

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

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



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, July 13, 2025

10 AM Service of
Holy Communion



To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you" — namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

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 socio-economic status.

We hope that our young people experience God in our gathering together. Families are welcome to use the Playground in the rear corner of the sanctuary if you want more space, and to use the Playground 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 "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" - arr. J. S. Bach
WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Almighty gives the holy law to God's people
so that it will always be near us and our children.

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.

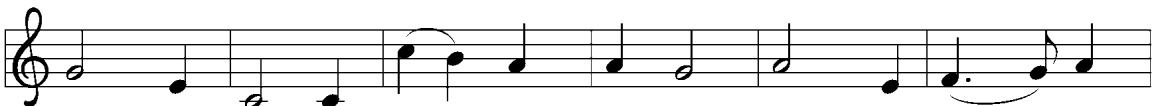
Let us pray.

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.

OPENING HYMN

God Is Here!
ELW 526 (harmony)



1	God	is	here!	As	we	your	peo - ple	meet	to	of - fer
2	Here	are	sym - bols	to	re -	mind	us	of	our	life - long
3	Here	our	chil - dren	find	a	wel - come	in	the	Shep -	herd's
4	Lord	of	all, of	church	and	king - dom,	in	an	age	of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

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The baptismal family, the sponsors, and ministers make their way to the font during the singing of the hymn. The assembly turns to face the font, as they are able.

HOLY BAPTISM

Grace Lillian Olson

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Congregational sponsor, Linda Radwick, presents the candidate:

I present Grace Lillian Olson for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents, Noah and Megan Olson:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the sponsors, Seth Olson and Emily Whalen:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture this person in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support Grace and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

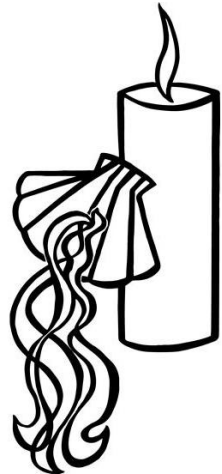
Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**



THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water is poured into the font during the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Grace Lillian, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized receives a baptismal garment.

Joined by these waters with the communion of saints, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain Grace with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Grace, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

A lighted candle is given to a sponsor of the newly baptized as a representative of the congregation says:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and
redeeming word to all the world.**

The ministers and baptismal party return to their places. The assembly turns forward during the singing of the baptismal song.

SONG OF ACCLAMATION

Borning Cry
ELW 732
Found on p. 8



Borning Cry



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

The assembly is seated.

✠ **WORD** ✠

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

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

The LORD will take delight in your fruitfulness

A reading from Deuteronomy:

⁹The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹²It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ ¹³Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ ¹⁴No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

God of justice, your word is light and truth
**restoring us to walk in your way,
seeking justice and doing good.**

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

**⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

**⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

**⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

**⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

**⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.**

**¹⁰ All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:1-14

The gospel is growing, bearing fruit in the whole world

A reading from Colossians:

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

**² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.**

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may walk worthy of the

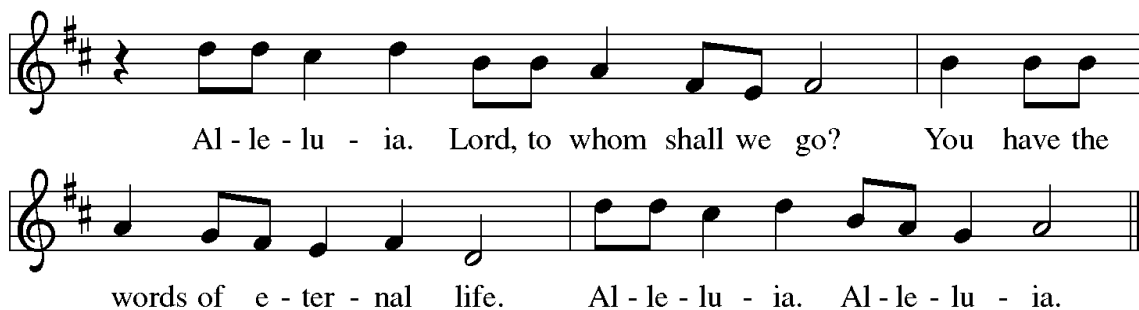
Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

