

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
SUNDAY November 10th, 2024



She put in
everything
she had, all she had
to live on MARK 12:44

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 Carol Stoner in honor of her son Todd's birthday.

Introduction

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

Readings and Psalm

1 Kings 17:8-16

God feeds Elijah and the widow at Zarephath

Psalm 146

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)

Hebrews 9:24-28

The once for all sacrifice of Christ

Mark 12:38-44

A widow's generosity reveals the hypocrisy of the scribes

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

Church Carillon

Prelude

Song of Peace

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

A Litany for Veterans

On this day, we remember those who have served in our armed forces

Pause for silent reflection

Prince of Peace, even as we pray for an end to war,

**We give thanks for our soldiers' courage, for their love of country,
and for their work to bring peace to our world.**

Healer of All, bind up the wounds of all who have served

Show us how to comfort those who are hurting.

Merciful God, all suffer the cost of war.

**We remember widows and widowers, orphans,
and all those separated from those they love.**

We pray, Gracious God,

that swords will be turned into plowshares and that peace will reign.

**We give thanks for all who have served. Shield from danger those who bravely
protect us. With them, may we glory not in war, but in your love and righteousness.
Strengthen us to be your peacemakers in the world. Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

GREETING

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

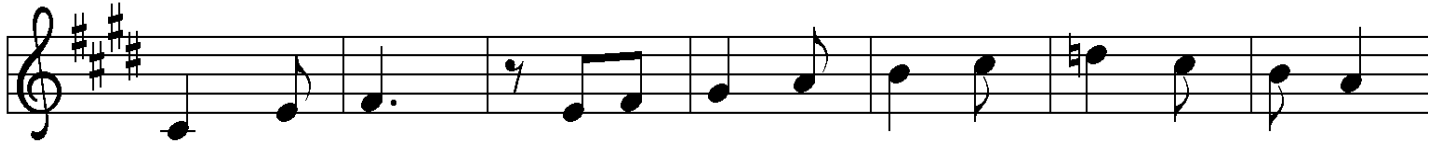
And also with you.

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

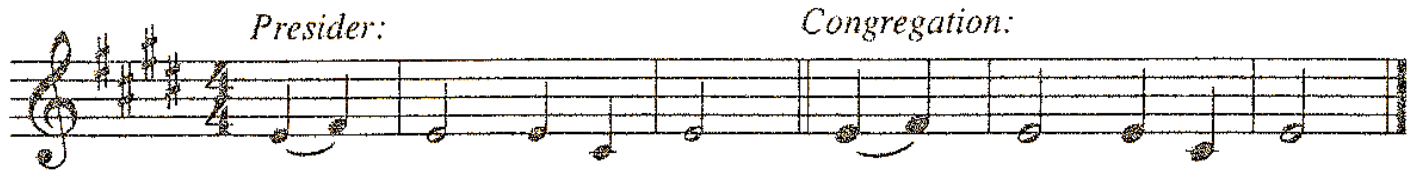


3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



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

Let us pray.

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸ The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹ “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰ So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” ¹¹ As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹² But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³ Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” ¹⁵ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶ The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

²⁴ Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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: Mark 12:38-44

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸ As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰ They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins,

which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

ELW 678

NICENE 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.**

*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God’s abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

After each petition the following response is given:
Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

