

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

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



SEASON OF CREATION
Sunday, September 28, 2025

10 AM Service of
Holy Communion



During the *Season of Creation*, we join with Christians around the world to celebrate in prayer and action our Gospel calling to protect the Earth that God entrusted to our care. Prayers, readings, hymns, and liturgies from the global communion and beyond reflect the whole Gospel for the whole world.

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

"In the Shelter of the Lord"

arr. Charles Callahan

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Blessed be the One who creates all things.

The Holy One's love is new every morning.

The Creator be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Creator God, you are known by your loving embrace of the undeserving and those who suffer: Grant us sight of your justice and conviction to love all creatures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

To Be Your Presence

ELW 546

Verse 2: Left (organ) side; Alleluias sung by all

Verse 3: Right (ambo) side; Alleluias sung by all



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-----|------|-------------|----|---------|------------|-----------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| 1 | To | be | your | pres - ence | is | our | mis - sion | here, | to | show | com - | |
| 2 | To | be | your | pres - ence | is | our | mis - sion | bold, | to | feed | the | |
| 3 | To | be | your | pres - ence | is | our | mis - sion | blest, | to | speak | for | |
| 4 | We | are | your | heart, | O | Christ, | your | hands and | voice, | to | serve | your |

pas-sion's face and lis-t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer-cy
 poor and shel-ter home-less cold, to be your hands of jus-tice,
 all the bro-ken and op-pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
 peo-ple is our call and choice, and in this mis-sion we, the

ev-er near,
 right up-hold,
 love ex-pressed,
 church, re-joice,

al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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A PENITENTIAL ORDER FOR CREATION

Because we view our lives in Christ through the forgiveness we receive from God, I invite us to confess our sins against God, our neighbors, and all Creation.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

We have forgotten who we are.

We have alienated ourselves from the unfolding of the cosmos.

We have become estranged from the movements of the earth.

We have turned our backs on the cycles of life.

We have forgotten who we are.

We have sought only our own security.

We have exploited simply for our own ends.

We have distorted our knowledge.

We have abused our power.

We have forgotten who we are.

Now the land is barren.

And the waters are poisoned.

And the air is polluted.

We have forgotten who we are.

Now the forests are dying. And the creatures are disappearing. And humans are despairing. We have forgotten who we are.

We ask forgiveness. We ask for the gift of remembering. We ask for the strength to change. Help us to remember who we are.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Peace with yourself. Peace with Creation. Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

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

The assembly is seated.

✠ WORD ✠

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

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Eager to be rich or eager to pursue richness of God's justice?

A reading from First Timothy:

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness,

faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time — he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

God of faithful surprises, you have made known your love and power.
May we daily perceive the joy and wonder of your abiding presence.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty —

² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

³ For God will rescue you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly plague.

⁴ **God’s wings will cover you, and you will find refuge beneath them;
God’s faithfulness will be your shield and defense.**

⁵ You shall not fear any terror in the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;

⁶ **nor the plague that stalks in the darkness,
nor the sickness that lays waste at noon.**

¹⁴ I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.

¹⁵ **They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.**

¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

**You are my refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.**

Antiphon: Ps. 91:2

CREATION READING

**“Interdependence
Requires the Collective”**

Luther Smith, Jr.
and
Howard Thurman

A reading from *The Mystic as Prophet*:

Love makes community. Even nature is involved in this concept of community, for the love-ethic extends to plants, animals, and the rest of creation. Howard Thurman’s analysis of the cause for some cases of mental illness is an excellent example of this conviction of inter-dependence:

“Our atmosphere is polluted, our streams are poisoned, our hills are denuded, wildlife is increasingly exterminated, while more and more humanity becomes an alien on the earth and a fouler of its own nest. The price that is being extracted for this is a deep sense of isolation, of being rootless and a vagabond. Often I have surmised that this condition is more responsible for what seems to be the phenomenal increase in mental and emotional disturbances in modern life than the pressures – economic, social, and political – that abound on every hand. The collective psyche shrieks that it feels as a part of the death cry of a pillaged nature.”

