



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

9:00 a.m.

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *"Alleluia! Lord to Whom Shall I Go?" Robin Cain*

**CONFESSION** *Please rise*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**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 not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING MUSIC**

### **WORSHIP & PRAISE #154** *"We Will Glorify"*

1. We will glorify the King of kings  
We will glorify the Lamb;  
We will glorify the Lord of lords,  
Who is the great I Am.
2. Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty,  
We will bow before his throne;  
We will worship him in righteousness,  
We will worship him alone.
3. He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth,  
He is Lord of all who live;  
He is Lord above the universe,  
All praise to him we give.

### **WORSHIP & PRAISE #141** *"This Is the Day"* (sing 2 times)

This is the day, this is the day  
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

### **WORSHIP & PRAISE #149** *"We Bow Down"* (sing 3 times)

You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life,  
Lord of the land and the sea.  
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time,  
and Lord of all lords you will be.  
We bow down and we worship you, Lord;  
We bow down and we worship you, Lord;  
We bow down and we worship you, Lord;  
Lord of all lords you will be.

## **INVOCATION**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together,

**O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

## PSALM 112

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God's commandments!

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

**The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be

content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — WORSHIP & PRAISE #144** *"Thy Word"* (sing twice)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Response*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

*Response*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Be seated*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**ELW #814** *“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” (sing 3 times)*

Lord, I lift your name of high,  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;  
From the cross to the grave,  
From the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high

**WORSHIP & PRAISE #147** *“We Are Called”*

Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
To live in the freedom of the city of God.

*Refrain*

We are called to act with justice,  
We are called to love tenderly;  
We are called to serve one another,  
To walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless  
So all hatred and blindness will be no more.

*Refrain*

Sing! Sing a new song!  
Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other  
As sisters and brothers united in love.

*Refrain*

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

## **WORSHIP & PRAISE #92** *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

### **PRAYERS**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the leaders of the church. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the lowly and those who are ignored. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the hospitality ministries of this congregation. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the saints who from their labors rest. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God’s presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

## **WORSHIP & PRAISE #92** *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

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Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

## **THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*(Those who desire to share the peace of the Lord with others are invited to greet one another; those who do not wish to share the peace, may be seated.)*

**OFFERING:** *“Our Confidence is in the Lord”* Noel Richards and Tricia Richard

## **OFFERTORY— WORSHIP & PRAISE #41** *“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”  
Let the poor say, “I am rich,”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.  
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”  
Let the weak say, “I am strong,”  
Let the poor say, “I am rich,”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.  
Give thanks!

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN:** *“As You Go On Your Way”*

As you go on your way my Christ go with you.  
May he go before you to show you the way;  
May he go behind you to encourage you;  
Beside you to befriend you;  
Above you to watch over;  
Within you to give you peace.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *“Variation set on “St. Thomas” David Lasky*