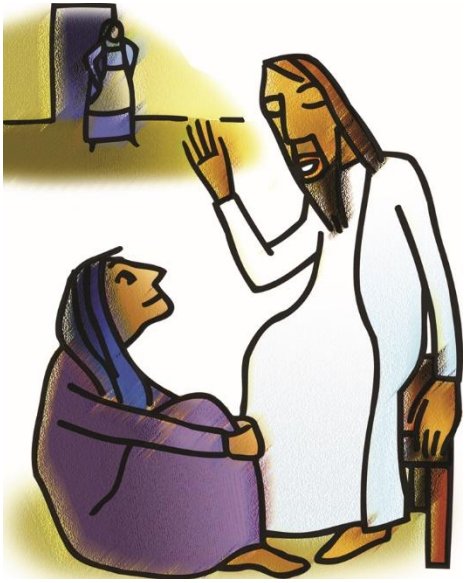
ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 20, 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

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

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: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have neglected to nurture the new growth you cause to sprout among us. We have failed to protect those tender and vulnerable in faith from the choking weeds of our indifference and inflexibility. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, rededicate us, and compel us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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 *"Morning Has Broken"* *(ELW 556)*

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

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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.**

*KYRIE

A: We pray for peace, O Lord, make plow-shares of our swords, make plow-shares of our
swords, hear us when we cry to you. C: Lord, have mer-cy on us, have
mer-cy on us, Lord, have mer-cy on us, hear us when we cry to you.
A: Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un - til we see your
face, hear us when we cry to you. C: Christ, have mer-cy on us, have
mer-cy on us, Christ have mer-cy on us, hear us when we cry to you.
A: De - fend your Church, O Lord, and root it in your word, and root it in your
word, hear us when we cry to you. C: Lord, have mer-cy on us, have
rit.
mer-cy on us, Lord, have mer-cy on us, hear our cry. A - men.

*Canticle of Praise: "*Oh, Sing of God's Great Victory!"* *(OLS 3)*

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on Revelation 5
Music: The Shepherd's Daughter and the King, Appalachian traditional
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*Prayer of the Day

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

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Amos 8:1-12

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. Like Jesus in his last week before the crucifixion, Amos warned of disaster and condemned those who cheated their neighbors.

[1] This is what the Lord GOD showed me: a basket of summer fruit. [2] He said, "Amos, what
do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me,
"The end has come upon my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer.
[3] The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,"
says the Lord GOD;
"the dead bodies shall be many,
cast out in every place. Be silent!"
[4] Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
[5] saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
[6] buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

[7] The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.
[8] Shall not the land tremble on this account,
and everyone mourn who lives in it,
and all of it rise like the Nile,
and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

[9] On that day, says the Lord GOD,
I will make the sun go down at noon
and darken the earth in broad daylight.

10 I will turn your feasts into mourning
and all your songs into lamentation;
I will bring sackcloth on all loins
and baldness on every head;
I will make it like the mourning for an only son
and the end of it like a bitter day.

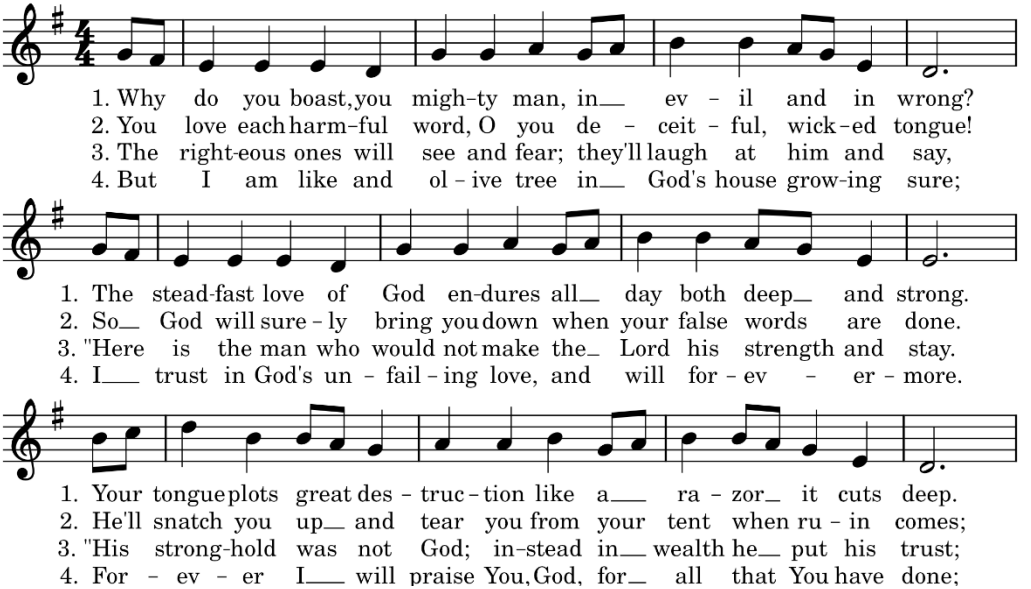
11 The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD,
when I will send a famine on the land,
not a famine of bread or a thirst for water,
but of hearing the words of the LORD.
12 They shall wander from sea to sea
and from north to east;
they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD,
but they shall not find it.

