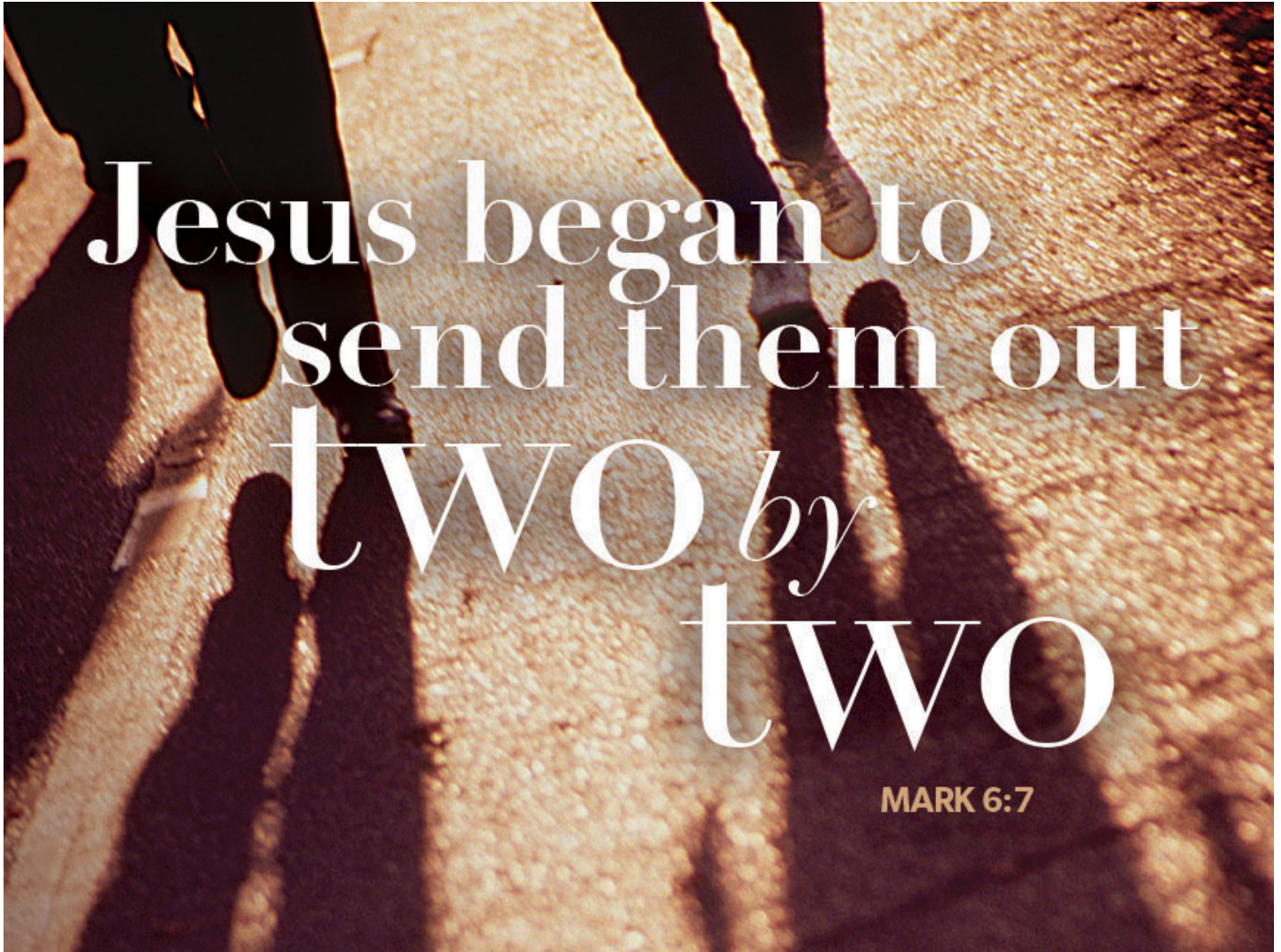


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 7th, 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 Dick and Robin Cordes in memory of Joe & Dora Chernobyl.

Today's Worship Theme

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

Readings and Psalm

Ezekiel 2:1-5

The call of Ezekiel

Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (*Ps. 123:2*)

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

God's power made perfect in weakness

Mark 6:1-13

Sending of the Twelve to preach and heal

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.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

¹ [A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.² And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." ⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, un -
til you show us your mer - cy.

¹ To you I lift | up my eyes,
to you enthroned | in the heavens.

