



## Christ the King Sunday

November 24, 2024

*Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.*



# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *Le Banquet Celeste by Olivier Messiaen (8:30); Joyous Spirit by Valerie Stephenson (11:00, bell choir)*  
*Please quietly reflect and prepare for worship during the music.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The prelude's purpose is to prepare your heart, your hands, and your mind for worship. The Lord is worthy of our preparation and the prelude provides us a time to do just that.*

*Washed in water and marked with the cross, the baptized children of God are united with Christ, and through him, with other believers, we confess our sins and return to our baptism. In forgiveness God raises us up again.*

*The paraments, which are the hangings on the altar, pulpit, and lectern, are green for ordinary time. For growth and discipleship.*

## GATHERING HYMN

### #435 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



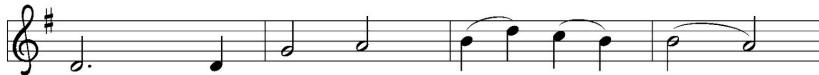
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,  
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once comes for our sal - va - tion slain;  
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;  
high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
all the saints this world re - ject - ed  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:  
thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:  
claim the king - dom as thine own.



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



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!  
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
Music: HELMSLEY. Thomas Olivers. 1725–1799

## GREETING

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*The Hymns proclaim the Gospel in song. We sing a variety of hymns to help us tell God's story.*

*The Apostolic Greeting is given by the Pastor using the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Cor 13:13. In this greeting the assembly is rooted in the Triune life of God.*

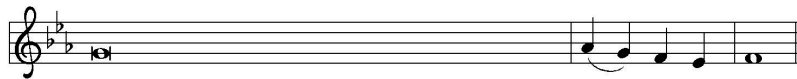
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



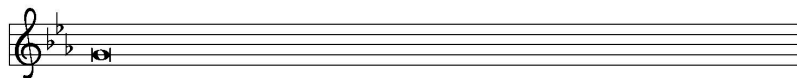
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



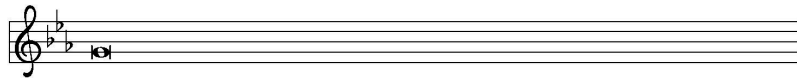
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever..

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **FIRST READING Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14**

As I watched,

thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne,  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,  
and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.

To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

*The prayer of the day is typically a prayer focused around the scripture texts for the day.*

*The Word part of our liturgy, is where we hear “the living voice of the Gospel.” We experience this in the Biblical readings, a sermon based around these readings, and the hymn of the day.*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 93



Ev-er since the world be-gan, your throne has been es-tab-lished.

The Lord is king, robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and | armed with strength.

The Lord has made the world so sure that it can- | not be moved.

**Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established; you are from | everlasting. R**

The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted | up their voice; the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.

**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea, mightier is the Lord who | dwells on high.**

Your testimonies are | very sure, and holiness befits your house, O Lord, forever and for- | evermore. R

**SECOND READING Revelation 1:4b-8**

*The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.*

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL John 18:33-37

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.*

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN SERMON

### SERMON



## HYMN OF THE DAY

#432 The Head That Once Was Crowned



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;  
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov-'reign right,  
3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low  
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.  
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.  
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;  
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855

Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669–1707

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in hope and trust, let us confess our faith together.

**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.**

*As Lutheran Christians we have three creeds to articulate our faith. The Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds. Through the Apostles' Creed we confess our faith in the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders who teach and serve your people. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf (local officials may be named). Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration. Empower activists who advocate for change. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons. Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent (worship ministries may be named). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Be with those recovering from illness or injury, especially Bee, Wendy, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Phyllis, Larry, Bob, Ellie, Mary, John, Pat, Anna, Pat, Susan, and Charlie. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

In your eternal presence the saints sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another*

*The assembly sits.*

*The prayers of intercession are prepared in advance by writers from across the Church based around the scripture for a given week.*

