

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

September 3, 2023 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am is live using "Now the Feast and Celebration" Booklets

11:00 is live, streamed, and recorded using "Setting 5 ELW Booklets"

*Hymns will be found in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
in the pew.*

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *Machs mit mir, Gott (ELW 799) by Johann Gottfried Walther*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P Most merciful God,

C **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.**

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake



1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spake, "all in my way a -
 2 "I am the light; I light the way, a god - ly life dis -
 3 "I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your soul's sal -
 4 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, and take the cross ap -



bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake, o -
 play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day; I
 va - tion; from ev - 'ry guile your heart I free, from
 point - ed, and, firm - ly cling - ing to his word, in



bey my call and guid - ing. Oh, bear the cross, what -
 keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
 sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
 suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide; take my ex - am - ple for your guide."
 well I show how you should so - journ here be - low."
 of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 bat - tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677; tr. Charles W. Shaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.

Music: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT, Bartholomäus Gesius, 1555–1613; adapt. Johann Herman Schein, 1586–1630

GREETING

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, 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,



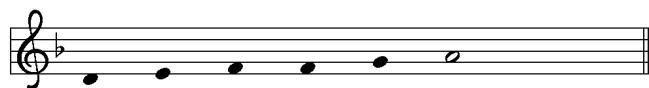
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



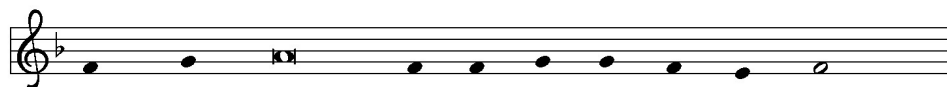
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



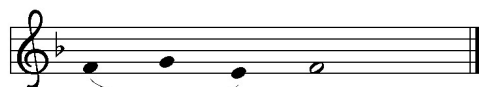
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

ALL GLORY...

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we

giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one

will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord

heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in

praise you for your glo - ry.
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with some words appearing below multiple notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and a final note.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.

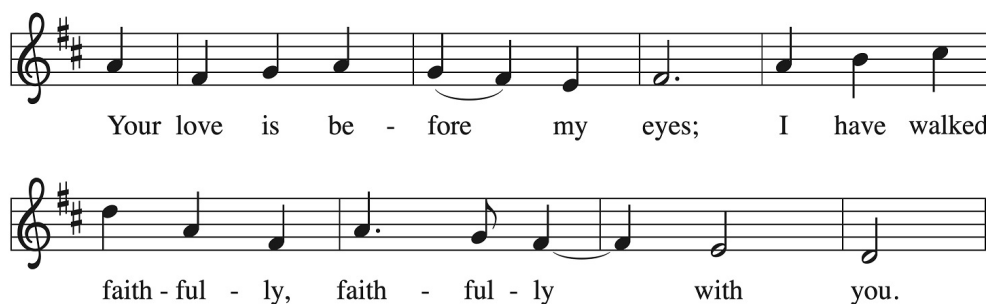
²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Response – Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26:1-8

Congregation sings the Refrain and bold verses

Refrain



¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

²**Test me, O | LORD, and try me; examine my heart | and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes; I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴**I have not sat | with the worthless, nor do I consort with | the deceitful. *Refrain***

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers; I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession | round your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell and the place where your glo- | ry abides.**

Refrain

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

After the Gospel is announced, the people say: **Glory to you, O Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

After the Gospel is read, the people say: **Praise to you, O Christ**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

APOSTLES' 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain (*especially*) Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sally, Sharon, Larry, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor (*especially*). Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY - *Improvisation on Machs mit mir, Gott*

OFFERTORY – Create in Me a Clean Heart

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.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

