ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pentecost

June 8, 2025

Midweek Evening Prayer, Wednesdays 6PM

Welcome to Saint Paul!

We are happy to have you here!

How to know when to stand, sit, or speak

Whenever you see an asterisk (*) at a heading, you are invited to stand as you are able. You are not required to stand, so if, for health or emotional reasons you cannot or do not wish to stand, that is okay.
You are invited to speak the words printed in **bold type**.

We are an Open Communion Congregation

This means that any Christian who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is invited to receive Holy Communion.

How to financially support us

Offerings can be made online at **stpaulpgm.org/give,** mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

A note on Communion Wafers

To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain 15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.
If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Gathering

The Gathering for worship began when you started readying yourself for worship

An Introduction to the Day

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

Prelude – *Out of consideration for our musicians, please refrain from talking during the prelude.*

*Call to Worship – Veni Sancte Spiritus

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Jesus Christ, ascended into Heaven!

Our God is enthroned in majesty! Alleluia!

Today, we recall the fulfilled promise,

that the Spirit would be poured out.

Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to stir up within us and fall fresh upon us.

Come, Holy Spirit, send forth the heavenly radiance of your light.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, mother of the poor, come, giver of gifts, come, light of the heart.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Greatest comforter, sweet guest of the soul, sweet consolation.

Come, Holy Spirit!

In labor, rest, in heat, temperance, in tears, solace.

Come, Holy Spirit!

O most blessed light, fill the inmost heart of your faithful.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Without your spirit, there is nothing in a person, nothing that is not harmful.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Cleanse that which is unclean, water that which is dry,
heal that which is wounded.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Bend that which is inflexible, fire that which is chilled, correct what goes astray.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Give to your faithful, those who trust in you, the sevenfold gifts.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Grant the reward of virtue, grant the deliverance of salvation, grant eternal joy.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, Holy Spirit! Amen! Alleluia!

*Gathering Hymn *"Hail Thee, Festival Day!"* *(LBW 142)*

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

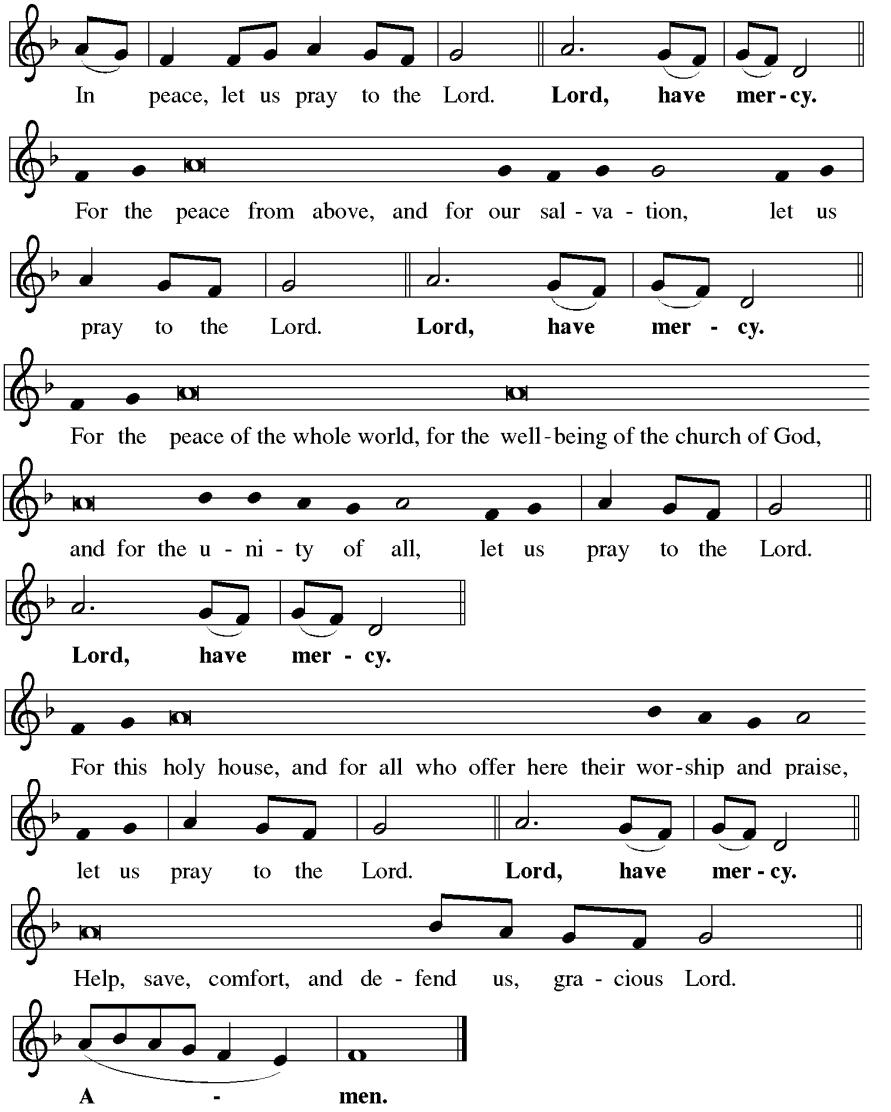
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

