday be judged in righteousness by the man appointed by God - Jesus Christ. And it is this same judge who was willing to die for us so that we might be cleansed of all iniquity and live eternally.

**Therefore, let us remember our baptism in Christ and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are reconciled and forgiven. Amen.**

\* OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE – No. 581

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

\* PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

## THE WORD PROCLAIMS TO US

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 115:1-8,11-15

(OT 693)

ANTHEM

“I Will Lift Up My Eyes”

-arr. Robert Lau

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT Acts 17: 16-34

(NT 167)

SERMON

“While Paul Was Waiting in Athens”

HYMN – 23

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

## THE WORD INVITES US

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation for the Offering

\* Response of Praise – No. 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

SCAN HERE  
TO GIVE  
VIRTUALLY



\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Affirmation of Faith (From *A Declaration of Faith*, chapter one, section 1)

***We believe in one true and living God. We acknowledge one God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient. That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve, and love.***

OFFERTORY

“Be Still, My Soul, for God is Near”

-arr. D. Johnson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

(adapting A prayer for Mother’s Day by Tracey Davenport)

## THE WORD SENDS US

\* HYMN – 645

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

\* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

\* POSTLUDE

“Alleluia Toccata”

-F. Groden

\*The (\*) indicates that those who are able may stand.  
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.

CCLI#2707192

**Directing our worship today:** Preacher, Debbie Hough; Worship Assistant, Jan Gough; Conversation with Our Children, Michelle Sheppard, Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce

## Prayer Square

Please keep the following church members and friends in your prayers.

### Members

Rick Bazdar, Jim Brillinger, Brenda and Ron Brinkley, Fran Gilchrist, Family of Shirley Grunden, Nancy Hutchison, Jo Jacoby, Penny Knight, Nedra Maxwell, Joanne Miller, Donna Powers, Elsie Williams, Dave Wion, Kathie Zimmerman

### Friends

David Altland, Atkins Family, Jim Bonawitz, Deb Brooks, the family of Betty Conte, Dr. and Mrs. Kent Groff, Kris Heimberger, Donna Hitz, Mary Langley, Terri Leary, Bob Marshall, the family of James Wix

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Square please contact Janice at 717-418-1526 or momjakh@aol.com

## NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

**FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** today are given to the Glory of God by the Detweiler Fund.

**CRAFT SUPPLIES** The Christian Education Ministry is collecting square tissue boxes for an upcoming prayer craft. If you have an empty box to spare, would you bring it to Michelle's office? Thank you.

**LITTLE FOOD PANTRY** Thank you all for your help these past few months. For those who asked, we are low on Chef Boyardee, pork and beans, canned proteins, and pasta. Thank you.

**FAITHFUL FRIEND ADOPTION** Vacation Bible School is July 13-16 and this year's theme, "Faithful Friends; Learning From God's Creatures" is going to be amazing! We will be studying God's word and learning about animals. Every evening we will have live animal presentations - Zoo America, Bunny Bonanza, Batz Farm and our own Paxton pets. To offset the cost of these groups, we are holding an Adopt A Friend fundraiser. Information can be found on the bulletin board outside the office.

**VBS** It's time to register for Paxton's Faithful Friends VBS where furry and faithful critters will help teach us every day about God's love and care. We can't wait! Use the QR code to sign up! Registrations are due by June 28. Volunteer opportunities will be coming soon.

**VBS HELP** Calling all painters, crafters, decorators and VBS supporters.... If you are interested in helping prepare our space and prep crafts for VBS, please let Michelle know. We also welcome all who are interested to stay after church on May 31 for a working craft/decoration prep time. (no skills required) We will meet in fellowship hall from 12-1:30.

**BOOK STUDY** Paxton's summer book study will be Bruce Reyes-Chow's book, Everything Good About God is True. All are welcome to read along. You can pick up a book in Michelle's office. We will meet to discuss throughout the summer from 9-9:50am in room 101 on the following Sundays: June 14, 28, July 12, 26, and Aug 9, 23.



**PILLOWS WITH A PURPOSE** Join us May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 PM for Pillows with a Purpose! We'll be making more pillows for breast cancer patients at UPMC and Penn State Health. Please reach out to Mary Myers or Nancy Bingaman with questions. Thank you!