*The passing of the peace is traditionally part of the liturgy, so that anyone in the gathered assembly may have a time to be reconciled to one another before sharing the meal.*



# 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.*

## OFFERTORY *O Sacrum Convivium* by Thomas Weelkes (choir at 11:00)

*O sacrum convivium! in quo Christus sumitur: recolitur memoria passionis eius: mens impletur gratia: et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur. Alleluia.*

*O sacred banquet! in which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory to us is given. Alleluia.*

*The assembly stands.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
 spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
 your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

*A musical offering is given to God in our worship as the gifts of the assembly are collected. This is a reminder of God's abundance. We offer back to God just a small portion of what God has given us, so that the mission of God can be realized.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

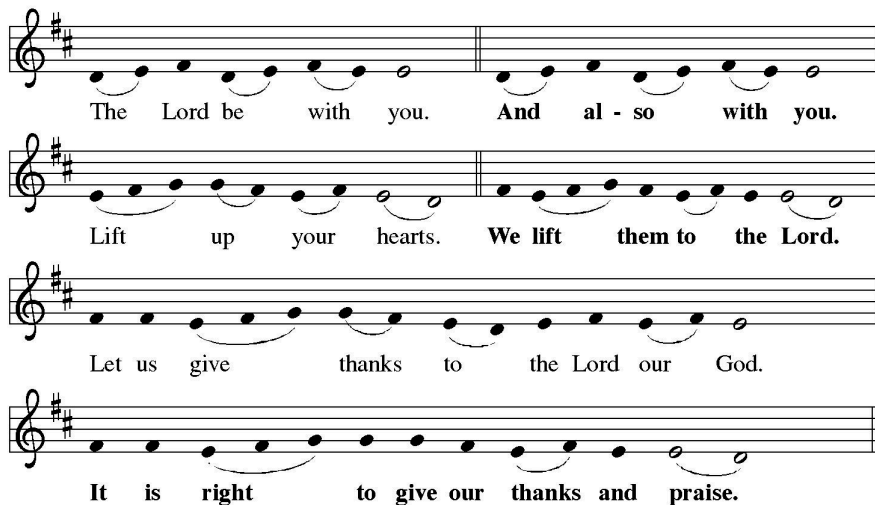
Let us pray together.

**Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,  
 you offered yourself in love for the world,  
 and in this meal you nourish us with your life.**

**Fill us with your abundance,  
 that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,  
 trusting in your name.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



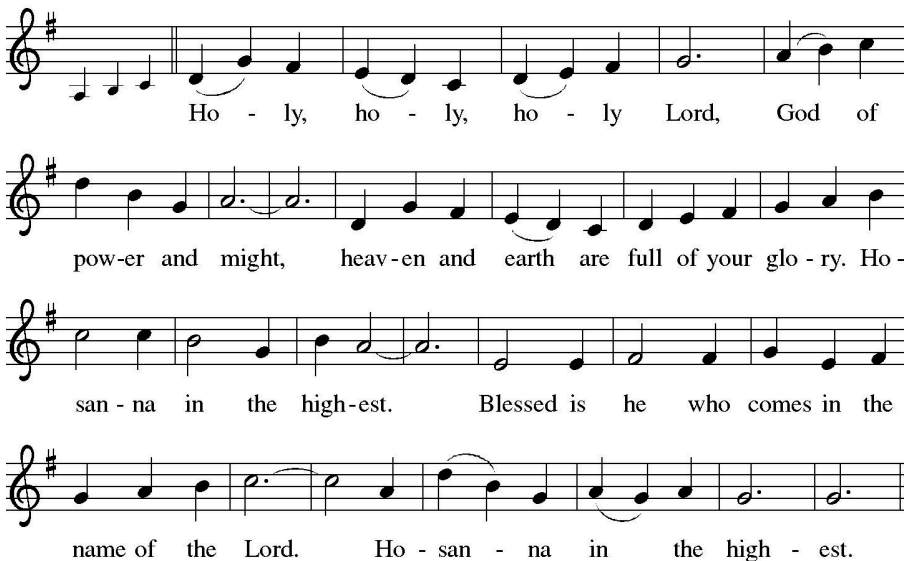
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*In the meal part of our liturgy we prepare to come to Christ's table. In the Great Thanksgiving we focus on being thankful for all God has done and for all God has given to us. In the Eucharistic Prayer, we ask God to send the Holy Spirit to this meal and we ask that Christ will fulfill his promise to be in the bread and wine.*

## PREFACE

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Behold, God is making all things new.