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! from the
Liturgy for the Family of God
Peter S. Klemp





GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:19-31

Parable of righteous poor and unrepentant rich

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house ²⁸ for I have five brothers – that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to

them.’³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

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

When Our World Is Rent by Violence

ACS 1052



1 When our world is rent by vio - lence and our lives are
2 When our cit - ies stand for - sak - en and the poor must
3 When our lives are burnt to ash - es and our hopes fade
4 Raise up beau - ty from the ash - es; end our vio - lence;



marred by grief, when our songs of calm as - sur - ance
beg for bread, when the pris - 'ner sits for - got - ten
like a dream, when our sto - ries lose their mean - ing
tend our peace. Give us vi - sions of a fu - ture



turn to cries of un - be - lief: God, we raise our
and the home - less find no bed, God, we raise our
and de - spir - be - comes their theme, God, we raise our
where all cap - tives find re - lease, where op - pres - sion



lam - en - ta - tion seek - ing ref - uge and re - lief.
lam - en - ta - tion: wak - en jus - tice from the dead!
lam - en - ta - tion: Come, Lord Je - sus, to re - deem!
is e - vic - ted, and all works of ha - tred cease.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: FORTUNATUS NEW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

South Indian

Together we affirm our faith:

We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ,
the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death
and all destructive forces.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for people in any need, especially Daryl, those on our prayer list, and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...*(a brief silence)*. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for grace to discern what your love demands of us. You call us to embrace both you and the children of this world with unconditional love, especially our homebound members. Help us to be faithful in things both great and small, that we may serve you with an undivided heart. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

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

"Faithfulness"

Joel Raney

Sanctuary Choir

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

OFFERTORY

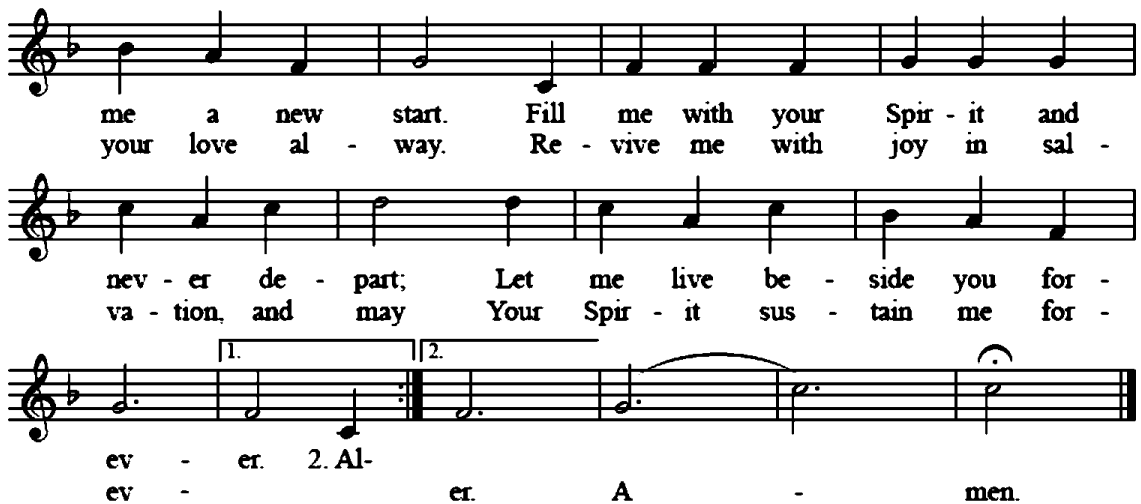
O God, My Creator from the
Liturgy for the Family of God

Peter S. Klemp

Psalm 51, alt.



1. O God, my Cre - a - tor, make
(2.) though I have sinned a - gainst
me a clean heart; For - give me, O Lord, to give
you, Lord, I pray, Have mer - cy up - on me with



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Collect for the Stewardship of Creation

Let us pray. O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature:

Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and remembering the account that we must give one day, grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer with Creation III

God is with us.

God is present here.

Rejoice! Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to the Most High.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

We praise you, our intimate God, the one who is with us, and with all of creation, the source of this magical, mystical, sensual, beautiful, earth. From microbes to whales you have created all of us. We are privileged to be a strand in all of your creation, including this strange and wonderful home, our earth, the open sky above, the dazzling array of stars and planets, and the unfathomable galaxies

beyond us. You have blessed us with a world of infinite variety and beauty, a land of mountains and meadows, canyons and valleys, deserts and jungles. Over and through this land you have provided oceans teeming with life, streams and rivers, crystal clear lakes, and cascading waterfalls. We share this land with all of your creatures, from mosquito to mountain lion, from seal to scorpion. You have formed all of this, this land of such intense wildness and beauty. Therefore, we praise you, O Sacred One, joining our voices with the cry of your animals, the rocks, the stars, the Moon, the Sun, and all the universe as we shout with joy:

Sanctus (Holy) from the
Liturgy for the Family of God
Peter S. Klump

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, our God of pow'r and might, Sing
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Heav'n and earth are full of your maj - es -
ty! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blest is he who
comes in the Name of the Lord! Sing loud, Ho-san - na! Ho-san - na in the
high - est! Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!

