



## TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**NOVEMBER 17, 2024** 

Whenever you see an asterisk (\*), you are invited to stand as you are able. You are invited to speak sans serif **Bolded type** with the congregation.

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

## **GATHERING**

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **A: Amen.** 

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. 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 "Jesus, Still Lead On"

(ELW 624)



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

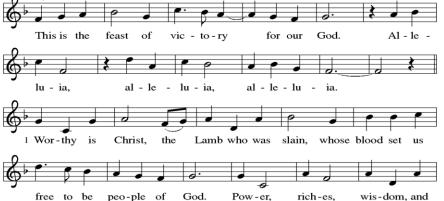
#### \*GREETING

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**









## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.** 

## **WORD**

## FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 1:4-20

During this summer, our First Readings followed the stories of the great early kings of Israel – Saul, David, and Solomon. This reading goes back before those kings, to the miraculous birth of the judge/prophet Samuel, who anointed both Saul and David.

<sup>4</sup>On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters, <sup>5</sup> but to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>6</sup> Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>7</sup> So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup> Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

<sup>9</sup> After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the LORD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. <sup>10</sup> She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. <sup>11</sup> She made this vow: "O LORD of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head."

<sup>12</sup> As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. <sup>14</sup> So Eli said to her, "How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine." <sup>15</sup> But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup> Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time." <sup>17</sup> Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him." <sup>18</sup> And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your sight." Then the woman went her way and ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

<sup>19</sup> They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup> In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the LORD."

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

## **CANTICLE** "Canticle of the Turning"

(ELW 723)

The appointed response to today's first reading is the song of Hannah, at the birth of her son Samuel. While the response to the First Reading is usually a psalm, sometimes it is a song (also known as a "canticle") closely connected with the reading. In a few weeks, for instance, that response will be Mary's song, the Magnificat (the inspiration of today's hymn), which has obvious similarities to Hannah's. Hannah's song can be found on page 18 of the bulletin.





Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to

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## SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

One of the themes of the book of Hebrews is how Jesus fulfills and brings to an end the sacrificial system. Here that theme is united with the other great theme of the book – that baptism does not put an end to sufferings and trials, but that the baptized should persevere and not give up hope that God's promises will be fulfilled.

<sup>11</sup> Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," <sup>13</sup> and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." <sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [<sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

<sup>16</sup> "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,"

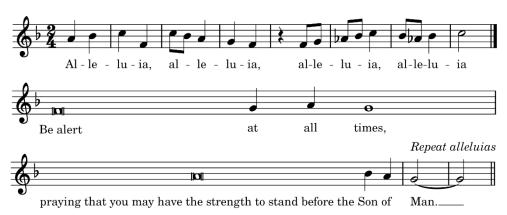
<sup>17</sup> and he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

<sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



#### \*GOSPEL READING: MARK 13:1-8

This passage describing Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem during the week before his crucifixion. Forty years later (we do not know if that was before or after this Gospel was written down), both the Temple and the city were destroyed by the Romans during a Jewish rebellion.

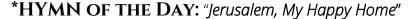
P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the thirteenth chapter. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" <sup>2</sup> Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>3</sup>When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>"Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

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

#### **SERMON**



(ELW 628)



- 1 Je ru sa lem, my hap py home, when shall I come to thee?
- 2 O hap py har bor of the saints, O sweet and pleas-ant soil!
- 3 Thy gar-dens and thy gal-lant walks con tin ual-ly are green;
- 4 There trees for -ev er more bear fruit and ev er more do spring;
- 5 Je ru sa lem, Je ru sa lem, God grant that I may see



When shall my sor - rows have an end? Thy joys when shall see? thee no sor - row may be found, no grief, no care, no In toil. grow such sweet and pleas-ant flow'rs as no-where else there seen. there ev - er - more the an - gels sit and ev - er - more do sing. thine end - less joy, and of the same par-tak - er be!

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent.

Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional

#### \*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

# \*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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation

#### A brief silence.

L: O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. We give thanks for those who have been recently baptized, like Zach Tingle. Merciful God, **A: receive our prayer.** 

L: By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

#### A: receive our prayer.

L: With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence (*especially*). Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

#### A: receive our prayer.

L: In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,

#### A: receive our prayer.

L: Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

#### A: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: With thanksgiving we remember Elizabeth of Hungary, our own Helen Taylor, and all saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. Merciful God,

#### A: receive our prayer.

L: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

A: Amen.

