

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

September 17, 2023 - 16th 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 – *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (ELW 520) by J. S. Bach*

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.**

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



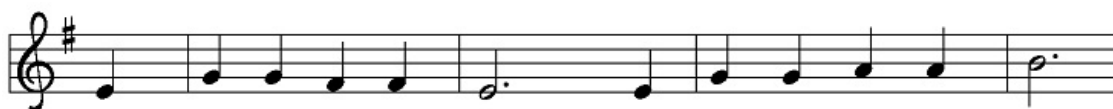
es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

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 Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

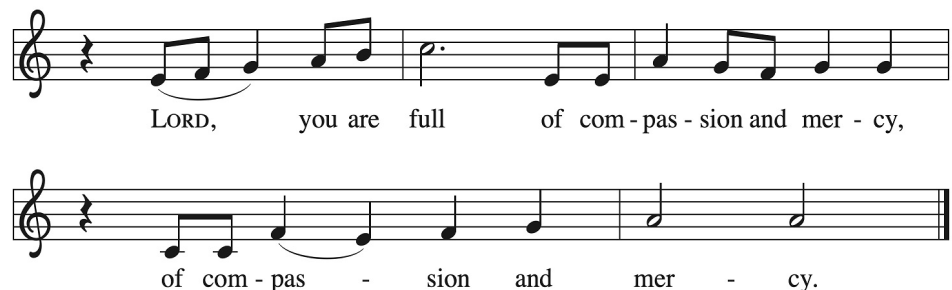
¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

response: Thank be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

Congregation sings Refrain and bold verses.

Refrain



[¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**

³who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; Refrain**

⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ¹ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- ¹dren of Israel.

] ⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- ¹sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹steadfast love; *Refrain***

⁹you will not al- ¹ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- ¹ger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according ¹to our sins,
nor repaid us according to ¹our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- ¹bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for ¹those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is ¹from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- ¹sions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion ¹for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear ¹you, O LORD. *Refrain*

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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 18:21-35

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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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.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy (*especially*) Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Judy, Mary, John, Tom, Pat, Jim, Doug, Sally, Sharon, Larry, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world (*like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, whom we commemorate today*). 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 – *Praise my Soul, the King of Heaven* by Mark Andrews (choir at 11:00)

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.

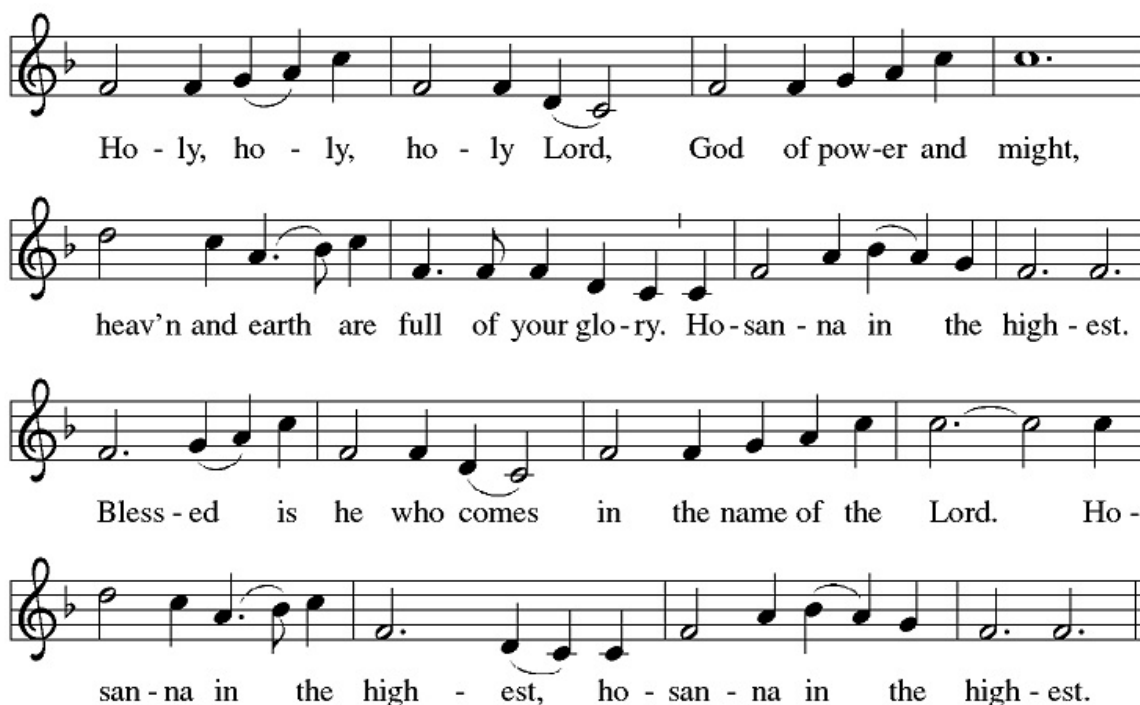
C We lift them to the Lord.

