ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 13, 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

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

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.**

*Gathering Hymn *"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"* *(ELW 708)*

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.
Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
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*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 Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Amos 7:7-17

Because Luke often presents Jesus as carrying on the ministry of the Old Testament prophets, our first readings during these weeks is from several of those figures, this week the prophet Amos from the 8th century BCE. Not trained as a prophet and a resident of the southern kingdom of Judah, God called Amos to preach in the northern kingdom of Israel. A plumb line has a weight on the end, and is used by builders to make sure that walls are absolutely straight.

7 This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a
plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. 8 And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you
see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,
"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer;
9 the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

10 Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos
has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able
to bear all his words. 11 For thus Amos has said,
'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.' "
12 And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread
there, and prophesy there, 13 but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's
sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."
14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I am a
herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, 15 and the LORD took me from following the
flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

16 "Now therefore hear the word of the LORD.
You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'

17 Therefore thus says the LORD:
Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parceled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land."

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

PSALM 82

(sung to the tune Land of Rest)

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

For the next several weeks we will read through the book of Colossians. Like many of Paul's letters, this begins with wishing "grace and peace," a formulaic opening for letters of this time, like our "Dear Sir or Madam," but which the writer fills with theological meaning. This passage also foreshadows the description of Christ as God's means of creation and the complete revelation of God, which we will hear next week.

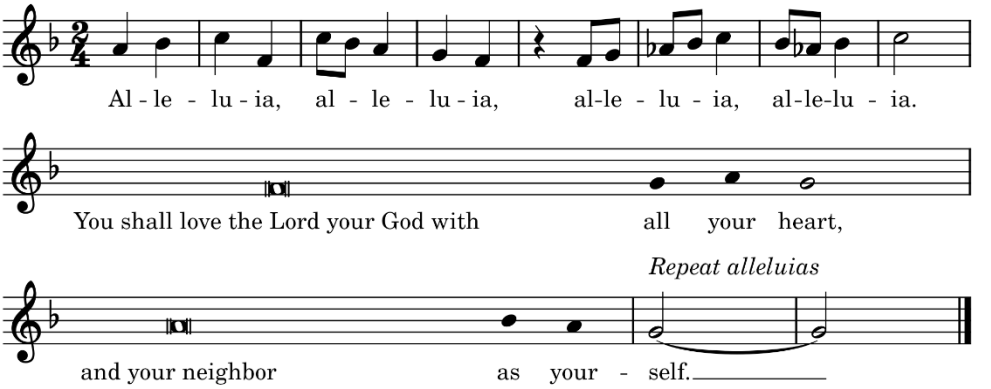
[1] Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
[2] To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

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

[9] For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, [10] so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. [11] May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully [12] giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. [13] He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel Reading: Luke 10:25-37

For the rest of this year we will be hearing of the ministries Jesus performed on his way to Jerusalem and his crucifixion. Those ministries include teaching in parables like this familiar one. The road between Jericho and Jerusalem was a familiar, but still a dangerous one; lawyers, priests, and scribes were all religious leaders and workers.

