



# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 6, 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

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

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

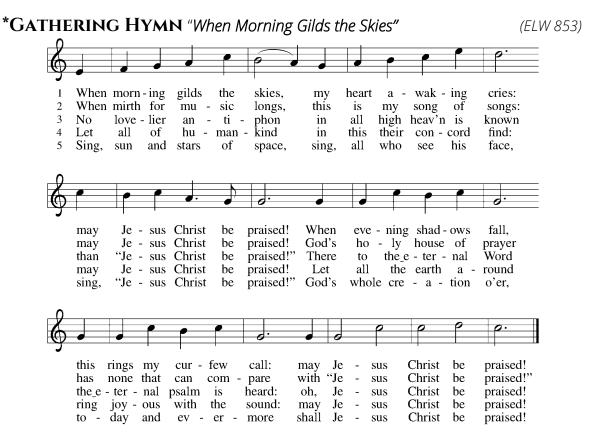
#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. A: Amen.

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

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

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.** 



Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

### \*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.** 

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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. **A: Amen.** 

# **WORD**

### FIRST READING: 2 KINGS 5:1-14

In these weeks we have been hearing the stories of the great early prophets of Israel, Elijah and Elisha. This lesson is one of a series of stories about Elisha's miracles, many of which have parallels in Jesus's healings and his feeding of multitudes.

<sup>1</sup> Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. <sup>2</sup> Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." <sup>4</sup> So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. <sup>5</sup> And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. <sup>6</sup> He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." <sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup> But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" <sup>14</sup> So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

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

This psalm could have been sung by Naaman, or by anyone (like us) who have received the blessings of God when they did not expect them.



# SECOND READING: GALATIANS 6: [1-6] 7-16

For the last several weeks we have been reading through Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia. Traveling preachers had visited those churches and convinced them that Christians must obey the Jewish law (including circumcision) in order to be truly Christian. In the early verses of Galatians 6, Paul reminds his readers that truly Christian behavior is not denigrating other Christians, but humble, mutual service. Paul dictated his letters to a secretary, but he writes the close of this letter personally.

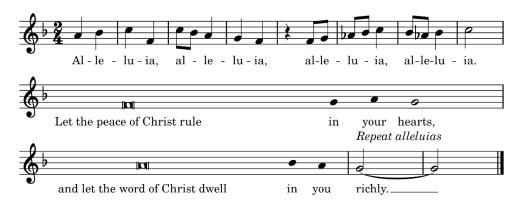
[1 My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. <sup>4</sup> All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. <sup>5</sup> For all must carry their own loads.

<sup>6</sup> Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.]

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup> If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

<sup>11</sup> See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! <sup>12</sup> It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! <sup>16</sup> As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.** 

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



# \*Gospel Reading: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Following the Transfiguration, Jesus began his trek to Jerusalem and his crucifixion. On the way (as we heard last week in the verses leading up to this story) he has been rejected by Samaritans and has warned prospective followers that being his disciple is not one loyalty among many, but an all-consuming relationship.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the tenth chapter.

# A: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' <sup>6</sup> And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

<sup>16</sup> "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" <sup>18</sup> He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON

# \*HYMN OF THE DAY: "God's Work, Our Hands"

(ACS 1000)



Text: Wayne L., Wold, b. 1954 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922—1987 Text © 2019 Evungelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

# \*APOSTLES' CREED

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.

### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

### A brief silence.

L: You send your church into the world with a message of peace. Center the whole church in this peace, and strengthen our faith by the example of (*Jan Hus and*) all those who creatively and faithfully proclaim your good news. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

L: All the earth sings out your name. Inspire your people to drink deeply from the beauty of (*local natural beauty and*) all your creation. When ecosystems are wounded, bring your healing. When our actions endanger the survival of other species, curb our greed and waste. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

L: You call us to work for the good of all. Give resolve to those who lead, that they do not grow weary in doing what is right. Guide them to seek peace between nations and freedom for all people. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

L: As a mother comforts her child, so you comfort us. Bring this comfort to those in any pain (*especially*). Carry your people when grief is heavy, and lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

L: Your harvest is plentiful, O God. Make us laborers and companions with one another in this assembly. Send your peace to rest upon us, heal divisions among us, and open our hearts to receive one another as gifts from you. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: You have written our names in heaven, O God, and we rejoice. We thank you for those who have lived and died in your love, especially James Rearick, Kate Shoemaker, and Marcella Harner. Accompany us on our life's journey and draw us at last to life forever in you. God of grace,

### A: hear our prayer.

L: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

A: Amen.

