



ST PAUL PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 14, 2026

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**.

HOW TO SING HYMNS IN HARMONY

To save space in printing the bulletin, we usually limit what is printed to the melody. If you'd like to sing in harmony, the hymn numbers are listed in our bulletin so you can open the red books in the pews (called ELWs).

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 intolerance 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

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, carrying God's compassion into a world in need. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry — beginning here.

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 Compassionate God, **A: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, 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 "God Is Here!"** (ELW 526)



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
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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. God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: EXODUS 19:2-8A

God, whom the Israelites had entirely forgotten during their time in Egypt, has miraculously rescued them from slavery. Even before giving the 10 Commandments, God establishes a special relationship with them – “treasured possession” (in other translations, “peculiar treasure”) is a technical term for a king’s personal part of the royal treasury.

² [The Israelites] journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³ Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: ⁴ You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶ but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

⁷ So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ^{8a} The people all answered as one, “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

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

PSALM 100

(Hymn Paraphrase: ELW 883)

In singing this psalm, we are accepting the delight and the responsibility of being, like Israel, God's peculiar treasure.



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the



praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1594

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:1-8

In all his writing Paul refuses to declare that being beloved by God brings good fortune and prosperity. Indeed, he affirms over and over that suffering is part and parcel of that relationship, and a way that we both identify with the Crucified One, and are able to speak credibly to those who suffer.

[Paul writes:] ¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance

produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

The kingdom of God^l has come near;*

repent, and believe in^l the good news.

*GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 9:35–10:8

For the rest of this year, we will be reading the Gospel of Matthew almost in order, as it describes Jesus' earthly ministry from the call of the disciples to the entry into Jerusalem. In the preceding verses, Jesus has raised a dead woman, healed men who were blind, and freed a man from demonic possession.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the ninth chapter.

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵ Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness.

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1} Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. ⁹ Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰ no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹² As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³ If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶ "I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the gentiles. ¹⁹ When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you at that time, ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹ Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²² and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in this town, flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** *"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"* (ELW 579, tune Hyfrydol)

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:

Refrain

With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your
promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community: *Refrain*

3 Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty: *Refrain*

4 Lord, you show us love's true
measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society: *Refrain*

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity: *Refrain*

***INVITATION TO BAPTISM**

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**A: 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**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of faith, we give you thanks for Bob Hemman, Sally Kolesar, Pearl Smith, Todd Wheeler, and Basil, Gregory, Gregory, and Macrina, the Cappadocian teachers whom the greater church remembers today. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

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

MEAL

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

***OFFERTORY**



1 Oh, what shall I ren - der in thanks to my Lord
2 My hands take the cup of sal - va - tion you give;



for all the good gifts by which I am re - stored?
I'll praise you, O God, for as long as I live.



No trea - sure I ten - der could ev - er re - pay
My thanks will rise up as I call on your name,



God's mer - cy and faith - ful - ness, new ev - 'ry day.
with all of your peo - ple your good - ness pro - claim.

Text: Martin A. Seltz, based on Ps. 116
Music: FOUNDATION, early North American

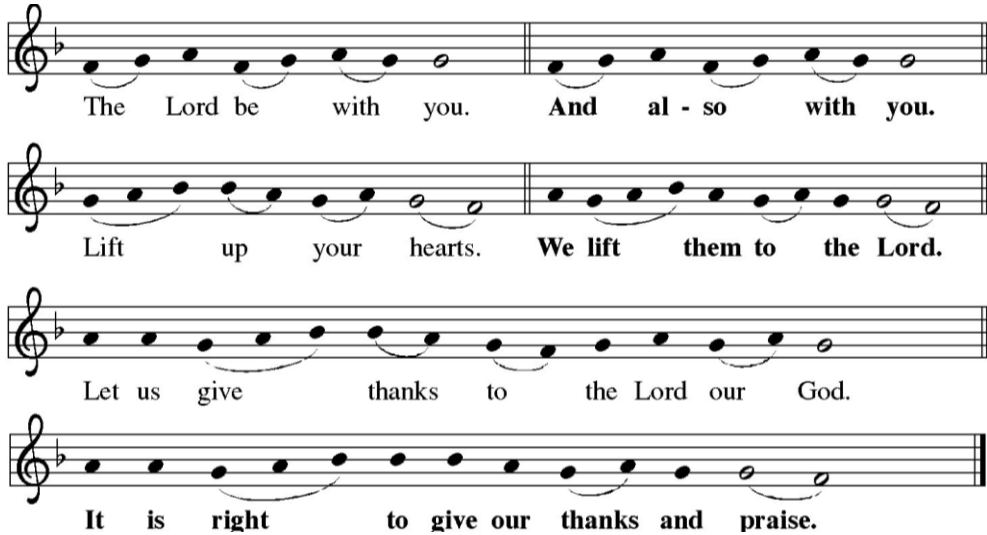
*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