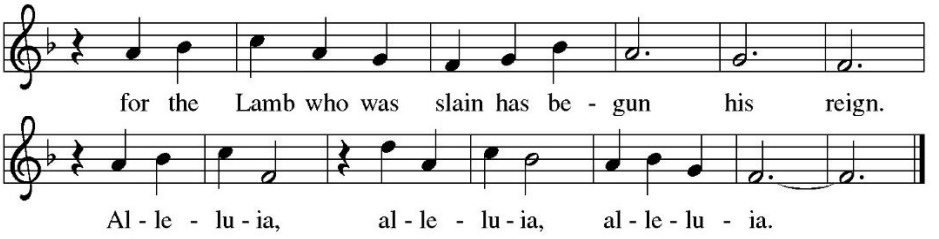
*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **A: And also with you.**

*KYRIE



*This is the Feast



*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **A: Amen.**

Anthem: *"Holy Spirit, Come."*

Word

First Reading: Genesis 11:1-9

The miracle of Pentecost (people hearing the Gospel in their native language) is the reversal of the punishment at Babel. But Pentecost also reverses another part of this story: the next thing which happens is the call of Abraham, so that God's attention moves from the whole human race to focus on Israel. A central theme of the book of Acts is that God's direct care returns to all humanity.

[1] Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. [2] And as they migrated
from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. [3] And they
said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and fire them thoroughly." And they had
brick for stone and bitumen for mortar. [4] Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a
city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves;
otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole
earth." [5] The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had
built. [6] And the LORD said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language,
and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will
now be impossible for them. [7] Come, let us go down and confuse their language there,
so that they will not understand one another's speech." [8] So the LORD scattered them
abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the

