

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
SUNDAY October 27th, 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 Hannum Family in memory of Jeremy and the best parents.

The **throne flowers** are given by Mary Ann & Russ Poling in honor of all caregivers.

Introduction

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Readings and Psalm

Jeremiah 31:31-34

I will write my law in their hearts, says the LORD

Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (*Ps. 46:7*)

Romans 3:19-28

Justified by God's grace as a gift

John 8:31-36

Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth

Today's Hymns from The Tower
The Westminster Strike
Welcome and Announcements

Church Carillon

Prelude

Fanfare and Processional in D
Camarada Brass Quintet

Jeremy J. Bankson (b. 1975)

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, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

O God Beyond All Praising

ELW 880

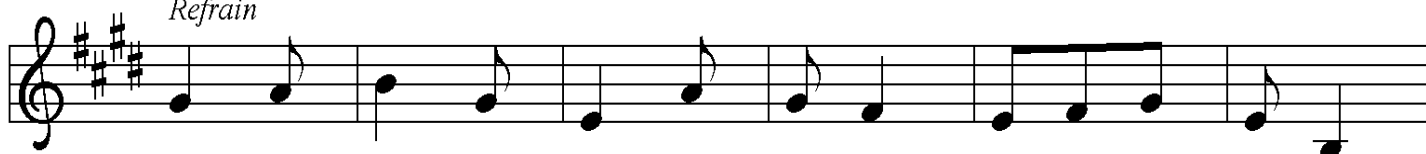
GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the
God of Ja - cob is our strong - hold.

¹ God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**

³ though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away. R**

⁷ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold. **R**

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of

God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

After each petition the following response is given:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory Anthem:

Foundation
Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

OFFERING

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

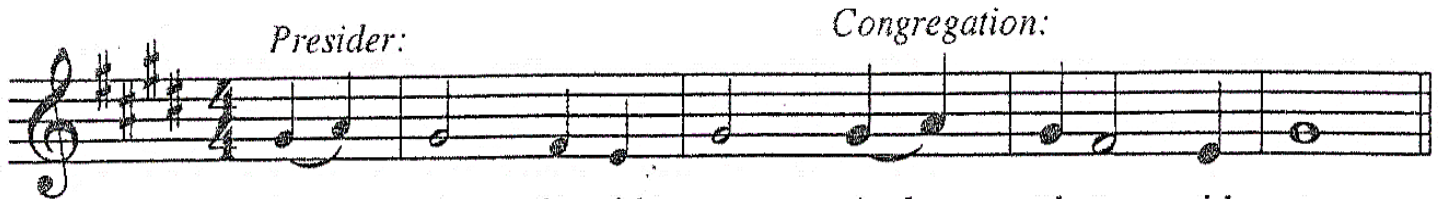
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*



The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... we pray for His coming again even as we cry...

Presider: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Congregation:



A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.
 A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray... And your whole creation...