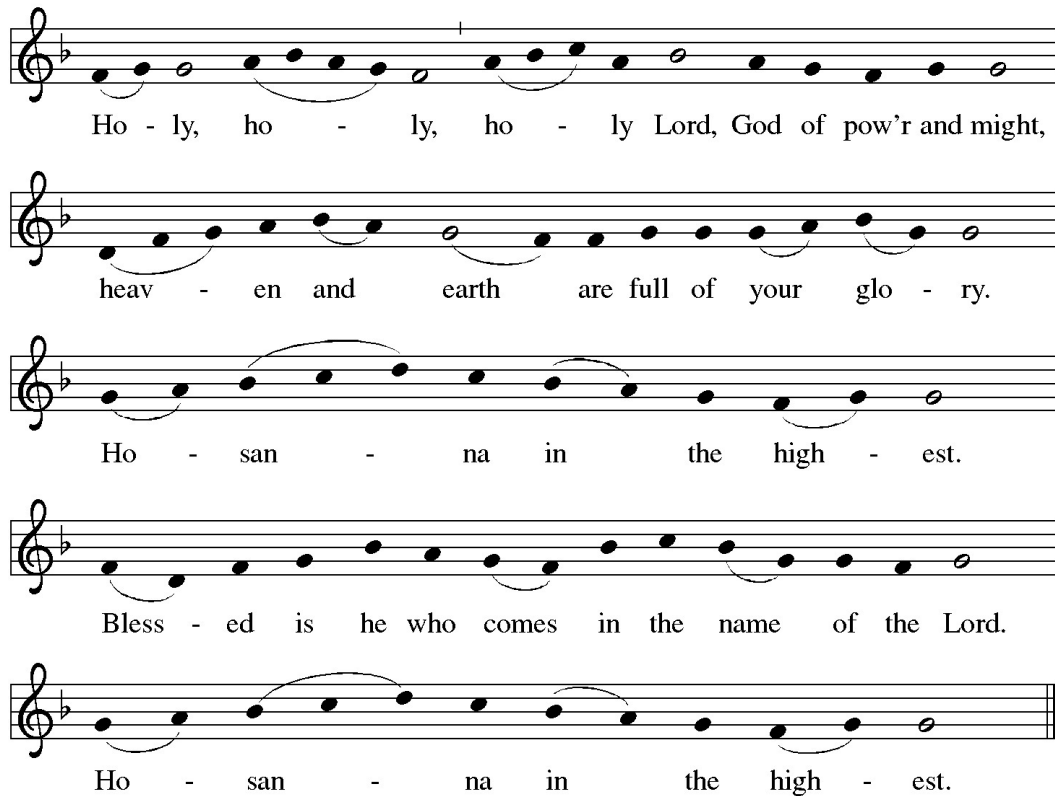
Let us pray together

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

**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 Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SONG – O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line ends with a quarter rest. The second line has a measure rest before 'O Christ, Lamb of God, you take'. The third line has a measure rest before 'have mer - cy up - on us.'. The fourth line ends with a quarter rest. The fifth line has a measure rest before 'grant us your peace.'. The sixth line ends with a double bar line.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond Amen.

Let Streams of Living Justice

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1989 William Whitla.

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



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

A Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

response: Amen

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;

from this meal of love and grace;
 af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;
 God has called us to re - ceive;
 cour - age be our dai - ly breath;

may we through such love en - vi - sion
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed
 pres - ent, by God's lov - ing nur - ture,
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion

whose we are, and whose, our praise.
 to re - lease and to con - sole.
 Spir - it - ed and then let us live.
 from this day and un - to death.

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

God, the won - der of our days.
 Christ, our pres - ent, of past, and goal.
 it, grace by whom we live.
 Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
 Music: SURGE ECCLESIA, Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958
 Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – *Fugue by G. F. Handel*

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The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God with the following recognition:

✙ In honor of Ben Taylor and April Pradhan's upcoming nuptials by Ann and Dean Taylor

Altar Flowers – If you would like to make a recognition through a request for Altar Flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium. Sign up for the day(s) you would like to request, pick up an envelope and form in the lower box and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin, and payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, speak with a staff person.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis and Larry Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Judy Schlegel, Mary Bader, John Friedrich, Tom Kraska, Pat Cashwell, Jim Shoaf, Doug Whitfield, Sally Hart, Sharon Schulze, Larry Grovenstein

Our sympathy upon the death of loved ones:

✙ to the family and friends of Jim Alford, who died on Friday, August 25, 2023.

✙ to the family and friends of Edward Slawson, who died on Monday, August 29. He was an uncle of Marcia Wilson.

✙ to the family and friends of Aaron Randall, a best friend of Morris Casper. Aaron died on Wednesday morning, August 30.

