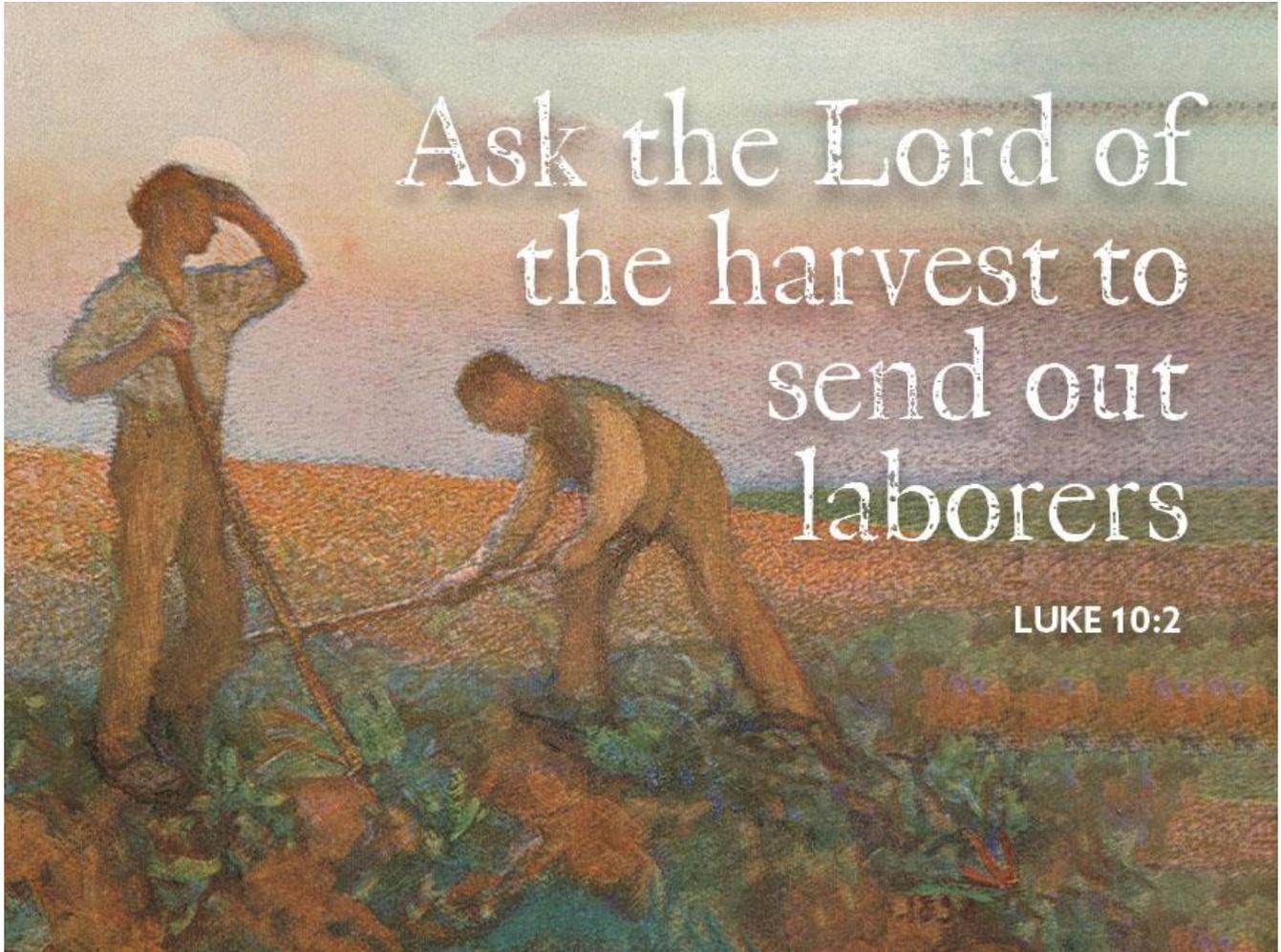


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 water bottle and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both are in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

### ***You are welcome at the table!***

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

### **Altar Flowers**

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Dick & Robin Cordes in memory of Joe & Dona Chercony.