Presider: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

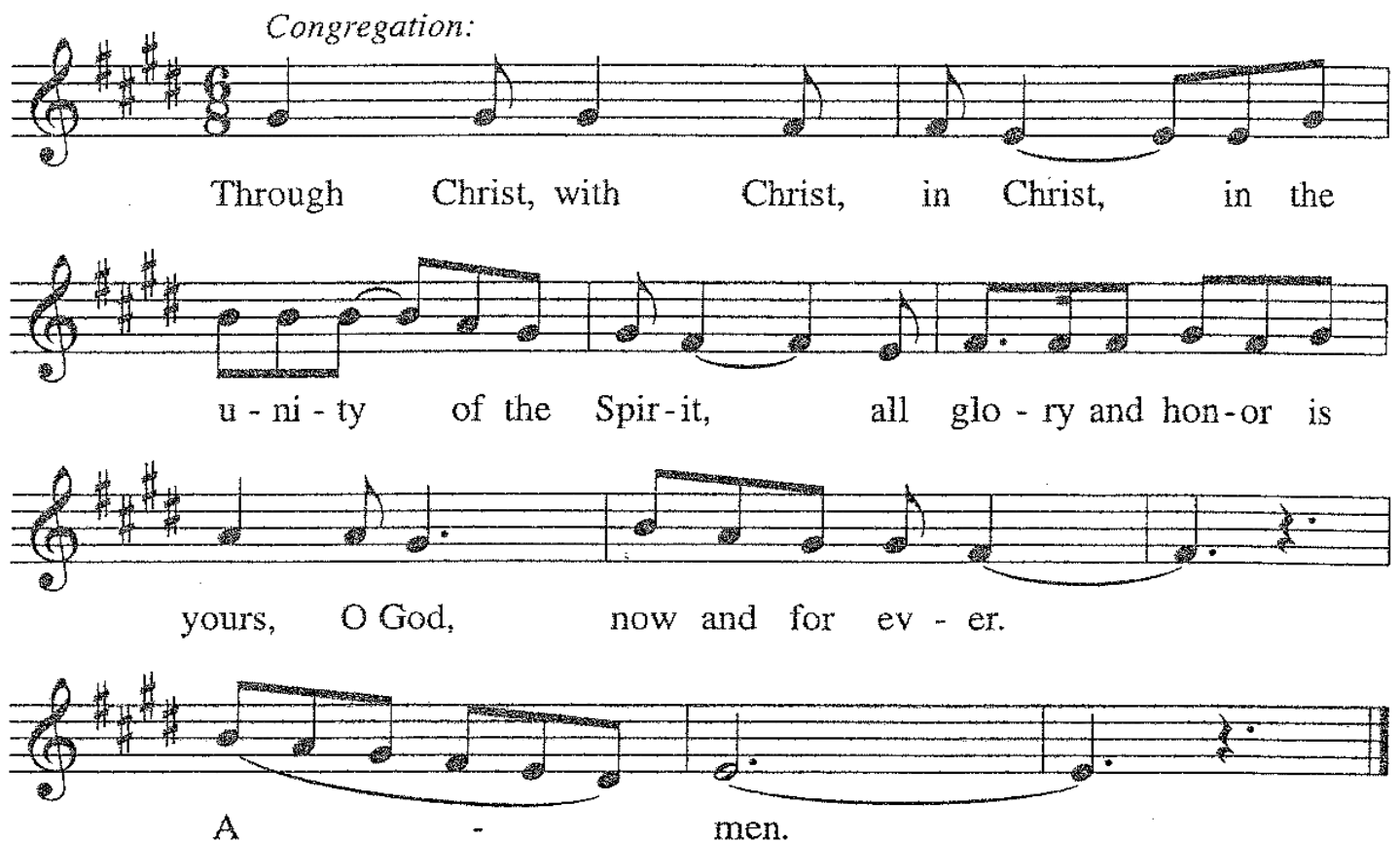


A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.

Congregation:



Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the

u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is

yours, O God, now and for ev - er.

A - men.

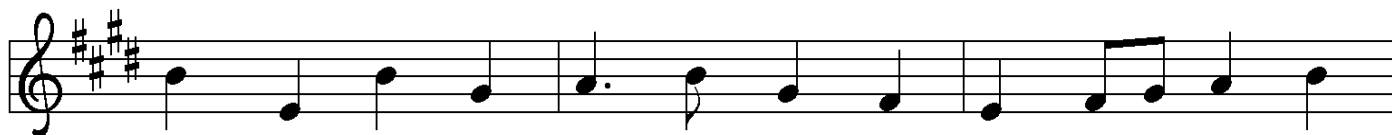
LORD'S PRAYER

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

**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;**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

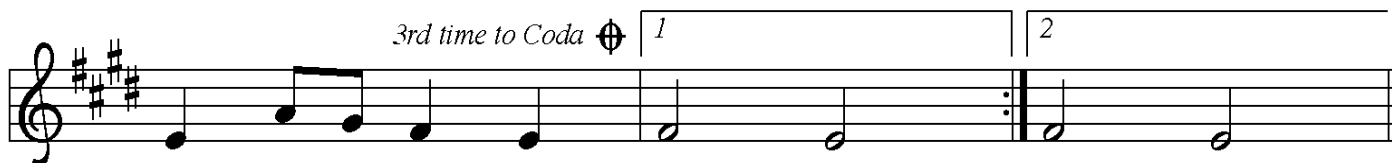
May the body and blood of our lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.



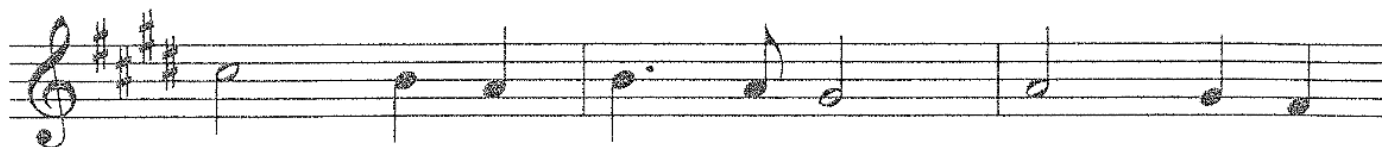
1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



