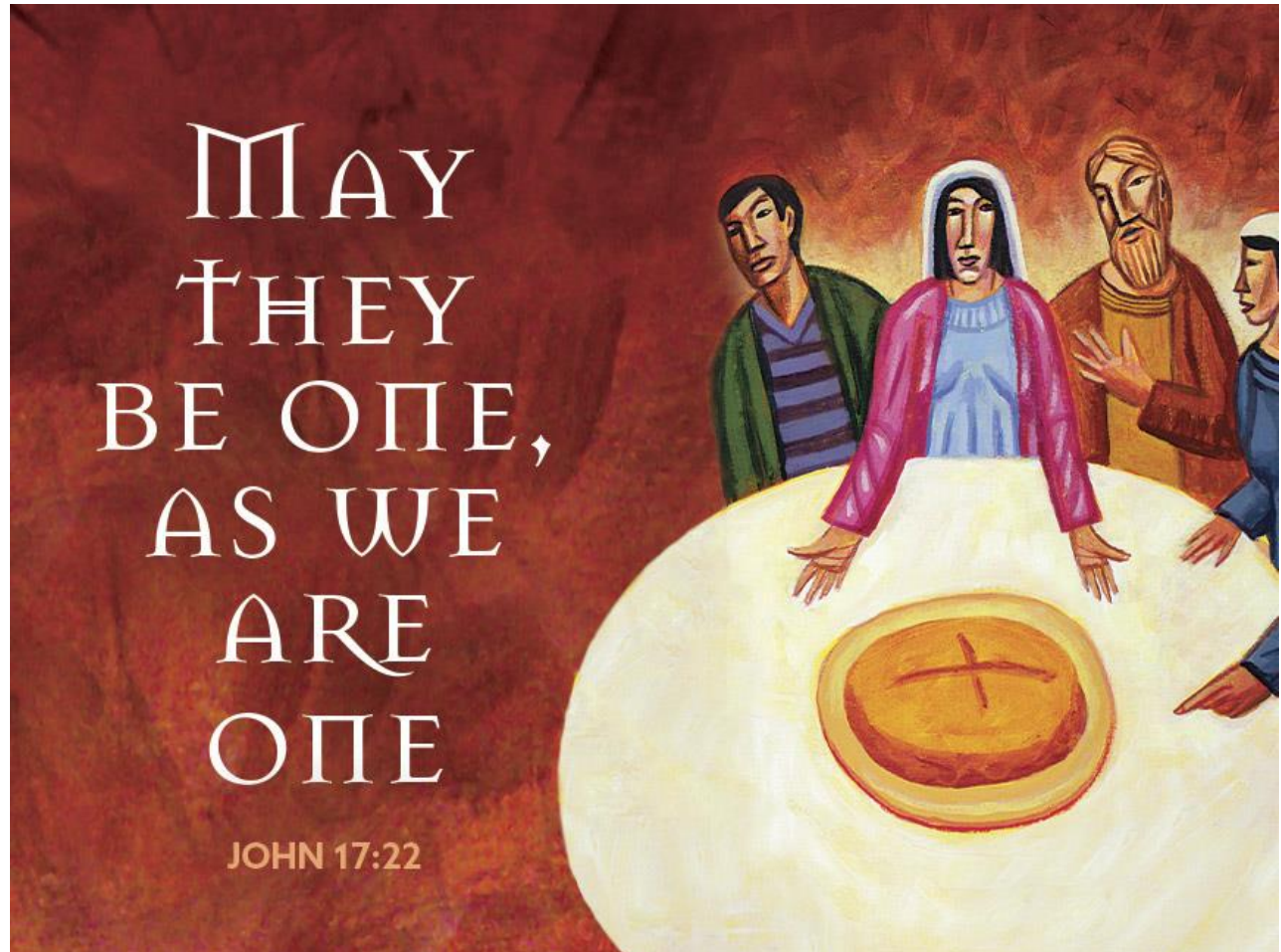


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

June 1st, 2025



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 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 Dennis Morgan to the Glory of God.
The **Throne Flowers** were given by Carol Stoner in memory of Bill Clark.

Introduction

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 16:16-34

While in prison, Paul speaks to the jailer, who is then baptized.