God of justice, your word is light and truth
**restoring us to walk in your way,
seeking justice and doing good.**

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 3



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 10:25-37

The parable of the merciful Samaritan

The Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the

right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714

1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus

mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and

in your sight, to live our lives in you.
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
 word and thought may work a work for you.
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
 may we each other's burdens share;
 may we, where help is needed, there
 give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
 all those who live to live in love,
 till you receive in heav'n above
 all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
 Music: JUSTAS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church
 and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing, especially Nancy, Austin, those on our prayer list, and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...(brief silence). Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, ever-living God, you promised to be not only our God, but also the God of our children. We thank you for receiving Grace by baptism. Keep her and her parents and sponsors always in your love, guiding them to be your faithful disciples to their life's end. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through our Lord Jesus who has fulfilled the law in every way, grant that we and our partners in ministry, especially Community Lutheran Church in Frankford and Tree of Life Lutheran Church in Odessa, may love you with heart soul, strength, and mind, and our neighbors as ourselves. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

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.

✠ 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.*

*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

"To You I Lift My Soul"

Diane Hannibal

Summer Choir

Based on Psalm 25

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

OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW Setting 3



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

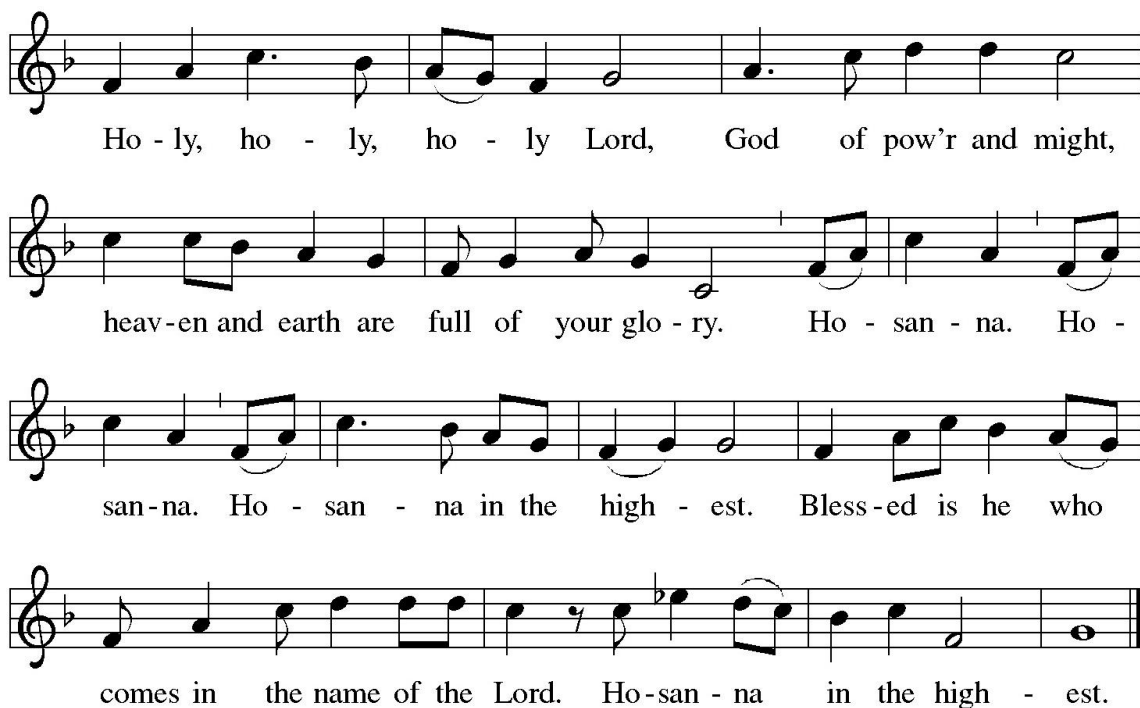
We lift them to the Lord.

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:

ELW Setting 3



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;

across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 his love for us
on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

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.

