



ST PAUL PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 4, 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

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

PRELUDE: "Blessed Are They"

(Roberta Rowland-Raybold)

GATHERING

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name if 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: God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you, for where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. 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 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

(ELW 362)



1	At	the	Lamb's	high	feast	we	sing	praise	to
2	Praise	we	Christ,	whose	love	di - vine	gives	his	
3	Where	the	pas -	chal	blood	is	poured	death's	dread
4	Praise	we	Christ,	whose	blood	was	shed,	pas -	chal

our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love

flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,
 hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
 you have conquered in the fight,
 you have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 newborn souls in you to be.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 now no more the grave enthrall;
 you have opened paradise,
 and your saints in you shall rise.
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.

Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

*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, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen**

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 SAMUEL 11:26—12:13A

The first readings during this summer tell the stories of the early kings of Israel: Saul, David, and Solomon. David has committed adultery with Bathsheba, the wife of one of his soldiers, and has arranged for her husband's death in battle. Bathsheba is one of the four women (all foreigners with some troubled sexual history) Matthew mentions as ancestors of Jesus.

²⁶When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, ^{12:1}and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had very many flocks and herds; ³but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." ⁵Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

⁷Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. ¹²For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." ^{13a}David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

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

PSALM: 51

(sung to the tune Consolation ELW 260)

Traditionally, this great song of repentance was written by David after being convicted by Nathan's story.



- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. In | Your un - fail - ing | love, O — God, Have | mer - cy up - on me; |
| 2. For | my trans-gres - sions | and my — sin are | al - ways in your sight; |
| 3. So | You are right when | You do — speak and | judge -- with - out, with - in; |
| 4. For | truth is what You — | call us — to, Formed | in our in - ward parts; |
| 5. Cleanse | me with Hys - sop, — | make me — clean; Wash | me -- I'll be as snow. |
| 6. Now | hide your face from | all my — sins, Blot | out in - i - qui - ty. |
| 7. Re - | new a stead-fast — | spi - rit, — God, And | cast me not from You. |
| 8. Re - | store to me sal - | va - tion's joy and | grant, O Lord, to me, |



1. Blot— out trans-gres-sions, cleanse from— sin, Purge my in - i - qui - ty.
- 2.'Gainst you a - lone, I've ev - il— done, And turned from what— is right.
3. For— from the—time I was con - ceived, I have been trapped in sin.
4. You— teach me— wis-dom day by— day, In the depths of— my heart.
5. Let— me hear— joy, let bones re - joice which You once crushed be - low.
6. Cre - ate in— me a pure heart, God, Re - new Your life— in me.
7. Don't— take Your Ho - ly Spi - rit,— Lord from me-- Your Spi - rit true.
8. A— wil - ling— spi - rit to keep— me and then sus - tained— I'll be.

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 4:1-16

For the next several weeks we will continue reading through the letter to the church in Ephesus. This letter purports to be written by Paul when he is imprisoned because of his faithfulness in preaching, especially to Gentiles. He calls the Ephesians (divided between Jewish and Gentile Christians) to unity, particularly because such division limits the benefits of the gifts of the Spirit which are given to individuals for the good of the whole community.

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

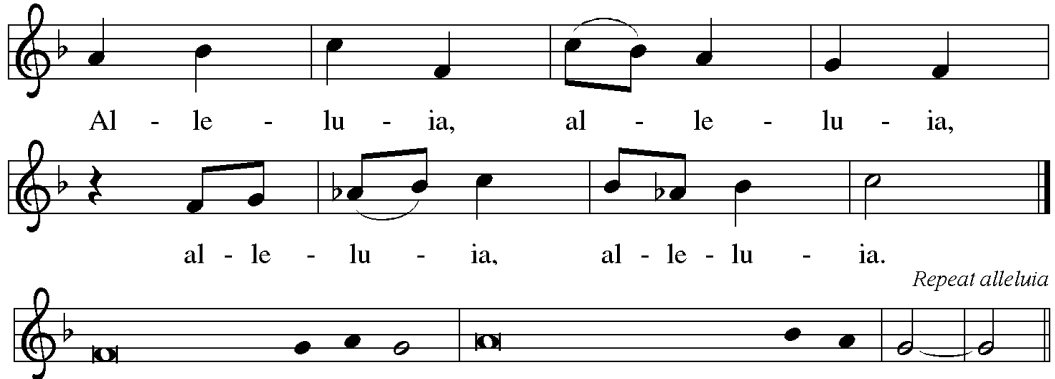
⁸Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**One does not live by ¹ bread alone,*
but by every word that comes from the ¹ mouth of God.**