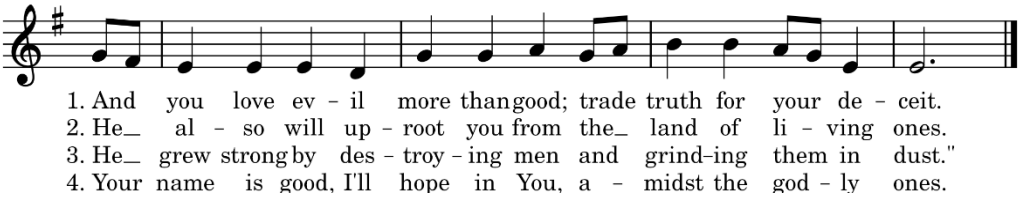
L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God**.

Psalm 52

(sung to the tune Kingsfold)

This psalm is a fit response to the first reading, continuing Amos's message.





Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

There appear to be people telling the Colossians that their salvation is not complete, but rather that they need to receive secret knowledge which only these people know. In response, the apostle quotes a hymn (the first part of this lesson) which affirms the completeness of Christ's work and reconciliation and assures the Colossians that they are fully united with Christ.

[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 *"O God, Whose Word Well-Planted"* *(OLS 4)*

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952
Text and music © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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*Gospel Reading: Luke 10:38-42

In John's gospel, Mary and Martha of Bethany are the sisters of Lazarus, whom Jesus would raise from the dead. Luke doesn't mention the town, Lazarus, or his resuscitation. This story comes between the parable of the Good Samaritan and the teaching of the Lord's Prayer.

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

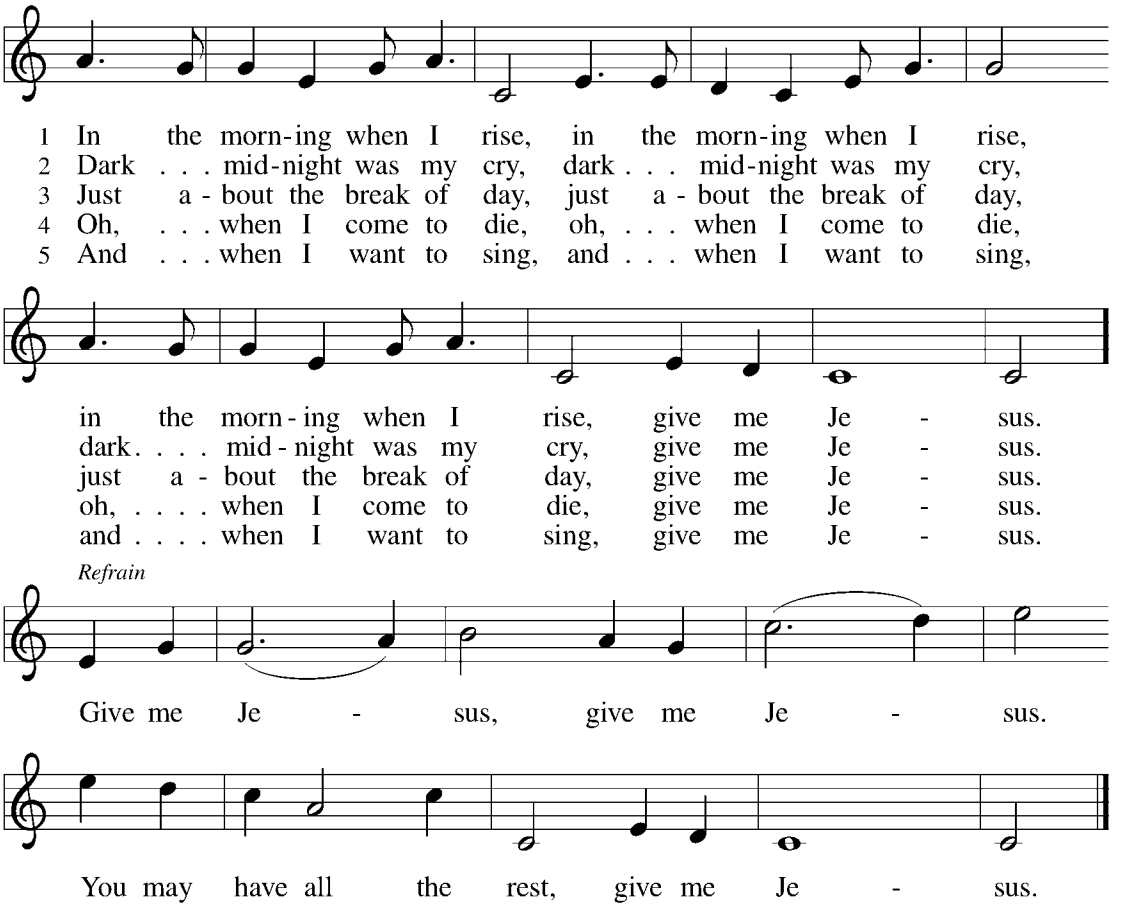
38 Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a
woman named Martha welcomed him. 39 She had a sister named Mary, who sat at
Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. 40 But Martha was distracted by her