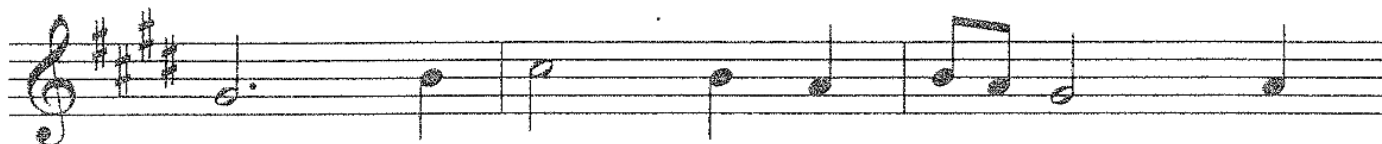
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



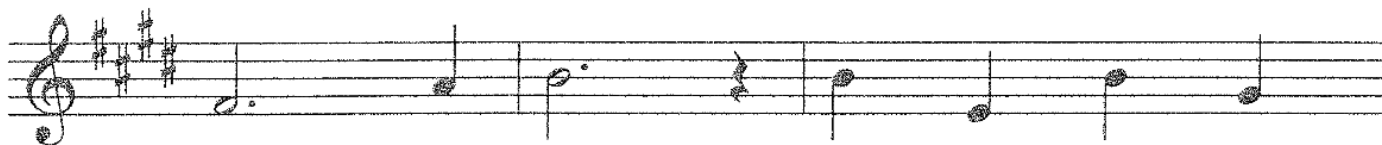
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for -



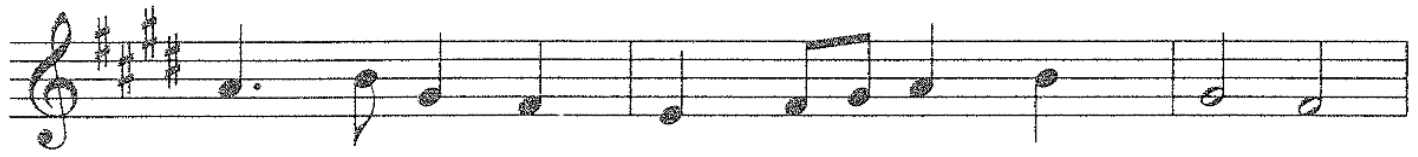
Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



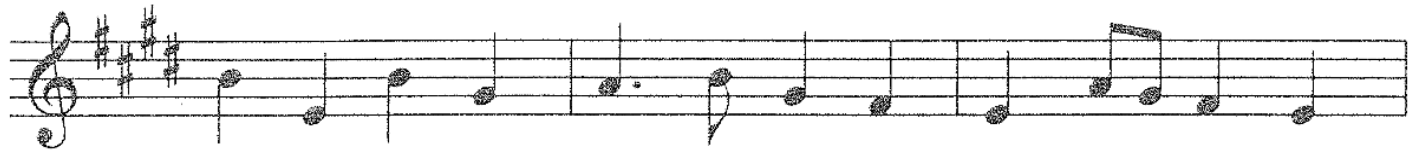
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of



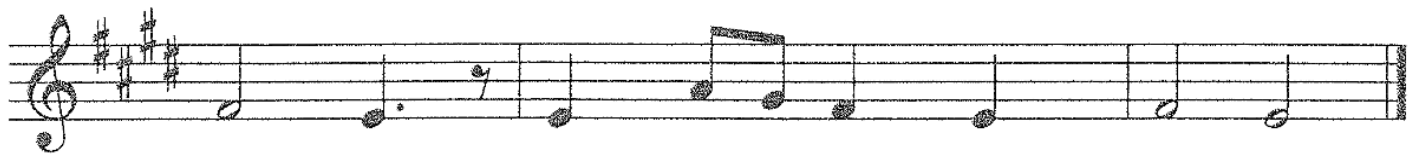
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Now Thank We All Our God from Cantata 79

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Camarada Brass Quintet

In our prayers today we will remember

Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Mark King, Sue Rodgers, Rick Theiss, Becky Myers, Jeanne Tidwell, Jim Loveday, Rosemary Stephen, Ariane Roberts, Shane Reed, Chrissy Sturtz, Donnie Whitman, Risa Blyer, Michael Jordan, Mary Ann Hinton, Mary Martin.



Musical Thank You to the Camarada Brass Quintet:

Jeff Huston-Trumpet I, Chris Hall-Trumpet II, Phil Tryon-French Horn, Roger Hall-Trombone, Jonathon Stuck-Tuba



Save the Dates for Bell Choir

Consider joining for rehearsals on November 20, December 4, and December 11 in preparation to ring December 15!



Special Congregational Meeting, November 3

A special meeting of the St. Paul's congregation is being called by Church Council for **Sunday, November 3**, to be held in the church sanctuary following the worship service. The meeting will include proposals for much needed repair work to the flat roof of the church, as well as masonry repairs on the exterior of the church building. Please plan to attend this important meeting. Thank you!