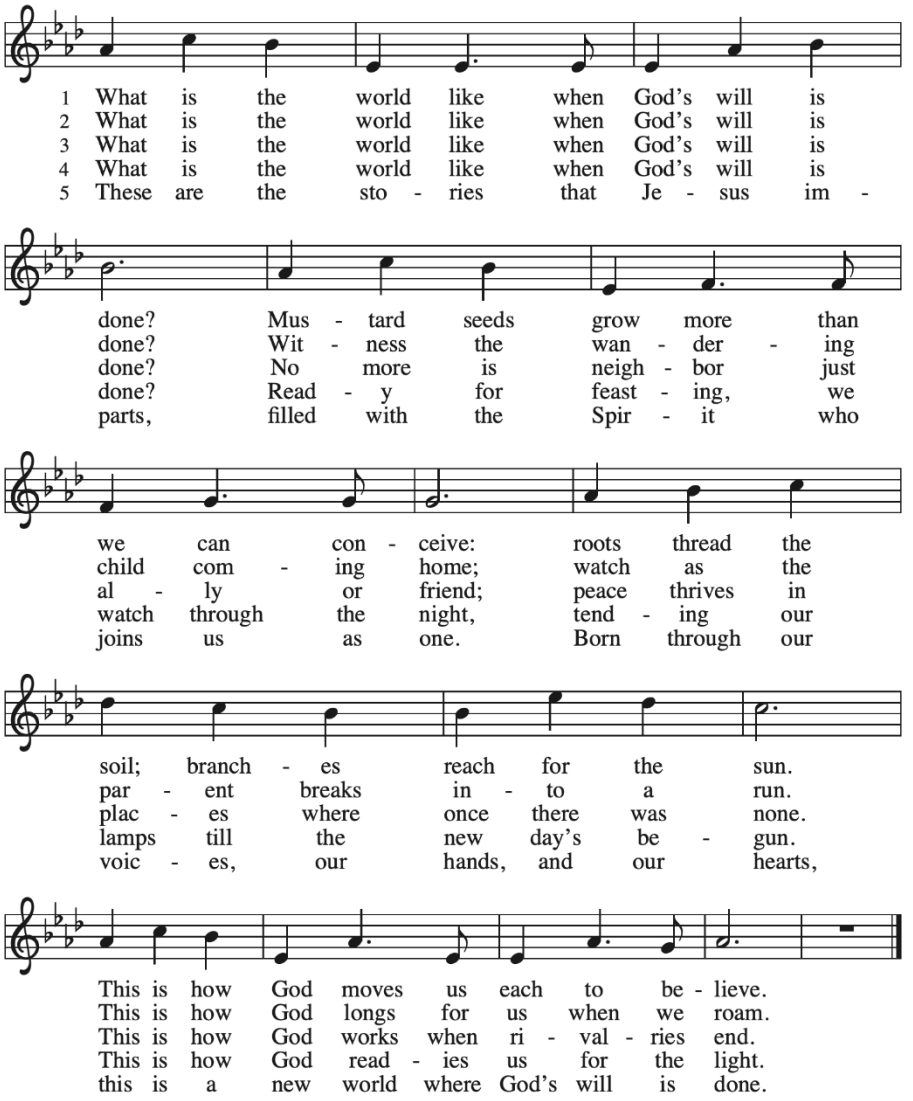
P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the tenth chapter.
A: Glory to you, O Lord.

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to
inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read
there?" 27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as
yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will
live."
29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Jesus
replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of
robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by
chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the
other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on
the other side. 33 But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him
he was moved with compassion. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating
them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and
took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper,
and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you
spend.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the
hands of the robbers?" 37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him,
"Go and do likewise."

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

Sermon

*Hymn Of the Day *"What Is the World Like"* *(ACS 1047)*



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979
Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952
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*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,
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.

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

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

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

L: Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing especially John Schueltz and Betty Walker. Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

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

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

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

*Peace

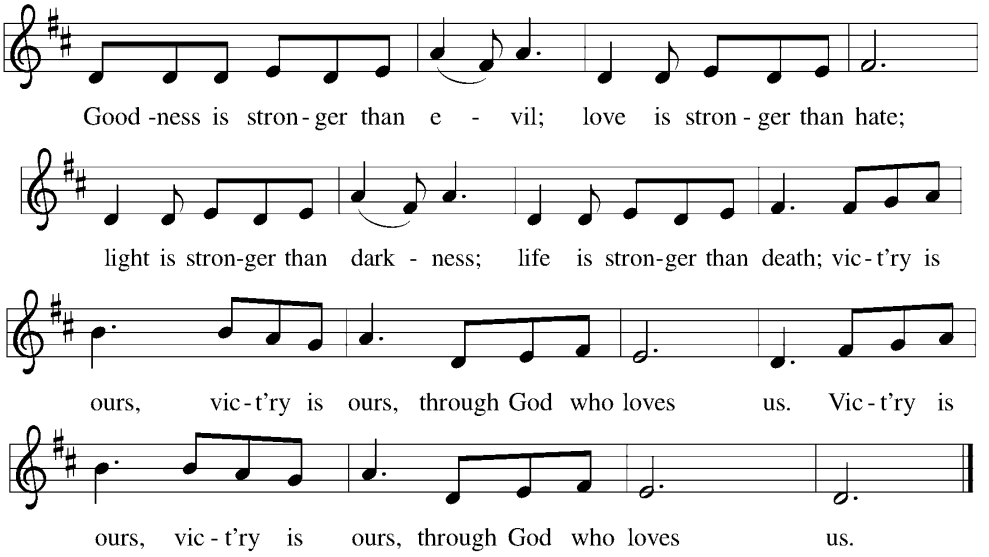
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