. **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 God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
 in the world of your creation,
 you wove all things together in life and praise.

When sin had broke what you had made,
 you sent your Son to heal our wounds
 and gather 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: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

***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

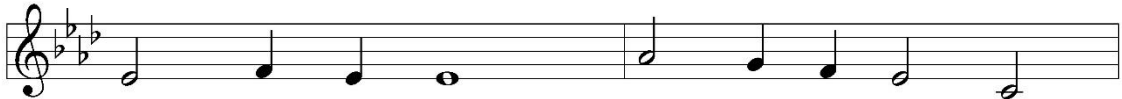


take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

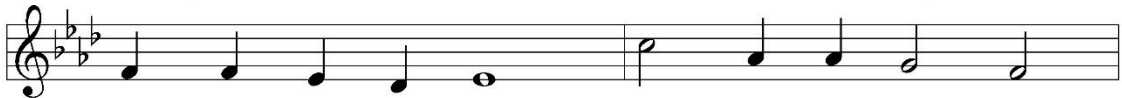
COMMUNION

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

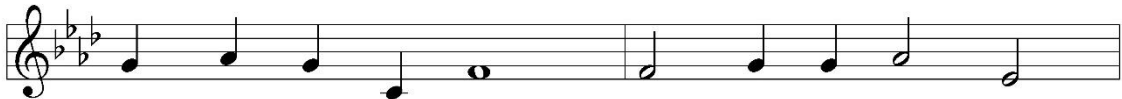
COMMUNION HYMN: "Come, Labor On" (HFW 227)



1	Come,	la - bor	on.	Who	dares	stand	i - dle
2	Come,	la - bor	on.	The	en - e - my	is	
3	Come,	la - bor	on.	A - way	the	gloom - y	
4	Come,	la - bor	on.	Claim	the	high	call - ing
5	Come,	la - bor	on.	No	time	for	rest, till



on	the	har - vest	plain,	while	all	a - round	us
watch - ing	night	and	day,	to	sow	the	tares, to
doubts	and	faith - less	fear!	No	arm	so	weak but
an - gels	can - not	share—		to	young	and	old the
glows	the	west - ern	sky,	till	the	long	shad - ows



waves	the	gold - en	grain?	And	to	each	ser - vant
snatch	the	seed	a - way;	while	we	in	sleep our
may	do	ser - vice	here:	by	fee - blest	a - gents	
gos - pel	glad - ness	bear:		re - deem	the	time;	its
o'er	our	path - way	lie,	and	a	glad	sound comes

