# ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT** 

Growing in faith. Growing in community. Welcoming all in Jesus' name.

# **TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, July 28, 2024**

# 10AM Service of Holy Communion

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

# Catch the excitement! Witness the joy! Shape the vision!

ST. PAUL'S VISION STATEMENT (adopted 02/25/2018)

- To worship as a diverse community of all ages
- To engage in faith formation as a community grounded in God's word
- To maintain with depth and integrity the work of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless
- To nurture a strong foundation of generosity, giving, and caring for creation
- To provide a music ministry that encompasses congregation and surrounding communities

# Worship at Home and Away

When we cannot be together in person, we can still hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. Therefore, we offer the 10AM service through simultaneous live streaming to St. Paul's Facebook page. The service is then posted to the website, <u>www.stpaulsnewarkde.org</u> and can be found in the upper right hand corner of the home page, along with a digital copy of this worship folder, as well as a copy of the sermon.

# Large print worship folders and hearing assistance devices are available in the narthex. Ask an usher for assistance. A Prayground is available for young children in the rear of the sanctuary.

#### ✤ GATHERING ✤

Worship begins with God who takes the initiative and calls us into being. We gather at the Holy Spirit's invitation and assemble as the community of faith on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.

Upon entering the sanctuary, the people pray silently or engage in quiet meditation allowing the music to focus their attention on God and God's kingdom. The sanctuary doors will be closed as worship begins with the prelude.

# PRELUDE

"Come, Let Us Eat"

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

A VA DE

#### WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

# **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The foolish say, "There is no God! We are alone, on our own." We gather to declare the glory of God in our lives. The foolish say, "It is your life; you are accountable to no one." We gather, strengthened by the Spirit, trusting that Christ dwells in our hearts. The foolish say, "Everything I have is mine; I owe nothing to anyone." We gather to praise the One who calls us to serve others in love. 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.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

**ENTRANCE HYMN** 

All Who Hunger Gather Gladly

ELW 461 (harmony)



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.** 

# PEACE

As forgiven and reconciled people of God, let us greet one another with signs and words of peace and reconciliation.

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

The assembly exchanges Christ's peace in word and gesture, saying, Peace be with you.

Be seated.

#### ₩ WORD ₩

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

# 2 Kings 4:42-44

Elisha feeding a hundred people

A reading from Second Kings:

<sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." <sup>43</sup> But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup> He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### **RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 145:10-18

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.
<sup>11</sup> They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,
<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
<sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.
You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

- <sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.
- <sup>15</sup> The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.
- <sup>16</sup> You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- <sup>17</sup> You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.
- <sup>18</sup> You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

# SECOND READING Ephesians 3:14-21

Prayer for wisdom, strength, and Christ's indwelling

A reading from Ephesians:

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God's Spirit, <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to the one who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish

abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

Please stand, as you are able.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? ELW Setting 3



# HOLY GOSPEL

#### John 6:1-21

#### Christ feeding the five thousand

The Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jewish people, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said this to test Philip, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> "There is a child here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his

disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that Jesus had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

<sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup> But Jesus said to them, "Here I AM; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

Be seated.

#### SERMON

Pastor Barbara Melosh

Feel free to take notes or write down your own reflections on this morning's message. Spirit-led doodling is encouraged as well.



Break Now the Bread of Life ELW 515 Found on p. 8

Please stand, as you are able.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Break Now the Bread of Life



Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt. Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**Apostles'** Creed

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith. 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

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

# A brief silence.

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. In your mercy,

# hear our prayer.

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season. In your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict. In your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering, especially Naomi, Matt, Jay, Hugh, Rob, Ann, Judy, Traci, Robin, Christopher, Susan, Marie, Susan, Michael, JoEllen, Elizabeth, Melissa, Ginny, Gary, Anne, Isabella, Heyward, Olive, and Jim, families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near. In your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew. In your mercy,

# hear our prayer.

God of compassion, you sustain the hungry like a mother who longs to feed her children. Turn our eyes and those of our partners in ministry, especially St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cordova, Maryland, and Mosaic of Delaware, to you alone, that, aware of our deepest longings, we will reach out with Christ to feed others with the miracle of your love. In your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God of all, your love in Christ surpasses all knowledge. We give thanks for the departed who have come to know the fullness of your grace, especially Reginald, Brent, Neil, and Susan. Join our voices with theirs and with musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel and all the saints in singing your praises. In your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

# The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

# Be seated.

At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask visitors to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask members to update any changes to their information so our records can be maintained.

# ₩ MEAL ₩

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

# GATHERING OF GIFTS

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts for service and mission.

#### **OFFERTORY**

Please stand, as you are able.

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

#### Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And 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, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Sanctus (Holy) ELW Setting 3





# **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

# INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

#### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) ELW Setting 3



Be seated.

# HOLY COMMUNION

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.



ACS 966

Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.

All who desire individual prayer and anointing are invited to receive Holy Communion, then go out to the prayer station in the narthex, located to the right of the sanctuary doors.

# **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.





Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967 Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress After all have returned to their places, please stand, as you are able.

# **BLESSING AND PRAYER**

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

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

#### ✤ SENDING ✤

#### God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### **BENEDICTION**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever. Amen.

#### SENDING SONG

Praise the One, Who Breaks the Darkness ELW 843





Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repositorv of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813 Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.** 

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" arr. John Behnke

# A great prophet has risen among us! God has looked favorably on us!

Luke 7:16

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY		
Assisting Minist	er: Marjorie Chin	
Lecto	or: Joanne Hench	
Bread Provide	er: Judy Runkle	
Altar Gui	ld: Linda Radwick	
Flower Gui	ld: Keith Tyson	
The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and praise of God in celebration of their anniversary by Greg and Cheryl Johnson.		
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# WHAT MAKES A MIRACLE MIRACULOUS

It can be tempting to think of miracles as contrary to, even disparaging of, nature. After all, what makes a miracle so, well, *miraculous*, is that something impossible occurs in the natural realm. In both 2 Kings and John 6, supernatural feedings begin with offerings of human bakers' bread. The creator of all walks upon water, an unimaginable feat. Note that these occurrences aren't critical of everyday bread or a condemnation of natural water. Instead, these miracles highlight God's interaction with earthly elements to extend their impact. Just as bread and wine become Christ's body and blood in the eucharist, a miracle affirms the earthly realm and reveals God's presence within earthly elements.

# **ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE** IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 28, 2024

# **BREWING THEOLOGY**

Fun-loving adults, age 21 and over, are invited to join in conversation and laughs while enjoying a beverage at the home of Rich and Sue Wallden, on Wednesday, August 21. Join us at 7PM at 1440 Oldsted Drive in Bear, for fun and fellowship. Please RSVP to Rich at <u>wallden1627@gmail.com</u> if you will be attending.

# HOLY HIKE

Outdoor adventurers of any age are invited to hike on Sunday, August 18, after worship. Location will be provided in the coming weeks.

#### **BOOKS AND BANTER**

St. Paul's Book Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1PM in the Youth Room. If you have a book that you would like to share with the group, please let us know. Please join us for conversation and fellowship.

Upcoming Book: August 28 "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant

# **KEEP UP WITH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the June Church Council meeting are now available and posted on the bulletin board in the hallway near the workroom.

#### ST. PAUL'S PRESCHOOL UPDATE

St. Paul's Preschool Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Ms. Katelyn Farrell will be joining the school staff as our new Early Education Director. Katelyn is currently Assistant Director at The Goddard School of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, and has over eleven years of experience in Early Childhood Education. Unfortunately, Kate is not available to begin her work with us until August 19 because of commitments to her present position. This situation, combined with a number of other unfortunate circumstances that have occurred since our former director's departure, has caused the School's Board of Directors to decide to suspend classes for the fall, and re-open in the spring. While this was a difficult decision to make, we are not willing to enter into the school year unprepared and unable to offer the first-rate educational experience our clients expect. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Saylor, School Board Chair, or any member of the School Board.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: <u>www.stpaulsnewarkde.org</u>

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.

The Reverend Barbara Melosh Interim Pastor 302-354-5512 (cell) bmelosh@gmu.edu

*Office Administrator* 302-368-0064 ext. 101 <u>splcstaff@gmail.com</u>

#### **Church Council**

Anne Sullivan, *President* Barb Rhodes, *Vice President* Heidi Burch, *Secretary* Mary Collins, *Treasurer* Kristine Cassar, Winnie Hull, Greg Johnson, Susie Olson, Emily Pierce

St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry Send prayer requests to: prayonstpauls@gmail.com or contact Pastor Barbara Melosh Michael Bareham Director for Music and Worship 302-368-0064 ext. 123 splcmusmin@gmail.com

> Nalini Janaki Business Administrator 302-368-0064 ext. 102 stpaulsoffice@comcast.net

*Early Childhood Administrator* St. Paul's Lutheran School 302-368-0064 ext. 118 stpaulschool@comcast.net

# Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at 10AM. Late submissions will be shared the following week. Please send articles to <u>splcmusic@comcast.net</u> for the time being.

# WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH? THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE