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time**, email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner [Tony Perrotte's mother and uncle], Vickie Ettinger, Lois Horn, Diane Johnson (Penni Perrotte's friends), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley), Richard Dominick (brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Josephine Economy and John Bigsby (friends of Bess Line), Wayne Coulter (brother-in-law of Marlene Coulter), Marie Watts (cousin of Pat Casper), Ruth Parker (aunt of Pat Casper), Ashley Collins (niece of Deb Tabert), Holly Cashwell (by Pat Cashwell), Patrick Howell (son of a friend of the Waughs), George and Pat Rose (friends of Debbie Fullbright), John and Connie Heinz, Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Richard and Claudia Steele (friends of Dean and Marcia Redman), Kirk Temple (brother-in-law of Deb Tabert), Debra Jetton (sister of Bill Wilson), Penny Wagner (niece of Marcia Wilson), Lydia Sumner (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Lynn Hladak (grandmother to Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Ginger Weaver (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Tim Holody (by Terry and Sharon Wilson), Kerry Bowars (friend of Megan Cunningham), Cole Cashwell (grandson of Pat Cashwell), Will and Caitlyn (by Pat Casper), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Dirk Davis (by Debbie Fullbright), H Y Chi (father of Curtis Chi), Dennis Leeper (lifelong friend of Mark and Nancy Dewhirst)

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2023 – Labor Day.

Worship Schedule

On Sunday, September 10, which is also Rally Day, we will continue with two services at 8:30 and 11:00 am but are starting to use **Setting 10** on that day for both services. The 8:30 worship will continue to be in-person only, the 11:00 service will be in-person, live-streamed, and recorded.

Nametags! We have just received new members and have a new vicar with us. This is a great time to get back in the habit of wearing your nametags for all to become familiar with putting names and faces together. If you are missing your nametag, drop a note in the offering plate or an email to Susan at admin@stpaulsdurham.org. We will be happy to replace it.

Rally Day – Start of Sunday School – Sunday, September 10, 2023

9:45 - 10:45 am in Trinity Hall

Join us for some brunch treats as we prepare for a new year of insightful conversations and discovering answers to questions you may be pondering. Here is the exciting schedule of topics and lessons for the adults to look forward to. There will be several people leading discussions Rally Day morning along with fellowship time.

Sept 17 – Ask the Pastor, lead by Pastor Scott

Sept 24 – Church World Services, lead by Madison Burke

Oct 1 – Diaconal Life and Services – lead by Bill Dahl

Oct 8 – The Psalms part 1 (History and background information) – lead by Megan Cunningham

Oct 15 – The Psalms part 2 (Christ in the Psalms) – lead by Megan Cunningham

Children's Sunday School will begin on September 17 in the Genesis Room downstairs, 9:45-10:45 am. Leaders are Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski. Please consider lending some time to assist with the morning sessions. Contact Betty or Carole or visit with them on Rally Day to see where you can help.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: Beginning Thursday, September 7, the new topic for the Bible Study will be Galatians! They meet on Thursdays at 10:30-11:45 am in the Conference Room and by Zoom.

Study notes will be emailed before the meeting. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82845097165?pwd=YWEyd1o1TmQvTXVPaFJwYi9SZkFVQT09>

Meeting ID: 828 4509 7165

Passcode: 165276

Handbells and Choirs! Music ensembles are starting back up at St. Paul's! Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings. Handbell rehearsal will be in the choir loft from 6:30-7:15 pm, and choir rehearsal is in Whitesell Hall and runs from 7:15-8:30 pm. For any questions or concerns, please contact Minister of Music, Ted Turner, at music@stpaulsdurham.org.

UMD (Urban Ministries Durham) Food Prep has returned! We will volunteer our services on the third Saturday of each month, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, first day is September 16. During the shift, you will prep for the dinner meal and serve lunch. Sign up online at this site: http://bit.ly/UMD_Signup Volunteers must be 13 years old, must wear closed toed shoes and shirts that cover armpits. Hairnets and aprons are provided – you can bring a hat and apron as well. Urban Ministries is located at 410 Liberty St, Durham NC 27701. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Anderson at andersona1129@gmail.com

Youth! The 2023-2024 school year has begun and along with that a new year of youth group activities. Vicar Gina, Joan Albright, and Megan Cunningham are looking forward to a fun year of growing both as a group and in our faith. Also this year we will be preparing for the 2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We will be having an informational meeting for parents AND youth on **Saturday, Sept 16, 2023** from 10:00-11:30 am to go over the year and the gathering. We ask that both a parent and youth join the meeting so we can all get to know each other and discuss what to look forward to over the year. We are looking forward to this year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Vicar Gina Schaefer (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org), Joan Albright (joan.albright@duke.edu), Megan Cunningham (mcunni16@gmail.com).

