## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713



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

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, August 3, 2025

# 10 AM Service of Holy Communion



Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

## 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** 

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

arr. Wagner

#### WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

#### **GREETING**

The Generous Giver pours forth extravagant bounty without measure upon the whole of creation.

Teach us such generosity.

May the fruits of our spirits and the works of our hands be used for the building of God's commonwealth of blessing. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God

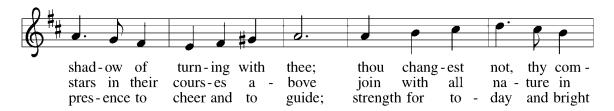
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### **OPENING HYMN**

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness ELW 733



- 1 Great is thy faith ful-ness, O God my Fa ther; there is no 2 Sum-mer and win ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
- 3 Par don for sin and a peace that en dur eth, thine own dear





Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with the power of the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

## + WORD +

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

FIRST READING Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Search out wisdom, for all is vanity

A reading from Ecclesiastes:

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

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

## RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 49:1-12

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
- <sup>2</sup> you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- <sup>3</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- <sup>4</sup> I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- <sup>5</sup>Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- <sup>6</sup> the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?
- <sup>7</sup>One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;

- <sup>8</sup> for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,
- <sup>9</sup> in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.
- <sup>10</sup> For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- <sup>11</sup> Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.
- <sup>12</sup> Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

#### SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-11

Clothed in Christ, your life is hidden with him in God

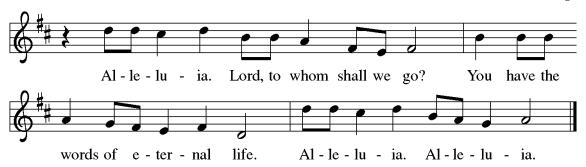
A reading from Colossians:

<sup>1</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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.



#### **HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 12:13-21

Jesus says: Be on guard against greed; be rich toward God, your treasure

The Gospel according to Luke.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Cris Frigm

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Be Thou My Vision ELW 793



Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

#### 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

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.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear, especially those on our prayer list and those we now name in the silence of our hearts.... Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Store up in this congregation and those of our partners in ministry, especially Faith Lutheran in Salisbury, Maryland, and St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Pike Creek, a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,

## hear our prayer.

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. 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.

#### VOLUNTARY

"Lord of the Dance"

arr. Raney

## Henry Chisholm and Joanne Hench Piano-Organ Duet

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun. And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; at Bethlehem I had my birth. Dance then wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee, but they would not dance, and they wouldn't follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came with me and the dance went on. Dance then wherever you may be...

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone; but I am the dance and I still go on. Dance then wherever you may be...

> They cut me down and I leapt up high; I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me: I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. Dance then wherever you may be...

> Text: Sydney Carter, b.1915, 1963, Stainer & Bell Ltd. (Administered by Hope Publishing Co.)

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 184** 

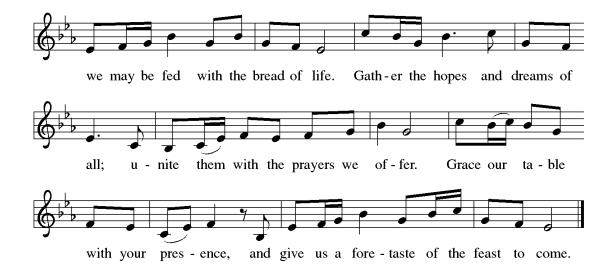


be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill Let the vine-yards to the brim our cup of



bless-ing.

Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown,



#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

You have blessed us with your goodness; you have given us our selves, our time, and our possessions. May these gifts be used in the care and healing of all that you have made, for the sake of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

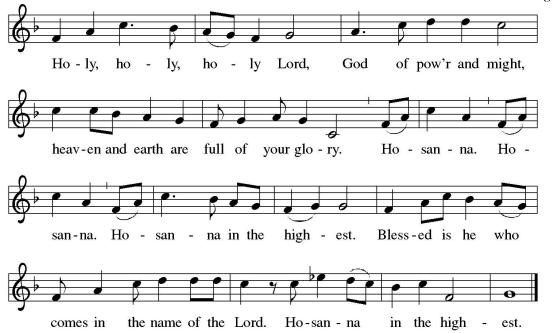
Lift up your hearts.

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:



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

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; when the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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 death, we cry out Amen.

#### Amen.

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

#### Amen.

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

#### Amen.

- O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
- O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
- O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
- O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.** 

OR

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

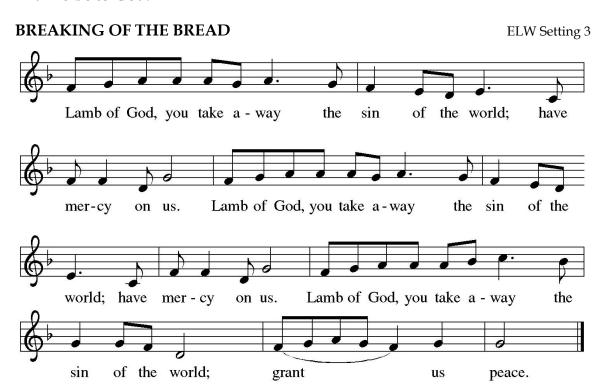
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,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

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 THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.



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.

**FLW 466** 



- In the sing ing, the in the hands ex - pect-ant, in si - lence, o - pen,
- In the ques-tion, in the an - swer, in the mo-ment of ac-cept-ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break-ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble, in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir-cle of your peo-ple,





Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931 Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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## **Blessed Assurance ELW 638**



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech - oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



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.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### + SENDING +

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

## LIFE OF THE CHURCH – ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BENEDICTION

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches.

May you be rooted and grounded in his love.

#### Amen.

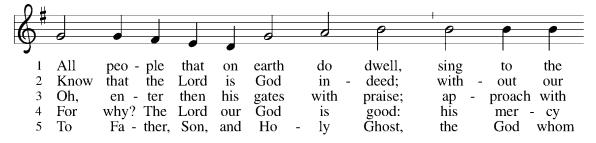
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

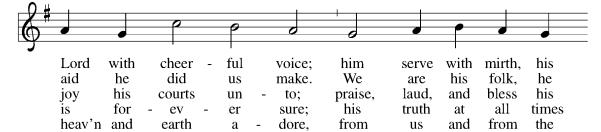
Amen.

#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

## All People That on Earth Do Dwell

ELW 883 (harmony)







Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Welcome the stranger.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Toccata on arr. Burkhardt

"Old Hundredth"

#### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Marjorie Chin

Lector: Heidi Burch

Bread Provider: Sherry Mench Altar Guild: Linda Radwick

Flower Guild: Gale Paul



The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God in honor of James and Kyra Kaczmarczyk's wedding last Sunday afternoon, July 26, by Lori Davis.



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## Please see the insert for the weekly Epistle.



## 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. 103 pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org

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## **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 th

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Olson 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

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