² **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show | us your mercy. R**

³ Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough | of contempt,

⁴ **too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich,
and of the derision | of the proud. R**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

² I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³ And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵ On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶ But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷ even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹ but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

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 6:1-13

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, Our Light, Our Radiance True

ELW 675

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

Deep River
Carol Butler, cello

arr. Nigel Williams (b. 1953)

OFFERTORY



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

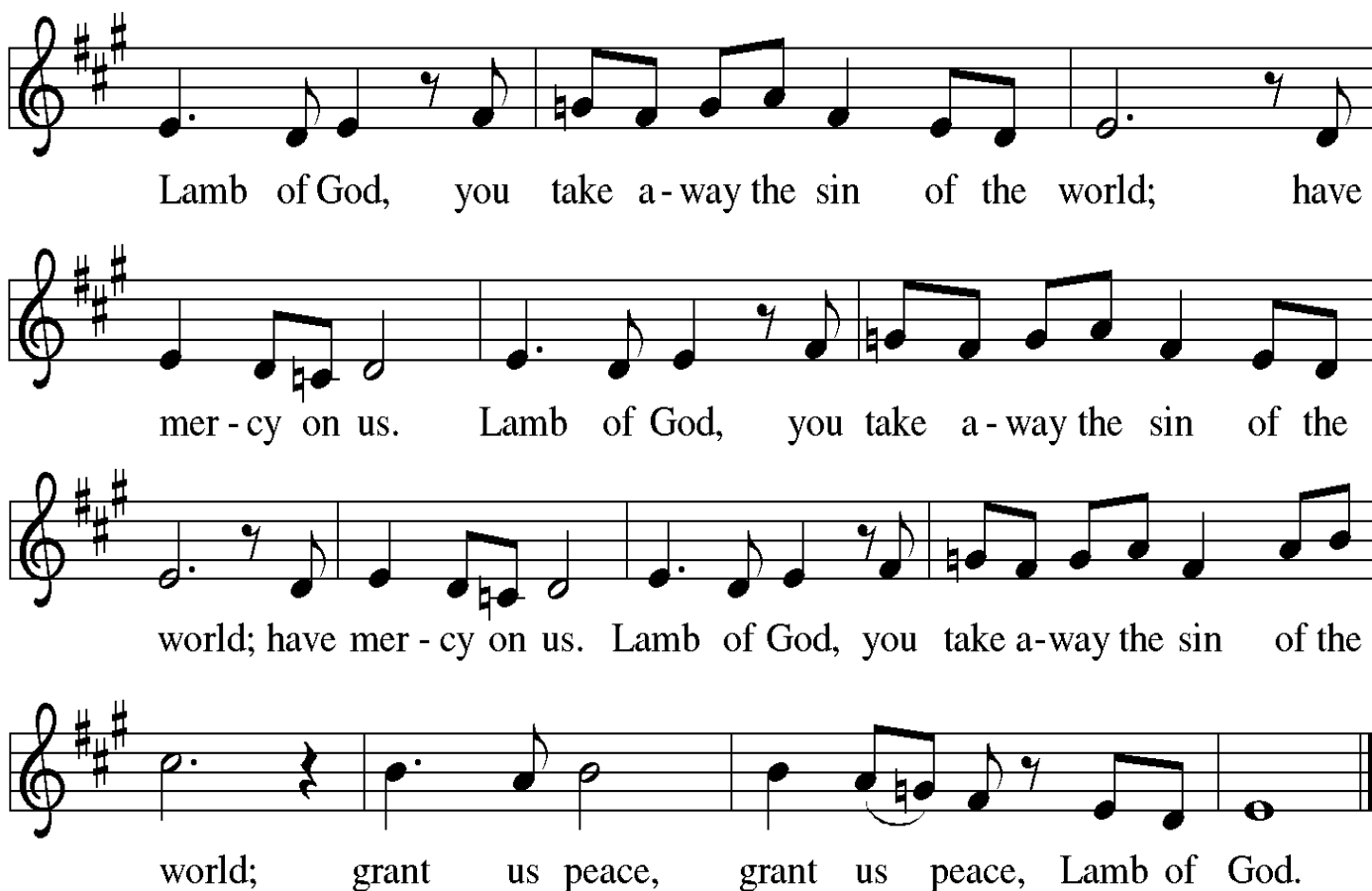
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Amazing Grace
Carol Butler, cello

arr. Wayne Fritchie (b. 1958)

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

In Christ Called to Baptize

ELW 575

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

Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata II

Mendelssohn

In our prayers today we will remember

Rick Theiss, Mary Ann Hinton, Dave Paul, Cheryl Lash, Jessica Swank, Mary Martin, Rick Theiss, Mary Ann Breslin, Joy Smith, Amy White, Lindsay Mays, Errett Butler, Theresa Eckleberry, and Jack Young.

Church Picnic

Mark your calendar 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.

Capital Campaign Report

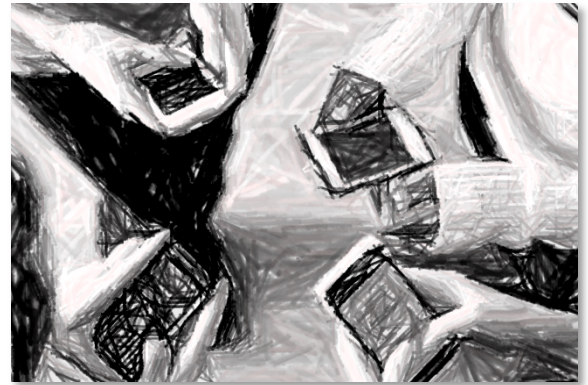
Phase One Projects	\$337,000
Funds raised	\$286,240
Interest	\$ 4,445
Building Fund	\$ 30,000
<hr/>	
Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 16,315

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.

