

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

November 26, 2023 - Christ the King Sunday

8:30 am and 11:00 am are using Setting Ten Booklets

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

## GATHERING

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** – *Le Banquet Celeste (The Celestial Banquet)* by Olivier Messiaen

## 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.**

Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



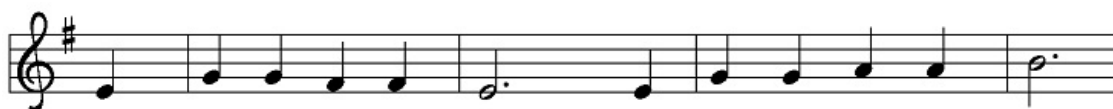
and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4  
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## APOSTOLIC GREETING AND KYRIE

**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.



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

<sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

*response: Thank be to God.*

## Psalm 95:1-7a

**Congregation sings Refrain and bold verses**

### *Refrain*



We are the peo-ple of God's pas-ture and the sheep of God's hand.

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing <sup>1</sup>to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of <sup>1</sup>our salvation.

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God's presence <sup>1</sup>with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the <sup>1</sup>LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, <sup>1</sup>are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- <sup>1</sup>bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns <sup>1</sup>of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are <sup>1</sup>also yours. *Refrain***

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, <sup>1</sup> for you made it,  
and your hands have molded <sup>1</sup> the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship <sup>1</sup> and bow down,  
let us kneel before the <sup>1</sup> LORD our maker.**

<sup>7a</sup>For the LORD <sup>1</sup> is our God,  
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep <sup>1</sup> of God's hand. ***Refrain***

## Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*response: Thanks be to God*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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

## **Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

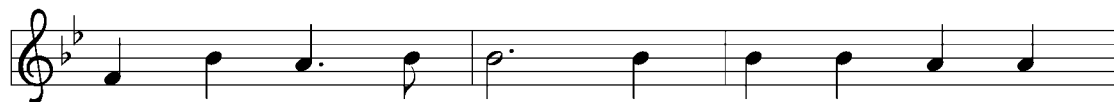
# O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us



1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -



king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
all, you said the first must be the last and  
now; you died for us up - on a cross with



praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
we might rise and live. To break the law of  
ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the



glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
death you came, the law of love to bring: a  
church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for



walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous-ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

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## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world,  
and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*



Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sharon, Larry, Alice, Charlie, Pat and Morris, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation (*especially*). We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Holy God, in Christ we are welcomed home. We praise you for the faithful witness of those who have served you and extended your welcome and love to us (*especially*). Unite us with them as one body of Christ. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## **MEAL**

## **OFFERING**

Offertory – *Christ, whose glory fills the skies by Healy Willian*

## Offertory



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together.

**ALL** Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

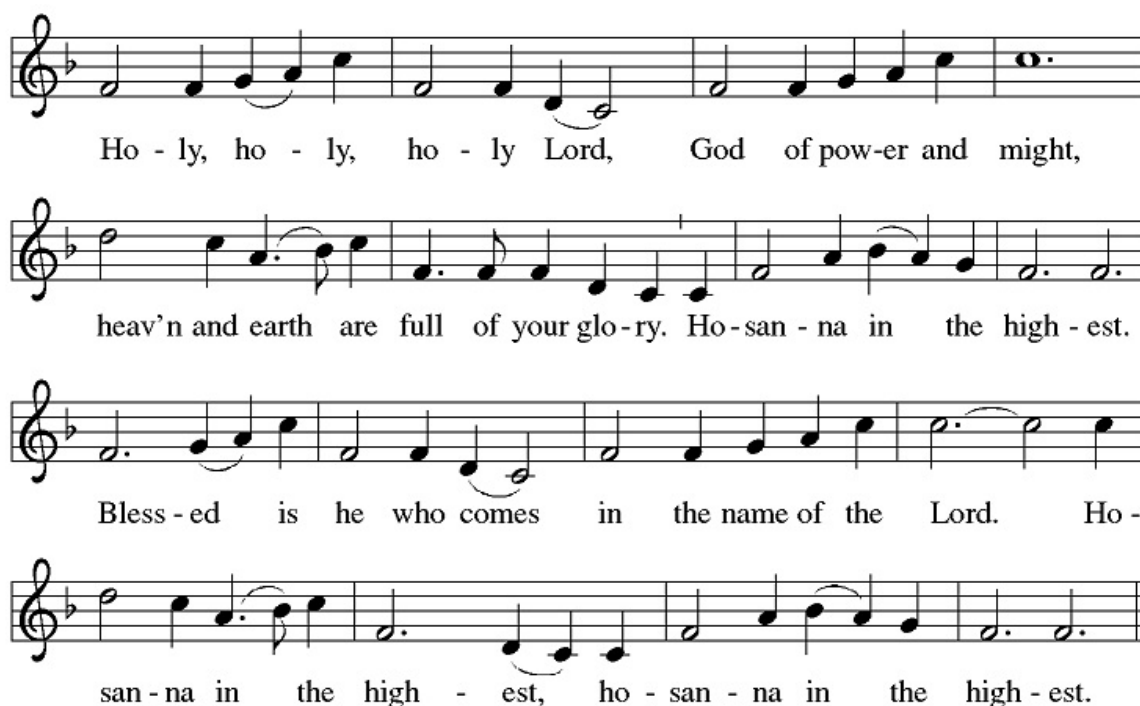
**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who, enthroned forever at your right hand,  
intercedes for us as our great high priest.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
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.

## AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION

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

The body of Christ, given for you.

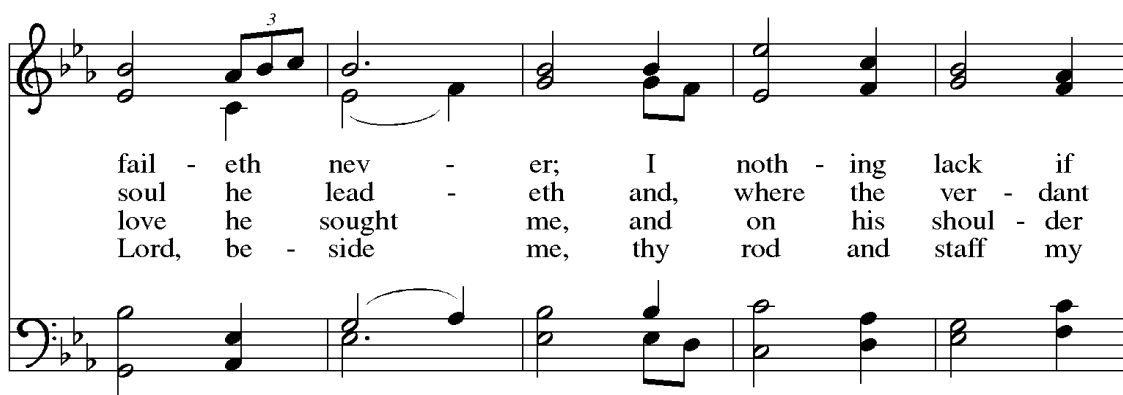
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*And each person may respond Amen.*

## The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 and, oh, what transport of delight  
 from thy pure chalice floweth!


6 And so, through all the length of days,  
 thy goodness faileth never.  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
 within thy house forever.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

## NUNC DIMITTIS



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. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,  
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,  
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**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**



# 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

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE - *Prelude in C Major by J. S. Bach*

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

- ✦ In memory of my mother, Virginia, grandmother, Alvena, family members, friends, and others who have passed, by Rebecca Jules
- ✦ In memory of Chad Dominick by Ted and Diana Dominick

**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, Sharon Schulze, Larry Grovenstein, Alice Barnes, Charlie Bock, Pat and Morris Casper

|  |
|--|
| <b>Prayer List Changes</b> – If you have names to <b>add, or delete at any time</b> , email staff, or call the office. |
|--|

**Prayer of the Church (Friends):** Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner [Tony Perrotte's mother and uncle], 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), Sally Robinette (mother of Claire Cooney), Brian Dissel (husband of Tracey Dissel), Barbara Dissel (mother-in-law of Tracey Dissel), Len Rose (father-in-law of Tracey Dissel), Lynn and Ray Slabaugh (friends of the Foremans), Rufous Coulter (brother-in-law of Marlene Coulter)

**Articles and information for the December Cross Connections** are due to Susan Esposito by **Monday, November 27**. You can drop them in her mailbox in the reception office or email to [admin@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsdurham.org). "Holy Folders" will meet on **Friday, December 1 at 11:00 am** to assemble the issue for the post office.