### **Introduction**

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

### **Readings and Psalm**

#### **Isaiah 66:10-14**

*Jerusalem, a nursing mother giving life to her children.*

#### **Psalm 66:1-9**

*All the earth bows down before you and sings out your name. (Ps. 66:4)*

#### **Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16**

*Do what is right now and reap at the harvest time.*

#### **Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

*Jesus sends out seventy disciples into the harvest.*

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

*Darlene Lewis, Cindy Nash, Michael Jordan, Jack Norton, Paul Daily, Rick Thesis, Stephanie Brooks, Jerry Sturtz, Judy Hall, Richard Green, Tina Cotopolis, Izabella Edwards, Randy Balder, Jessica Cascera, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, and Jessie Shaffer.*

## **The Westminster Strike**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** Joy of Man's Desiring, BWV 147 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
Richard Evert, clarinet

### **A Litany for the Fourth of July**

Almighty God, you rule all the nations of the earth. Before you, rulers rise and fall, and in you, every nation finds its hope. On this day, we give you thanks for the land in which we live, for its beauty, its freedom, and its people.

**We give thanks to you, O Lord, for the blessings of liberty, peace, and justice.**

For those who envisioned a land of freedom and risked everything for its birth...  
For those who toiled, fought, and died to preserve its ideals...

**We give thanks, O Lord, and remember their courage and sacrifice.**

For the prophets of our nation who called us to repent of injustice, and for those who still cry out for righteousness...

**We give thanks, O Lord, and ask for courage to walk in truth and mercy.**

For the freedoms we enjoy—of speech, worship, assembly, and conscience—and for those who defend them at home and abroad...

**We give thanks, O Lord, and pray for their safety and wisdom.**

For all who govern in our land: for presidents and legislators, judges and justices, governors and local leaders...

**Grant them your wisdom, O God, and hearts that seek the good of all people.**

For our country, that we may never confuse our nation with your kingdom, but always seek first your righteousness...

**Lord, in your mercy, reform us by your Word and Spirit.**

Where we have been blind to injustice, slow to help the poor, or silent in the face of wrong...

**Forgive us, Lord, and renew us in faith, hope, and love.**

Make us instruments of your peace in this land and in the world. Teach us to love all people as you have loved us.

**Bless this nation not for our glory, but for your purposes, O Lord.**

For freedom Christ has set us free. Let us use our liberty not for self-indulgence, but through love to become servants of one another.

**God of the nations, we place our hope in you, now and forever.**

**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.**

**KYRIE**

*Refrain*

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14

<sup>10</sup> Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,  
all you who love her;  
rejoice with her in joy,  
all you who mourn over her—

<sup>11</sup> that you may nurse and be satisfied  
from her consoling breast,  
that you may drink deeply with delight  
from her glorious bosom.

<sup>12</sup> For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river  
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream,  
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm  
and bounced on her knees.

<sup>13</sup> As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you;  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;  
your bodies shall flourish like the grass,  
and it shall be known that the power of the LORD is with his servants,  
and his indignation is against his enemies.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us  
Paul Stewart, baritone

arr. Sandy Willard Rogers

## Second Reading: Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

„  
[<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. <sup>4</sup> All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. <sup>5</sup> For all must carry their own loads.

<sup>6</sup> Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.]

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup> If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

<sup>11</sup> See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! <sup>12</sup> It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! <sup>16</sup> As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA VERSE**

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

**GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

The holy gospel according to Luke the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ <sup>6</sup> And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’

<sup>16</sup> “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” <sup>18</sup> He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Rev. Mark Kreemer*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      Will You Let Me Be Your Servant      **ELW 659**

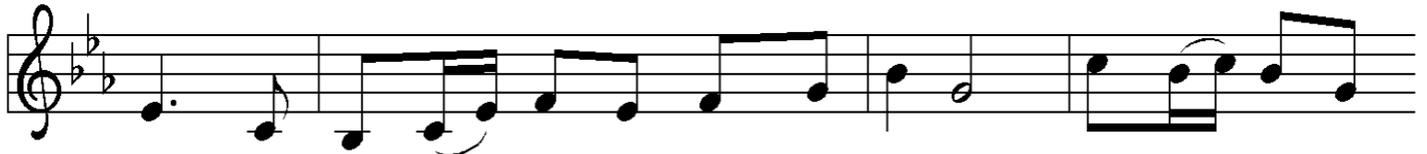
**APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**





all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, .....And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