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.

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
 Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
 Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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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**

In Thee Is Gladness



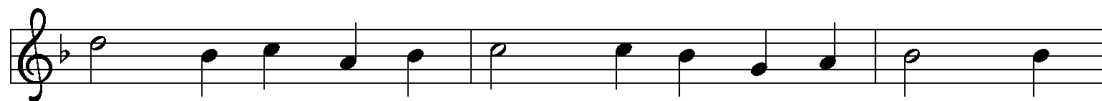
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - *In dir ist Freude (ELW 867) by J. S. Bach*

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

✙ In memory of Ernie and Jeannette Dahl by Martha Dahl

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

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

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

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

Here is the exciting schedule of topics and lessons for the adults to look forward to.

Sept 17 – Ask the Pastor, lead by Pastor Scott

Sept 24 – Church World Services, lead by Madison Burke

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

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

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

Children's Sunday School begins on September 17 in the Genesis Room downstairs, 9:45-10:45 am. Leaders are Betty Hinshaw and Carole Ostrowski. Please consider lending some time to assist them.

To Usher or Not to Usher! Ushers are needed for Sunday services – 8:30 and 11:00 am. To be an usher is an opportunity to serve the ministry of St. Paul's. An usher arrives approximately 20-30 minutes before the service to greet people as they arrive and hand out bulletins. People feel welcomed and accepted when they are greeted and maybe conversation is exchanged. An usher is needed to collect offering, and during communion ushers are needed to assist anyone who may need help coming down the steps. After service, an usher puts out the recycle baskets and straightens up the narthex area. Being an usher is a brief but very important help in the ministry of St. Paul's! If you have a computer you can connect onto the sign-up genius and sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1> . Otherwise, you may contact Megan Cunningham (mcunni16@gmail.com), to sign-up. It would be wonderful to have an usher "team" for each Sunday of the month. There are very faithful ushers: Mike Mauriello, Steve Mzyk, Phil Hart, and Dean Redman. If you have any questions they would be happy to answer them.

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

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. They meet twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings downstairs in the fiber arts room.

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

Wednesday, Sept 20 at 6:00 pm – This is the next date for our Wednesday Night Supper in Trinity Hall. We will be having a hamburger and hot dog picnic with vegetarian options, side salads and dessert. If you would like to help with the Wednesday night suppers, contact Martha Dahl at mjdahlhouse@gmail.com or 847-612-6687.

St. Paul's Readers Resumes September 21 at 3 pm – Calling all book lovers to join us for one of or all of our fall meetings! Our September selection is Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes, translated by Edith Grossman. Tim Hoke will lead our discussion. Books for the remainder of the year are: Judas by Amos Oz on October 19 and Horse by Geraldine Brooks on November 16. Please consider joining us. For questions or more information, please contact Katherine Trexler at katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com.

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!

The Revelations of Julian of Norwich

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

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

Meeting ID: 847 1856 8201 Passcode: 199598

Growing thru Grief Fall Series

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

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

We meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1200 W. Cornwallis Rd, on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 pm. First timers will need to show proof of Covid vaccination and booster(s). All are welcome. Growing thru Grief is a

coalition of area religious and civic organizations who offer support and education to those grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information check out: growingthrugrief.org

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

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

Sign-Up Genius Links

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

♦ Sunday Worship

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

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

♦ Sunday morning Communion Assistants and Lock-Up

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

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

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