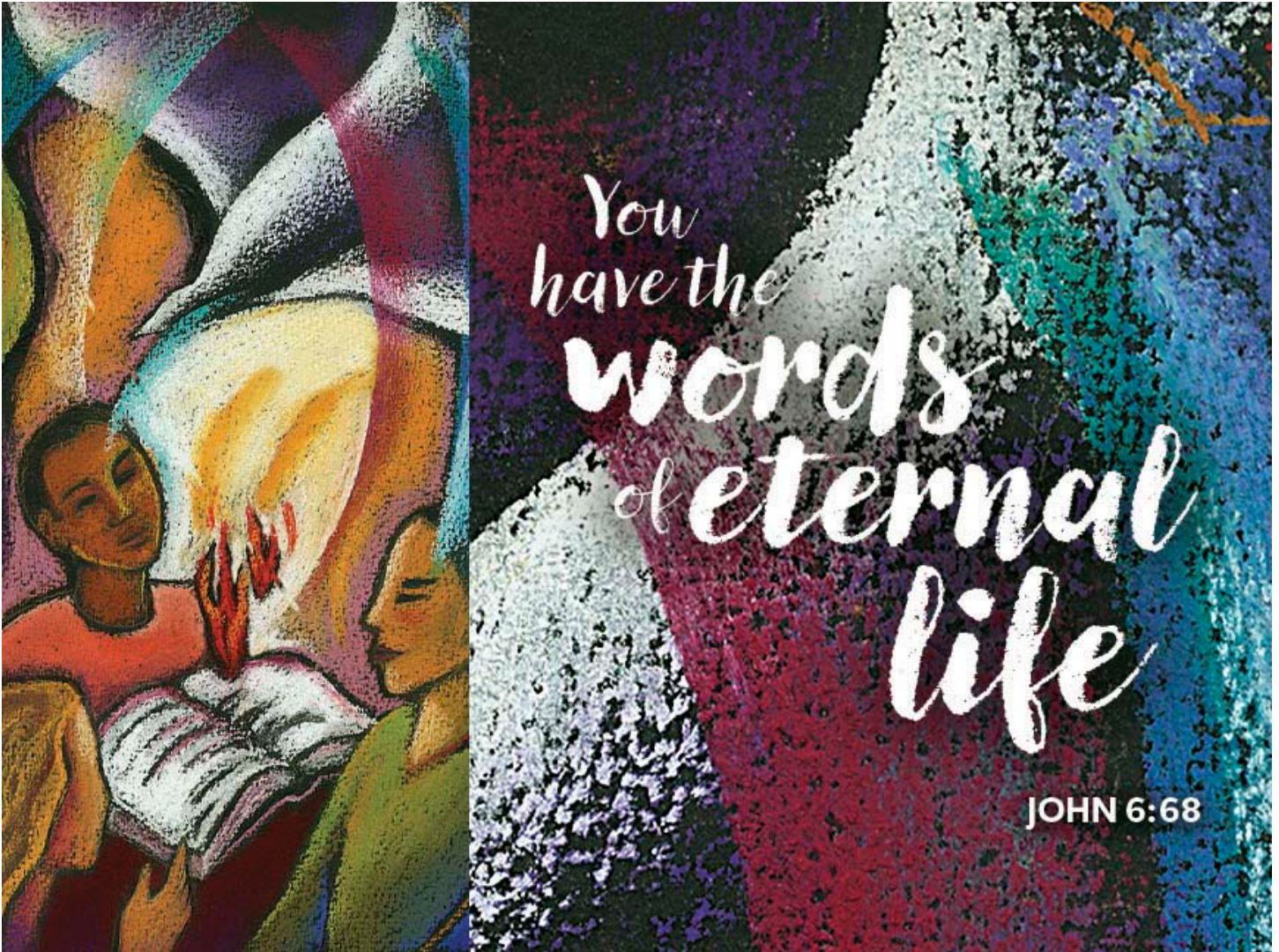


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 25<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 Peg Gibbs to the glory of God.