many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." [41] But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, [42] but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." "Go and do likewise."

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

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "*Give Me Jesus*" (ELW 770)



Text: African American spiritual
Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

*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 Wallace Klinger 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

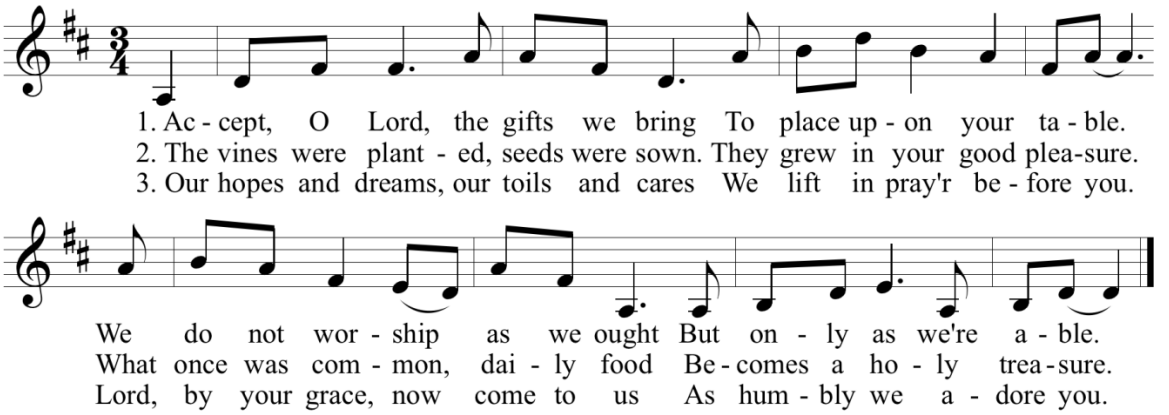
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

Meal

Offering

Musical Offering

*Offertory: *"Accept, O Lord"* *(OLS 5)*



*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray: Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

* DIALOGUE

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

P: Lift up your hearts. **A: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*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. You sent your Son to reveal your never-failing love for creation. Through your Holy Spirit you provide for our nurture and protection that we might have all things necessary for growth in grace and humble service to your people. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in adoring song.

*SANCTUS (Sung by all)

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: You are indeed holy, God of power and might, and your glory fills the whole earth.
You created all that exists: stars and suns; flowing streams and ripening grain;
abundance stored in the ground and beneath it;
the richness of life of plants and animals.
You created humans to care for and enjoy your creation,
and to give words to its song of praise.
When humanity fell into sin,
you chose Abraham and Sarah and their descendants to win us back.
Through the ages you nurtured and nourished your chosen people,
using prophets and judges, story and poetry to guide and guard them.

And at the midsummer of the ages,
you sent your Son to bring your life to your people and your creation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth for our hope,
his teaching for our correction,
his welcome for our reconciliation,
his healing for our encouragement,
his death for our forgiveness,
his resurrection for our jubilation,
his ascension for our companionship
and his promise to come again for our reassurance,
we give you thanks not only with our lips but with our lives.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the life-giver and advocate.
By this meal, let the fruit of your Spirit ripen in our midst and in our lives.
Unite us with all who share this feast,
and nurture us to become what you have made us –
your beloved people, the body of your Son, the temple of your Spirit.

Through that Son, in that Spirit, with that people,
we give you thanks and praise,
O source of our life and fountain of all good,
now and forever.
A: Amen.

*Lord's Prayer

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

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: Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your Church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever.
A: Amen.

