



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH



15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6th, 2026

GATHERING

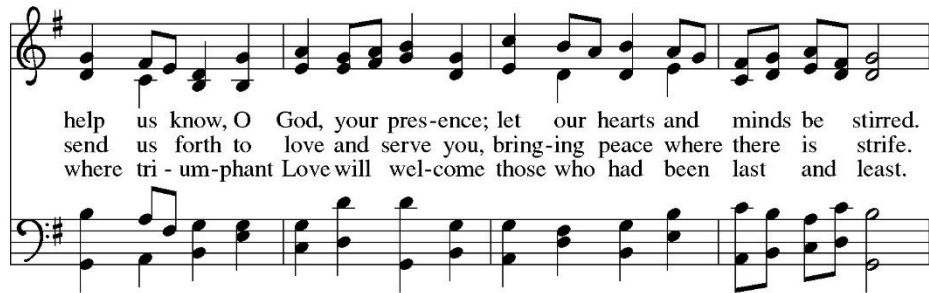
PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – ELW 522

As We Gather at Your Table



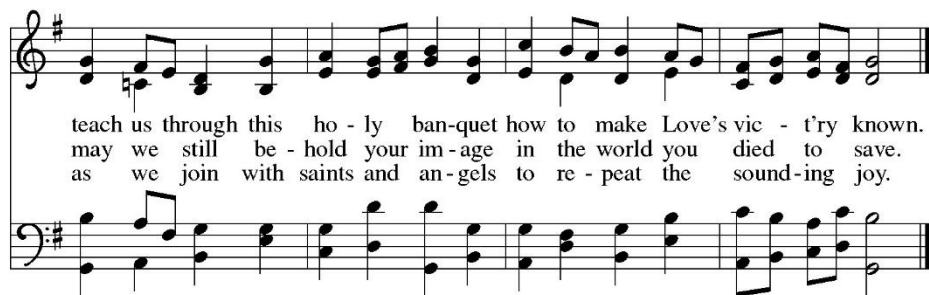
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932
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***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

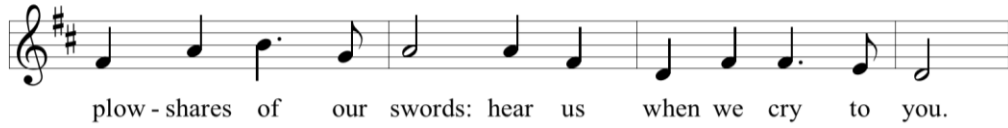
C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

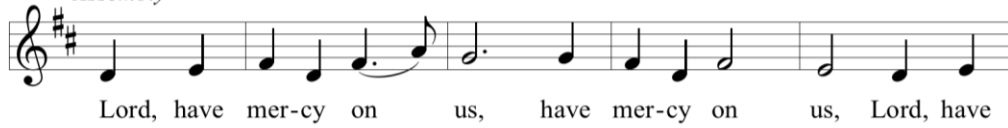
C: Amen.

KYRIE

Cantor



Assembly



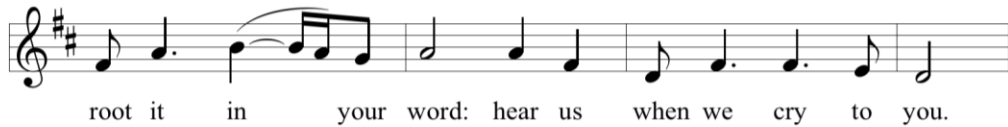
Cantor



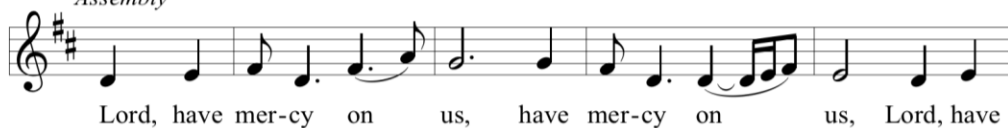
Assembly



Cantor



Assembly



Glory

1 A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts
 2 In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,
 3 Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy, and peace, sing
 4 We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,
 5 To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,

glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! God's love is come to
 Yet ten - der - ly God
 God's own good will grants
 We bow be - fore you
 The Lamb of God, e -

seek the lost.
 hears our cry.
 sin's re - lease. Give glo - ry to God in the high - est!
 as we sing.
 ter - nal Word.

REETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **And also, with you.**

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GRADUAL HYMN



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun-dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field

we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.

who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;

where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter, beginning with the 15th verse.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY – ELW 648
Beloved, God's Chosen



1 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment
2 With - in, call forth Wis - dom, to dwell in you rich - ly;
3 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment



com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.
let peace rule your hearts and that peace be of Christ.
com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.