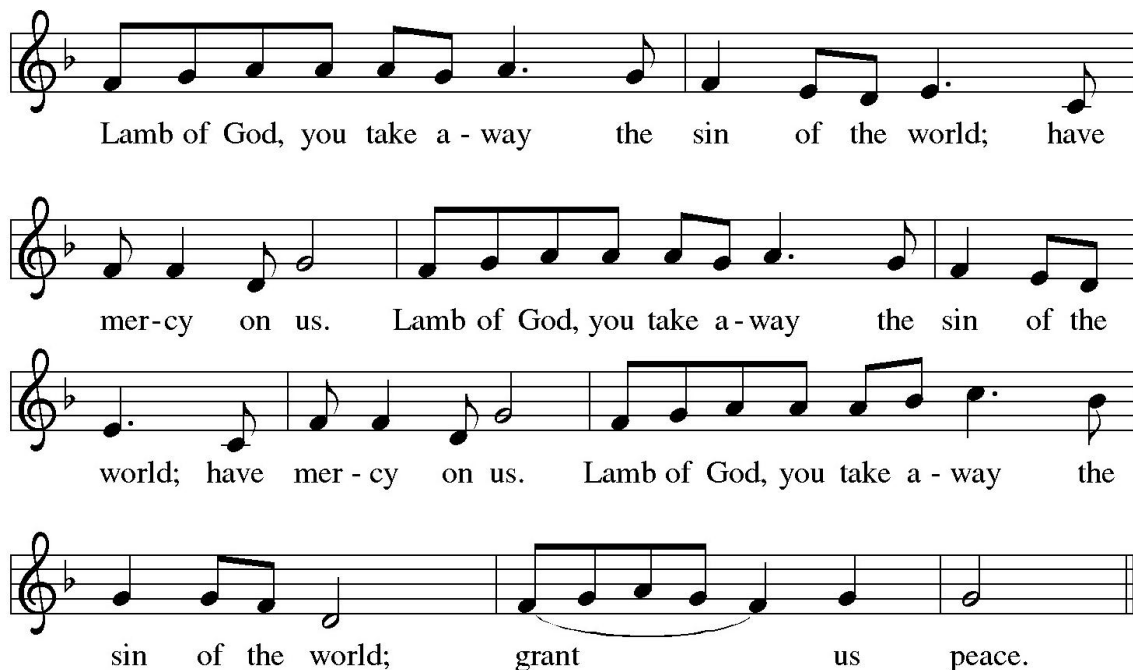
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet.

Welcomed, we come to the feast.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

ELW Setting 3



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.

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

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522 (harmony)



- 1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
- 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
- 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

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

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

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Before the Waters Nourished Earth

ACS 1049

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961

Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody

Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*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.

O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this good and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

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

LIFE OF THE CHURCH – ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal
ELW 805 (harmony)



- 1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
- 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
- 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of pre - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

arr. Benjamin M. Culli

LANCASHIRE

Why didn't Jesus tell the lawyer whom we are to love? Why concentrate instead on how we are to love? It seems to me that it would be so much easier if I only knew who it is I have been called to love. It would better if I could know the names of those for whom I bear such awesome responsibility, but I don't. We don't. We are called by Jesus to an expansive love, to a love without limit that is potentially there for all. No one is eliminated in advance....We are to love not only the disenfranchised and alienated, the marginalized and oppressed, those needy strangers whom we read about on the front page or pass by in the subway station, but our friends, our relatives, and all those at the center of our political, social, and economic power structures. If we love like the Samaritan loved, we will be compassionate and generous to each person upon whom we stumble.

— Barbara Finan, in *Homilies for the Christian People*, 499

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Mary Beth Bergstrom
Lector: Mary Beth Bergstrom
Bread Provider: Heidi Burch
Altar Guild: Cheri Simons
Flower Guild: Cheri Simons



The flowers in the chancel are given
to the glory and praise of God
in memory of Christopher
by Sherry Mench.



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Dialog for Proper 10-C written by Thom M. Shuman

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*You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and your neighbor as yourself.*

Luke 10:27

WHO ARE YOU?

Who do you identify with in the parable? This is part of what makes parables so powerful. Some days we read the story through the eyes of the priest or the Levite. Some days we feel like the Samaritan. And then there are those days when we are the man in the ditch. Some days you are the windshield and some days you are the bug, as the saying goes.