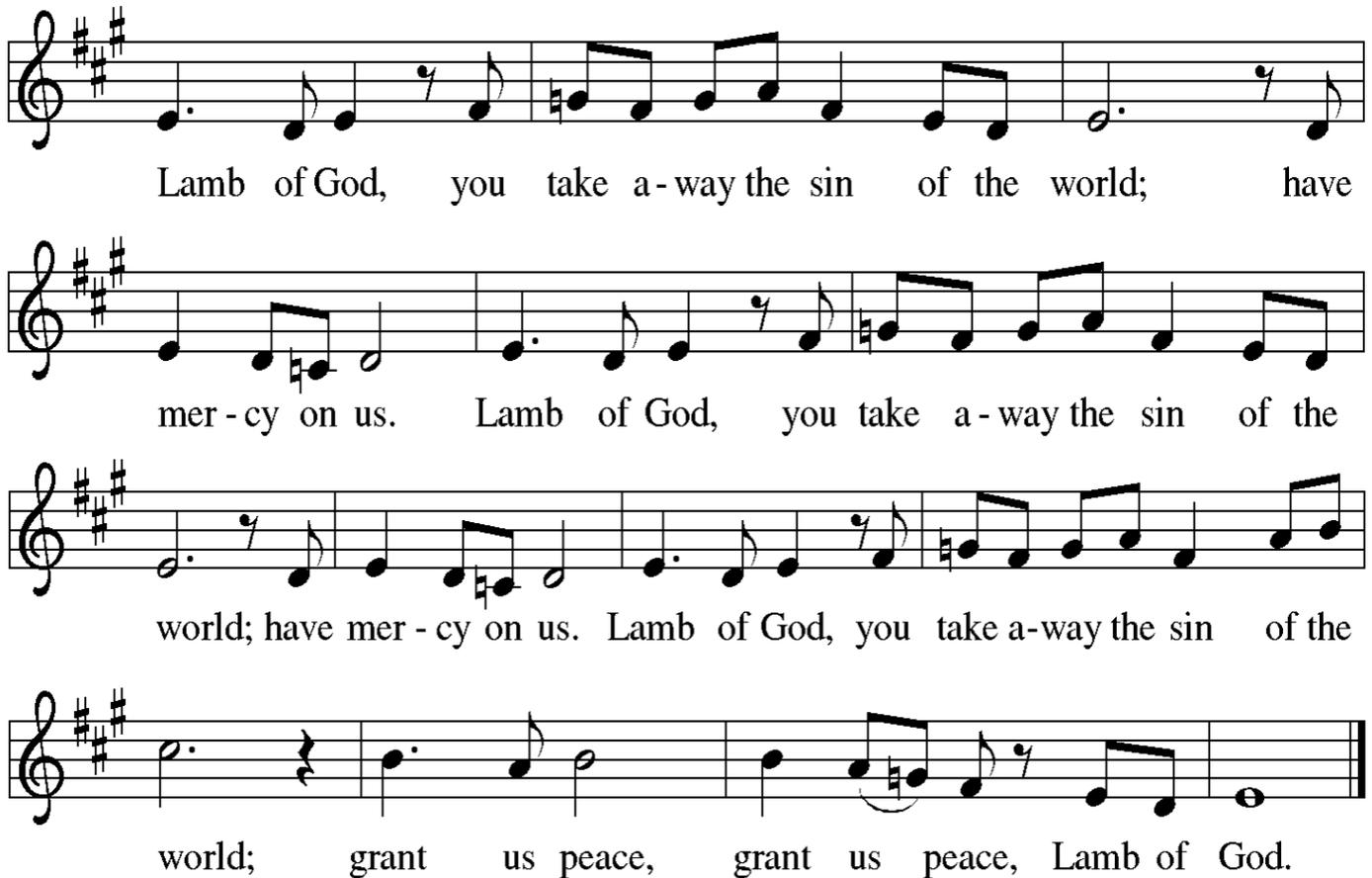
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

The kingdom of God is set before you.  
 Eat and rejoice.

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION

Faith of Our Fathers

ELW 812

## 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.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

God Bless Our Native Land

ELW 891

## BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Postlude on National Airs

Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

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## **Music Notes:**

**Paul Stewart** is the director of the vocal program at the Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, previously directing choirs in the West Geauga School District. He is a member of the professional Cleveland Chamber Choir and Singers Company and is the leader of the Greater Akron Beer Choir. Mr. Stewart has a MM in Choral Conducting and a BM in Vocal Music Education from The University of Akron. While at the University of Akron, he was a graduate assistant in the Department of Choral Studies under Dr. Samuel Gordon; he directed the University of Akron Men's Chorus; and he helped to found the international award-winning men's a cappella group, Nuance. He was also the baritone soloist for the 2006 Mozart Festival in Salzburg, Austria, and was a two-time winner of the Tuesday Musical Association Scholarship for Male Voice. He has performed with Vox Audio, the Voices of Canton, the Video Game Symphony Orchestra, and the Cleveland Orchestra Blossom Festival Chorus. In addition, he was the baritone soloist at the First Congregational Church of Akron for 14 years. Mr. Stewart is a freelance singer in the greater Akron area, performing in a wide variety of styles and venues.