## \*PEACE

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

## <u>MEAL</u>

## **OFFERING**

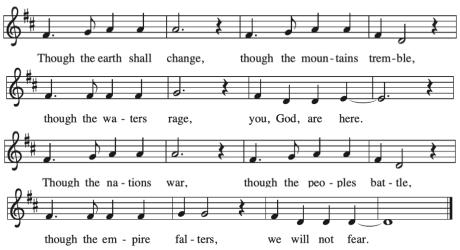


Offerings can be made online at <u>stpaulpgm.org/give</u>, mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY:** "Though the Earth Shall Change"

(ACS 1025)



Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, and Tom Witt, b. 1957, based on Psalm 46 Music: WE WILL NOT FEAR, Tom Witt Text and music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

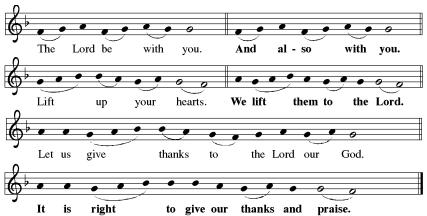
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#### \*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal, you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **A: Amen.** 

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

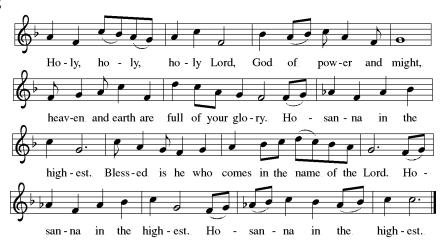
#### \* DIALOGUE



#### \*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. You comfort your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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 God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

we appeal to you for we are

surrounded by evil and bordered by death.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace

and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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 as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore,

the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints the advent of

his loving redemption of our suffering world.

#### A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in 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

#### \*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;

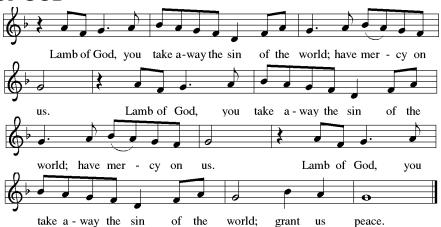
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

## \*LAMB OF GOD



#### A NOTE ON COMMUNION WAFERS



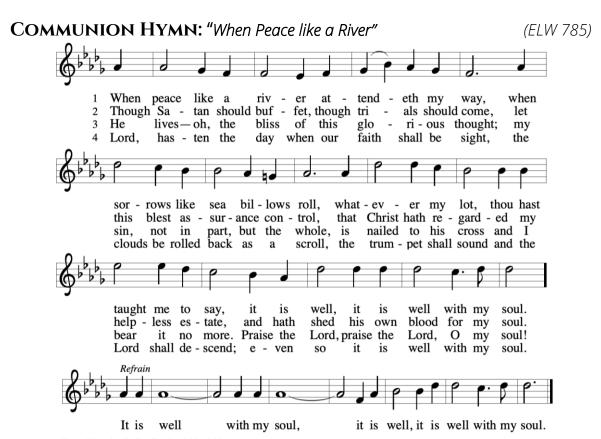
To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts 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.

#### **COMMUNION**

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



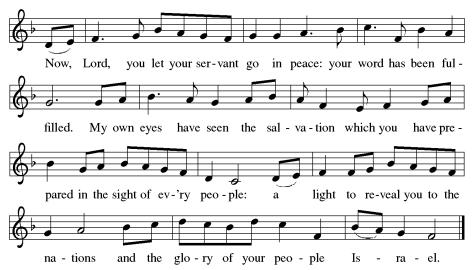
Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

#### \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

L: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in grace. A: Amen.

## \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Nunc Dimittis (Now, Lord)



#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.** 

## **SENDING**

## \*SENDING OF COMMUNION

#### **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.** 



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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#### \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

A: Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

## HANNAH'S SONG: 1<sup>ST</sup> SAMUEL 2:1-10

- <sup>1</sup> My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory.
- <sup>2</sup> There is no Holy One like the LORD, no one besides you; there is no Rock! like our God.
- <sup>3</sup> Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by the Lord actions are weighed.
- <sup>4</sup>The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. R
- <sup>5</sup>Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn.

- <sup>6</sup> The LORD kills and brings to life; the LORD brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD makes poor and makes rich; brings low, and also exalts.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD raises up the poor from the dust; lifting the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and on them God has set the world.

- <sup>9</sup> You, LORD, will guard the feet of your faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail.
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD's adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven.
  - O LORD, you will judge the ends of the earth; you will give strength to your king, and exalt the power of your anointed.



### **DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

## Sunday, November 17

Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 (9) Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 Mark 13:1-8

## Semi-continuous Series

1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (1)

## Monday, November 18

Daniel 8:1-14 Hebrews 10:26-31 Psalm 13

## Tuesday, November 19

Daniel 8:15-27 Hebrews 10:32-39 Psalm 13

## Wednesday, November 20

Zechariah 12:1—13:1 Mark 13:9-23 Psalm 13

## Thursday, November 21

Ezekiel 28:1-10 Acts 7:54—8:1a Psalm 93

## Friday, November 22

Ezekiel 28:20-26 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 Psalm 93

## Saturday, November 23

Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18 John 3:31-36 Psalm 93



#### **SERVING TODAY**

Worship Leader	Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister	Linda Govere
Musician	Michelle McMullen
Sacristan	Karen Magnuson
Reader	Joy Kling

#### 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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