*GOSPEL READING: JOHN 6:24-35

This year most of our Gospel readings are from Mark. That Gospel, however, is too short to cover a full year, so that for the next few weeks we hear the story of the feeding of the 5000 and its aftermath from John's Gospel. In his telling of the Last Supper, John does not mention a shared meal; this passage is his institution of Holy Communion. Jesus's saying, "I am the bread of life" is also one of a number of times he says "I am" something (the Good Shepherd; the Way, the Truth, and the Life, etc.). By using that phrase, he is also subtly claiming to be God, who told Moses from the burning bush that his name was "I AM."

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

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

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

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *"What Feast of Love"*

(ELW 487)



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

*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**

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: O Wise One, your wisdom has been present in this world since its beginning. Pour out your wisdom into the hearts of the whole church, especially the newly baptized, lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Holy God of all creation, you are the source of all life. Where the sun blazes hard and strong, bring a gentle breeze. In the places experiencing the cold of winter, bring your warmth. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Compassionate God, help government leaders of this world unite for peace and justice. Humble all who hold authority, that power is directed toward a more just society. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Bread of life from heaven, you feed us. Fill all who hunger with needed nutrition and open our hearts to eliminate hunger in this world. May we see a day when all are fed. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: O Wisdom of truth, help us to understand your will for the church. Be with congregations experiencing transition, redevelopment, and the exciting yet frightening path of newness. May your wisdom be found at every step. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Redeeming God, we give you thanks for the lives and witness of your saints now departed especially Leo Ray McGinnis, Sylvia Beverly Burruano, and Royal Kline Senior. Bring your beloved into eternal glory, opening wide the gates to the heavenly banquet. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

A: Amen.

*PEACE

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

MEAL

OFFERING



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.

MUSICAL OFFERING: "Elegy"

(Raymond H. Han)

OFFERTORY: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

(ELW 884)

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

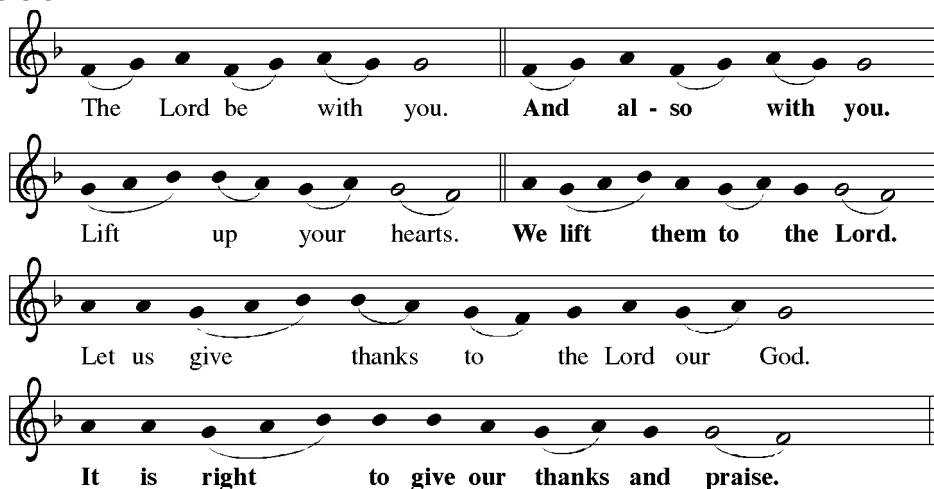
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

* DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

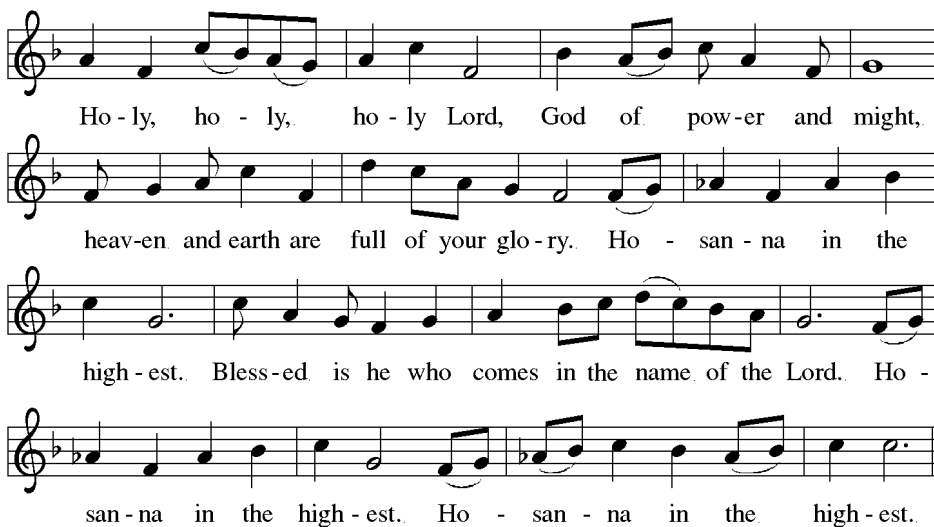
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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; 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***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.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

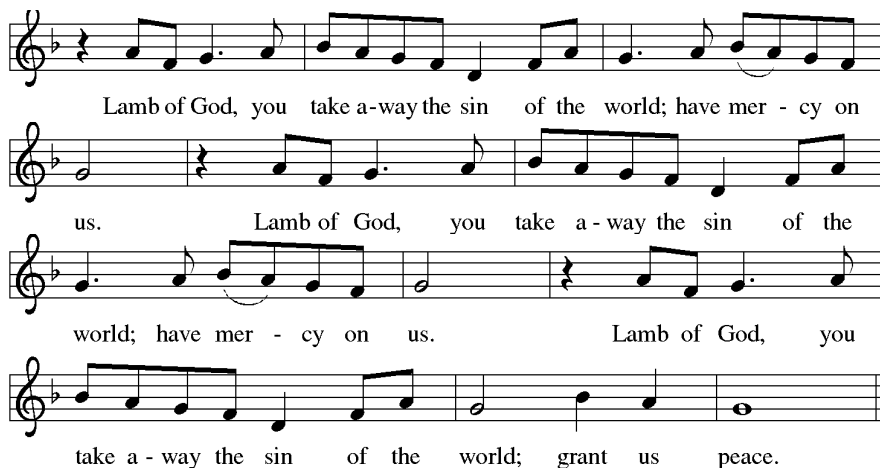
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

*LAMB OF GOD

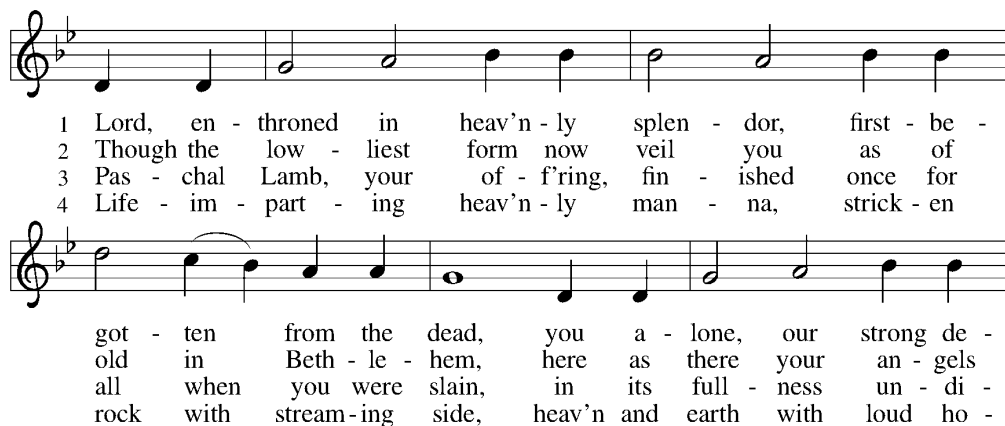


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION HYMN: "Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor" (ELW 475)