## **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

## Capital Campaign Report

Construction is well underway on our new entrance and restrooms, and we are deeply grateful for the generosity of our members that has made this possible—**the project is fully funded!**

However, this is not the end of our building and maintenance needs. Two important projects still lie ahead: addressing the window wells around the base of the Parish Hall and upgrading the heating and cooling system in that same space. While we do not yet have formal estimates for these projects, we know they will come at a significant cost.

**That's why we are asking everyone to continue supporting the Capital Campaign.** Your continued giving will ensure that we can maintain a safe, welcoming, and comfortable environment for all who come through our doors.

We hope to have estimates for the next phase of work by the end of the summer and will keep you informed as those plans develop. In the meantime, thank you for your ongoing faithfulness and generosity.

## Adult Sunday School Class

### Summer Break

Beginning June 8, the adult Sunday School class and the Thursday Morning Bible Study 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.

## 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*”

### School Supplies Needed:

#### Elementary K-3

Crayola Crayons, 24pack  
Crayola Markers  
Elmer’s Glue Bottle & Glue Sticks  
Pencils #2  
Large Pink Erasers  
Fiskar Scissors – Rounded Tip

Folders with 2 pockets and prongs  
Spiral Notebook (wide ruled)  
Composition Notebooks (wide ruled)  
Ruler  
Colored Pencils  
Pencil Sharpener

#### Intermediate 4-6

#2 yellow, wooden pencils  
Scissors  
Crayons, 24 pack  
Eraser (Pink)  
Elmer’s Glue & Glue Sticks

Colored Pencils  
Plastic folders with pockets and prongs  
Composition Notebooks  
Notebook Paper  
Spiral Notebook

#### Jr. High 7-8

# 2 pencils  
Pens  
Highlighters  
Colored Pencils  
Elmer glue stick

Scissors  
Composition Notebooks  
Ruler  
Plastic folders with pockets and prongs  
Notebook Paper

#### High School 9-12

#2 pencils  
Box of Markers  
Notebook Paper (College Ruled)  
2-Pocket Folders

Single Subject Spiral Notebooks  
Box of Colored Pencils  
Composition Notebooks  
Ruler

**Please return supplies to the church by  
July 27<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**

## Thank you to those serving today:

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Presiding Minister</b>   | <b>Rev. Mark Kreemer</b>               |
| <b>Director of Music</b>    | <b>Dr. Abigail Haake</b>               |
| <b>Assisting Minister</b>   | <b>Kathryn Myers</b>                   |
| <b>Lector</b>               | <b>Kathryn Myers</b>                   |
| <b>Greeter</b>              | <b>Gary Collard</b>                    |
| <b>Communion Assistants</b> | <b>Dwight Butler &amp; Jim Johnson</b> |
| <b>Sacristan</b>            | <b>Patty Long</b>                      |
| <b>Ushers</b>               | <b>Karl Kalk &amp; Craig Maurer</b>    |
| <b>Soundboard</b>           | <b>Jim Johnson</b>                     |
| <b>Video/Live-Stream</b>    | <b>John Stanko</b>                     |

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**GATHERING HYMN**      O Beautiful For Spacious Skies      **ELW 888**

Public Domain

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      Will You Let Me Be Your Servant      **ELW 659**

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**COMMUNION**      Faith Of Our Fathers      **ELW 812**

Public Domain

**SENDING HYMN**      God Bless Our Native Land      **ELW 891**

Public Domain

# 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

# Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as  
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers  
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time  
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll  
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to  
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er  
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row  
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.  
 walk the mile and bear the load.  
 speak the peace you long to hear.  
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard

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 c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Coady Road, Mobile AL 36695.

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# Faith of Our Fathers



1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,  
2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and  
3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in



fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate  
all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

*Refrain*



when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word.  
if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,  
by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.



ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

# God Bless Our Native Land



1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may it ev - er stand  
2 So shall our prayers a - rise to God a - bove the skies,



through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of  
on whom we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, guard - ing with



wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.  
watch-ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812–1883; John S. Dwight, 1813–1893  
Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM, *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, 1744