Altar Guild Training meeting – Sunday, Sept 17 between services (9:45-10:45 am). Meet in the sanctuary. Stephanie Knudsen is taking on the scheduling of Sunday altar guild tasks as well as regular cleanings of the sacristy, chancel and nave. If you are interested in helping, please contact Stephanie at sknudsen67@gmail.com or 919-696-1844 or just come on Sunday morning, Sept 17.

Wednesday, Sept 20 at 6:00 pm – This is the next date for our Wednesday Night Supper in Trinity Hall. Menu will be announced as we get closer to the date. If you would like to help with the Wednesday night suppers, contact Martha Dahl at mjdahlhouse@gmail.com or 847-612-6687.

St. Paul's Readers Resumes September 21 at 3 pm

Calling all book lovers to join us for one of or all of our fall meetings! Our September selection is Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes, translated by Edith Grossman. Tim Hoke will lead our discussion. Books for the remainder of the year are: Judas by Amos Oz on October 19 and Horse by Geraldine Brooks on November 16. Please consider joining us. For questions or more information, please contact Katherine Trexler at katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com.

PASTA for PARKTOWN!! Please continue to help stock the "Pasta Shelf" at Parktown Food Hub. It would be helpful if you could add a package – or two – of dry pasta to your shopping cart to support this important community ministry and keep the St. Paul's Pasta Shelf well stocked. Place donations in the collection box by the bulletin board. The Women's Connection Group is leading this initiative to support the Parktown Food Hub, a ministry of South Durham Connections, led by Pastor Sharon Schulze.

It's that time of year to re-link your VIC Card. Please consider linking your VIC Card to the St. Paul's Preschool so that we may receive a percentage of your sales from Harris Teeter. Our number is **3049** and can be linked at any Harris Teeter or online. Friends and family may link too to support the preschool!

The Revelations of Julian of Norwich

Come to a bible study led by Vicar Gina Schaefer starting Sept 28 and continuing to Nov 16. We will meet every Thursday at 6 pm in the Conference Room, in person and online. Explore the "Revelations of Divine Love" by Julian of Norwich, a church mystic and teacher from the Middle Ages. Her beautiful and compassionate writing reveals God's love for us and creation, and invites us to contemplate the mystery of the divine. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84718568201?pwd=aEtMdkpSdllDanNKaXcrYjJ0SEZmUT09>

Meeting ID: 847 1856 8201

Passcode: 199598

Growing thru Grief Fall Series

"The Questions of Grief" is the theme of the Growing thru Grief Fall Series, led by Margaret Albert from Duke Hospice and Bereavement Services. Margaret holds a masters degree in mental health counseling from NCCU and she is a nationally board-certified counselor.

- Sept 5: What does grief look like?
- Sept 12: How long does grief last?
- Sept 19: Why is grieving so hard?
- Sept 26: Who am I now?
- Oct 3: How do I find a way through grief?
- Oct 10: What does the future look like?

We meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1200 W. Cornwallis Rd, on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 pm. First timers will need to show proof of Covid vaccination and booster(s). All are welcome. Growing thru Grief is a coalition of area religious and civic organizations who offer support and education to those grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information check out: growingthrugrief.org

The Tongue and Thimble group creates small quilts which are distributed to the nurseries at local hospitals for their critical patients. They meet downstairs in the Fiber Arts/Music room off of the Genesis Hall on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am - 12:00 noon. If you have an interest in sewing, please stop by and see what we are working on.

The Dropped Stitch Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the last Friday of the month at 1:00 pm in the sofa area of the atrium. This group creates prayer shawls by knitting or crochet. Come join in – next time is Friday, September 29.

Sign-Up Genius Links

Please visit the Sign-Up Genius links which we use to enable volunteers to fill in where needed, for both services. Click on the link and fill in your name on the date(s).

♦ Sunday Worship

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1>

Sign up for: lector, worship assistant, altar guild, and ushers. Staff will be glad to provide guidance for any of these tasks.

♦ Sunday morning Communion Assistants and Lock-Up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>

♦ Devotions – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1>

Send your devotions to Vicar Gina Schaeffer - vicar@stpaulsdurham.org