A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment
And from the heart's cham - ber, be - lov - ed and ho - ly,
A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment



that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.
let sing - ing thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er rise.
that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
Music: ANDREW'S SONG, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962
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Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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***APOSTLES' CREED**

P: Let us now confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed
C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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, and 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.**

*STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. We pray especially for Rosemary Rizzo, Tony Rizzo, Erin Jankowski, Dee Marinov, John Veihdeffer, Diane Busdiecker, Sarah Burke, and all those we name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

PEACE

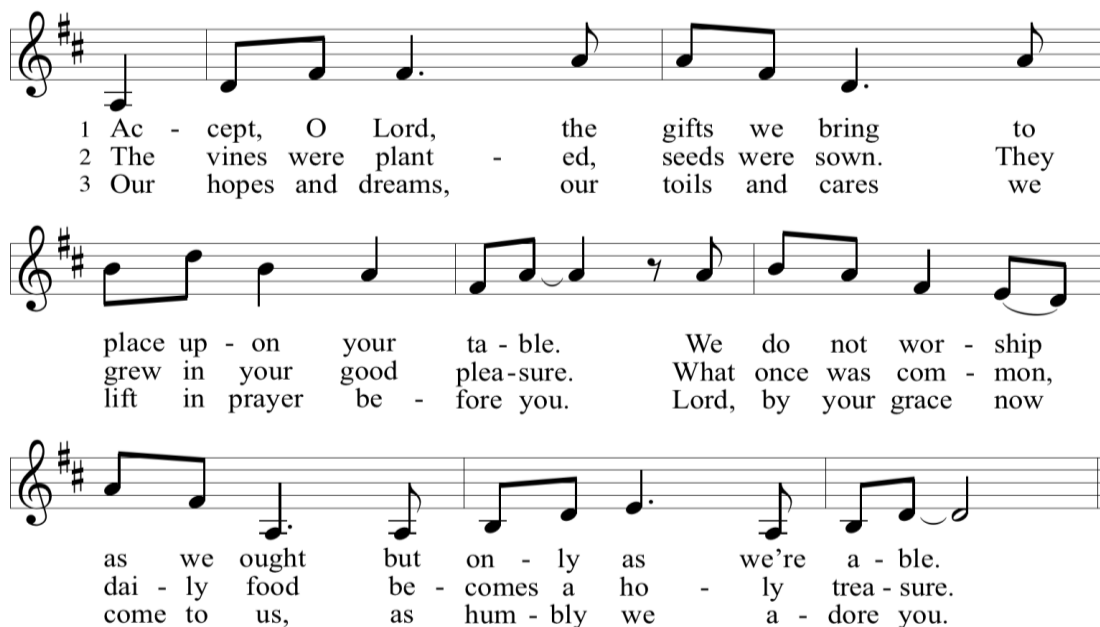
P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share God's peace with each other now.

MEAL

OFFERING AND SETTING THE TABLE



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we

place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now

as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: **God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

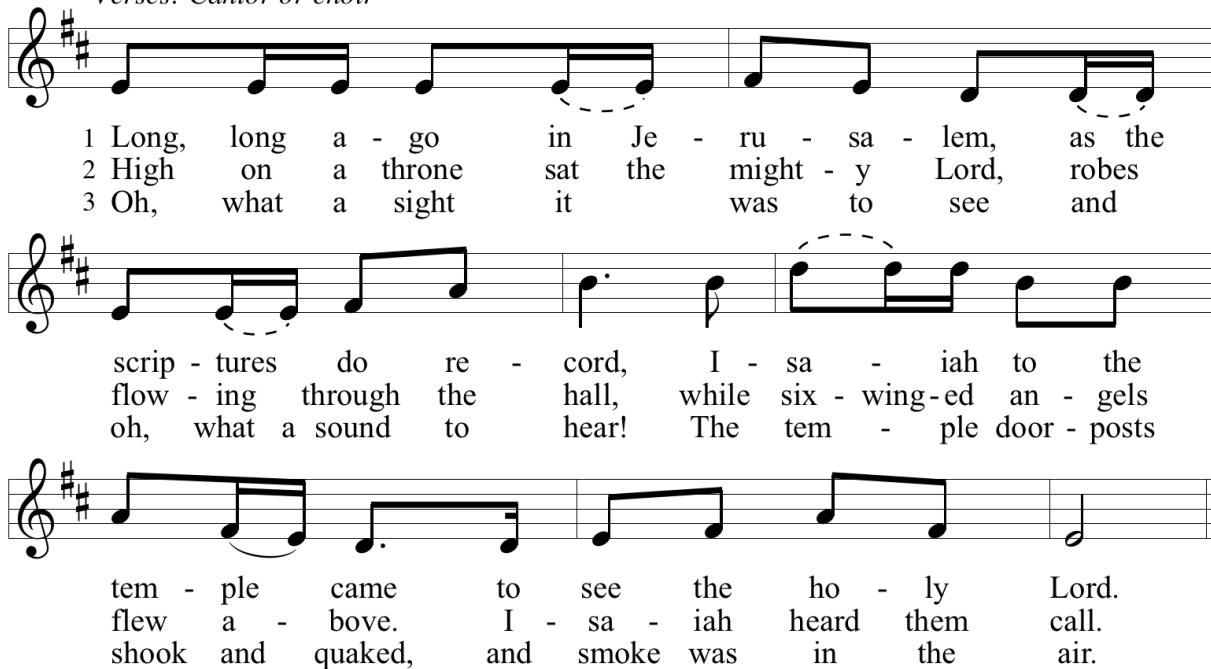
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*THE PROPER PREFACE