**ABOUT TODAY'S ANTHEM** Robert Lau's reading of Psalm 121, "is both literal and symbolic. He grounds it in the historical context of pilgrimage to Jerusalem, but also sees it as a timeless message for anyone facing uncertainty, danger, or life's journey. The psalm is a call to trust in God's Creator power, His constant watchfulness, and His protective presence – day and night, now and forever."

### **Congregational Meeting Announcement**

A congregational meeting is being called for Sunday May 17 at 10:30 am. The purpose is to vote to bestow the title of Pastor Emeritus on Paxton Presbyterian Church's former pastor, the Reverend John Wilson Green, in recognition of his years of good and faithful service to Paxton, its members and to God's mission in the Paxton community and beyond.

In October 2002, the Reverend John Wilson Green was installed as Pastor of Paxton Presbyterian Church. He served until his retirement in December 2021. For over nineteen years John served Paxton with love, enthusiasm, and grace. He delivered outstanding heartfelt sermons and served his flock with humble devotion. The congregation of Paxton will always be grateful for John's time with us serving as our faith leader and friend. In appreciation we would like to recognize John with the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus.

A light reception featuring some of John's favorite snacks will follow service on May 17. Please R.S.V.P. to the church office by Wednesday, May 13 if you plan to attend.

## **Anthem**

*I Will Lift My Eyes (Psalm 121)*

By Robert Lau

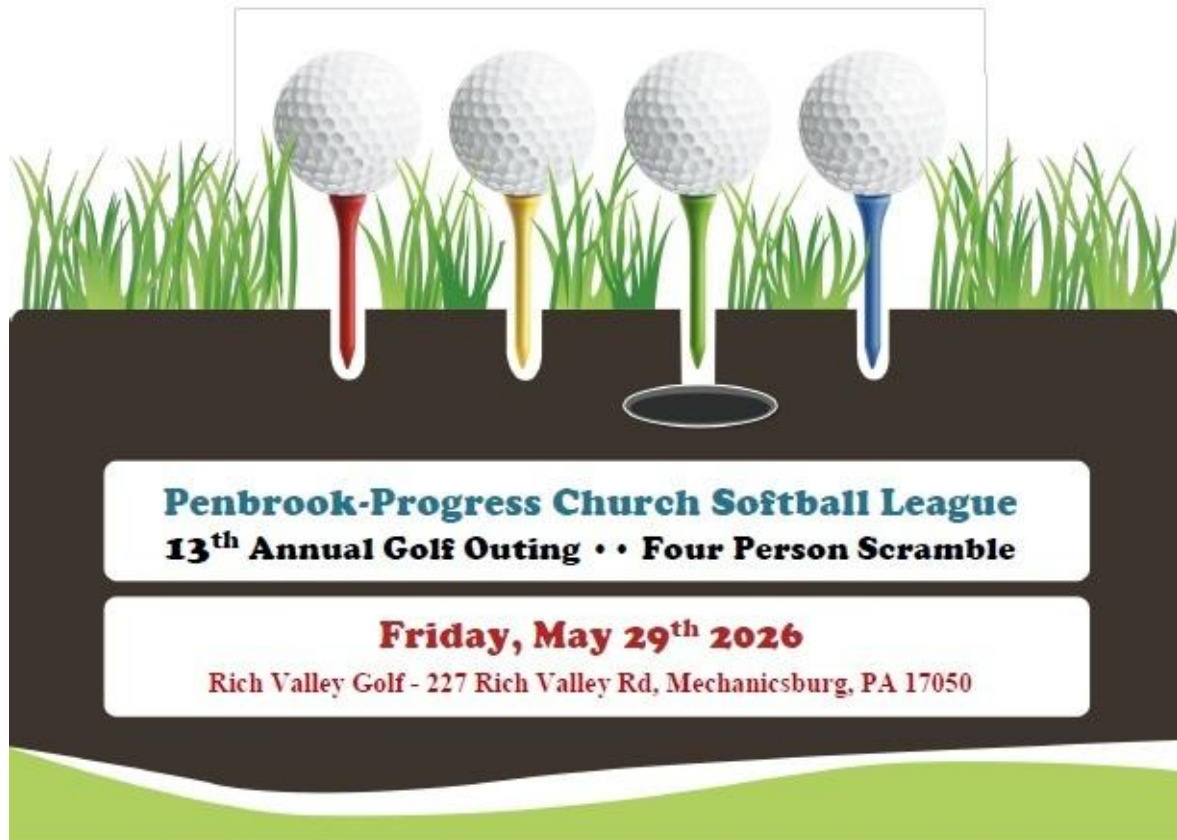
I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where comes my help? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved. He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will not slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

And the Lord will keep you from all evil. And the Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time and forevermore.