Take your place in the new creation

## COMMUNION

*This is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are Christ's guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come, to eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The pastor and communion assistant will come to the pews of those unable to come forward.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond: Amen.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



*The Lamb of God is a title for Jesus that appears in John 1:29. It is here that we are reminded that our Lord is present and we are to behold his glory.*

# COMMUNION HYMN

## #471 Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

*The assembly stands.*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen**

## SENDING

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

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Our final part of our liturgy is the sending. We are sent out into the world reminded of God's mission and strengthened by the presence of Christ and one another through the power of the Holy Spirit.*



# SENDING HYMN

## #660 Lift High The Cross



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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## DISMISSAL

*The assembly is sent into mission.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Moderato from Organ Symphony no. 7 by Charles-Marie Widor*

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**“The Mission of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church as a part of the family of God is to share God in Christ with the World by equipping one another through worship, learning, witness, service and support.”**

**Congregation Council**

**President**

Joan Albright

**Vice-President**

Katie Benjamin

**Secretary**

Megan Cunningham

**Co-Treasurers**

Angela Maine, John Foreman

**Co-Financial Secretaries**

Rod Runestad, Phil Hart

**Council Members**

Joan Albright, Megan Cunningham, Mike Mauriello, Katie Benjamin, Jayce Getz, Emily Pauline, Ken Knudsen, Michelle Meadors, Steve Myzk

# Welcome to St. Paul's

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In celebrating God's beauty and strength created through diversity, we welcome, value, and include all of God's children regardless of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, ability, appearance, or citizenship. St. Paul's is committed to racial equality.

**Admission to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** is by invitation of our Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. If you are unable to receive Holy Communion at the altar, please notify an usher to receive communion at your seat. All are welcome at the table for a blessing. We use red wine and bread at communion, and offer grape juice and gluten-free wafers. Inform your server at the rail if you desire either.

## **Distribution of the Communion Elements take place as follows:**

Exit the pew to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front exit. Proceed to the altar. Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back of the altar rail and fill forward towards the front. The left side (pulpit side) proceed to the front of the altar rail and fill towards the back. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat. Please place your cup in one of the baskets.

## **St. Paul's Live Stream Policy**

1. St. Paul's Lutheran Church live streams the 11:00 AM service every Sunday. The service is posted to Vimeo and Facebook. In addition, special services may be live streamed.
2. The 8:30 AM service is not live streamed and is available for attendance by those who do not wish to be recorded. For live streamed services there will be a "No Video Zone" designated in the Narthex.
3. It is recommended that all livestream services include a disclaimer about the service being recorded, posted on a visible location at the entrance of the sanctuary and written in the bulletin.
4. Children must have a signed waiver from their parent or guardian before being recorded.
5. We will not share personal or identifying information while a service is being live streamed, this includes during announcement, prayer requests, or the sermon.

### **Staff of St. Paul's**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Scott Anderson	pastor@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Duke Lutherans Pastor/</b>		
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	Rev. Amanda Highben	Amanda.highben@duke.edu
<b>Vicar</b>	Ashley Bowman	vicar@stpaulsdurham.org
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<b>Minister of Music</b>	Dr. Ted Turner	music@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Alan Rigsbee	bookkeeper@stpaulsdurham.org
<b>Preschool Director</b>	Candace King	preschool@stpaulsdurham.org

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

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<https://www.stpaulsdurham.org/>

(919) 489-3214

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*