Psalm 97

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous. (Ps. 97:12)

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Blessed are those who wash their robes.

John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the disciples will be one and abide in his love.

In our prayers today we will remember

Jerry Sturtz, Judy Hall, Richard Green, Tina Cotopolis, Izabella Edwards, Randy Balder, Jessica Cascera, Chad Beyington, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Michael Jordan, and Bobbee DeGordon.

Today's Hymns from the Tower

Prelude: Fanfare on St. George's Windsor

Church Carillon
Alfred Fedak (b. 1953)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693

GREETING

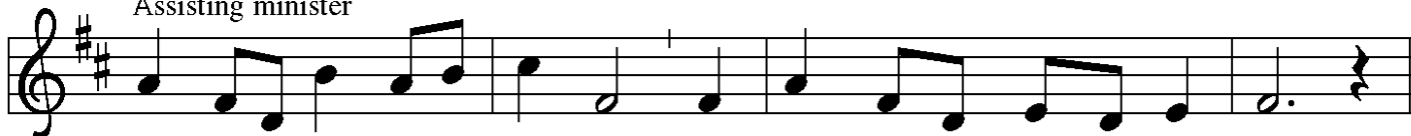
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



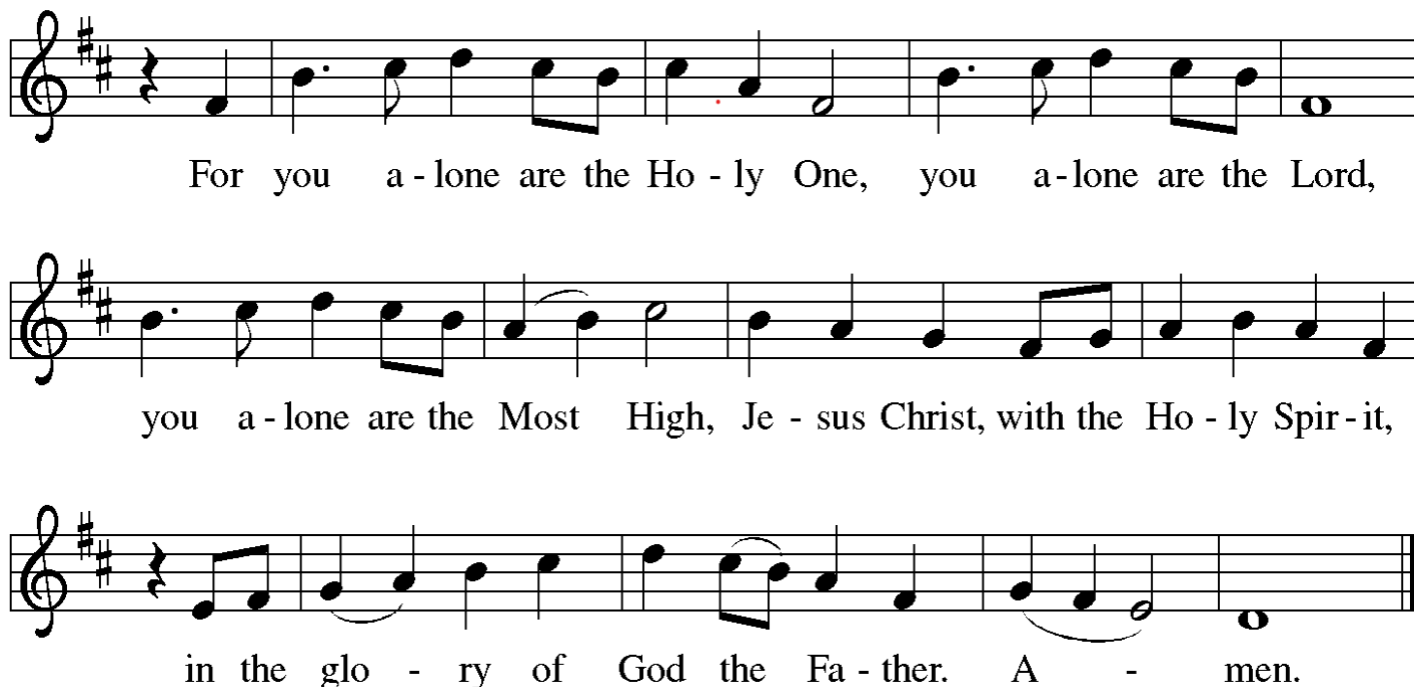
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶ One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” ¹⁸ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe.” ²² The crowd joined in attacking

them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴ Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 97



¹ The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

² **Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD,**
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's throne.

³ Fire goes be- | fore the LORD,
burning up enemies on | every side.

⁴ **Lightnings light | up the world;**
the earth | sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains | melt like wax
before the Lord of | all the earth.

⁶ **The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD,**
and all the peoples | see your glory. R

⁷ Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight [|] in false gods!

Bow down before the LORD, [|] all you gods.

⁸ **Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- [|] dah rejoice,
because of your judg- [|] ments, O LORD.**

⁹ For you are the LORD, most high over [|] all the earth;
you are exalted far a- [|] bove all gods.

¹⁰ **You who love the [|] LORD, hate evil!**

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand [|] of the wicked.

¹¹ Light dawns [|] for the righteous,
and joy for the hon- [|] est of heart.

¹² **Rejoice in the [|] LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's [|] holy name. R**

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

¹² “See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” ¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶ “It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 17:20-26

The Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁰ “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”

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

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

ELW 655

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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition the following response is given:

Hear us, O God

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Chancel Choir

Gerhard Krapf (1924-2008)



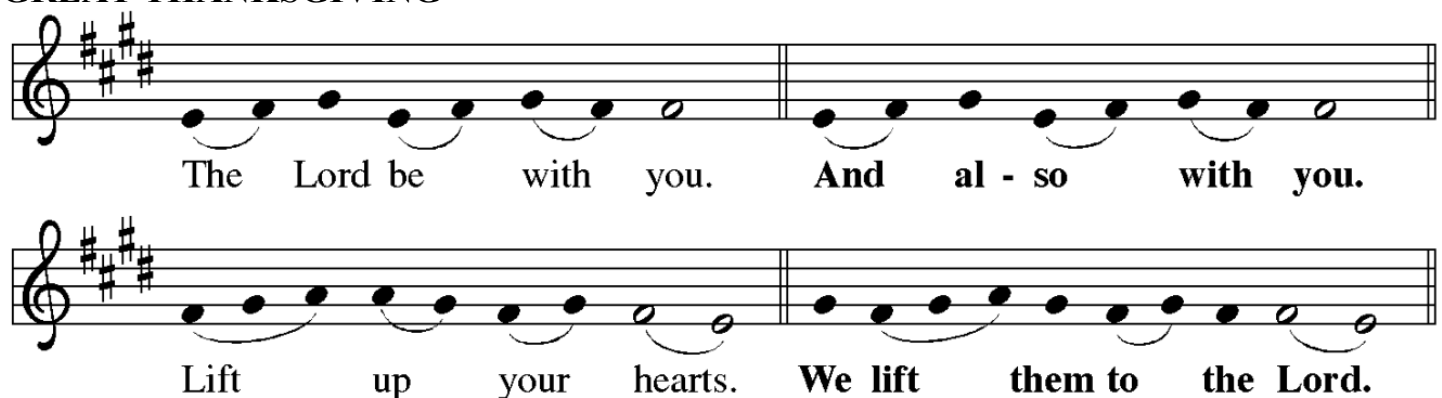
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

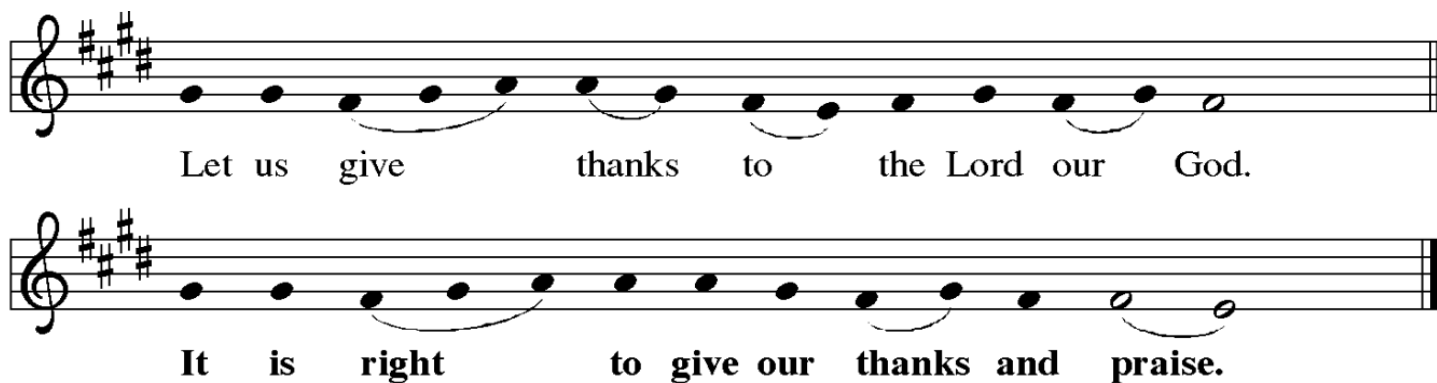
Let us pray.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

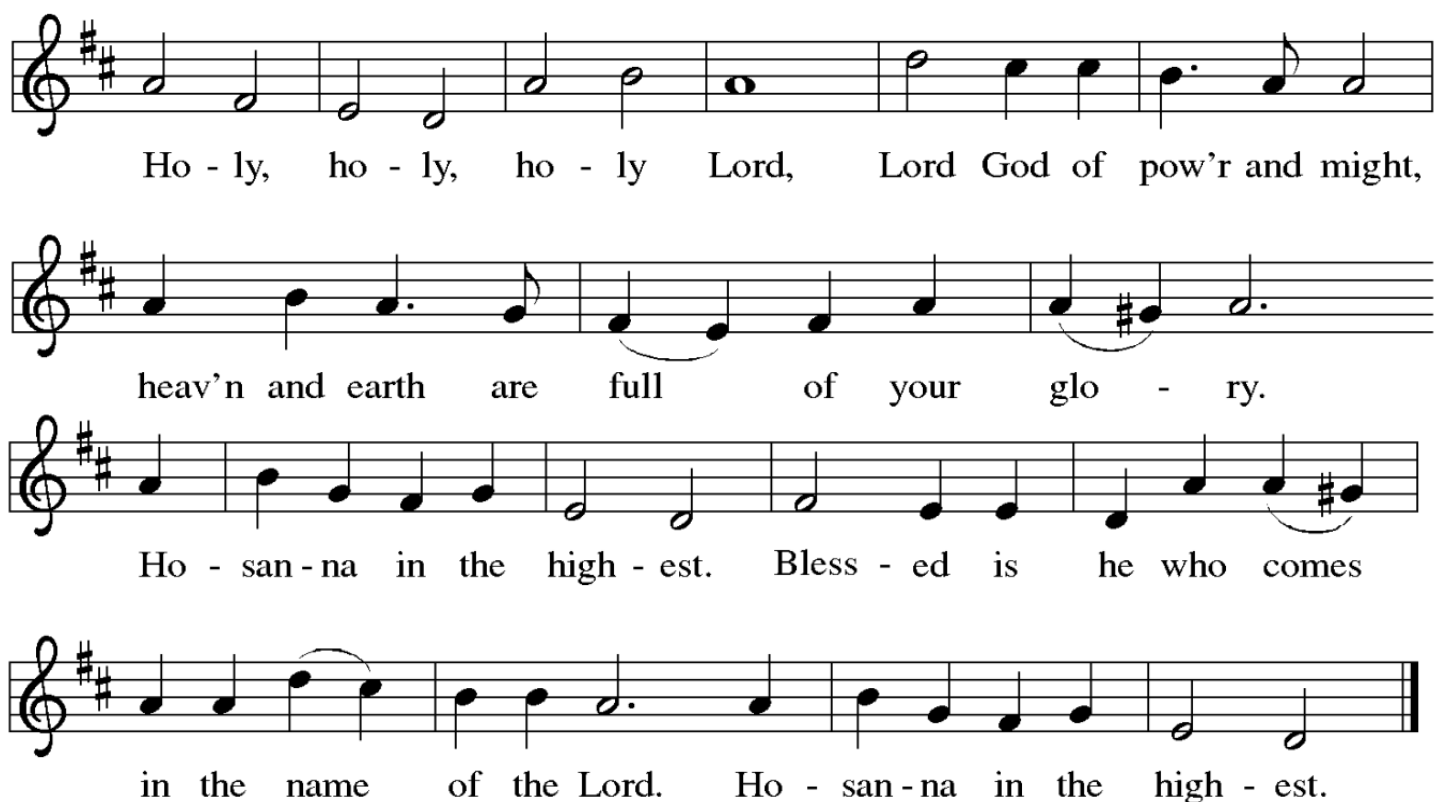
GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places.... 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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

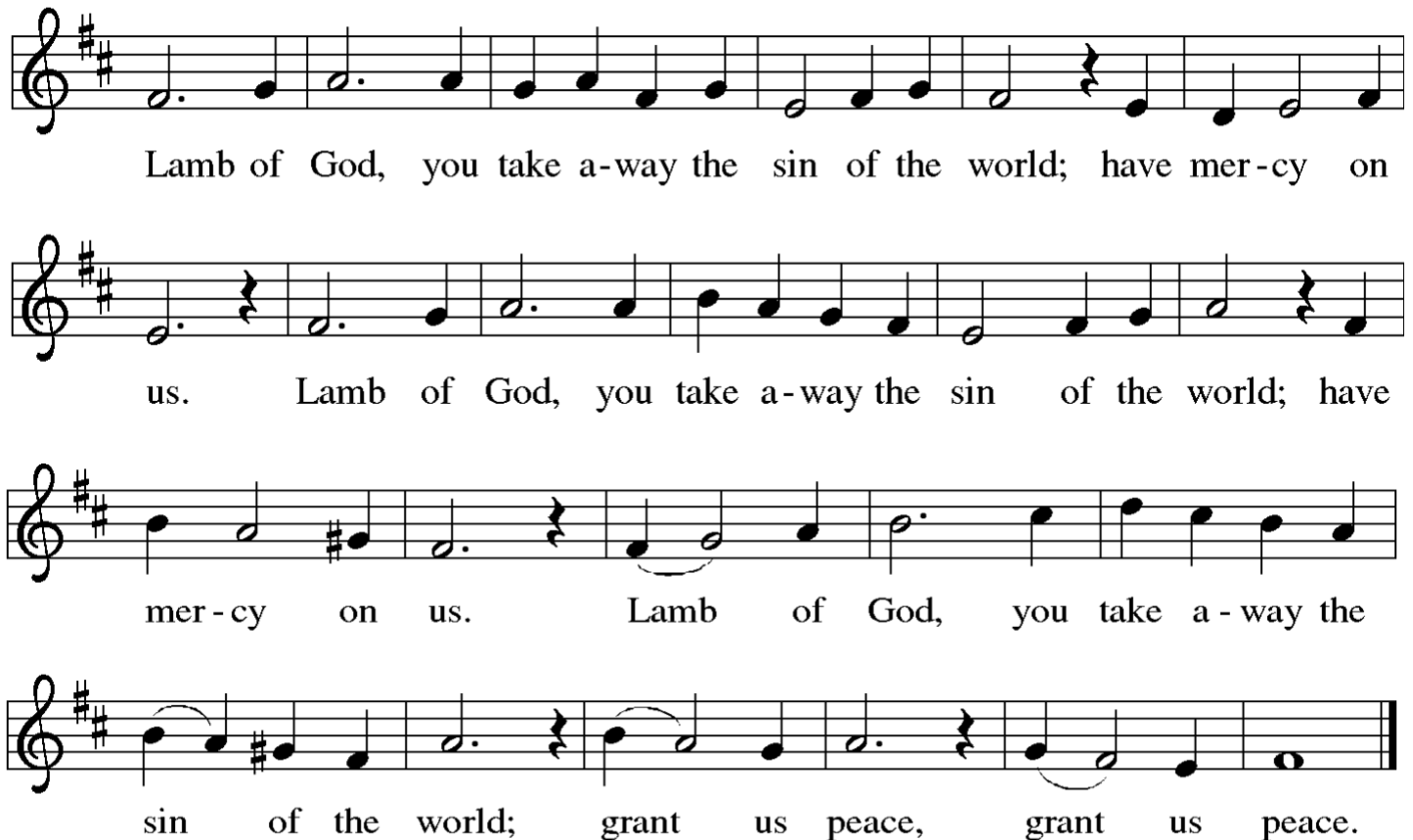
LORD'S PRAYER

**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

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: In Christ There Is No East or West ELW 650

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Largo

Jan Bender (1909-1994)

Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.