1 Lord, en - throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor, first - be -
2 Though the low - liest form now veil you as of
3 Pas - chal Lamb, your of - f'ring, fin - ished once for
4 Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly man - na, strick - en
got - ten from the dead, you a - lone, our strong de -
old in Beth - le - hem, here as there your an - gels
all when you were slain, in its full - ness un - di -
rock with stream - ing side, heav'n and earth with loud ho -



fend - er, lift - ing up your peo - ple's head. Al - le -
hail you, branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le -
min - ished shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le -
san - na wor - ship you, the Lamb who died, Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! cleans - ing souls from
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ris'n, as - cend - ed,



liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
join with them; we in wor - ship join with them.
ev - 'ry stain; cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.
glo - ri - fied; ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Text: George H. Bourne, 1840–1925

Music: BRYN CALFARIA, William Owen, 1814–1893

*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)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **A: Amen.**

SENDING

*SENDING OF COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may be seated.

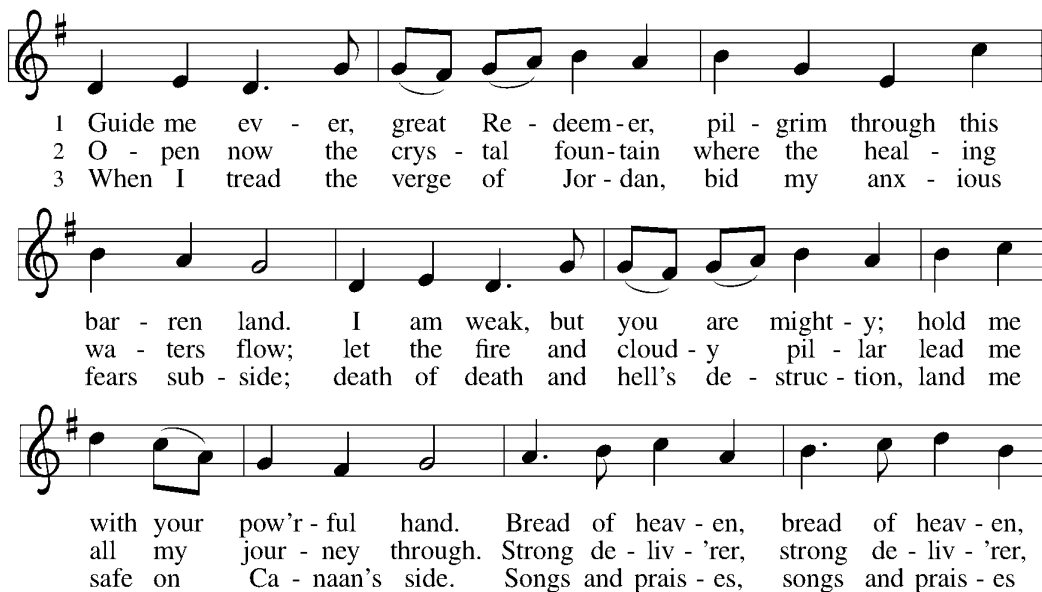
*CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

*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: "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

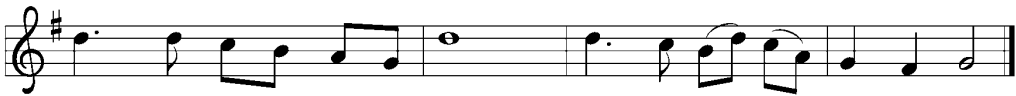
(ELW 618)



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *"When, In Our Music God is Glorified"*

(Anna Laura Page)



SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader.....Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....Eleanor Bird
Musician..... Jim Rearick
Sacristan.....Ann Reede
Reader.....Karen Magnuson

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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