P: We glorify and enjoy you now and forever, gracious God, because you created the universe as your work of art, and set us in the midst of it. When the canvas of your kindness was torn by our sin, you crafted a work of even more depth and beauty from the damage we had done. When your Son's body was scarred and pierced, you raised him to glorious life. In your chosen people you drew out a song of thankfulness and praise, and in your church you give us voices to shout and dance and sculpt and inscribe the wonders of your love. And so we rejoice to join with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Verses: Cantor or choir



1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes
3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the
flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain: Assembly



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's
glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Words of Institution

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

And so Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us.

C: **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 invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION MUSIC

1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the only Son, to

save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from

on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

*STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 661

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

SENDING

***PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

P: And now may this, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace forever.

C: **Amen.**

A: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn – ELW 836
(See next page)**

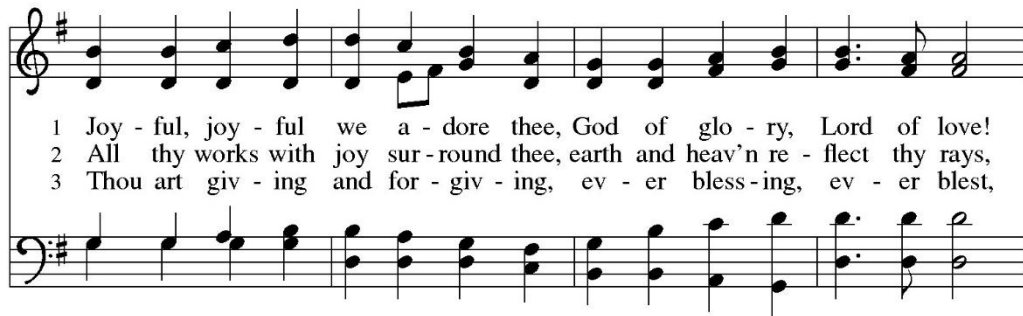
DISMISSAL

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

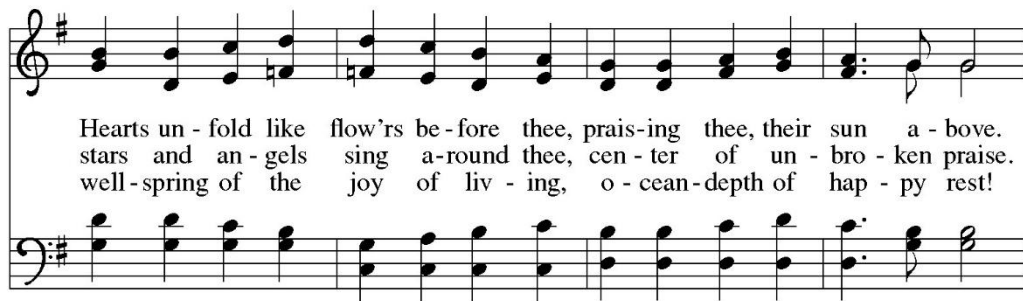
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

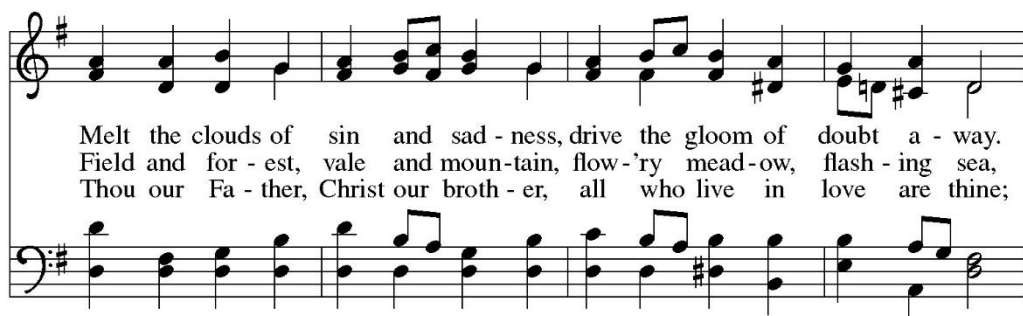
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAY FOR...

ROSEMARY RIZZO
TONY RIZZO
ERIN JANKOWSKI
DEE MARINOV
MARYANN AND CHIP
ORLANDO
JOHN VEIDEFFER
SARAH BURKE
DIANE BUSDIECKER
THE DICKIE FAMILY
FAITH WHITE

GEORGE TROESTER- SON OF MAUREEN SIETESKI
MAYA CHAKRABORTY
KATHERINE SIKORSKI
ANGELA ROESER
EMILY- NIECE OF PATTY WALKER
JANICE DARVEAU- FRIEND OF KATHY BUSDIECKER
DAVID JINKS- FATHER OF SARAH KUEHFUS
REED AND MARSHALL WHITE- COUSINS OF NANCY STOEHR
KEVIN MACIVER- SECOND COUSIN OF ANNETTE BERG
WANDA ZYGMUNTOWICZ- FRIEND OF JOE SOMMA
DAN GRAUPMAN- COUSIN OF SUE GIBBONS
JAMES STONER - BROTHER-IN-LAW OF KATHY HABERMEHL

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on September 27th to discuss Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall.

This is a book that is sure to spark thoughtful conversation, emotional reactions, and a wide range of opinions. Whether you loved it, questioned the characters' choices, or were surprised by the ending, come prepared for a lively discussion!

Discussion Leader: Nancy Daniels | Hostess: Kathy Hannon

Altar flowers are from Dave and Tracy Johnston in honor of our goddaughter Abby Borkowski and her fiance James Burdett on their wedding this afternoon at St. Paul's



SCAN HERE FOR ST. PAUL'S DONATION PAGE



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

The worship bulletin is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in bold print are for congregation response. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need to be communed in the pew.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal. We have both red wine and grape juice in the center of the communion tray available for all who come to the Lord's table. Gluten free wafers are also available. If you need gluten free, please let Pastor know upon reaching the front of the communion line.



COFFEE HOUR

All are welcome to join us for Coffee Hour before service. We meet for coffee, muffins or danish, and conversation! If you'd like to bring some goodies, please see the sign up in the kitchen. We hope to see you there!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School meets from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.



Scan here for St. Paul's donation page

Called to Community



Jesus says, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them” (Matt. 18:20). In these Sundays after Pentecost, we are repeatedly reminded that God has not abandoned us and that Christ’s resurrection and ascension are a beginning for us, not an end. The readings this week focus on the practical work of the gathered Christian community: turning from sin to repentance, from conflict to reconciliation. The question is as relevant today as it was for the disciples and the first Christians: How do we live together, work together, as the body of Christ? We have been saved by grace, liberated by God’s love to love one another. What does it mean for us and for our community to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 13:14) and to clothe ourselves in love?

We keep asking these questions because the way we gather as Christians continues to be profoundly countercultural. We do not gather as a social club, drawn and kept together only by shared demographics and interests. If church is only a social club, there is no reason to continue to gather if conflict arises, if uncomfortable issues are raised, or if “the way it’s always been” begins to change. If church is only a social club, there is no reason to do the hard work of reconciliation and forgiveness.

God calls us into community knowing that being in community is hard. In scripture we can find practical guidance for gathering through good and hard times. The Holy Spirit is always at work—in, through, and among us—to gather and regather us again. In community we meet and become Christ’s body in ways that are impossible for us as individuals; all the commandments are fulfilled in this call to neighbor-love (Rom. 13:9).

PASTOR ASHLIN MARCHESI

PREACHER / PRESIDER

PATRICK GARD

ORGANIST

DAVE NUZZO

LITURGICAL ASSISTANT

JOHN DOERFLER

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

GENE EMSER & JOHN HANNON

USHERS

PATTY & ELLIE WALKER

ALTAR GUILD