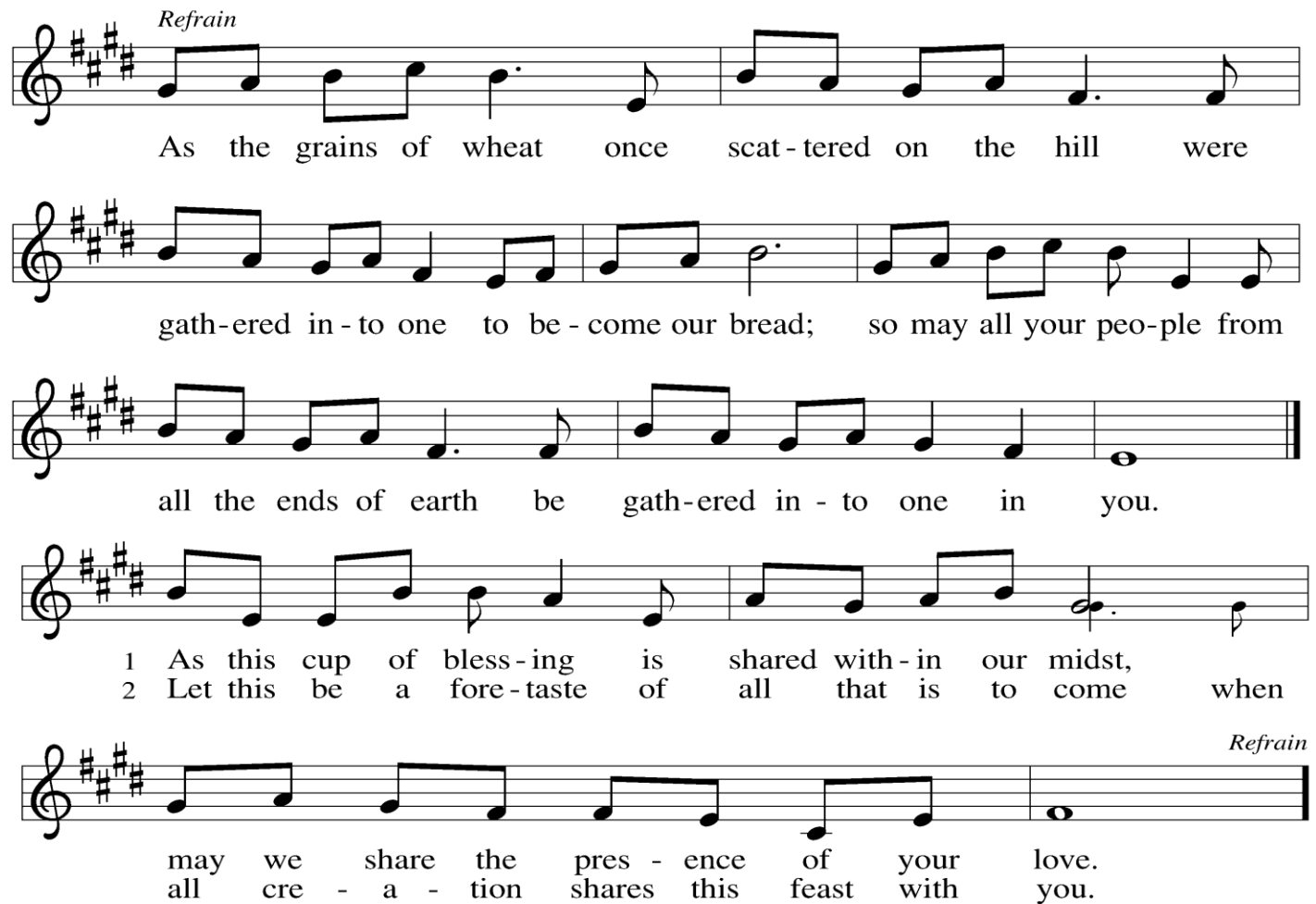
Offertory Anthem:

Consecration
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.

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **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:

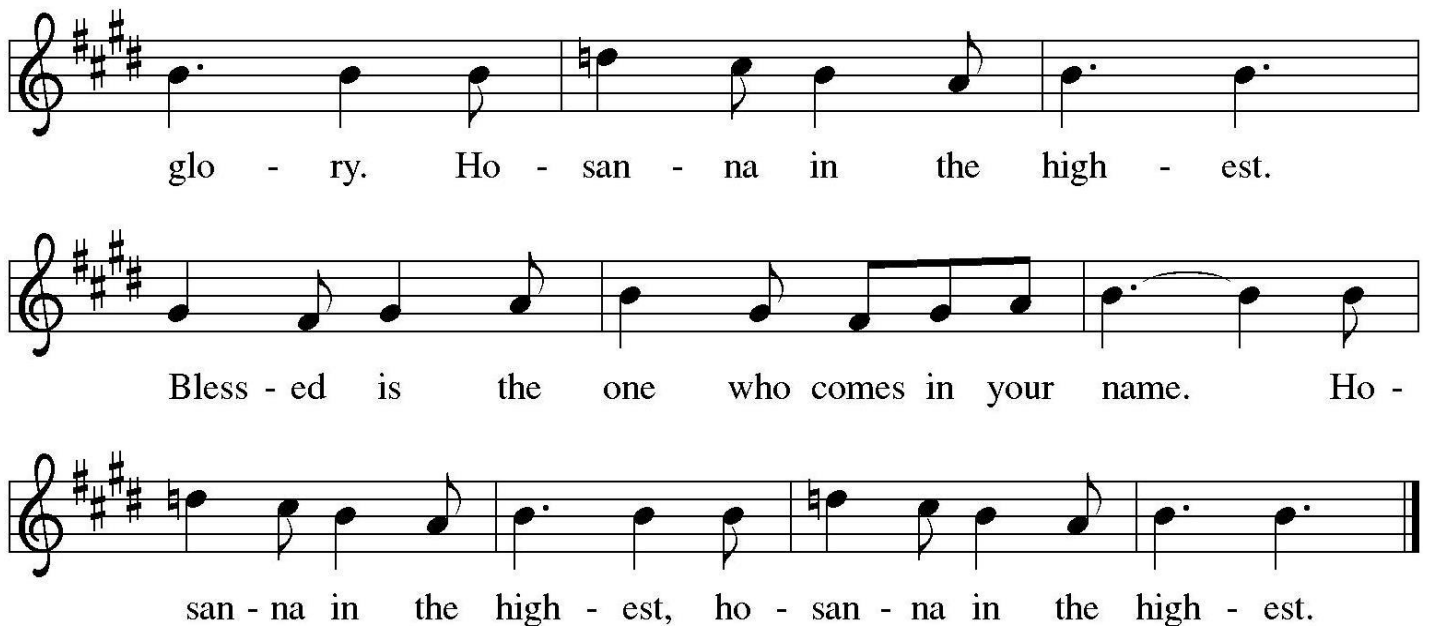
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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:

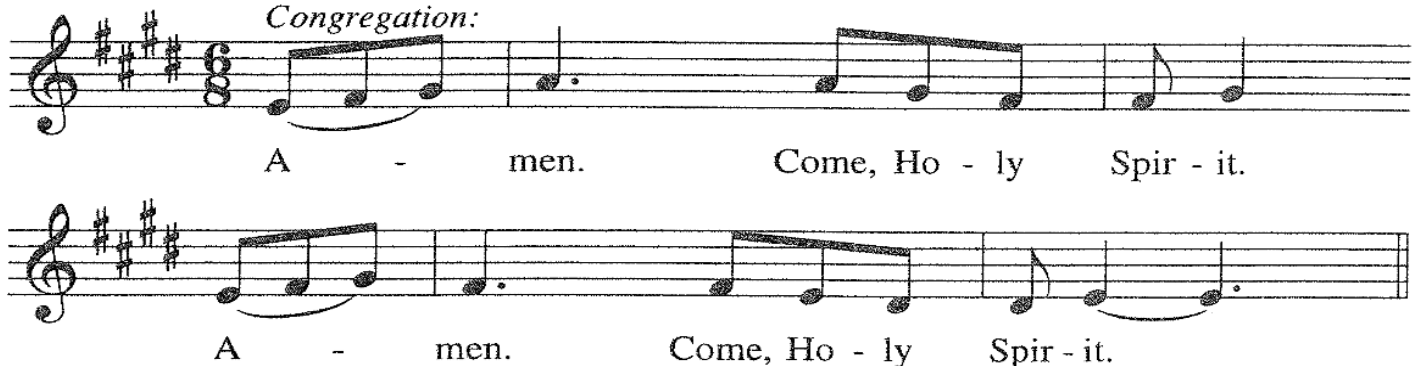


A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.
 A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

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;
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

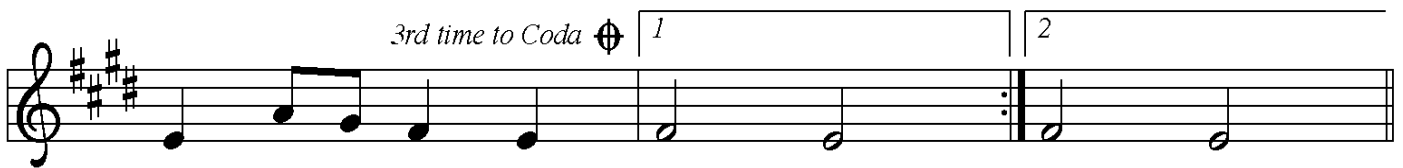
Behold, God is making all things new.
Take your place in the new creation.



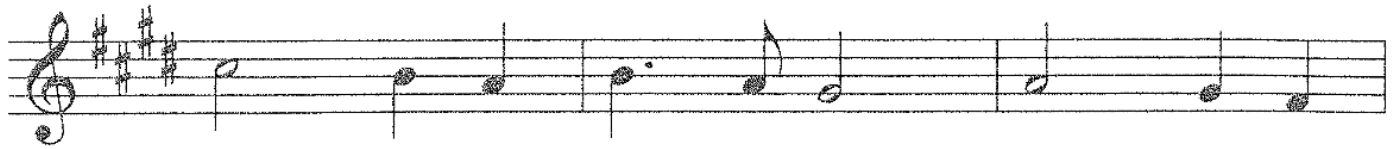
1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



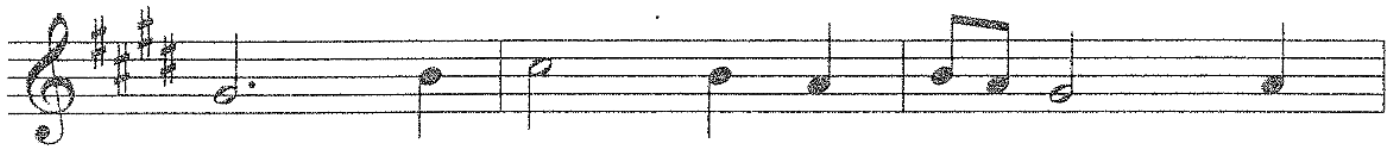
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



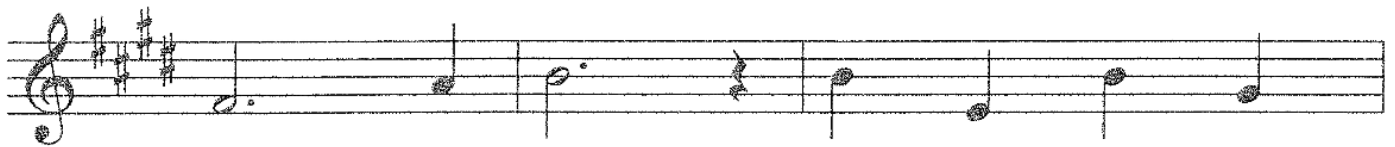
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



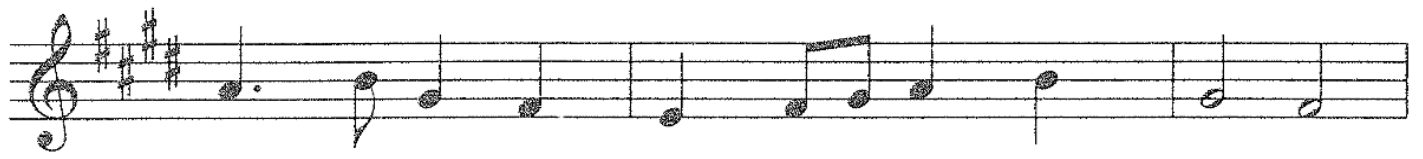
Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



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.

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434

BLESSING

The Ancient One, enthroned,
the Crucified One, now risen,
the Indwelling One, poured out,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Postlude on National Airs

Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

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.*



Save the Dates for Bell Choir

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



Adult Sunday School Class

A Grace-Filled Promise

But Noah found favor in the sight of the Lord. (Genesis 6:8)

The familiar story of Noah and the flood reminds us of God's very first covenant. In response to the sinfulness of humankind, God communicates enduring principles of his grace and forgiveness as well as expectations for righteous living. Join us as we continue our study of Genesis. We meet together on Sundays at 11:30, the third floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access.



Thursday Bible Study

The Grace of Les Misérables

Starting October 3rd, 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 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.

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*”



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

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.



The 2024-2025 Concert Series

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

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: _____

- **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 all our patrons who have given so generously. We're looking forward to the second half of our concert season in the new year.



The Salvation Army Christmas Tree Tags

The Salvation Army Christmas Tree Tags will be available on Sunday, November 24 in the Gleitsman Lounge. These tags are for choosing children to buy Christmas gifts.



Art Show in Gleitsman Lounge

Come see the beautiful photos by Peg Gibbs in the lounge. You can purchase pictures for \$25 to be picked up at the end of the show.