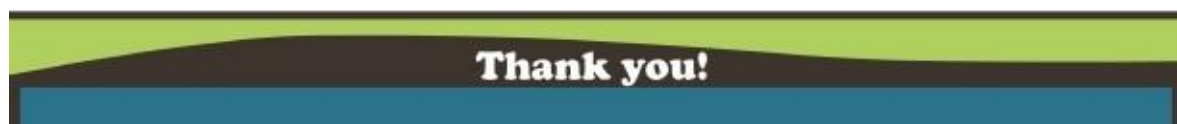


**Registration / Check-in: Noon • • Tee-off: 1:30 • • Cost: \$75/player**  
**Hole Sponsorship: \$100 (Includes sign with your Logo)**

Includes 18-holes of Golf, Riding cart, Driving Range,  
Dinner and chance to win various prizes!

**To register text/call Tom Nichter Sr @ 717-727-4239**

All costs are due at time of registration. Registration deadline is 5/20.  
Checks should be made payable to 'Penbrook-Progress Church Softball League'



**THE AMERICAN COMPOSERS' CHORAL FESTIVAL**, featuring Dr. René Clausen, will take place Saturday evening, May 16, at 7:30 PM, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill. Dr. Clausen is an internationally known composer and former director of the celebrated Concordia College Choir. Joining The Harrisburg Singers, will be the Cedar Cliff Chamber Singers, the Lower Dauphin High School Chamber Singers and a Festival Choir including six local church choirs and totaling more than 150 voices. OUR OWN PAXTON CHURCH CHOIR IS ONE OF THE PARTICIPATING CHURCH CHOIRS AND WILL BE SINGING! Tickets are only \$10! Please check out the posters around the church for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE** June 8-12 Paxton will be hosting a Local Service Week. Throughout the week volunteers can choose to help with projects at Paxton and/or in the local community. More information to follow. Please see a member of the Mission Ministry if you have any questions or suggestions.

## May 10 - 17

Sunday, May 10	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room
Monday, May 11	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	12:00 PM	Mission	Library
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital Rehearsal	Parlor
	6:00PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
Tuesday, May 12	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	10:00 AM	Stephen Ministry	Room 202
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital Rehearsal	Parlor
	6:00 PM	Penguin Project	Agape Park
	6:00 PM	Paxton V. Derry	Bethany Field
	6:30 PM	Pillow Stuffing	Great Room
Wednesday, May 13	7:00 PM	Finance Ministry	Room 101
	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	Fellowship Hall
	10:00 AM	Evangelism and Outreach	Room 202
	11:45 AM	Staff Meeting	Room 202
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital Rehearsal	Parlor
	5:00 PM	Community Dinner	Fellowship Hall
Thursday, May 14	6:00 PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	12:00 PM	PPNS Board Meeting	Room 202
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital Rehearsal	Parlor
	6:00 PM	Paxtang Lions	Fellowship Hall
	6:15 PM	Bells	Sanctuary
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir	Sanctuary
Friday, May 15	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital Rehearsal	Parlor
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 16	7:30 PM	American Composers' Choral Festival	Trinity Lutheran
Sunday, May 17	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:30 AM	Congregational Meeting and Reception	Great Room
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Fellowship Hall
	3:00 PM	Piano Recital	Great Room

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public

9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday through Friday

If you need to visit the office or building at another time, please call the office.

## Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

**Phone Number: 717 - 561 - 0510**

Pastor	x105	Margaret Poteet	<a href="mailto:pastor@paxtonchurch.org">pastor@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Director of Faith Formation	x104	Michelle Sheppard	<a href="mailto:michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org">michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Director of Music		Susan Beckley	
Organist		Jeanne Bruce	
Director of Youth Music		Andrew Vinton	
Office Administrator	x101	Abby Spencer	<a href="mailto:office@paxtonchurch.org">office@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@paxtonchurch.org">treasurer@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	<a href="mailto:nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org">nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Property Manager		Jerry Bingaman	<a href="mailto:propertymgr@paxtonchurch.org">propertymgr@paxtonchurch.org</a>
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

### Board of Deacons

Sally Appleby '28* Jim Bruce '26 Linette Burd '26, Moderator Judy Frankford '27 Cheryl Holtzman '26 Rich Lengler '28*	Sue McLain '26 Merideth Staudenmaier '28*, Secretary Diana Robertson '28*, Financial Liaison Deb Trephan '27 Brenda Vinton '27 Bev Ziebell '27
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### Stephen Ministry

Stephen Leaders	Gary Myers	Jane Sanford
Stephen Ministers	Karen Cirillo	Karen Herrold
	Cheryl Holtzman	Janice Hutchison
	Annette Kilpatrick	Nancy Lengler
	Steve Miller	Kathy Woodbridge

For a confidential referral please contact a Stephen Leader.

### Session \*Chair

Margaret Poteet Kitti Taylor Nancy Bingaman '28* Cindy Cavanaugh '28* Nancy Lengler '26* Judy Schmidt '27* Gary Myers '26* Jay Kealey '26* Nino Giambrore '27* Craig Staudenmaier '28* Sharon Webb '26* Anita Laughery '27*	Moderator Clerk of Session Christian Education Evangelism and Outreach Budget and Finance Mission Nominating Personnel Property Management Stewardship Technology Worship and Music
Gary Myers Bob Frank '28 Geoffrey Vinton '27* Bob Frank	

At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, mental or physical ability, or religious background.



# 10 Sing Glory to the Name of God

(Psalm 29)

*Unison*

1 Sing glo - ry to the name of God, whose ho - ly splen - dor shines a -  
 2 The name of God is full of might: re - sound - ing thun - der, flash - ing  
 3 The name of God is wild and free, a - whirl in ho - ly mys - ter -  
 4 May God for - ev - er be our peace; may hymns of glo - ry nev - er

*Harmony*

*Unison*

broad.  
light.  
y.  
cease:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

En - throned a - bove the  
The wil - der - ness can -  
A se - cret wrapped in  
Let all the faith - ful

crash - ing waves, the God of grace and glo - ry saves.  
 not con - tain the ech - oes of the great re - frain:  
 smoke and fire, still chant - ed by the tem - ple choir:  
 peo - ple come; sing praise to God, the Three - in - One:

*Harmony*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,

*Unison*

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

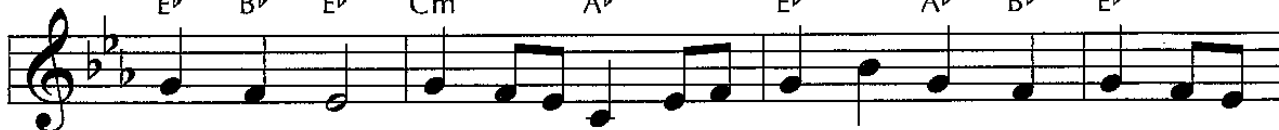
# God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D) (G)  
 Eb Ab Eb Ab Bb Eb Ab



1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and  
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and  
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D)  
 Eb Bb Eb Cm Ab Eb Ab Bb Eb



spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth  
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in  
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's

(G) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (A)  
 Ab Eb Bb Eb Ab Eb Bb



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,  
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,  
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.

(D) (Bm)(F#m) (G)(A) (D) (G)  
 Eb Cm Gm Ab Bb Eb Ab



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,  
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened  
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures

(D) (G) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (D) (A) (D)  
 Eb Ab Bb Eb Ab Fm Eb Bb Eb



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.  
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.  
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

# 645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all  
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief  
 4 Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,  
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade  
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,  
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With  
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -  
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as  
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less  
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and  
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the  
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

mur - mur stilled:  
 all is right:  
 cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 take your part: