# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713



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

# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, June 29, 2025

# 10 AM Service of Holy Communion



We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

#### WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

We believe all people are created in God's image. Rooted in Jesus' ministry of liberation, unconditional love, and hospitality, we strive to welcome all into our community. This welcome explicitly includes those who have traditionally been marginalized in the church and society due to their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, racial and ethnic background, physical ability, developmental ability, citizenship/documentation status, and socioeconomic status.

We hope that our young people experience God in our gathering together. Families, you are welcome to use the Prayground in the rear corner of the sanctuary if you want more space, and to use the Prayground in the narthex if you need a break from the activities in the sanctuary. Most of all, know that the joyful noise of young people in our worship is welcome!

Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex. If you need any other help with worship, please speak with an usher at the doors to the sanctuary.

#### + GATHERING +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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.

**PRELUDE** 

"We're Ready to Come to You"

arr. Edwin T. Childs

Elfåker

#### WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

#### DIALOG AND INVOCATION

We would follow you, Lord of our days . . .

but we need to go do the shopping for vacation first.

We would follow you, Lord of love . . .

but we forgot about our friends visiting this week.

We would follow you, Lord of our hearts . . .

but could we do so next week after the Fourth?

We would follow you,

Lord of every moment . . .

We will follow you!

Let us worship in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

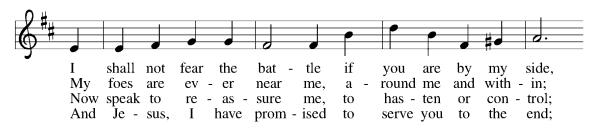
Amen.

# **OPENING HYMN**

# O Jesus, I Have Promised ELW 810 (harmony)









Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.** 

#### GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace given to us in Jesus Christ, the power of God who calls us with a holy calling, and the help of the Holy Spirit living in us be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

#### + WORD +

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

# FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Elijah says to Elisha, Follow me and do not continue plowing

A reading from First Kings:

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to [Elijah], "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

<sup>19</sup> So he set out from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup> He left the oxen, ran after

Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" <sup>21</sup> He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah and became his servant.

Empowered by the word, may the Spirit grant us courage to journey, trust, listen, and speak in a world that does not want to hear.

#### RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 16

- <sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- <sup>2</sup> All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.
- <sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
- <sup>4</sup> I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.
- <sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
- <sup>6</sup> My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.
- <sup>8</sup> I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- <sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
- <sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.
- You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

#### SECOND READING

#### Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Love is the whole law, gift of the Spirit

A reading from Galatians:

<sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

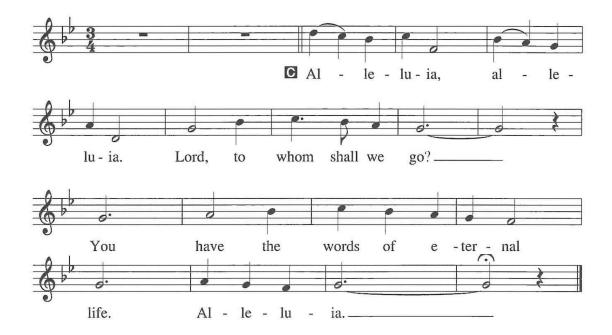
Empowered by the word, may the Spirit grant us courage to journey, trust, listen, and speak in a world that does not want to hear.

Please stand, as you are able.

**ACCLAMATION** 

Alleluia

Creation Setting
Marty Haugen



**HOLY GOSPEL** 

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus says, Follow me and do not look back

The Gospel according to Luke.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, <sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup> To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup> Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let

me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

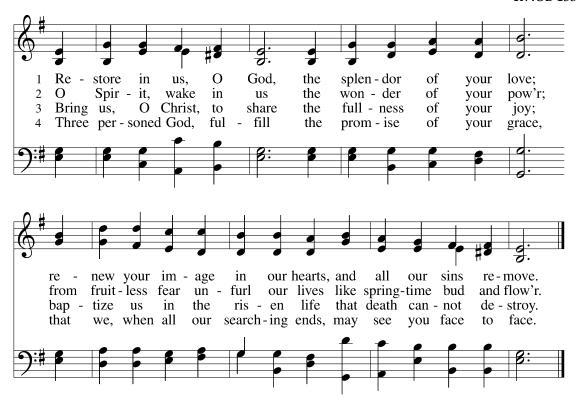
Be seated.

**SERMON** Pastor Cris Frigm

Please stand, as you are able.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Restore In Us, O God RWSB 133



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: SOUTHWELL, Daman, Psalmes, 1579

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#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

# A brief silence.

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,

# hear our prayer.

Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence, especially Sean, those on our prayer list, and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Set free this assembly, O God, as well as our partners in ministry, especially Reformation Lutheran Church in Milford, Lutheran Community Services, and Hilltop Lutheran Community Center. Grow your Spirit's fruits within all of us and within our ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,

# hear our prayer.

In this time of celebration and transition, O God, look with love on our graduates and bless them as they complete this season of their studies. We give you thanks for their many achievements, especially for the milestones that Richard, Hannah, Sydney, Alexander, Destiny, Owen, Zac, Cullman, James, Lazo, Emma, and Leah have attained. As they begin new phases in their lives, help them to use their gifts for your glory and for the good of all people, and guide them into their future journeys. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Bless also the parents of these students, who have raised their children and nourished them in the Christian faith. Give them strength in your continuing presence and give them many joyful reunions with their children, who may be leaving home soon to begin new and varied ventures. God of grace,

# hear our prayer.

Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,

# hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### THE PEACE

Blessed be Christ, our peace, who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of the Lord 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.

# ተ MEAL ተ

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.

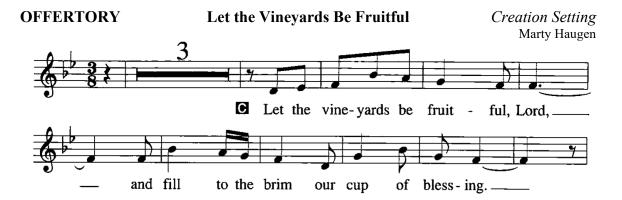
At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask visitors to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask members to update any changes to their information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

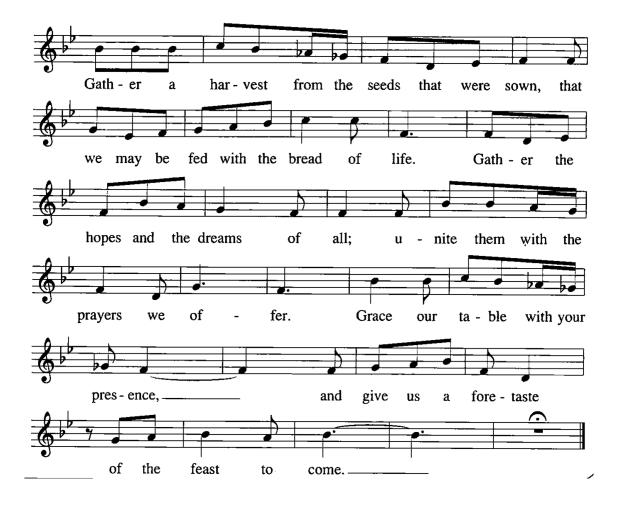
ANTHEM

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"
(Text: ELW 674)
Summer Choir

arr. Lovelace

Please stand, as you are able, and sing as the gifts are presented and the table is set.





#### **OFFERTORY 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.

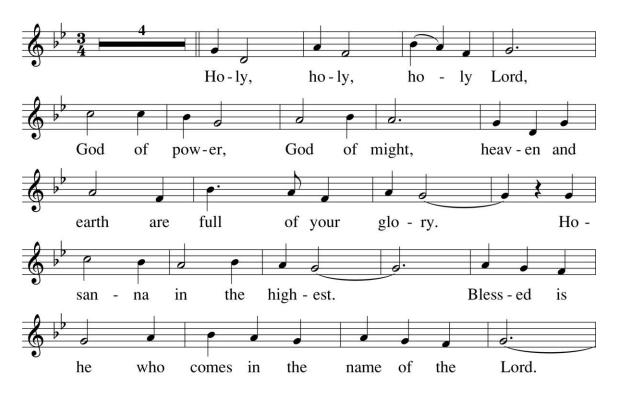
#### We lift them to the Lord.

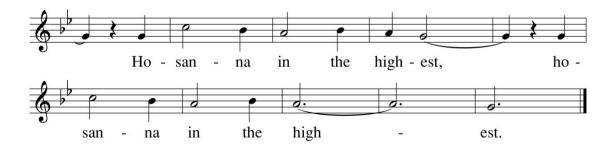
Let us give thanks to the Lord our  $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}$ .

# 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:

Creation Setting
Marty Haugen





#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.** 

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.

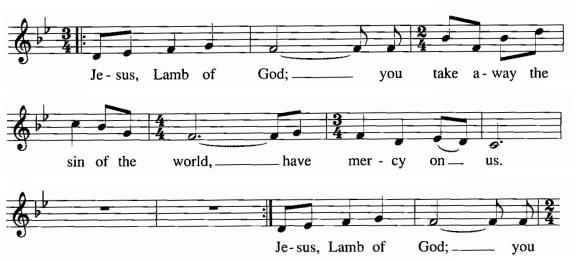
Amen.

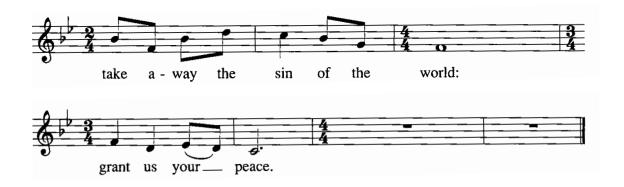
#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The kingdom of God is set before you. **We come to eat and rejoice.** 

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

Creation Setting Marty Haugen





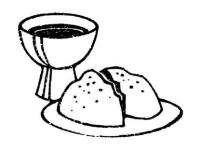
Be seated.

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

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

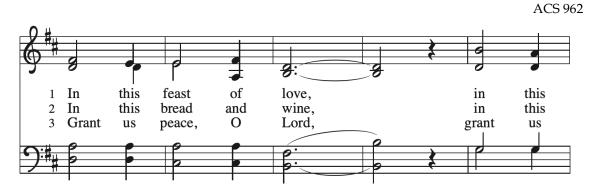
All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Those who choose not to commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.

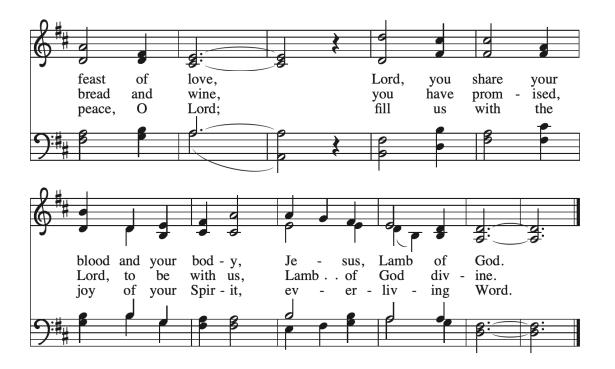
Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.



#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

# In This Feast of Love





Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

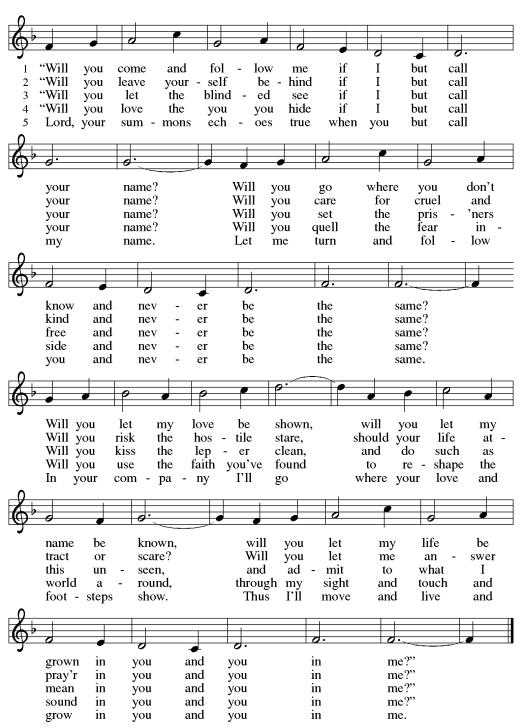
Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress



### Will You Come and Follow Me ELW 798

Found on p. 18

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



After all have communed and returned to their places, remain seated.

#### **BLESSING AND PRAYER**

Strengthened by the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and kept in his grace, we 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 +

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

#### LIFE OF THE CHURCH – ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand, as you are able.

#### BENEDICTION

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.

#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

O Master, Let Me Walk with You ELW 818 (harmony)

Found on p. 20

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** No. 1 from Trois Postludes pour orgue

Denis Bédard

# O Master, Let Me Walk with You



Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt. Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

#### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Jeanine Heath

Lector: Belinda Johnson

Bread Provider: Heidi Burch Altar Guild: Janet Mease Flower Guild: Janet Mease



The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and praise of God.



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# Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

John 6:68

# ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

# IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 2025

# LECTIONARY 13/PROPER 8 (YEAR C)

As we are called by Jesus, we leave one life behind and take up another. The readings for this day invite us to take a bold step that brings us into a new world.

#### SPECIAL ADULT FORUM

Pastor Cris will be sharing about his work as a Navy Reserve Chaplain **today**, after worship, in the air conditioned sanctuary. Bring your questions about his ministry and hear more about what it is like to serve in the Navy "part-time."

#### CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Life presents us with various significant milestones that set the stage for the next phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school, trade school, or college is one of these milestones. Today we wish to honor those who are moving through this special time of accomplishment, transition, and change, and to show them that we, their community of faith, stand with them and support them as fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Richard Breder
Hannah Cash
Sydney Frigm
Alexander Kenney
Destiny Kleinsasser

Owen Mease
Zac Miller
Cullman Mills
James Mills
Lazo Slijepcevic

Emma Taylor-Smith

Leah Wardell

University of Delaware University of Delaware University of Virginia University of Delaware Elkton HS and Cecil College

Odessa High School Odessa High School

Arkansas State

Office Infantry School

Sanford School

Odessa High School Millersville University

#### **SUMMER CHOIR**

Want to join the choir without making a year-long commitment? Want to see what it is like to offer sung prayer in worship? Then join the Summer Choir on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the choir loft. Learn a simple anthem to be sung in the service that morning. Can't make it every week? Come, when you can.

#### HOLY HIKE

Join us today, Sunday, June 29, along the C & D Canal, east from Biddle's Point. This will be a four-to-five-mile hike – out and back, along a flat, paved trail. We will meet at the trail head at Biddle's Point off Cox Neck Road in Delaware City.

#### HOLIDAY REMINDER

Just a reminder that the church office will be closed on Friday, July 4.

#### PRESCHOOL STAFF INSTALLATION

St. Paul's School Board cordially invites the congregation to join them in welcoming Dr. Watts with her official installation in worship on **Sunday**, **July 6**. We will be holding a celebration to mark the occasion after the service and look forward to renewed school-congregation engagement in the year ahead!

# OLDER, WISER, LUTHERANS JULY EVENT

Please join the OWLS on Friday, July 11, as they visit a local winery. More details to come. Hosts for this event are Bill and Karen Saylor.

# **Brewing Theology - Location Change**

Our hosts for July 16 at 7pm have been changed to Mark and Lynn Deschere, 309 Sweet Gum Court, Middletown, Delaware. Our topic will be the role of faith in modern life. Please RSVP to lynn@deschere.com.

# "GIFTS TO SHARE" SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey to allow us to continue to be an inclusive church, which works to have all members involved in activities. You can find the survey on the St. Paul's webpage by clicking on the link "Gifts to Share."





# St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

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



The Reverend Cris Frigm Pastor 302-368-0064 ext. 104 pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Jerilynn Hinrichs
Office Administrator
302-368-0064 ext. 101
office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

# **Church Council**

Anne Sullivan, *President*Greg Johnson, *Vice President*Heidi Burch, *Secretary*Mary Collins, *Treasurer*Kristine Cassar, Phillip Gerecke,
Winnie Hull, Ian Kenyon, Susie Olson

**St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry**Send prayer requests to:
prayonstspauls@gmail.com tl

Michael Bareham
Director for Music and Worship
302-368-0064 ext. 123
music@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Nalini Janaki Business Administrator 302-368-0064 ext. 102 business@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Dr. Rae Watts
Early Education Director
St. Paul's Lutheran School
302-368-0064 ext. 118
stpaulschool701@outlook.com

# Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at y 10 AM. Late submissions will be shared the following week. Please send articles to the church office at office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

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

