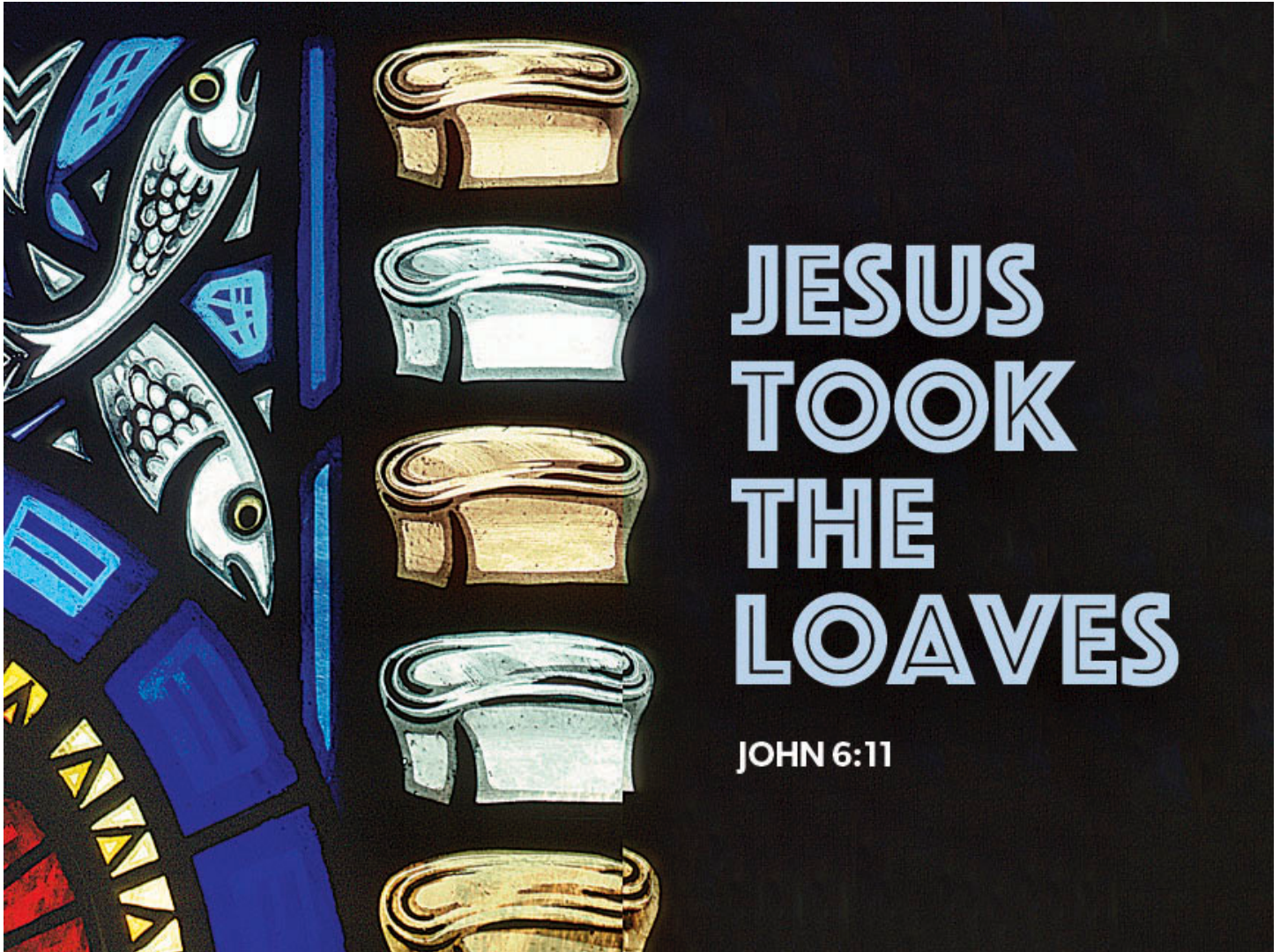


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# *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 Kathy and Bryan Corban in memory of Patsy & John Kindig & Don Corban.

The **Throne flowers** were given today by Jennifer Stanko in honor of Harry Morgan's birthday.

### **Today's Worship Theme**

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

### **Readings and Psalm**

#### **2 Kings 4:42-44**

*Elisha feeding a hundred people*

#### **Psalm 145:10-18**

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (*Ps. 145:16*)

#### **Ephesians 3:14-21**

*Prayer for wisdom, strength, and Christ's indwelling*

#### **John 6:1-21**

*Christ feeding the five thousand*



## 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.

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

<sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." <sup>43</sup> But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup> He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 145:10-18**

You o - pen wide your hand and  
sat - is - fy the de - sire of ev - 'ry liv - ing thing.

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,  
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom  
and speak | of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know | of your power  
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all  
ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works. R**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all | those who fall  
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup> **The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,  
and you give them their food | in due season.**

<sup>16</sup> You open | wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

<sup>17</sup> **You are righteous in | all your ways  
and loving in | all your works.**

<sup>18</sup> You are near to all who | call upon you,  
to all who call up- | on you faithfully. **R**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21**

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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: John 6:1-21**

The holy gospel according to John, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the

fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

<sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup> But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” <sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*Rev. Mark Kreemer*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW 515

## **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

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*After each petition the following response is given:*

In your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANTHEM

I Can Only Imagine

Bart Millard (b. 1972)

Eleanor Manes, soloist;

Julia Englehart, American sign language

## 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.



## 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.**

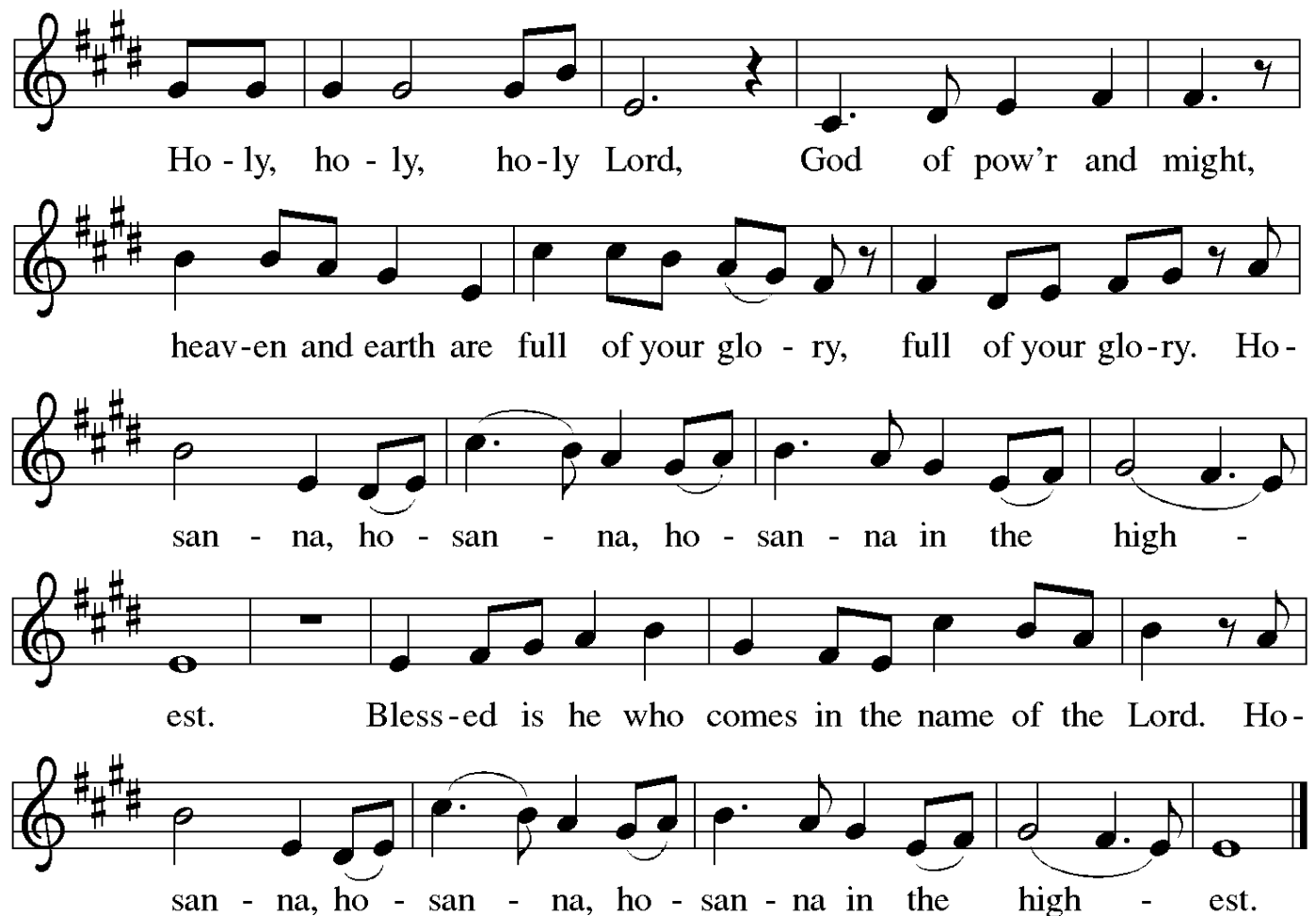
Lift up your hearts.

