

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

September 24, 2023 - 17th 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 – *Es ist das Heil (Salvation unto Us Has Come, ELW 590) by Heinrich Scheidemann*

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.**

As Saints of Old



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christerson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

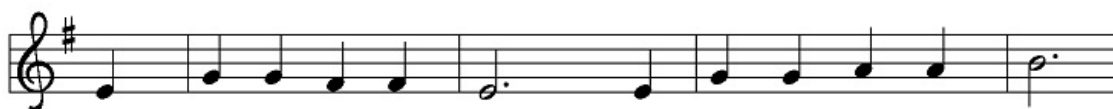
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APOSTOLIC GREETING AND KYRIE

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

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

response: Thank be to God.



¹I will exalt you, my ¹God and king, and bless your name forev- ¹er and ever.

²**Every day ¹will I bless you and praise your name forev- ¹er and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly ¹to be praised! There is no end ¹to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works ¹to another and shall de- ¹clare your power. *Refrain***

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹of your majesty and all your ¹marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your ¹wondrous acts, and I will re- ¹count your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of ¹your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full ¹of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹steadfast love. *Refrain***

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Salvation unto Us Has Come



- 1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and fa - vor;
 2 What God did in the law de - mand no one could keep un - fail - ing;
 3 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal - va - tion,
 4 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone and rests in him un - ceas - ing;



good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and save us
 great woe a - rose on ev - 'ry hand, and sin grew all - pre -
 we will re - joice, we will be glad and build on this foun -
 and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and hope in -



nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who did for
 vail - ing. Be - cause the law must be ful - filled, Christ came as
 da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead; bap - tized in -
 creas - ing. For faith a - lone can jus - ti - fy; works serve our



all the world a - tone, our on - ly me - di - a - tor.
 God in mer - cy willed, for us the law o - bey - ing.
 to your death, I'm freed; your life is mine for - ev - er.
 neigh - bor and sup - ply the proof that faith is liv - ing.

- 5 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise to Father, Son, and Spirit!
 Lord, you have saved us by your grace;
 all glory to your merit!
 O triune God in heav'n above,
 you have revealed your saving love;
 your blessed name we hallow.
- 6 Your kingdom come, your will be done
 in this world as in heaven;
 give bread for each new day begun;
 our sins be all forgiven,
 as we forgive what others do;
 in ev'ry trial see us through;
 from evil save us. Amen.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. hymnal version
 Music: ES IST DAS HEIL, *Etlich christlich Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1524
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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 who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sally, Sharon, Larry, Alice, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven (*especially*). United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. 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 – (8:30) *Improvisation on es ist das Heil*

(11:00) *Choir - The Last Words of David by Randall Thompson*

Text: He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds;

as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.

Alleluia. Amen.

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.

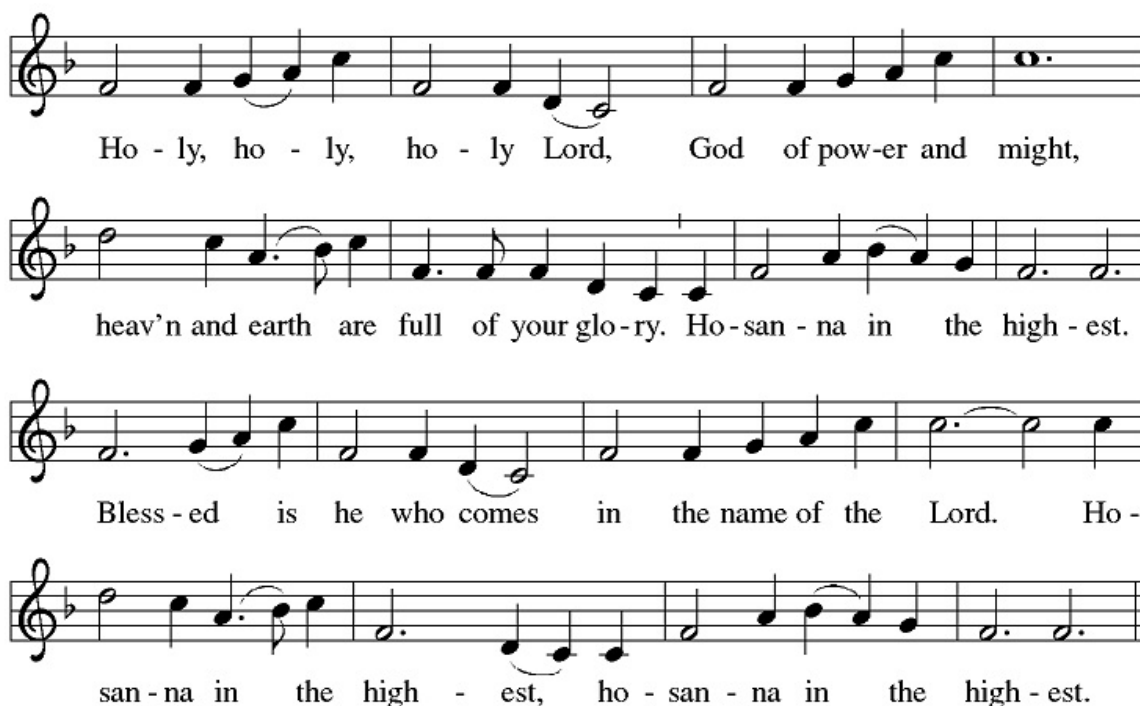
C We lift them to the Lord.