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

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

### **Readings and Psalm**

#### **Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18**

*Joshua calls all Israel to serve the LORD*

#### **Psalm 34:15-22**

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (*Ps. 34:15*)

#### **Ephesians 6:10-20**

*Put on the armor of God*

#### **John 6:56-69**

*The bread of eternal life*



*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## ALLELUIA VERSE

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

## GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*Rev. Mark Kreemer*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

O Word of God Incarnate

ELW 514

## **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**

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need

*After each petition the following response is given:*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.  
**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **ANTHEM**

It Is Well with My Soul  
Mrs. Kreemer, mezzo soprano

arr. Lloyd Larson (b. 1954)



## OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

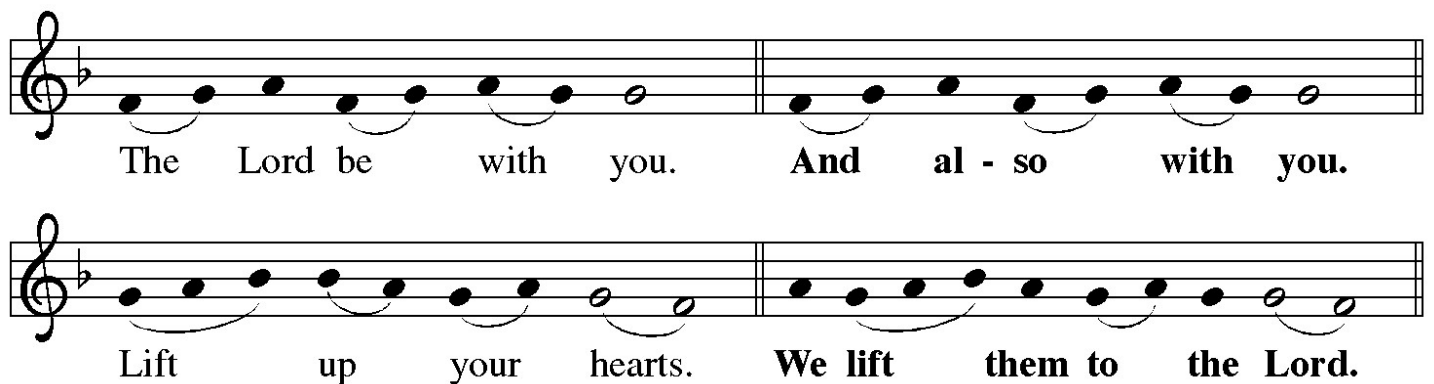
## OFFERING PRAYER

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 al-so 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 - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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.

