

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

October 22, 2023 - 21st Sunday after Pentecost

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 – *Quatuor by Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens*

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.**

O God of Every Nation



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

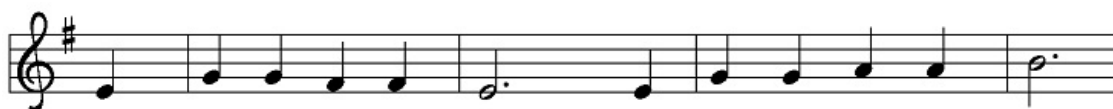
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APOSTOLIC GREETING AND KYRIE

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

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

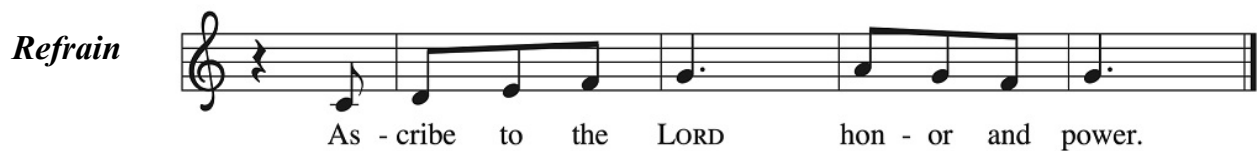
First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

*response: **Thank be to God.***

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

Congregation will sing *Refrain* and bold verses.



¹Sing to the LORD¹ a new song; sing to the LORD,¹ all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name¹ of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from¹ day to day.**

³Declare God's glory a-¹mong the nations and God's wonders a-¹mong all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly¹ to be praised, more to be feared¹ than all gods.**

Refrain

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they¹ are but idols; but you, O LORD, have¹ made the heavens.

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are¹ in your presence; power and splendor are in your¹
sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families¹ of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD hon-¹or and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the¹ holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts¹ of the LORD. *Refrain***

⁹Worship the LORD in the beau-¹ty of holiness; tremble before the LORD,¹ all the earth.

[¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The¹ LORD is king!**

**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peo-¹ples
with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the¹ earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that¹ is therein.

¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com-¹ing, O LORD,
for you come to¹ judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the¹ world with righteousness and the peoples¹ with your truth. *Refrain*

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly

³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, the au - thor of cre -
2 What your al - might - y pow'r has made, in mer - cy you are
3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
4 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, give God the praise and



a - tion! O God of love, you un - der - stood our need for
keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade, your eye is
hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with
glo - ry! Let all God's sav - ing pow'r pro - claim; give God the



your sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our souls you fill;
nev - er sleep - ing; in the do - min - ion of your might
peace to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord,
praise and glo - ry! Cast ev - 'ry i - dol from its throne;



all our la - ment with peace you still.
all things are just and good and right. To God all praise and glo - ry!
who is by one and all a - dored.
God is the Lord, and God a - lone:

Text: Johann J. Schütz, 1640–1690; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT DEN HERREN, IHR, Melchior Vulpus, 1570–1615

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.

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants (*especially*). Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering (*especially*) Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sharon, Larry, Alice, and others we may name

aloud or quietly in our hearts. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

Offertory – *Improvisation on Lobt Gott den Herren (ELW 871)*

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
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

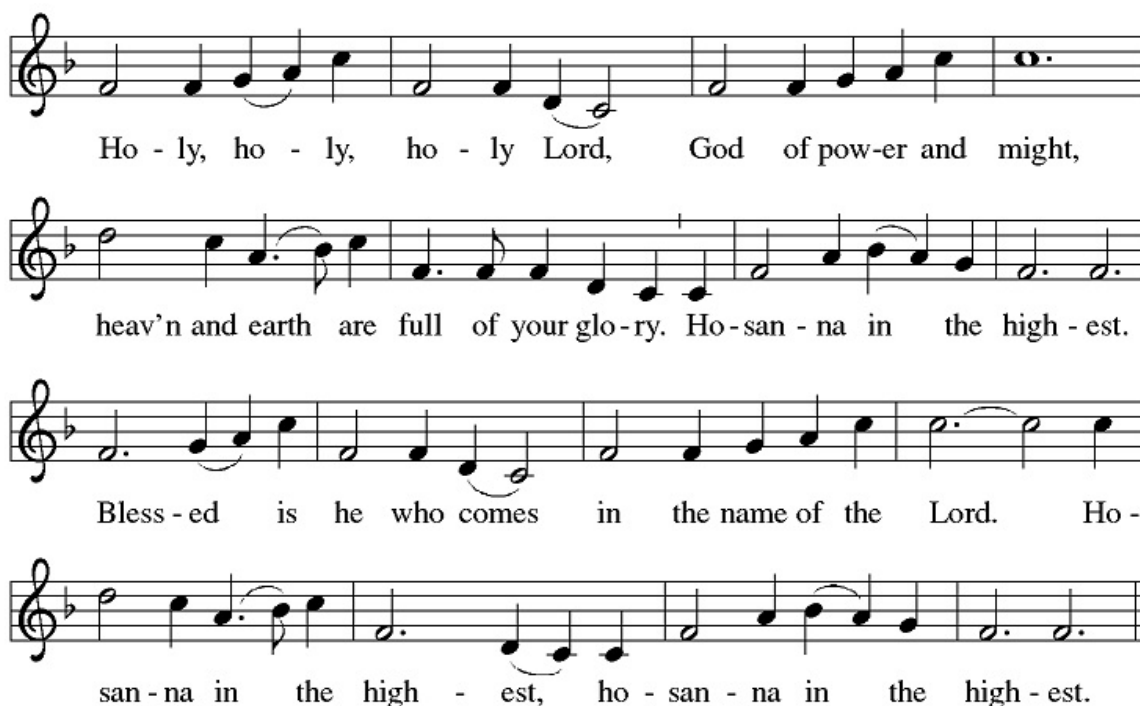
C We lift them to the Lord.