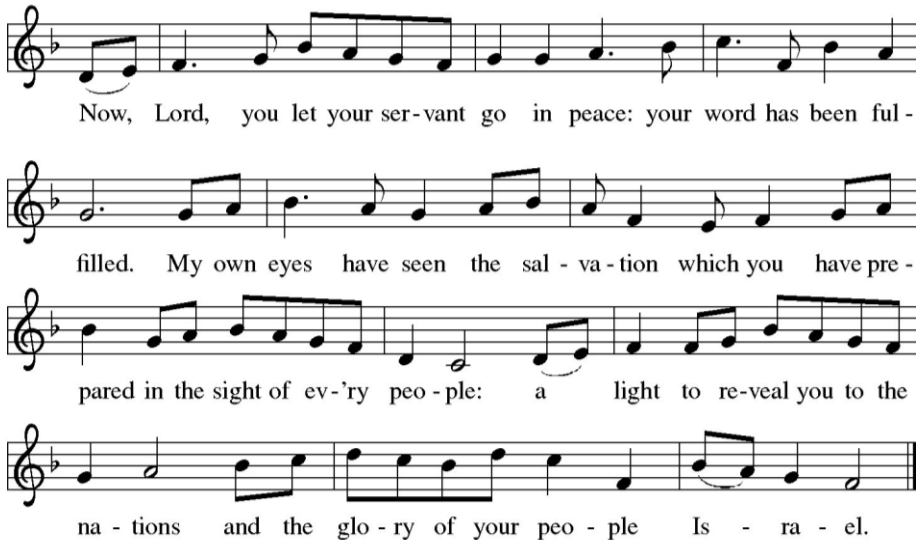


does	the	Mas - ter	say,	"Go	work	to - day."
du - ty	have	for - got,		he	slum - bered	not.
may	our	God - ful - fill	his	rich - teous	will.	
hours	too	swift - ly	fly.	The	night	draws
with	the	set - ting	sun,	...	"Ser - vants,	well done."

*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)



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. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. . **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.

*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: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

(ELW 669)



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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*DISMISSAL

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

REFLECTIONS FOR AFTER WORSHIP

Today we hear a portion of scripture that is foundational to our Lutheran theology. “Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God” (Romans 5:1-2). The time after Pentecost is a good opportunity to share the story of God’s people, and one could take the chance to tell the story of the Reformation and how it continues to shape our context today. Our Lutheran faith is grounded in the idea of justification by faith and God’s unending grace. How might this idea bring hope to those seeking this grace today?

COMMENT FROM THE COULD OF WITNESSES

You are like stones of a temple of the Father, prepared for the building of God the Father, hoisted up on high by the crane of Jesus Christ, that is, the cross, using the Holy Spirit for a rope. Your faith is your windlass, and love is the road that leads up to God. So you are all traveling companions, carrying God and temple, and Christ and your sacred things, and being fully arrayed in the commands of Jesus Christ. Pray constantly for others. Permit them to be instructed by you, at least through your deeds. To their anger, be meek; to their boasts, be humble; to their abuse, utter your prayers; to their error, be steadfast in faith; to their savagery, be gentle. Let us be zealous to imitate the Lord, so that no plant of the devil may be found in you, but with all purity and sobriety you may remain in union with Jesus Christ, in both flesh and spirit. —*Ignatius of Antioch*

[Ignatius, in *The Apostolic Fathers: An American Translation*, ed. Edgar J. Goodspeed (NY: Harper & Brothers, 1950), 209-210.]

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

JUNE 14: BASIL THE GREAT, † 379; GREGORY OF NYSSA, † C. 385; GREGORY OF NAZIANZUS, † C. 389; MACRINA, TEACHER, † C. 379

The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life. Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople. Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life. Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, led a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

BOB HEMMAN, † 2006; SALLY KOLESAR, † 2024

JUNE 17: THE EMANUEL NINE, MARTYRS, † 2015

On June 17, 2015, nine members of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina — among them pastors Clementa Pinckney and Daniel Simmons, both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary — were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while gathered for Bible study and prayer. The ELCA marks this day of penitence by repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy and venerating the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine.

PEARL E. SMITH † 1999

JUNE 19: TODD WHEELER † 2022

JUNE 21: THE REV. DR. CHARLES THOMAS AIKENS, ST PAUL PGM PASTOR † 1927

The Rev. Aikens is one of St Paul's most consequential pastors. Serving St Paul and Pine Hall as his first call, he was very involved in the life of the community, starting a number of businesses. Under his leadership, Grace Lutheran State College was planted. He helped establish the Pine Grove Mills Cemetery (the Lower Cemetery). His second call was as the President of Susquehanna University, where he modernized its schools. He died from complications of open-heart surgery barely three weeks after retiring from serving Susquehanna University.



SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister..... Morgen Hummel
Musician Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Delorse Homan
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 Conestoga-Susquehannock people, where we gather. 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.

Find out more about the Conestoga-Susquehannock at www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com

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