**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

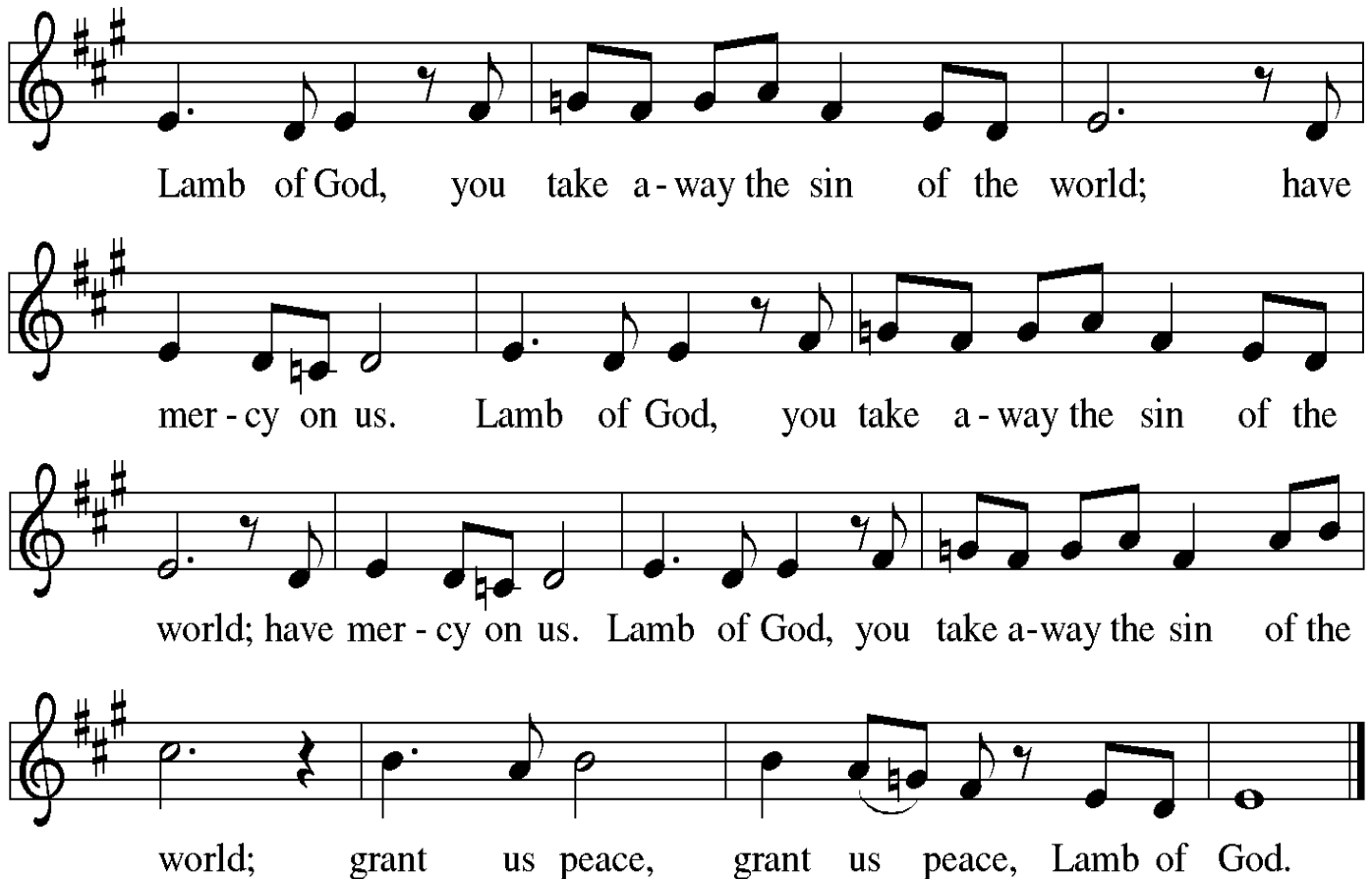
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

## 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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547

## 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

Trumpet Tune in A

Michael McCabe (b. 1941)

## In our prayers today we will remember

*Chrissy Sturtz, Donnie Whitman, Risa Blyer, Michael Jordan, Rick Theiss, Mary Ann Hinton, Dave Paul, Cheryl Lash, Jessica Swank, Mary Martin, Mary Ann Breslin, Amy White, Lindsay Mays, Errett Butler, and Theresa Eckleberry.*

## Today's Guest Artist

Violinist Ariel Clayton Karas manages and performs more than 250 events annually throughout northeast Ohio as founder and director of OPUS 216, director of Classical Revolution Cleveland, and Musician in Residence at the Cleveland Clinic.

Founded in 2012, OPUS 216 collaborates frequently with renowned organizations, including the Cleveland Museum of Art, American Greetings, Piano Cleveland, Cleveland Ballet, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and with performers for the Tri-C Jazz Fest, among others. We are so excited to host them in March as part of our Cathedral Concerts series!

As director of Classical Revolution Cleveland, Ms. Clayton Karas curates dozens of free monthly performances each year in non-traditional venues throughout northeast Ohio. Their concert series, JOIN, brings classical music to underserved audiences, including crisis shelters, juvenile detention facilities, and social service organizations.

Ms. Clayton holds both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in violin performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she also serves on the conservatory faculty.

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## Church Picnic

Mark your calendar for our annual church picnic Sunday, August 18, 2024. Join us on the church lawn after church. Chuck Richard will be providing music, and we will have lawn games. Parish Fellowship will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs and will provide drinks. Please bring a covered dish. If your last name starts with

*A-F, bring a salad or appetizer*

*G-N, bring a side dish*

*O-Z, bring a dessert.*

Bring a lawn chair if you want to be comfortable as you watch games and listen to music.

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## Upcoming American Red Cross Blood Drives

St. Paul's will be hosting a blood drive on August 26, noon-6:00.

# Capital Campaign Report

<b>Phase One Projects</b>	<b>\$337,000</b>
<b>Funds raised</b>	<b>\$288,357</b>
<b>Interest</b>	<b>\$ 5,192</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Remaining funds to be raised</b>	<b>\$ 13,451</b>

**Funds raised for Phase Two Projects      \$ 101,357**

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## Preview of next year's Concert Series

Dr. Abigail Haake, our Director of Music, is pleased to present next season's artists.

If you are interested in becoming a patron for this upcoming year, please let the office or Dr. Haake know.

### I WOULD LIKE TO BE A PATRON OF THE 2024-2025 CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Amount of Gift Included in Offering Envelope

Patron \$50+ \_\_\_\_\_

Beethoven Circle \$150+ \_\_\_\_\_

Bach Circle \$250 + \_\_\_\_\_

Conductor's Circle \$500 and over \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) for Concert Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you do NOT want to be listed in the program. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • <b>September 29th, 2024 5:00PM</b> | Singers Companye                            |
| • <b>October 6th, 2024 4:00 PM</b>   | James Kibbie, organ                         |
| • <b>November 7th, 2024 7:00 PM</b>  | Bowling Green State University Men's Chorus |
| • <b>February 23rd, 2025 4:00 PM</b> | Minnita Daniel-Cox, soprano                 |
| • <b>March 9th, 2025 4:00 PM</b>     | OPUS 216 String Quintet                     |
| • <b>May 17th, 2025 2:00 PM</b>      | Canton Symphony Orchestra Chorus            |

## **Download the St. Paul's Phone APP**

**Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the “My Church” by Pushpay. It is a free download.**

**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:**

<b>Presiding</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Kreemer</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Dr. Abigail Haake</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Kathryn Myers</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Carol Stoner</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Jackie Pritchett &amp; Greg Klein</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Dick &amp; Robin Cordes</b>
<b>Sacristy</b>	<b>Patty Long</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Jack &amp; Marilyn Norton, Karl Kalk, Craig Maurer</b>
<b>Soundboard</b>	<b>Jim Johnson</b>
<b>Video/Live-Stream</b>	<b>John Stanko</b>

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**GATHERING HYMN**                      All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly                      ELW 461  
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**HYMN OF THE DAY**                      Break Now the Bread of Life                      ELW 515  
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**SENDING HYMN**                      Sent Forth By God’s Blessing                      ELW 547  
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## Images in the Readings

The most common biblical image for divine mercy is **food**. In Genesis 1, the plants and trees that God created are given to humans as food. Ancient narratives told of God providing food during famine. The Israelites' memories of their nomadic years recalled a miraculous food, manna, which God sent to keep them alive in the wilderness. Religious rules commanded the faithful to share their food with the hungry and to abstain from eating with the wicked. Disobedience was met with the punishment of famine. The people of Israel themselves were likened to food that God had planted. Food or fast was central to all the primary religious festivals of the Old Testament. Poems described the law of God as if it is nourishing food. Christ was born in Bethlehem, which means "house of bread." In John's metaphoric theology, Christ is the bread of life. We need food to live, and Christians have each week served out the word and the sacrament as the food that Christ continues to distribute to those of us who are hungry. Christians need not wonder whether the miracle of the feeding occurred back then; it occurs each week.

**Barley** was used to make the bread of the poor. Paradoxically, the great messianic banquet serves up barley. Despite this biblical reference, most Christians have used wheat for the bread of the eucharist, and there is current debate about which other grains are appropriate for Sunday communion. The author of Ephesians might say that we are now like that barley, "rooted and grounded in love" and served up to feed the hungry.

A landed people, Jewish tradition spoke of the **sea** as a fearful place of chaos. Thus for Jesus to walk on the water shows him, like God, able to control the sea.

## Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

Taking the loaves and fishes, the Lord looked up to heaven, then blessed and broke them, giving thanks to the Father that, after the law and the prophets, he is himself become the evangelical bread. The bread is given to the apostles, because it is through them that the gifts of the divine grace are to be given. The wonder of this deed surpasses human understanding. And while often things are done which the mind can grasp but words cannot explain, in these things even the acuteness of the mind to perceive is at a loss, astonished at the very thought of the complexity of the unseen action. The substance of the loaves progressively increases, whether at the place that served for tables, or in the hand of those taking it, or in the mouth of those who ate it, I know not. The power of him who makes and surpasses all nature exceeds our understanding of what he does.

—*Hilary*

[Hilary, in *Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers*, II, 120-121.]



## All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

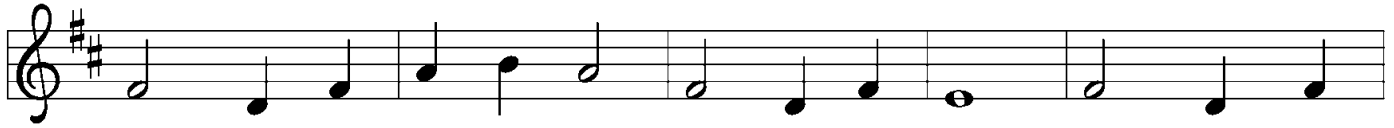
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

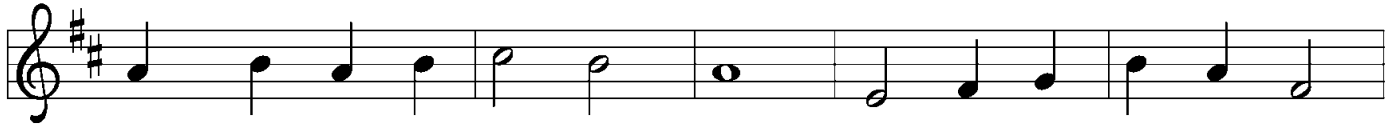
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# Break Now the Bread of Life



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

# Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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