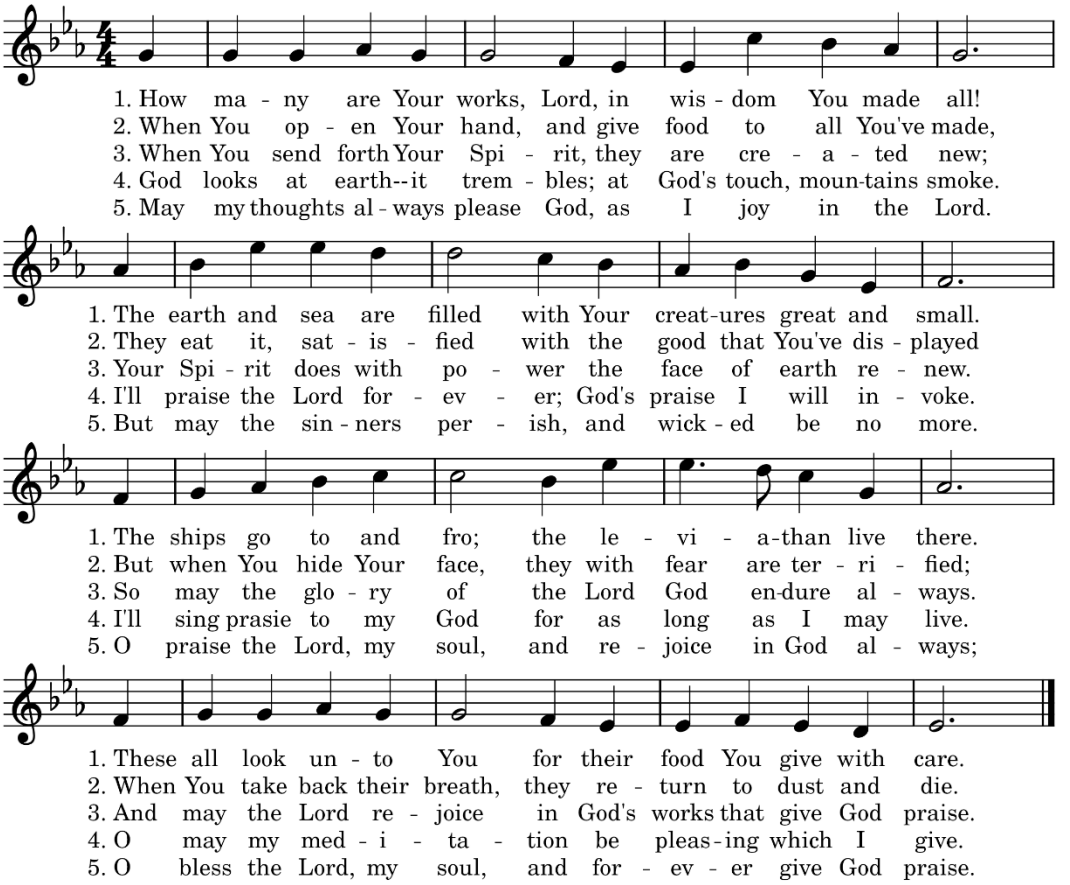
city. [9] Therefore it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth, and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

(sung to the tune Aurelia)

These verses, whose vision of the universality of God's message is appropriate for Pentecost, also include the line which inspires the Nicene Creed's declaration that the Spirit is not only Lord, but Life-Giver. "Leviathan" is a sea monster, probably inspired by reports from the Nile of the hippopotamus.



Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21

For first century Jews, Pentecost (Shavuot) was, like Passover, one of the three annual festivals for which everyone who could went to Jerusalem. Given the rhythms of agricultural life, it was the one most possible for most people to take part in. Just as Passover commemorated the escape from Egypt, Shavuot commemorated the giving of the law on Sinai (50 days later). Wind and flame accompanied the presence of God on that mountain.

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one
place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,
and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire,
appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled
with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them
ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in
Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each
one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they
asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each
of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of
Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt
and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and
proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about
God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What
does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow
Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I
say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the
morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
20 The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel Reading: John 14:8-17 [25-27]

As part of his final address to his followers, Jesus promises a "Paraclete." This marks the Holy Spirit as an "advocate," a defense attorney, but one who is also a trustworthy witness, and a companion (the word literally means, "one called to stand beside"). It is remarkable that John says that on the cross Jesus "gave up his spirit" (John 19:30) and that in his first resurrection appearance to the disciples, he breathed the Spirit on them (John 20:22).

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fourteenth chapter.
A: Glory to you, O Lord.

8 Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. 12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the