All-Holy God, you sent Jesus Christ to be among us. Through His incarnation, You taught us that You are always with us and all of the world. He showed us the way to grace and freedom, and how to show compassion to each other and the world. He gathered a people as your own and filled us with longing for justice and peace for all of creation. Keep us ever vigilant to follow his example

so that we may bring about Your reign that He opened for us, through his life, his death, and his resurrection. It is a reign where all your creation will be one.

On the night before he died, Jesus came to table with those he loved. Recalling his own actions of feeding the poor and eating with the outcast, he took bread, gave thanks to You, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."

When supper was ended, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to You, and passed the cup among his friends and said: "Take this all of you and drink from it, this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, do this in memory of me."

Therefore, let us pray:

Gracious God among us, help us to feel your presence, and give us the strength to serve your creation and your people this day and every day.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts, O Sacred One. May they become for us the Body and Blood of Christ, just as we, your people, are that same Body. Breathe your Spirit upon us also and upon the entire earth. Make us one with your earth, so that all of Creation may become one with your Body.

Bring all of us, from every clan, tribe, and nation together, to feast upon your abundant banquet, prepared from the fruits of your earth and made possible by the redemption of your Christ.

Through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the entire Universe, all glory and honor to God and Creator, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

Holy One, our only Home, hallowed be your name.

May your day dawn, your will be done, here as in heaven.

Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.

Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.

**For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours,
now and forever.**

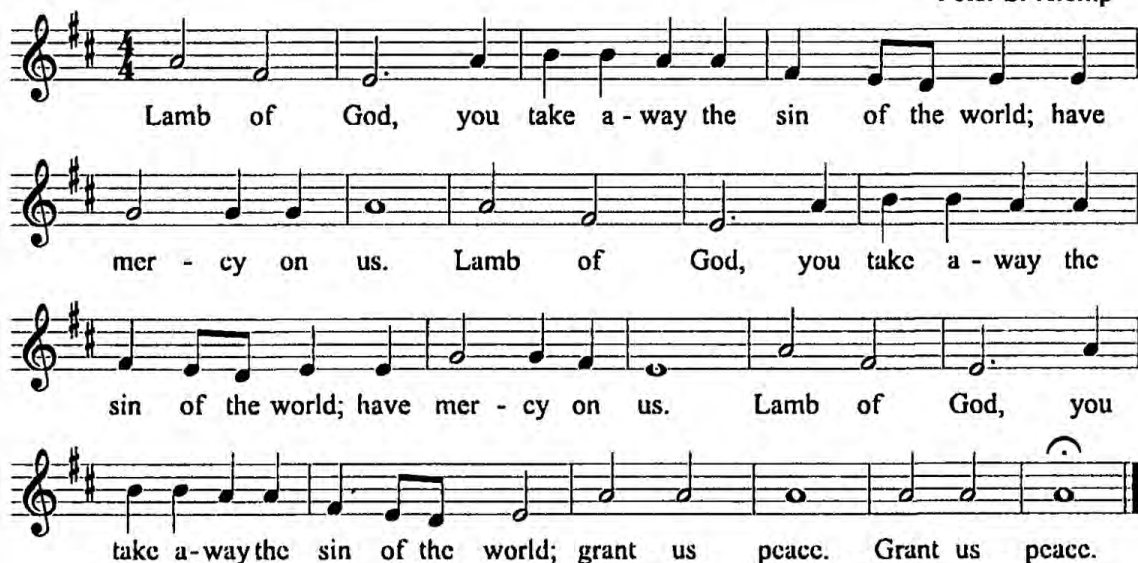
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Creator God, you fed us from the beginning.
Happy are all, called to the Supper of Creation.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) from the
Liturgy for the Family of God
Peter S. Klump



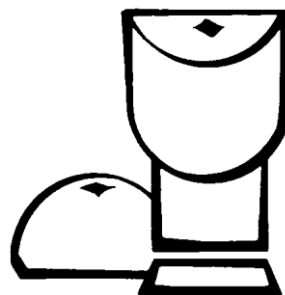
Be seated.

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

When the Poor Ones

ELW 725



- 1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
- 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
- 3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
- 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing:
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:
 when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934

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Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

TFF 292

Found on p. 17

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,
 give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.
 Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,
 give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.
 And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
 rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And
 now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
 rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

Text: Henry Smith
 Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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*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:

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior.

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

Go forth now to care for God's world. Use resources wisely. Share your knowledge. Sacrifice where necessary. Live in harmony with all creation. Go out into all the world as prophets of a new way of living and preach the good news to all. And the blessing of the Creator God, ✠ the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Church of Christ, In Every Age

ELW 729

Found on p. 19

DISMISSAL

Tend the earth, care for God's good Creation;
as you have received freely, so give freely.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Voluntary on "Engelberg"

arr. Charles Callahan

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
 Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698-1768
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The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and
praise of God in honor of Lydia DiChristopher's
fourth birthday by Pat and Lorraine Fett.



ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Ping-An Tjoa
Lector: Belinda Johnson
Bread Provider: Linda Brammer
Altar Guild: Cheryl Johnson
Flower Guild: Karen Simonelli

Today's "creation author," The Reverend Doctor Luther E. Smith, Jr. is Professor Emeritus of Church and Community, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He is the author and editor of influential books on Howard Thurman, Christian community, and spiritual practices.

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Season of Creation resources from a *Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes*

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Liturgy for the Family of God written by Peter S. Klemp

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*You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich,
yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.*

2 Corinthians 8:9

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

LECTIONARY 26/PROPER 21 (YEAR C)

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold – who comes to us risen from the dead – who can free us from the death grip of greed.

ADULT FORUM

From Old Swedes to the Methodists: Historic Churches of Delaware

After the Swedish Lutherans, the Presbyterians are the oldest Christian denomination in Delaware. While today, worship is rather sedate, back in the day, members of one Presbyterian congregation in Delaware fought over who controlled the pulpit on Sunday morning including the use of a hatchet! Find out who, in our Adult Forum, Historic Churches of Delaware, this coming Sunday morning at 8:30 in the Blue Room.

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.

October 23 “House Rules” by Jodi Picoult

HOLY HIKE

Please join us for our Holy Hike after worship today, Sunday, September 28. We will be meeting at White Clay Creek Preserve, Lot 2, Northeast of 404 Sharpless Road, Landenburg, PA. This is a four-mile wooded, flat trail.

VIRTUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

St. Francis of Assisi saw all of creation as a gift from God, one that needs to be protected and cared for. For this reason, he is the patron saint of the environment and animals. So next Sunday, October 5 (the day after his feast day, October 4), please bring a picture of your pet(s) and we will offer a virtual blessing upon them. Come forward before worship or as you come forward for Holy Communion and attach your furry, feathered, or scaly friend(s) to the display in the chancel.

SAENGERBUND ERNTEDANKFEST

The congregation is cordially invited to attend the Delaware Saengerbund's Erntedankfest, a service of thanksgiving, on Sunday, October 5 at 3:00 PM. Pastor Cris will preside, and Mike will accompany the service, along with the Saengerbund choir. The Johannes Brass will also provide special music.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY FUNDRAISER

LCM is holding a fundraiser on Saturday, November 1, at Grace Lutheran Church in Hockessin. Please join for free food and other festivities. Donations are needed for a basket raffle or silent auction item. They welcome hand-crafted items, baked goods, and event tickets as well as creative baskets. For consistency, please keep the value of each basket near \$50 - \$60 and list the items in the basket on a small tag. Please provide completed baskets and items by Wednesday, October 22 unless they are baked goods. Baked items may be brought fresh to the church during the hour prior to the event. Please contact chaplain@lcmde.org for any questions or to arrange pick up for donations.

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!

OLDER, WISER, LUTHERANS

The OWLS will venture out for another fun fall outing aboard Chesapeake Water Tour's Cider & Donut Cruise on Saturday, October 4. They will enjoy scenic views of the C&D Canal and Upper Chesapeake Bay on this 90-minute cruise, while savoring complimentary apple cider donuts and warm apple cider from the one and only Milburn Orchards. After the cruise, the group will gather at Schaeffer's Restaurant on the north side of the canal for dinner (on your own). The deadline to register has passed but for questions you can contact Bill Saylor (302-378-8946/ 302-354-3363/bsaylor2@verizon.net).

STEP UP TO THE PLATE

We're only one week away from the "First Pitch" for our 2026 pledging campaign and we already have a few "tickets" (pledge cards) in the Gold Box! We'll tell you more about what it all means for St. Paul's and our ministries each Sunday from October 5 until October 19, but for now just grab a "ticket" from the Communications table in the Narthex and get ready to help hit a grand slam for St. Paul's!

GIVING STATEMENTS

You should have received an email copy of your year-to-date giving statement. If you did not receive one, or have questions or concerns about your statement, please contact Nalini (business@stpaulsnewarkde.org).

ST. PAUL'S GAME NIGHT

Please join us on Wednesday, October 20, from 6 pm to 9 pm for a Game Night. Bring your favorite card or board game to the Fellowship Hall for some friendly competition. Bring a snack to share if you'd like. Come when you can. Leave when you have to. Contact Pastor Cris if you have any questions.



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

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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**