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,
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.

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

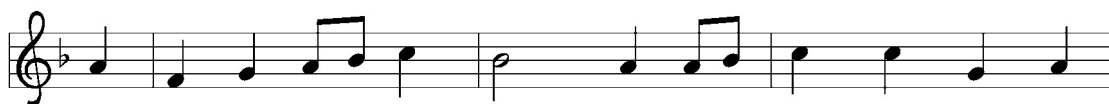
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond Amen.

O Bread of Life from Heaven



1 O bread of life from heav - en, O food to pil - grims
 2 O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er
 3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den



giv - en, O man - na from a - bove: feed
 stream - ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come
 splen - dor with - in these means of grace. Oh,



with the bless - ed sweet - ness of your di - vine com -
 now, your love be - stow - ing on thirst - ing souls, and
 let the veil be riv - en, and our clear eye in



plete - ness the souls that want and need your love.
 flow - ing till all are ful - ly sat - is - fied.
 heav - en be - hold your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862–1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819–1893, st. 2
 Music: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN, Heinrich Isaac, 1450–1517

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.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

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**

Sending Hymn - Lift Every Voice and Sing

841



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - *Fantasia by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck*

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The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God.

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

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

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

Oct 22 – Bill Dahl will be leading about diaconal life and history

Oct 29 – Reformation Sunday: Martin Luther and the Reformation, lead by Morris Casper

Nov 5 – All Saints Sunday: Growing thru Grief, lead by Pastor Jan Huntley

Nov 12 – Duke Lutherans, lead by Pastor Amanda Highben and Cindy Snyder

Nov 19 – Camp Destiny, lead by Tim and Kim Hoke

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

Youth Confirmation Class: All middle school and high school youth that have not been confirmed yet, will meet for Confirmation classes 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 eligible 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. Leaders are Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski. Please consider lending some time to assist them.

Articles and Information for the November issue of Cross Connections are due to Susan Esposito on Monday, October 23. You may drop them in her mailbox in the reception office, or email them to her at admin@stpaulsdurham.org. "Holy Folders" will meet on Friday, October 27 at 11:00 am to assemble the newsletter for the post office. All are welcome to help fold, seal and label so they can go in the mail!

Croasdaile Worship will take place on Thursday, October 26 at 2:00 pm at Croasdaile.

Caring for Creation – This fall begins our annual stewardship campaign of finances and ministry, but everyday is stewardship day in Caring for our Creation. We are already seeking to reduce trash by using reusable shopping bags, ceramic cups, glass communion cups, and energy-efficient light bulbs, but there is more we can do! Bring your used eyeglasses and batteries (sizes AA, AAA, C, or D), and one new item – the pop tops from aluminum cans which will go to the Ronald McDonald House, can also go in the container next to the credenza.

Social Ministries Committee – The Committee is continuing to make tangible strides in our re-organization progress, the "Re-Formation." If you are interested in participating in any way, or if you have questions about what we do, please contact either Joan Pepper or Pastor Scott. Our next meeting will be held on **Mon, October 23rd, at 7:00 pm** in Whitesell Hall. If you want to join the meeting by Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81503417125?pwd=aHBseTNvTm9EOHk0THZLVlBLCWtCUT09>
Meeting ID: 815 0341 7125 Passcode: 552857

Trunk or Treat - Friday, October 27 at 6 - 7 pm – This is a stellar fall event where you have a creative time decorating your trunk and the treaters come to your car in our parking lot. Trunk decorators (you don't need to have children to participate – just like trick or treat at your house), can arrive at the Pickett Road parking lot between 5:30-6:00 pm. This will allow time to set up decorations and have traffic completed before beginning the trunk or treating at **6:00 pm**. Costumed Treaters will visit from car to car to gather their treats. We will end by 7:00 pm. Treats should be pre-wrapped and nothing home-made. Neighbors, friends, all are welcome to participate! Join in the fun along with members, the Preschool, Wildflower Cottage for Children, area neighbors, and Duke Lutherans!

"Souls to the Polls" – You are cordially invited to the St. Joseph's AME Church service at 11:00 am on October 29, 2023 and then join us in the "Souls to the Polls" early voting caravan which begins at 1:00 pm from the St. Joseph AME Church parking lot at 640 Nelson Street in Durham. The "Souls to the Polls" caravan will go to the NCCU School of Law Precinct 55-49 for early voting. All age groups (youth to seniors) are invited to focus on the importance of voting and to increase the vote.

Hope for the Triangle – Help us share some hope and spread the word about St. Paul's by picking up your own yard sign today. They are on the round table in the foyer. The yard signs are one part of a larger campaign in collaboration with other Lutheran Churches in the Triangle region to engage new

people with stories of hope. All our efforts point to a shared website, hopeforthetriangle.org where you can find information about each of the seven churches and watch videos and read stories that direct to the living hope everyday folks have found through our church communities.

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

The Revelations of Julian of Norwich: Come to a bible study led by Vicar Gina Schaefer Sept 28 to Nov 16. We 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

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. Next date is **November 18, 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 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

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.

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 schedule for the rest of October:

- Oct 24: "Who Are You Today?" with Betty Morton
- Oct 31: "Markers Along the Way – Grief as Limit, Loss and Love," with Rev. David Brooks
- Nov 7: "Continuing Bonds: How We Stay Connected to Those We Grieve," with Aaron Klink
- Nov 14: "Grieving through the Holidays," workshop with Duke Hospice Bereavement Services
- Nov 21: Janet Stolp is the presenter, topic to be announced
- 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

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.

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, October 27**.

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