Father. [13] I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

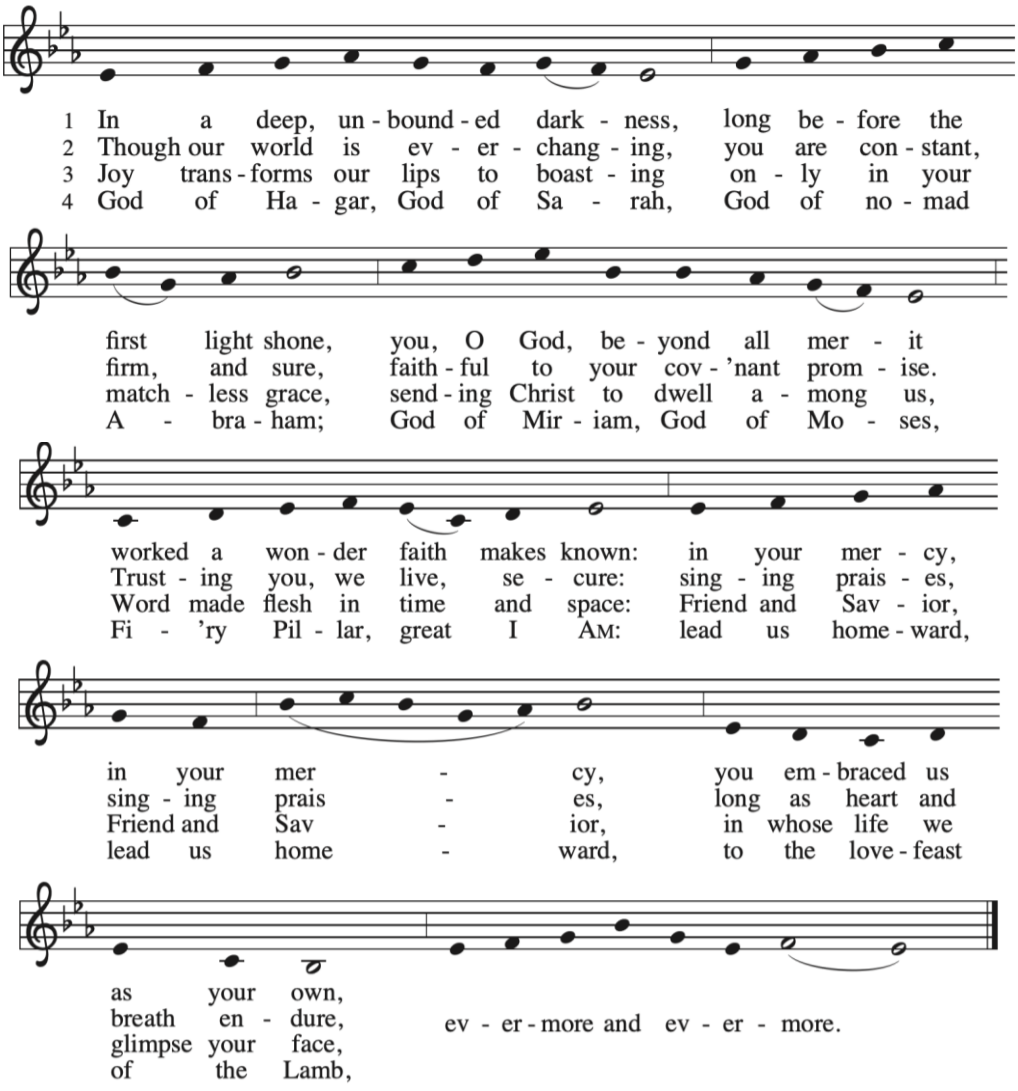
[15] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. [16] And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. [17] This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [

[25] "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. [26] But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. [27] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ**.

Sermon

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *"In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness"* (ACS 1093)



Text: Anonymous, China; tr. Francis P. Jones, 1890–1975; adapt. Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong mode V, 13th cent.
Text © 2012 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

*Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Prayers of Intercession

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

L: We pray for the church. Continue to inspire our sharing of the gospel and equip us to tear down the barriers we have erected. Make our welcome expansive, intentional, and open to loving challenge. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for creation. Allow fire to burn safely in habitats where it's needed and quench flames when they threaten to run wild. Protect forests, prairies, and grasslands from destruction by natural forces or human misdeeds. Safeguard firefighters and rescuers in their dangerous work. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.
L: We pray for courts and legislatures. Write your commandments on our hearts, and inspire all who govern to lead with love over retribution. Unite judges, lawyers, and systems of justice in a desire for reconciliation. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for the sick in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Lift up all who have been bowed low by circumstances or internal strife. Bring to wholeness those who cry out to you in need. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.