# \*PEACE

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

# **MEAL**

### **OFFERING**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

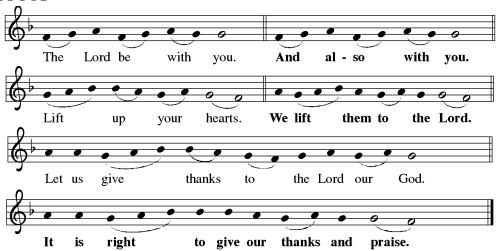
### \*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

A: Amen.

# \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

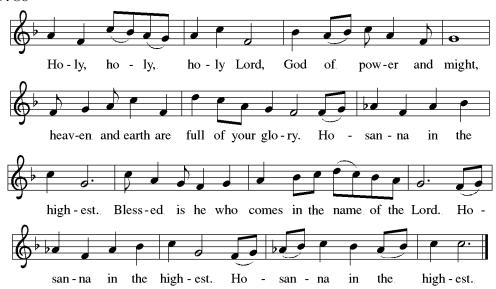
\* DIALOGUE



#### \*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; 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:

#### \*SANCTUS



#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy, Mighty, and Merciful God,

in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

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

In the night in which he was 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.

We proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

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

A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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

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.** 

### \*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.

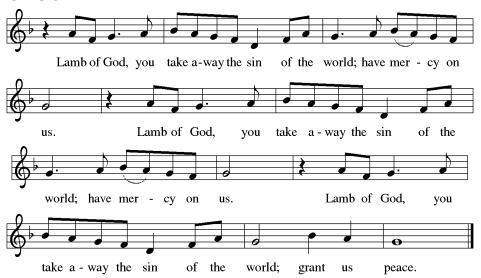
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

### \*LAMB OF GOD

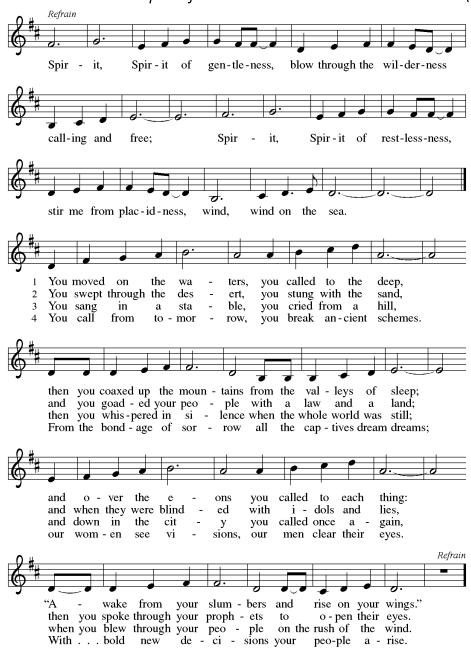


### **COMMUNION**

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

# **COMMUNION HYMN:** "Spirit of Gentleness"

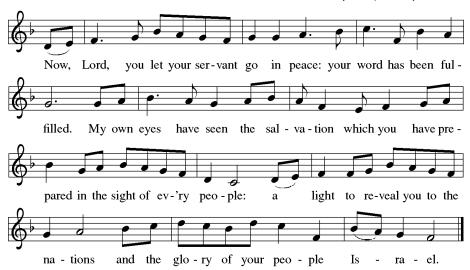
(ELW 396)



### \*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. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **A: Amen.** 

# **SENDING**

### 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 Be with You Till We Meet Again"

(ELW 536)



- 1 God be with you till we meet a gain; by good coun-sels guide, up hold you,
- 2 God be with you till we meet a gain; ho ly wings se cure ly hide you,
- 3 God be with you till we meet a gain; when life's per ils thick con-found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you; dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain. put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;





Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904

Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833-1896

### \*DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

A: Thanks be to God.

### **POSTLUDE**



### DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

# Sunday, July 6

Isaiah 66:10-14 Psalm 66:1-9 (4) Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

# Monday, July 7

Jeremiah 6:10-19 Acts 19:21-27 Psalm 119:73-80

### Tuesday, July 8

Jeremiah 8:4-13 Acts 19:28-41 Psalm 119:73-80

# Wednesday, July 9

Joshua 23:1-16 Luke 10:13-16 Psalm 119:73-80

# Thursday, July 10

Genesis 41:14-36 James 2:14-26 Psalm 25:1-10

# Friday, July 11

Genesis 41:37-49 Acts 7:9-16 Psalm 25:1-10

### Saturday, July 12

Leviticus 19:1-4, 32-37 John 3:16-21 Psalm 25:1-10



### **SERVING TODAY**

Worship Leader	Bishop Barb Collins
Assisting Minister	Karen Magnuson
Pianist	Michelle McMullen
Sacristan	Ann Reede
Reader	Eleanor Bird

#### 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 <u>sundaysandseasons.com</u>. 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.