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
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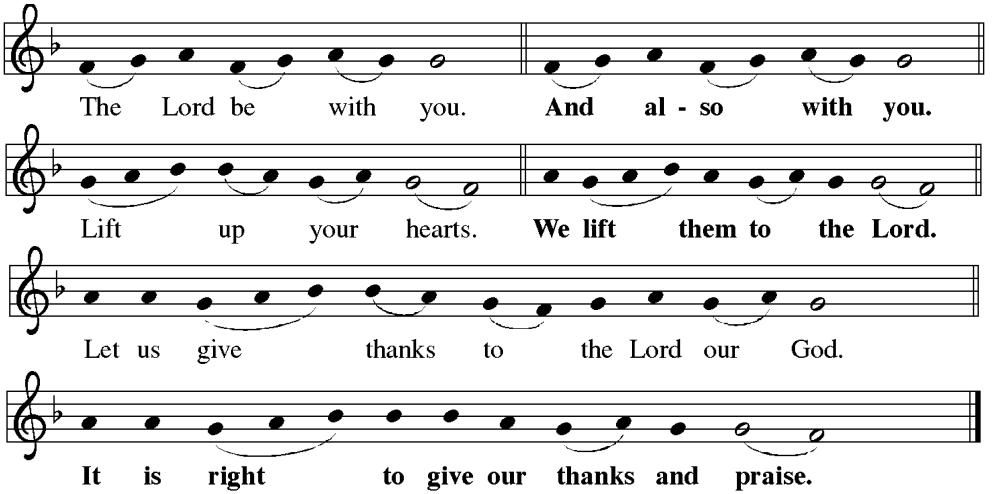
*Offering Prayer

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

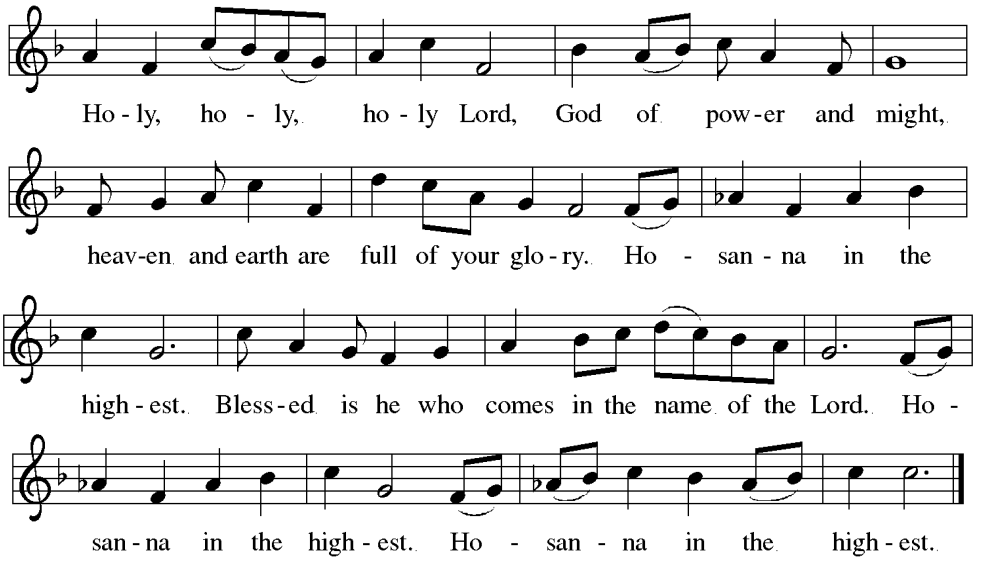
* DIALOGUE



*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:

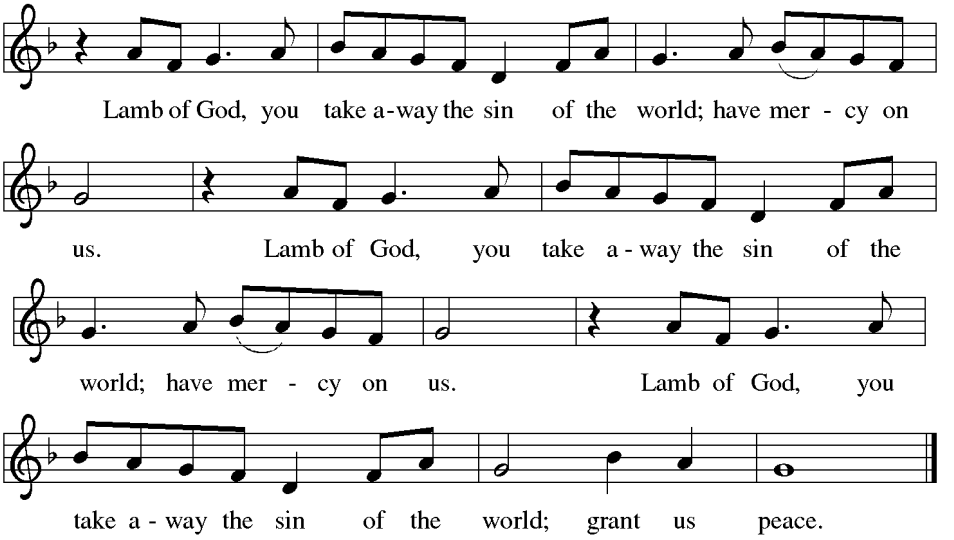
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

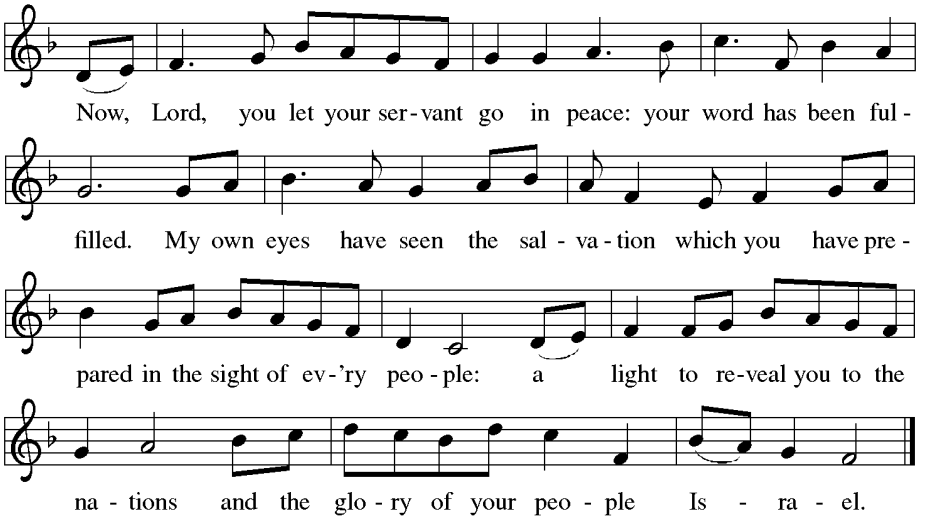
Communion Hymn: *"Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"* *(ELW 696)*

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

*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

*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: *"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"* *(ELW 769)*

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
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*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, July 13
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10 (4)
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

Monday, July 14
Job 24:1-8
James 2:1-7
Psalm 25:11-20

Tuesday, July 15
Proverbs 19:1-17
1 John 3:11-17
Psalm 25:11-20

Wednesday, July 16
Psalm 25:11-20
Matthew 25:31-46
Psalm 25:11-20

Thursday, July 17
Genesis 12:10-20
Hebrews 5:1-6
Psalm 15

Friday, July 18
Genesis 13:1-18
Ephesians 3:14-21
Psalm 15

Saturday, July 19
Genesis 14:1-16
Luke 8:4-10
Psalm 15

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

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Elisa Osman
Assisting Minister.....Morgen Hummel
Pianist.....Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Ann Reede
Reader.....Nate Clinert

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.

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