L: We pray for this congregation. Raise up in us a deep desire to live out our baptismal promises and to support those of all ages in our shared journey of faith. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We offer thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in you. We especially remember Helen Kline, Jim Harpster, Bob Hemman, Sally Kolesar, and George Groninger, our former pastor. Let their lives encourage our own daily living. Console us with the promise of eternal life. Hear us, O God.
A: Your mercy is great.

L: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
A: Amen.

*Peace

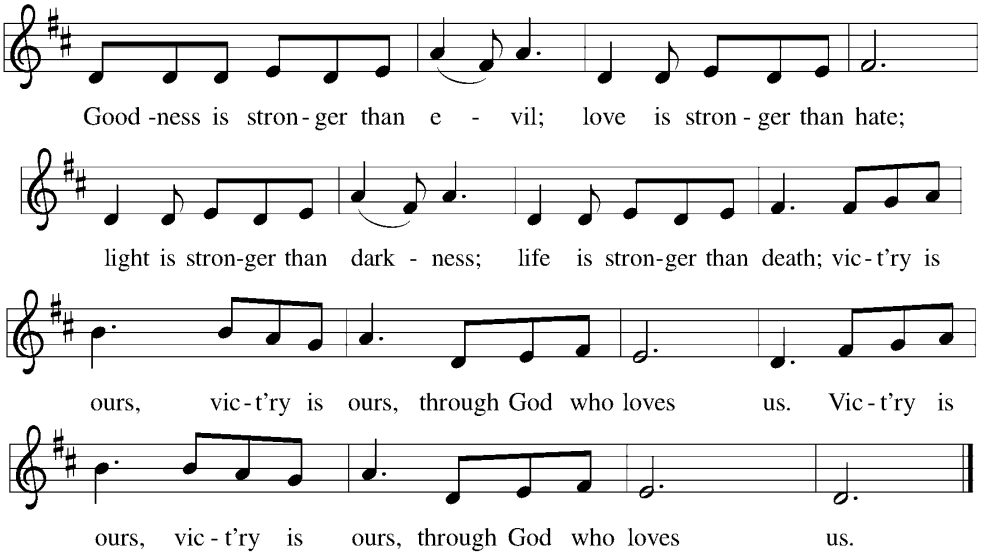
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

Meal

Offering

Musical Offering

*Offertory: *"Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil"* *(ELW 721)*



Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931
Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949
Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.
Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

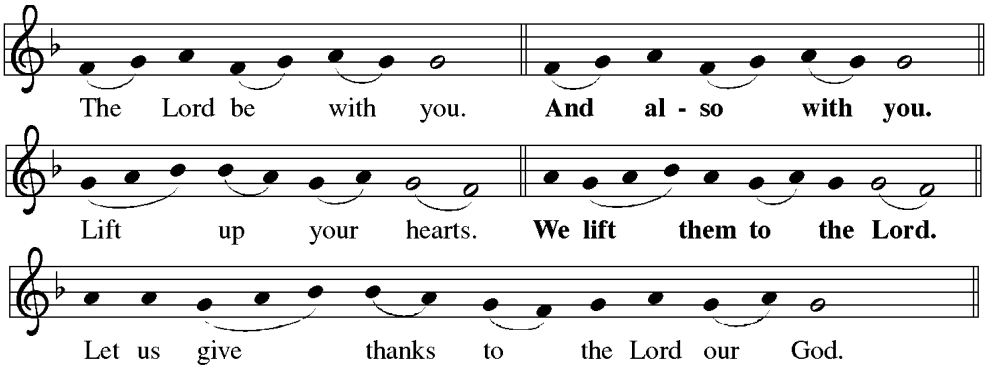
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