Adult Sunday School Class

The Origin of Evil and the Love of God

He does not deal with us according to our sins...For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love....(Psalm 103:10a, 11a)

We continue in the book of Genesis with both the origin of our sinfulness and the extravagance of God's love and grace. From Adam and Eve to Cain and Abel, we will see God at work, fulfilling God's divine purpose for all humanity. Please consider joining us for this important study of God's redemptive story. The class meets on Sundays at 11:30, upper floor Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience.

Thursday Bible Study

The Grace of Les Misérables

We will continue our 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 19th 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.



Art Display by Peg Gibbs starting Sunday November 3

Join us for a new Art Display with photos by Peg Gibbs. The display will be up for us to see Sunday, November 3, in the Welcome Center.



Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$377,000
Funds raised	\$302,159
<hr/>	
Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 74,841

Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram

Search “*Massillon Lutheran Churches*”

Facebook

Search “*St Paul’s Lutheran Church in Massillon*”

Search “*Cathedral Concerts at St Paul’s*”



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: _____

- **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



Paragon Brass Ensemble with Organ

**Sunday, November 3, at 4 pm, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect Street,
Akron, OH.**

Our organist Dr. Abigail Haake joins this brass quintet for a captivating concert.

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.



Lutheran Disaster Response: Hurricane Helene

Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a devastating Category 4 hurricane and moved inland as a tropical storm through the southeastern United States. Millions are without power as heavy rains continue to fall, causing dangerous flooding and landslides, as well as downed trees and power lines.

Wherever this storm goes, Lutheran Disaster Response will be there.



Scan the QR code to give today.

By giving to Lutheran Disaster Response, you make it possible for the ELCA to act quickly after disasters such as Hurricane Helene and remain for as long as the recovery takes.



Sign up to help with BGSU concert:

Thank you to those who offered to house students or sponsor hotel rooms for the students visiting for their November 7th concert. Carol will be by the poster at the end of service if you still need to turn in your check. Make it payable to St. Paul's with the memo of "BGSU hotel." There are a couple of rooms available for sponsorship if you would still like to donate. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

Christmas Food Baskets

St. Paul's will collect nonperishable food and miscellaneous items for our Community Meal families to be given for Christmas at our Community Meal on Friday, December 13.

- Oct. 20 Tea and Coffee
- Oct. 27 Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Nov. 3 Canned Soups and Pork 'n Beans
- Nov. 10 Cereal and Mixes (cake, brownie, muffins)
- Nov. 17 Canned fruits and Vegetables
- Nov. 24 Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta, Instant Potatoes
- Dec. 1 Paper Products (paper towels, toilet paper)
- Dec. 8 Bar Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush



Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Lector	Myers Family
Assisting Minister	Patty Long
Communion Assistants	Dennis Morgan & Kathryn Myers
Greeter	Craig Maurer
Sacristy	Lynda Klein
Ushers	Jack & Marsha Fortune, Shane Jackson, John Liebermann
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN O God Beyond All Praising ELW 880

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HYMN OF THE DAY The Church's One Foundation ELW 654

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SENDING HYMN A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW 504

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O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be - yond all prais - ing, we wor - ship you to - day
 2 The flow'r of earth - ly splen - dor in time must sure - ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can - not re - pay;
 its frag - ile bloom sur - ren - der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
 but hid - den from all na - ture the e - ter - nal seed is sown—
 and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless - ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
 though small in mor - tal stat - ure, to heav - en's gar - den grown:
 we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav - en, from death has set us free,
 to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,



we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
 and we through him are giv - en the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

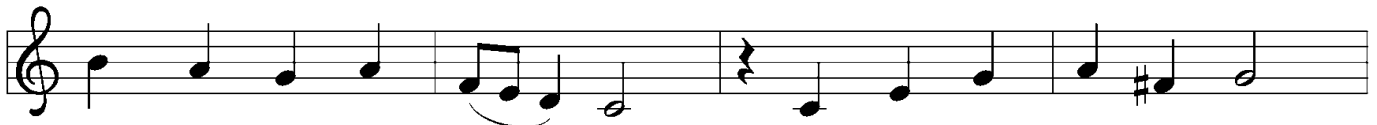
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



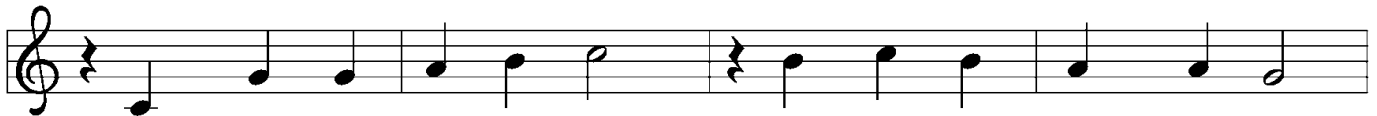
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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