

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 9th, 2024

Here are my mother
and my brothers!

MARK 3:34



WELCOME

To our Church Family

We're Glad You're Here!



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

You are welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

Altar Flowers

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Jennifer & Craig in memory of Connie Nelson Wise and Mark Wise.

Today's Worship Theme

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

Readings and Psalm

Genesis 3:8-15

God confronts Adam and Eve in the garden

Psalm 130

Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love. (*Ps. 130:7*)

2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Renewed in the inner nature

Mark 3:20-35

Doing the work of God as brothers and sisters of Christ

The Westminster Strike
Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Prelude in C
Katerina Wuchnick, violin

Louis Vierne (1879-1937)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

You Servants of God

ELW 825

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”¹⁰He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.”¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I

ate.” ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 130



Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love.

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²O LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared. **R**

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

⁸For the LORD shall redeem Israel

from all their sins. **R**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes,


everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 3rd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without

first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

ELW 684

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

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

After each petition the following response is given:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In His Presence
Sammy Kay Smith, soprano

Dick Tunney (b. 1956)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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,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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion

“Méditation” from Thaïs
Katerina Wuchnick, violin

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW 537

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

A Joyous Recessional

Matthew Corl (b. 1965)

In our prayers today we will remember

Dave Paul, Cheryl Lash, Jessica Swank, Mary Martin, Rick Theiss, Mary Boost, Patricia Kandle, Mary Ann Breslin, Joy Smith, Amy White, Lindsay Mays, Errett Butler, Theresa Eckleberry, Jack Young, Linda Williams, and Chrissy Sturtz.

Music Notes:

We welcome Katerina Wuchnick to worship today! Katerina is currently a sophomore at Malone University, double majoring in Integrated Language Arts Education and Global & International Studies with a double minor in Spanish for the Professions and Music. She has studied violin for 14 years, most recently under the instruction of Cornel Zotta. Katerina was a two-time concertmaster of the Canton Youth Symphony and held the role of Concertmaster for three consecutive years in the GlenOak High School Symphonic Strings Ensemble. She has been a part of the Tuscarawas Philharmonic, the Canton Symphony, the Alliance Symphony, and the Mount Union Repertory Strings Ensemble, as well as the Malone University String Ensemble and has played for churches and civic groups throughout Northeastern Ohio. Katerina plans to continue her music career during her time at Malone University and into the future.

Next Sunday, we are excited to welcome Loren Veigel back to the organ bench while Abby is on vacation.

Thank You to our Choirs

Many, many, many thanks to the choir, our soloists, the handbell choir, and all the guest musicians who have enriched our worship services by sharing their time and talents during the school year. The choir will be on recess through Labor Day weekend and will return to the loft in early September. I invite you to prayerfully consider joining the choir and/or handbell choir in the fall.

Capital Campaign Report

Phase One Projects	\$337,000
Funds raised	\$264,069
Interest	\$ 3,705
Building Fund	\$ 30,000
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Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 39,226

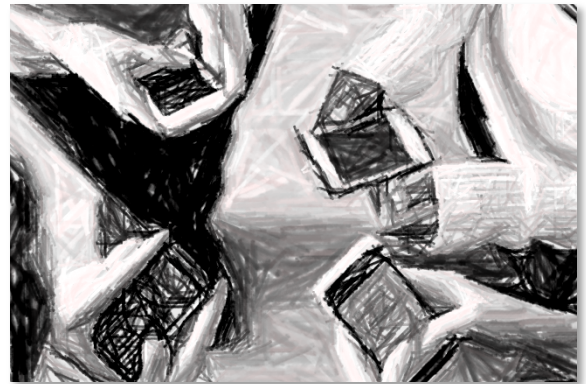
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Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing STPLC APP.

Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.

To take advantage of all the app's features you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, and see the church calendar. You can even give electronically.



Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Lector	Marcia Wright
Assisting Minister	Sue Reid
Communion Assistants	Kathryn Myers & Greg Klein
Greeters	Greg & Lynda Klein
Sacristy	Kathryn Myers
Ushers	Shane Jackson, Eric & Carla Myers, Mark Waltz
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN You Servants of God ELW 825
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HYMN OF THE DAY Creating God, Your Fingers Trace ELW 684
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SENDING HYMN On Our Way Rejoicing ELW 537
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Images in the Readings

Painted depictions of **Satan**, like those of angels, are not profound enough to convey what these biblical figures embody. Often depictions of Satan are racist, by having darker skin than the people looking at the image. In much medieval art, the snake has the same face as the woman. Contemporary pictures of the devil often merely evoke Halloween. Ancient Israel knew of no devil. By the time of Jesus, Jews had adopted into popular piety the figure of Satan from the dualism of Zoroastrianism. For some Christians, the devil is nearly an alternate deity. Yet Christian doctrine proclaims that there is only one ultimate power, not two, and that the power of evil, although still fighting against good, has already been conquered in the death and resurrection of Christ.

About the **woman** and the **man** of Genesis 3 there has been much nonsense written, from which especially countless women have suffered. However, we are all the man and the woman, eating food that brings us not life but death. This story is a profound legend filled with truths about the human condition, but Christians need not teach it as though it is factual, thus disregarding what centuries of science have taught us about how God actually formed and shaped the earth and its many creatures.

Our life here is only a **tent**. An evil wind can blow it down; a snake can slither in during the night. Together we take shelter in the building that is Christ.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

“He is possessed,” say the scribes. These things he does must be from Satan. Such a situation threatens the whole community. Banish him, or put him away; that is what we must do. If he will not conform to us, he should be excluded from our world. If he acts to disrupt the world we have created, then declare him insane and restrain his activities. Otherwise, Jesus will shatter our world with his words. Still, the crowd gathers around him. People hungering for acceptance jam into the house with him. There is good news here, and the crowd hears it gladly. There is here no natural bonding, only that Christ is the center of their new world. Here are the ones who have come in faith to be healed. Here is the place where the world has been shattered and reformed.

—Richard Eslinger

[Richard Eslinger, in *Homilies for the Christian People*, 297-299.]

You Servants of God



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace



1 Cre - at - ing God, your fin - gers trace the bold de -
2 Sus - tain - ing God, your hands up - hold earth's mys - t'ries
3 Re - deem - ing God, your arms em - brace all now de -
4 In - dwell - ing God, your gos - pel claims one fam - 'ly



signs of far - thest space; let sun and moon and stars and
known or yet un - told; let wa - ter's frag - ile blend with
spised for creed or race; let peace, de - scend - ing like a
with a bil - lion names; let ev - 'ry life be touched by



light and what lies hid - den praise your might.
air, en - a - bling life, pro - claim your care.
dove, make known on earth your heal - ing love.
grace un - til we praise you face to face.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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On Our Way Rejoicing



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879