*Lamb of God

Communion

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

Communion Hymn: *"We Praise You for the Life That Stirs"* *(OLS 9)*

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.
Music: Prospect, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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*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 – *O Lord of the blossom*

*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **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

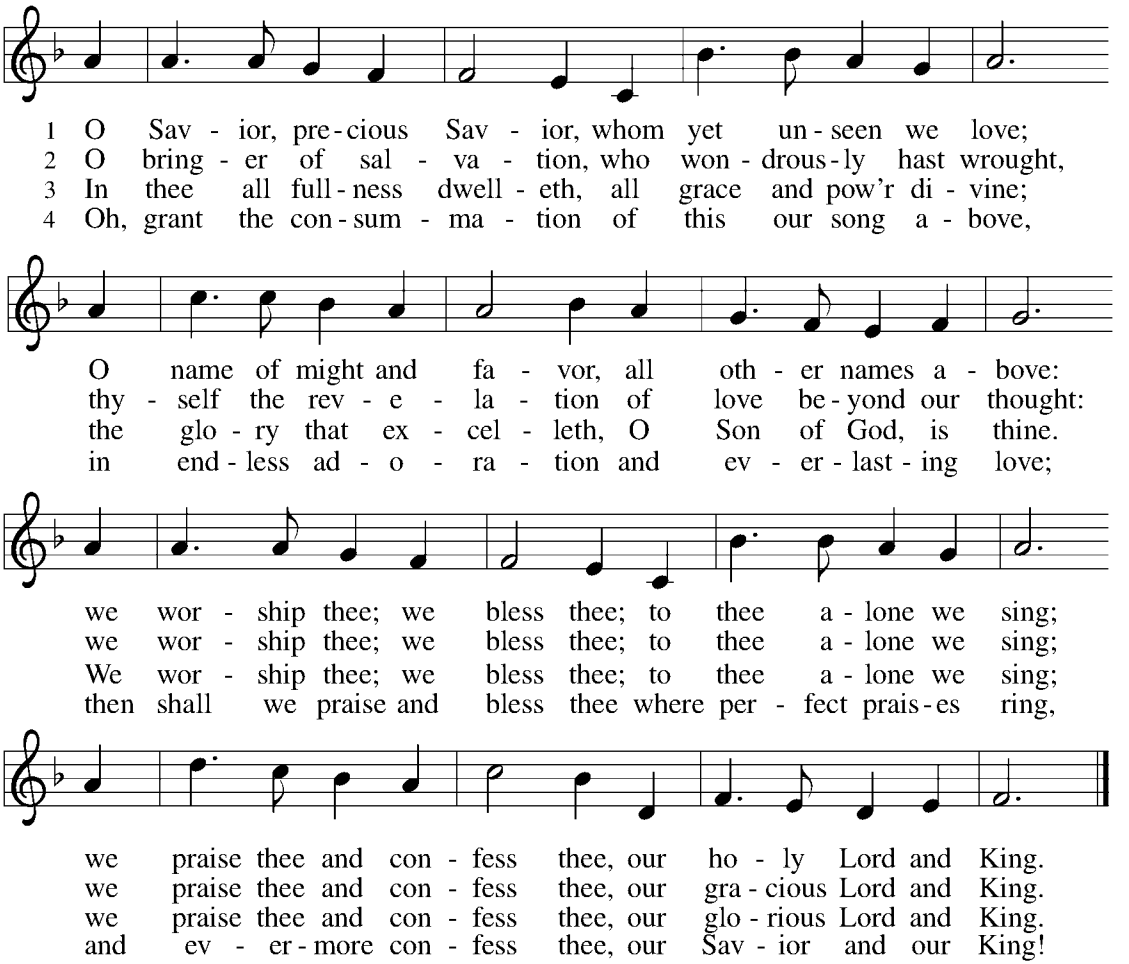
You may be seated.

Meal Blessing for Fellowship

*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: *"O Savior, Precious Savior"* *(ELW 820)*



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

*Dismissal

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

Postlude

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, July 20
Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15 (1)
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

Monday, July 21
Exodus 18:1-12
Colossians 1:27—2:7
Psalm 119:97-104

Tuesday, July 22
Proverbs 9:1-18
1 John 2:1-6
Psalm 119:97-104

Wednesday, July 23
Deuteronomy 12:1-12
John 6:41-51
Psalm 119:97-104

Thursday, July 24
Esther 2:19—3:6
Acts 1:15-20
Psalm 138

Friday, July 25
Esther 3:7-15
Acts 2:22-36
Psalm 138

Saturday, July 26
Esther 4:1-17
Luke 8:22-25
Psalm 138

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

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Kevin Shock
Assisting Minister.....Michelle McMullen
Pianist.....Michelle McMullen
Guitarist.....Morgen Hummel
Sacristan.....Karen Magnuson
Reader.....Linda Govere

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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