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,
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.

Lord of Light



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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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**

Give Me Jesus

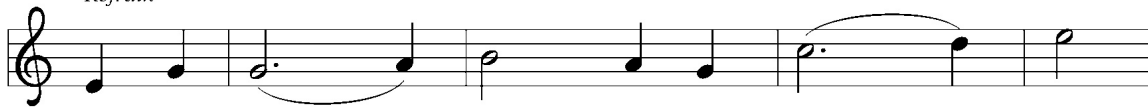


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
 2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
 3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
 4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
 5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
 dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
 just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
 oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
 and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - *Prelude in C major by J. G. Walther*

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

✙ In memory of loved ones by Dean and Marcia Redman

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, 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], 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), Sally Robinette (mother of Claire Cooney), Michael Allen (son-in-law of Diana and Ted Dominick)

Nametags! 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.

Important Meeting – There will be an important meeting concerning the Church's Finances on **Sunday, Oct 1**. This meeting will take place in Trinity Hall replacing Adult Sunday School (9:45-10:45 am). During the meeting, our Finance and Stewardship folks will be on hand to discuss the shortfall in St Paul's income this year and how your pledge for next year is more important than ever in planning for next year. Additionally, time permitting, members from the Memorials and Endowment Committee will be on hand to explain the operation and health of those funds. We hope to see many of you at this important event.

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

Due to some recent changes during the Sunday School hour, the October schedule has been updated.

Sept 24 – Church World Services, lead by Madison Burke

Oct 1 – John Foreman will lead a question and answer time about the 2024 St. Paul's budget

Oct 8 – Megan Cunningham will lead part 1 about the Psalms, a background and basic information session

Oct 15 – Megan Cunningham will lead part 2 about the Psalms with "Christ in the Psalms"

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

Oct 29 – Morris Casper will lead a session on the history of Martin Luther and why we are celebrating Reformation Sunday.

Thank you for understanding the changes and hope you can join in the sessions as we continue to learn with the congregation our education gifts.

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 October Cross Connections are due by Monday, September 25 to Susan Esposito. You may drop in her mailbox in the reception office, or email to admin@stpaulsdurham.org. "Holy Folders" will meet on Friday, September 29 at 11:00 am to assemble the issue for the post office.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: The topic for this Bible Study is 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

Croasdaile Worship will take place on Thursday, Sept 28 at 2:00 pm at Croasdaile. Anyone is welcome to attend.

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.

Quilt Raffle! Tongue and Thimble is the wonderful group who creates quilts which are given to local hospital nurseries for acute care babies and toddlers. They have asked permission to raffle a quilt they have created to raise money for their ministry. Tickets are \$10 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$40. This will enable them to purchase batting and some other needed supplies. Stop by the quilt display to purchase your raffle tickets - someone will be there after both services.

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 October 21. 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

St. Paul's Readers – Calling all book lovers to join us for our fall meetings! 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.

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

Duke Lutherans Sunday Night Dinners: Help to Feed Students' Bodies and Spirits!

Did you know that one of the best ways to support the Duke Lutherans while getting to know our students better is by joining us on Sunday nights for Evening Prayer and Fellowship Dinner? Helping to prepare and serve the meal is a tangible way to share Jesus' love, and we promise you'll also have a wonderful time! Even better, it's easy to serve this year because we'll be gathering at our brand-new Duke Lutherans Center at Grace Lutheran Church (824 N. Buchanan Blvd). Plenty of free parking is available in Grace's parking lot and Grace's kitchen is just down the hallway from the DLC. Dinner is at 6:30, but we ask that you arrive by 5:15 so that we might help to set up the meal; you can then join us for worship at 5:30, followed by dinner. You provide the food and beverages; we provide plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and the hungry appetites! Examples of meals we love include tacos, pasta, chili, fried chicken, baked potato bar...or anything really! (There are plenty of outlets for crockpots.) A few sides (such as salad and fruit) and dessert are welcome too. We average between 15-20 students. Please sign-up here with our SignUpGenius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054AABAB2EA4FB6-duke2>

Thank you so much again for sharing in this ministry of love and grace! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Amanda (612-418-4192, amanda.highben@duke.edu)

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!

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