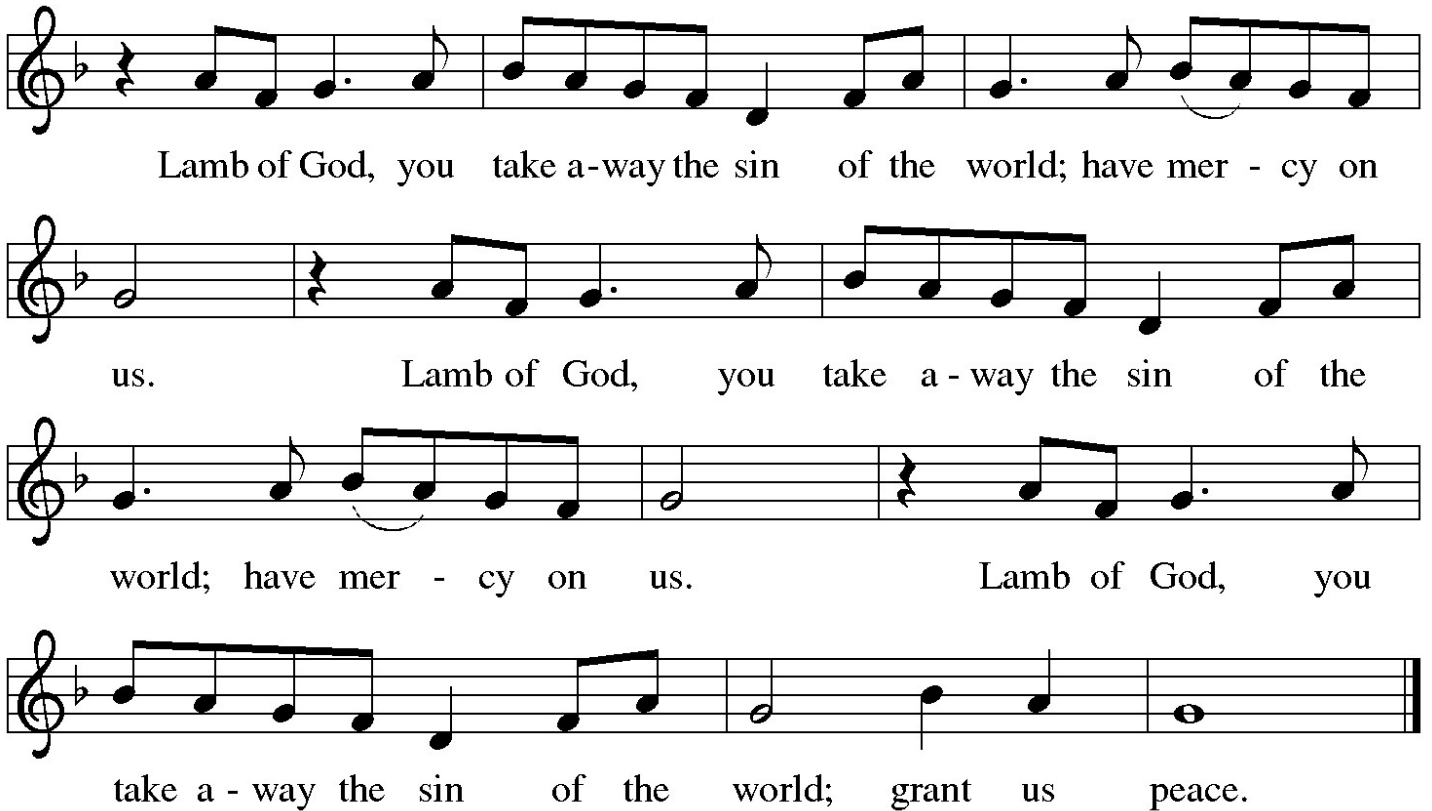
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

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.

**Communion**      Communion Meditation on UBI CARITAS      Larry Visser (b. 1962)

## 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**

You Are the Way

ELW 758

## 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**

Blessed Assurance

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

## **In our prayers today we will remember**

*Karl Kalk, Ariane Roberts, Shane Reed, 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, Theresa Eckleberry, Michael Jordan, Chris Collard, and Bobbee DeGordon.*

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## **Chancel Choir to start up for fall**

Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 will be the first rehearsal for the Chancel Choir. The choir meets every Wednesday evening upstairs in the Parish Hall.

## **Save the Dates for Bell Choir**

Bell choir rehearsals will resume September 25, October 2, and October 9  
in preparation to ring October 13

AND

November 20, December 4, and December 11 in preparation to ring December 15!

## Capital Campaign Report

<b>Remaining Phase One Projects</b>	<b>\$377,000</b>
<b>Funds raised</b>	<b>\$298,334</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Remaining funds to be raised</b>	<b>\$ 78,666</b>

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### Adult Sunday School

Let's Start at the Beginning!

God saw everything that he made, and indeed, it was very good. (Genesis 1:31)

We will begin our new series this fall with a study of key stories from the book of Genesis. Some of these stories will be more familiar than others, but all will clearly show that God makes and keeps promises that reflect God's abundant love and grace for all creation. The class meets on Sundays at 11:30, beginning September 8th, upper level of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access. Please consider joining us!

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### Thursday Bible Study

**Beginning September 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am**

During the month of September, we will finish *The Women of the Bible* by Max Lucado.

**Starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>**, we will begin a new study titled *The Grace of Les Misérables*. Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* is a truly epic story. Whether you've tackled the 1,400-page 19<sup>th</sup> century novel, witnessed the Broadway musical (and memorized its soundtrack), or seen the several screen adaptations of it, you already know the power of its story.

In the six-week study *The Grace of Les Misérables*, author and pastor Matt Rawle dives into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world.