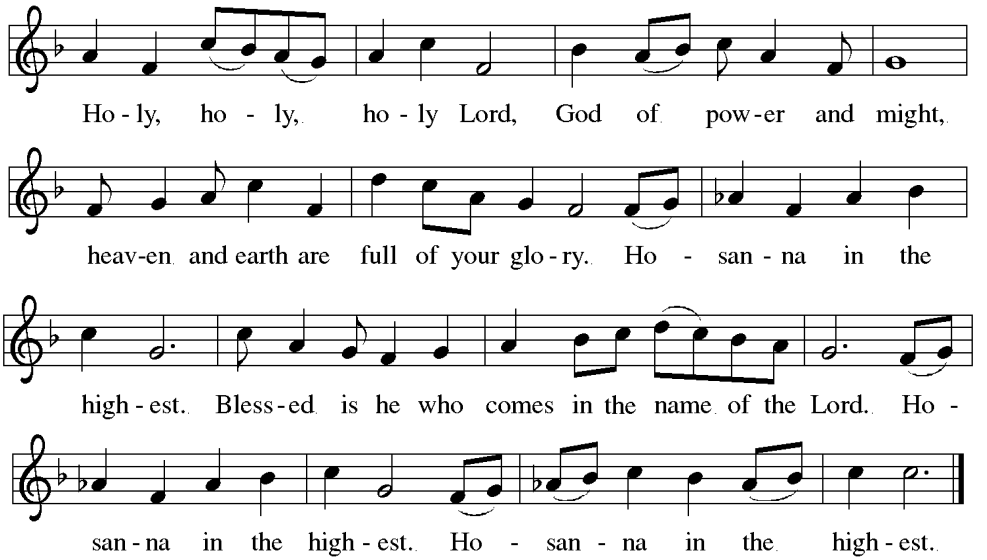
* DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

P: 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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.
You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.
We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was handed over,
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.
Together we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
A: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
A: Amen, come Lord Jesus.
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.
A: Amen, come Holy Spirit.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.
A: Amen! Alleluia!

*Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

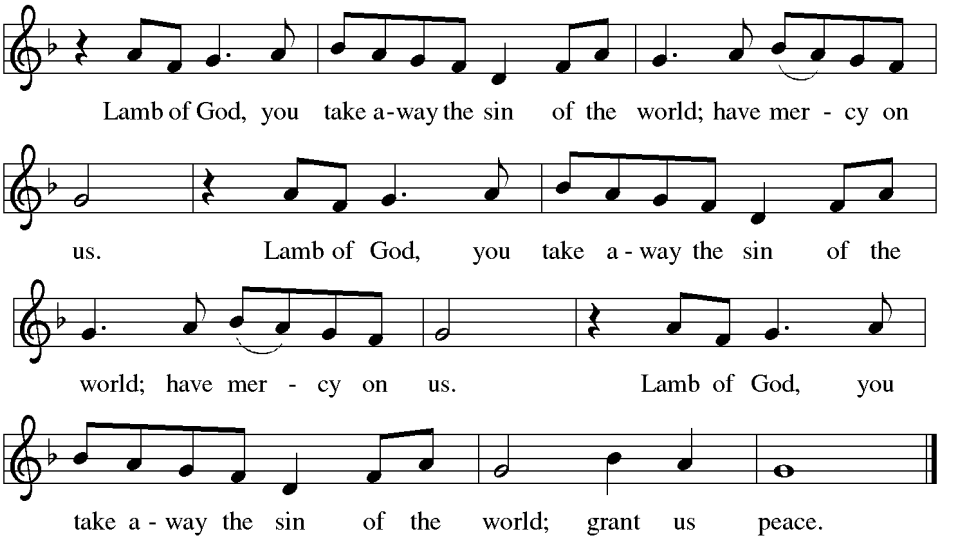
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

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.
Lead us not into time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