Flowers for the altar

Please text Sue Ambrosic at 330-844-7648 if you would like to have the Altar or Throne flowers for 2024.

The cost of Altar flowers is \$40 per Sunday; the Throne flowers are \$28. You will be billed directly by Carmola's Flowers in Massillon.

Upcoming American Red Cross Blood Drives

If you are willing to give blood this spring and summer, the next blood drive at our church will be on **August 26, noon-6:00.**

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: _____

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

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Lector	Kathryn Myers
Assisting Minister	Patty Long
Communion Assistants	Dwight Butler & Cindy Lash
Greeters	Sue Ambrosic
Sacristy	Patty Long
Ushers	Jack & Marilyn Norton, Karl Kalk, Craig Maurer
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN How Firm a Foundation ELW 796
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HYMN OF THE DAY O Christ, Our Light, Our Radiance True ELW 675
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SENDING HYMN In Christ Called to Baptize ELW 575
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Images in the Readings

Going out **two by two** is an image of the companionship that is more characteristic of the church than are personal mystical visions, such as what Paul is devaluing.

That believers are sent out on a **journey** has been a beloved image throughout church life. Taking this passage literally, many missionaries have journeyed throughout the world. Christianity is a missionary religion, infused with the commission to spread the work of repentance and healing everywhere. In medieval times, a journey to a sacred shrine was sometimes ordered as penance for sin. Especially in Europe, pilgrimages are again popular. But even in one's regular secular life, the image of one's years as a journey remains important for many people. For Christians, the journey through life to death is always a journey with and toward God.

Our translations of the New Testament include three occurrences of the term **paradise**: this account of Paul's mystical vision, Jesus' words to the thief on the cross, and the location of the tree of life at the end of time. The Greek word, a loan word from Old Persian, means an enclosed garden and came into Jewish vocabulary during the exile. The Old Testament and intertestamental literature include many poetic references to such a royal garden as a symbol for the people's perfect life with God.

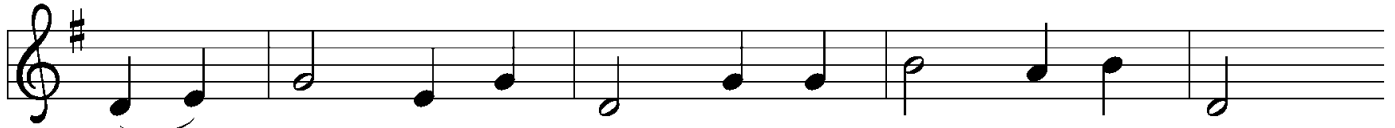
Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

If we are going to take very seriously the message of the Bible—the release of captives, liberty to the oppressed; if we are going to try to obey the word of the prophets and of Jesus Christ and the testimony of the early church—we are going to run into trouble. We are going to be involved in Christ's work, which is world-judging, world-condemning, world-transforming. This may bring to us not only unpopularity among our friends, family, and churches, but probably some things that are more costly. So, we should not enter into discipleship unless we are willing to pay the price, to pay the cost with the spirit of the joy which is grounded on the promises of God himself. Not only on the promises written in the Bible, but the promises of many Christians “written” in their experience of a living hope which is born from an encounter with a living God and with a whole host of witnesses in the Christian community through the centuries and around the world today.

—*Beatriz Melano Couch*

[Beatriz Melano Couch, *Women and the Word: Sermons*, ed. Helen Gray Crotwell (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1978), 122.]

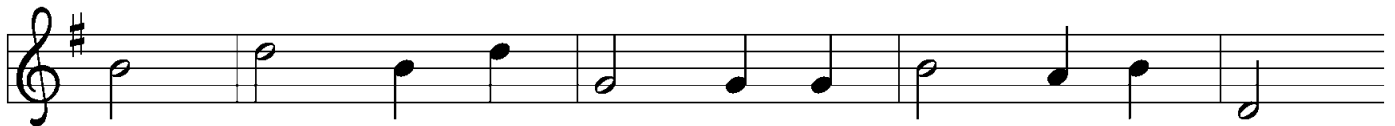
How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;




What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,




who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

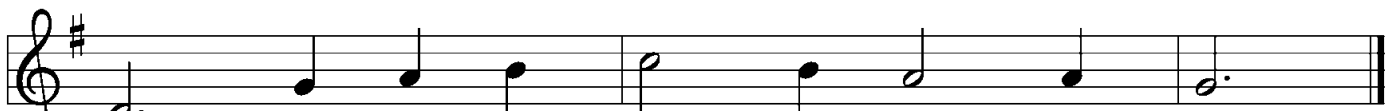
O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True



1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
 3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
 4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
 5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,



those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
 lost in er - ror's maze. Set free all those whose hearts and
 way the need - less fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
 oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
 ev - er to re - joice with wond - 'ring grat - i - tude and



gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
 minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and binds.
 press the faith their in - most hearts con - fess.
 sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
 praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite
 Music: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT, *Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1676
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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In Christ Called to Baptize



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press

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