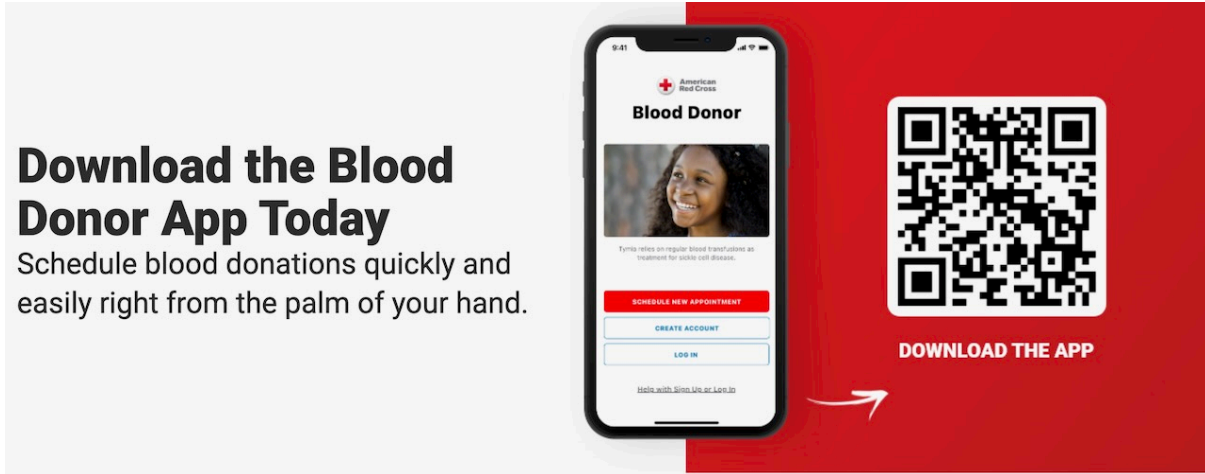
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### Movie Night

**Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> 4:00 pm** *Les Misérables, the Musical*, starring Hugh Jackman, Anne Hathaway, and Russell Crowe. Come and enjoy this wonderful adaptation of the Broadway Musical. There will be pizza, soda, and other snacks.

# Upcoming American Red Cross Blood Drives

St. Paul's will be hosting a blood drive on August 26, noon-6:00.  
Search on redcross.org by putting in area code 44646 to sign up for available times to give.  
Or, better yet, download the app.



**Download the Blood Donor App Today**  
Schedule blood donations quickly and easily right from the palm of your hand.

**DOWNLOAD THE APP**

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## The 2024-2025 Concert Series

Dr. Abigail Haake, our Director of Music, is pleased to present this season's artists.  
Please consider becoming a patron for this upcoming year.

### 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>Larry &amp; Kim Oberlin</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Kathryn Myers</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Patty Long &amp; Gary Collard</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Craig Maurer</b>
<b>Sacristy</b>	<b>Sandi Bennett</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Sue Ambrosic, Patty Long Becky Johnson, &amp; Sue Reid</b>
<b>Soundboard</b>	<b>Jim Johnson</b>
<b>Video/Live-Stream</b>	<b>John Stanko</b>

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<b>HYMN OF THE DAY</b> Public Domain	O Word of God Incarnate	ELW 514
<b>SENDING HYMN</b> Public Domain	You Are the Way	ELW 758



## Lead On, O King Eternal!



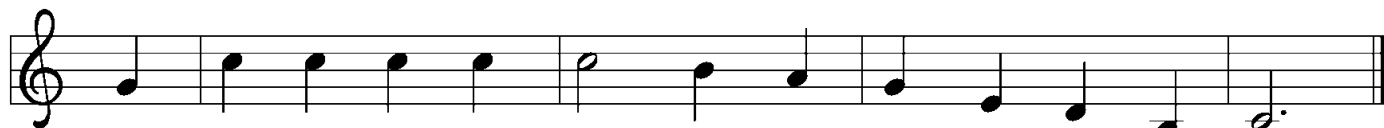
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,  
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

## O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;  
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:  
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.  
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,  
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,  
oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.  
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

# You Are the Way



- 1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
- 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615