You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi:

Network: sound media

Password: Sound127

Adult Sunday School Class

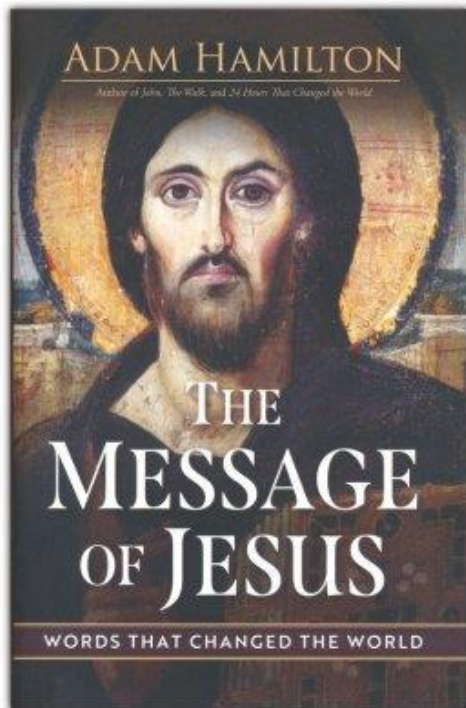
Joseph and God's Grace

"Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good..."
(Genesis 50:20a)

Joseph, favorite son of Jacob, lived a life of challenges and privilege. By God's redeeming grace, Joseph was used to support and protect the people of God's covenant and was a righteous leader in the land of Egypt. During May, we will conclude our study in the book of Genesis and once again be reminded that grace abounds for God's glory and our lasting good. The class meets on Sundays at 11:30, top floor Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience.

Summer Break

Beginning June 8, the adult Sunday School class will take some time away from meeting and will reconvene with another series of lessons on September 8. God's blessings to you for a delightful summer.



Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World

By: Adam Hamilton

The four New Testament Gospels aren't the same story, but they offer the same Resurrection hope. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John devote most of their story detailing Jesus' last week in Jerusalem, all highlighting Jesus' triumphant entry into the city, the suffering and humiliation of the cross, and the empty tomb come Sunday morning, but the stories they tell aren't quite the same.

Each Gospel offers a different lens through which we understand Jesus' Passion. One portrait reveals Jesus to be in control, while another emphasizes his suffering. In one story Jesus offers hope to the thief on the cross, and in another Jesus only receives derision. These different perspectives aren't a reason to dismiss the Gospels; rather they reveal an abundant, diverse, and complementary picture of God's work in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$396,278
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Funds raised	\$397,148
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Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 0,000
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Impact Massillon

June 14, 2025. See Scott Larson if interested in helping out. \$15 for the T-shirt.

Veterans Invited to Flag Day

June 14th, 11:00am to 1:00 pm

Freedom Farm

12943 Kimmens RD SW Massillon, Ohio

RSVP to 330-418-9192

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.



Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search “*Massillon Lutheran Churches*”

Facebook

*“St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon”
or “Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's”*

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Karl Kalk
Lector	Marcia Wright
Greeter	Rev. Lynn & LaShell Williamson
Communion Assistants	Jackie Pritchett & Carol Stoner
Sacristan	Sue Ambrosic
Ushers	Eric & Carla Myers, Shane Jackson, Mark Waltz
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ELW 693
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HYMN OF THE DAY Son of God, Eternal Savior ELW 655
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COMMUNION HYMN I Come With Joy ELW 482

SENDING HYMN: In Christ There Is No East or West ELW 650
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Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
- 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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In Christ There Is No East or West



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where their high com - mu - nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949