Music in December

On December 1, the Firestone CCLC Madrigals will return to our morning worship service.



December 1 is also the annual Community Candlelight Walk from 5-7:30. St. Paul's will feature vocal and instrumental soloists and several pieces from the Chancel Choir.

December 24, Christmas Eve services:

7 pm—Family Service and special solo music

10:00 pm: Camarada Brass, special music by the Chancel Choir



Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Lector	Patty Long
Assisting Minister	Scott Larson
Communion Assistants	Dwight Butler & Cindy Lash
Greeter	Sue Ambrosic
Sacristy	Kathryn Myers
Ushers	John & Jennifer Stanko Chuck Richards, Mike Skelly
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN O Beautiful for Spacious Skies ELW 888
Public Domain

Congregational Song This Is My Song (verses 1 & 3) ELE 887
Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #A-734490. All rights reserved

HYMN OF THE DAY God Whose Giving Knows No Ending ELW 678
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SENDING HYMN Jesus Shall Reign ELW 434
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O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit-ed plain:
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929

Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

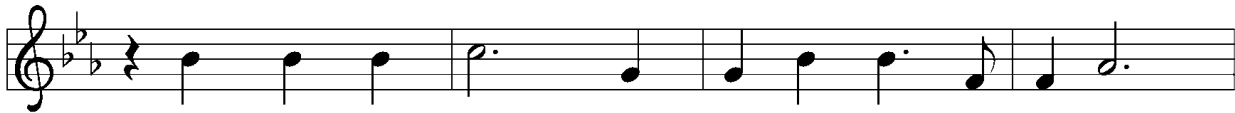
This Is My Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912–1993, sts. 1–2; Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, st. 3

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957

Text sts. 1–2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company, st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

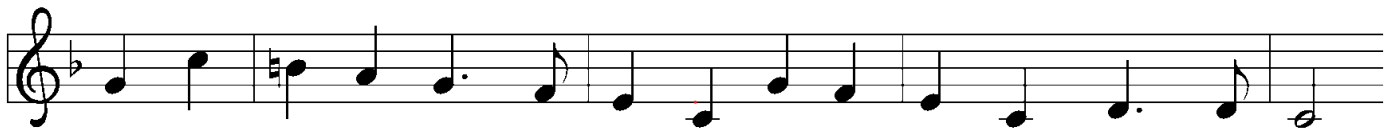
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God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



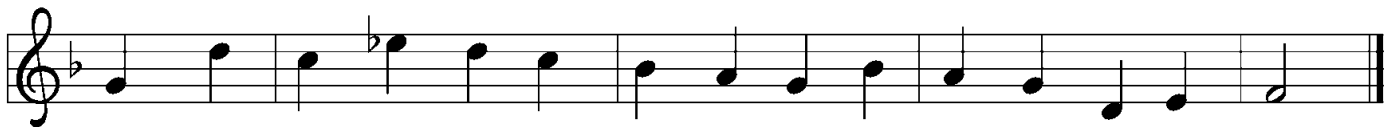
- 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

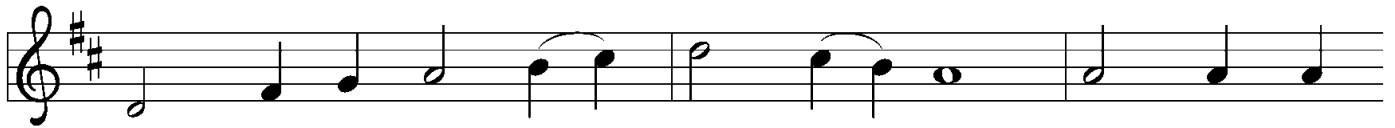
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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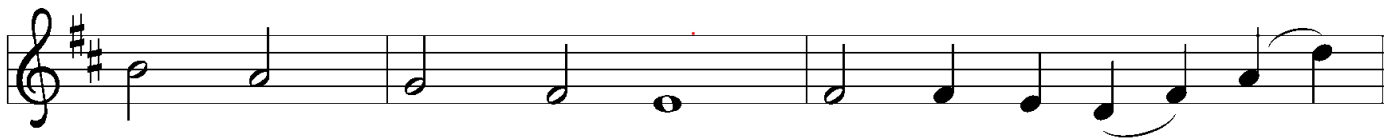
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Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793