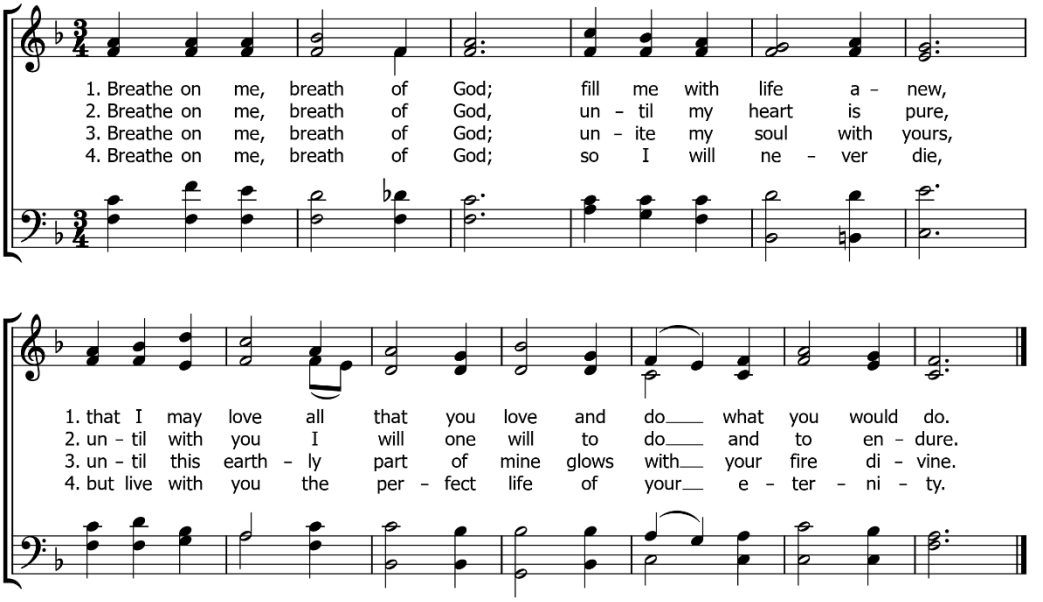
*Lamb of God



Communion

P: The body of Christ, given for you. L: The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

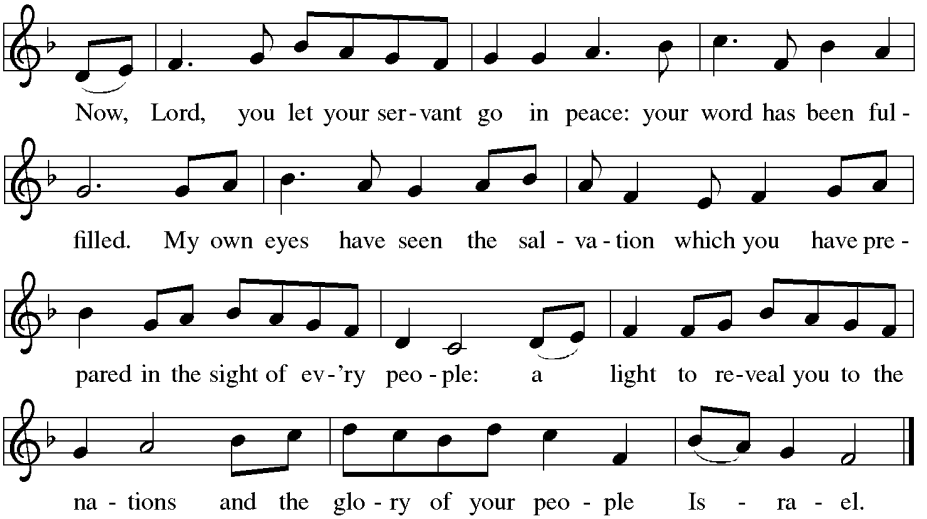
*Communion Hymn: *"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"* *(SBH 470)*



*Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you, body, mind, and soul, now, and unto eternal life**. A: Amen.**

*Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis* (*Now, Lord)*



*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **A: Amen.**

Sending

*Sending of communion

P: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **A: Amen.**

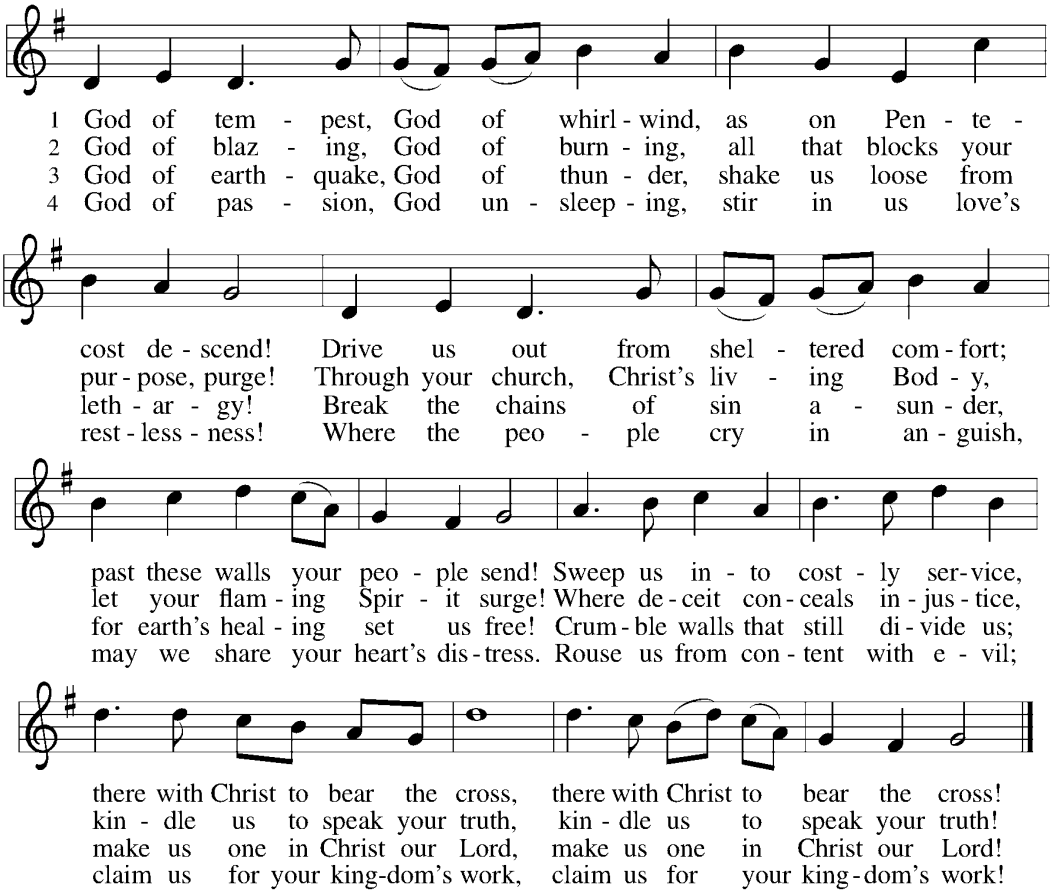
Announcements

You may be seated.

*Blessing

P: 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, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: *" God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"* *(ELW 400)*



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932
Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
A: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, June 8
Acts 2:1-21
Genesis 11:1-9 {alternate}
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (30) R
omans 8:14-17
Acts 2:1-21 {alternate}
John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Monday, June 9
Joel 2:18-29
1 Corinthians 2:1-11
Psalm 48

Tuesday, June 10
Ezekiel 11:14-25
1 Corinthians 2:12-16
Psalm 48

Wednesday, June 11
Numbers 24:1-14
Luke 1:26-38
Psalm 48

Thursday, June 12
Proverbs 3:13-18
Ephesians 1:17-19
Psalm 8

Friday, June 13
Proverbs 3:19-26
Ephesians 4:1-6
Psalm 8

Saturday, June 14
Proverbs 4:1-9
Luke 2:41-52
Psalm 8

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Elisa Osman
Assisting Minister.....Karen Magnuson
Pianist.....Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Delorse Homan
Reader.....Morgen Hummel

About St. Paul

Purpose

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

Mission

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

Core Values

Faith • Compassion • Generosity • Community

Our Bible Verses

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

Land Acknowledgement

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

Copyright and License Information

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000528. New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible, copyright © 2021, National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Hymns reprinted and streamed under OneLicense Annual License, A-726322 for Aug 11, 2024 - Aug 10, 2025. The Scriptural Prones (introductions to the pericopes) are written by the Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg and used with permission. Words found in psalm taken from Seedbed.com, written by Tim and Julie Tennent. Permission is granted to use these metrical settings for public worship with acknowledgement of the source. Permission is not granted for commercial use or financial charge.