It is easy to miss the shocking nature of this parable if we start to think that this story only teaches us to imitate the Samaritan. The parable says so much more about God, our relationship to God, and the lengths to which God will go to reach out to us.

Through the image of the Samaritan, Jesus lifts up a surprising rescuer as an image of the God who relentlessly cares for those in need. Could it be that we are meant to identify not with the Samaritan or even the lawyer to whom Jesus speaks the parable, but rather with the man who is hopeless and left for dead? Could it be that Christ is the good Samaritan who embraces us with the tender compassion of God?

All of the sudden the parable is turned on its head. Jesus is not just giving us a comfortable morality tale reminding us to be nice, helpful, generous people. Instead Jesus is proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. God's grace comes to us through the cross. God's grace comes to us even—and especially—when we are at our worst, when we struggle in the depths and cry out for help. Even when we cannot or will not cry out, mercy and grace come into our lives through Jesus. So whether you are on the road or in the ditch, Jesus even now is coming for you.

CONNECTIONS WITH CREATION

Utilizing the lens of the natural order is one way to gain fresh perspective on popular scriptures. The parable of the good Samaritan indicates that our hero knows of the healing properties of wine, a disinfectant, and oil, a balm. The wounded man arrives at the inn under the strength of an animal, which allows him to continue to heal. Even the Samaritan's awareness of his apparently unsafe surroundings and decision to engage communicate a different comfort within the environment than do the other passersby. Rather than distract from the culminating point of the Samaritan as neighbor to the wounded man, such a lens suggests that the Samaritan can be a good neighbor to the wounded man because he is already a good neighbor with creation.

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 13, 2025

LECTIONARY 15/PROPER 10 (YEAR C)

God can be as near as a neighbor, and our opportunities to share God's love are as close as the words that leave our lips. The peace of Christ we exchange in this community we also take with us into the world to share with others.

THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

In holy baptism the triune God delivers us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us new birth, adopts us as children, and makes us members of the body of Christ, the church.

Today, we celebrate God's gift of baptism in worship as we welcome Grace Olson into this community. On behalf of the whole church, we promise support to this new sibling, confess the faith with them, and welcome them into the body of Christ.

SUMMER CHOIR

It's never too late to join the Summer Choir. Come to rehearsal at 9:30 AM in the choir loft to learn a simple anthem to be sung in the service the same morning. Can't make it every week? Come when you can through the end of this month.

HOLY HIKE

Please join us today after worship for our monthly Holy Hike, as we visit Rittenhouse Park at 228 W. Chestnut Hill Road in Newark. This will be a four-to-five mile hike — out and back, along a wooded and flat trail.

BREWING THEOLOGY

Join us at 7 PM on Wednesday, July 16, at the home of Mark and Lynn Deschere, located at 309 Sweet Gum Court in Middletown. Our topic will be the role of faith in modern life. Please RSVP to lynn@deschere.com.

FISH

First off, thank you to all the first-time volunteers who showed up last month to help out when our schedule was upended by the Food Bank's closure on Juneteenth. Many hands made quick work of the unloading and packing, and we appreciate your willingness to pitch in on short notice. Our student contingent is still away for the summer, so if you're available we can use your help with the various events this week – first our Food Bank pickup on Thursday, July 17, at 1 PM, then later that day with the box packing at 6:30 PM. On Friday, July 18, you can join us for the distribution from 2:30 PM until 4 PM. (The latter two activities take place in Fellowship Hall.) You can get more information by calling or emailing Keith Bart ([302-345-6107](tel:302-345-6107) / keith.m.bart@gmail.com).

BOOKS AND BANTER

St. Paul's avid readers meet 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.

July 23 "There There" by Tommy Orange

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

Thinking of You: Have you noticed recently that a friend in our congregation hasn't been in church for a while? If so, please take a moment to send them a card to let them know you care. Cards and addresses are located on the table in the back of the narthex.

Prayer Squares: Do you know someone who could use a hug, comfort or love? Take a pocket prayer square from the basket in the rear of the narthex and deliver this reminder that God loves them and so do you!

"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 also 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.*



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Greg Johnson, *Vice President*

Heidi Burch, *Secretary*

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St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry

Send prayer requests to:

prayonstpauls@gmail.com

Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at

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**