**Adults – Join us for Sunday School this year 9:45 - 10:45 am in Trinity Hall**

Nov 26 – Music of Advent (information provided by Tom Kraska) lead by Megan Cunningham

Dec 3 – Art of Advent (Part 1) by Janet Seiz

**Youth Sunday School Class:** All middle school and high school youth will gather during the Sunday School hour downstairs in the youth room (9:45-10:30 am). Classes will be the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, only missing December 24th. We look forward to seeing all youth in classes. Any questions please reach out to Joan Albright or Megan Cunningham.

**Children's Sunday School** meets in the Genesis Room downstairs, 9:45-10:45 am. **They are not meeting on November 26.** Leaders are Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski. Please consider lending some time to assist them.

**Put this date on your calendar -- Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 am --** Come and help put Chrismons on the tree in the sanctuary! Many hands make light work!

**Advent suppers and Worship!** On Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20, there will be Advent Worship at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. On Dec 6 and 13 we will begin at 6:00 pm with our traditional Advent Suppers of soups, bread, and salad. If you would like to make a soup for one of these dinners, please contact Martha Dahl at 847-612-6687 or [mjdahlhouse@gmail.com](mailto:mjdahlhouse@gmail.com). The Christmas Dinner will be on December 20 at 6:00 pm. If you wish to help with the preparations for that meal, you are encouraged to contact Martha at the above information.

**Get to know our Committees, Groups, and Partnerships!** Nine of our committees and/or groups, along with our Preschool/PMO, have uploaded informational videos to our Vimeo Website. They are short explanations of how the groups function and they offer opportunities for all of us to participate with them. You can view these videos at: <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham/videos>. We can help other groups produce videos to promote our work for God at St. Paul's. Contact Pastor Scott if you want to participate.

**If you are visiting our website** ([stpaulsdurham.org](http://stpaulsdurham.org)), you will find the uploaded informational videos under the tab: WHO WE ARE, subheading: leadership. While on the website, take a look around and you will find our announcements, links to Sign-Up Genius, links to the worship services, a calendar which can be viewed or downloaded and printed out. You may use the tab: GIVING to set up on-line giving and for specific donations.

**Caring for Creation** – Bring your used eyeglasses and batteries (sizes AA, AAA, C, or D), the pop tops from aluminum cans which go to the Ronald McDonald House – and place in the container next to the credenza in the atrium. St. Paul's Preschoolers have been learning about God's Creation and are interacting with nature during their learning time by planting and watching them grow. Contact persons are Tina Bessias, Diana Dominick and Marcia Redman.

**Thursday Morning Bible Study:** The topic for this Bible Study is "Half Truths". 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

**UMD (Urban Ministries Durham) Food Prep!** We will volunteer our services on the third Saturday of each month, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Next date is **December 16, 2023**. During the shift, you will prep for the dinner meal and serve lunch. Sign up online at this site: [http://bit.ly/UMD\\_Signup](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](mailto:andersona1129@gmail.com)

**Young Adult Activity** – Our Young Adults are starting back on **Friday, December 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm** with a hot chocolate and s'mores around the fire pit event at Church. Megan Cunningham will provide details.

**Duke Lutherans Christmas Open House Lunch** – Duke Lutherans alumni, supporters, and friends: please join us for a special catered lunch on **Tues, Dec 5 at noon** and see our (still new!) campus ministry home. The Duke Lutherans Center will be decorated for Christmas as we give thanks for this Spirit-filled ministry that we share. Please RSVP to Sandra Cline ([scline50@gmail.com](mailto:scline50@gmail.com)) by Fri, Dec 1.

**Drivers Needed** – Nurturing Committee Ministry is in need of volunteer drivers that can help transport people to medical appointments, chemo appointments, pharmacy. It can be a drop off and come back later to transport home, or a short wait for the appointment. If you have time to help, please contact [dmredman251@gmail.com](mailto:dmredman251@gmail.com).

**Handbells and Choirs!** 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, please contact Minister of Music, Ted Turner, [music@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:music@stpaulsdurham.org).

**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.

### **Growing thru Grief**

Here is the current schedule:

- Nov 28: "Befriending Your Grief Waves," with Donna Kaye
- We meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am - 12:00 noon. So far this year, 105 quilts have been donated.

**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. Not meeting on November 24.

### **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**

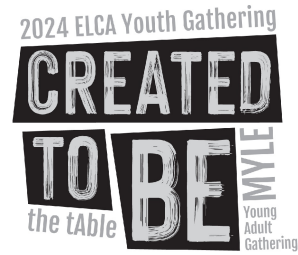
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>

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

Send your devotions to Vicar Gina Schaeffer - [vicar@stpaulsdurham.org](mailto:vicar@stpaulsdurham.org)

*Insert:*

## Our Youth Group is going to New Orleans in July of 2024 for the National Youth Gathering.



### Here is how you can help them on their journey.

We have six youth and two adult leaders heading to New Orleans in July of 2024 for the National Youth Gathering. This is a time for our youth to grow in their faith and as an overall youth group. You will see the youth active in different ways throughout the year and we ask that you help us get to New Orleans.

We need to raise about \$9,000 for everyone and we cannot do it without the gracious help of our St. Paul's family. In the atrium is a yellow bulletin board with 8 airplane seats, 8 hotel beds, and 8 plates broken into 3 pieces so you can see the progress as we get ready for this adventure. You can help in a variety of ways, including purchasing a whole airplane seat or hotel bed, or if you can just help with a meal for someone.

How to "purchase" a specific item is broken down:

- ▶ 1 airplane seat cost \$400 (this is for roundtrip)
- ▶ 1 hotel bed cost \$350 (this is for the entire week)
- ▶ 1 meal costs \$25 or a whole day of meals costs \$75 (this is for 1 person)

As we raise funds, watch the airplane take off from RDU (Durham, NC) to MSY (New Orleans, LA).

Donations can be made online through the church website (under the giving online option) or during the offering time in service. Please note on your donation (Youth Gathering – purchase item" (i.e. "Youth Gathering - airplane seat" or "Youth Gathering - 1 meal").

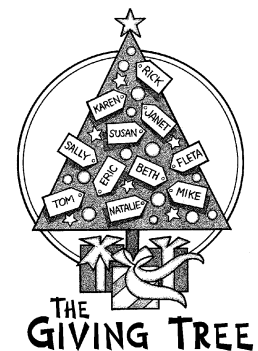
Thank you for all your help and prayers as we prepare for this unbelievable experience!

## Christmas Giving Opportunities 2023

### ★ Food Lion Gift Cards for Parktown Food Hub

### ★ Target or Walmart gift Cards for Burton Elementary

There is a Christmas tree in the atrium which is decorated with envelopes. You may choose an envelope, then purchase the requested gift card and return it in the provided envelope. Food Lion Gifts cards (\$25, \$50) are requested for the Parktown Food Hub. Target or Walmart gift (\$25 or \$50) cards will go to Burton Elementary. All envelopes with gift cards inside may be returned to the offering plate, or put in the Finance Office wall slot in the staff hallway -- by **Sunday, December 3.**



### ★ Direct Donation to South Durham Connections

If you want to participate but won't be able to shop, feel free to make a cash donation at <https://soduco.org/donate> and we will make sure that our families are shown a little extra love by purchasing what is most needed.

### ★ Amazon Stocking Wish List for Parktown Food Hub

Christmas stockings for kids (needed by **Monday, 11/27**) – we want every child whose family receives food from the Parktown Food Hub to have the joy of a Christmas stocking. We have volunteers who have generously offered to help assemble the stockings, and now we just need the stuffers! To make it easy we have set up an Amazon Wishlist.

You can order the items and they will be shipped directly to us. We need the items by **Monday, November 27** so the volunteers have time to assemble the stockings. Here is a link to the Amazon Wishlist: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OD4D7YEAGJML?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OD4D7YEAGJML?ref_=wl_share)