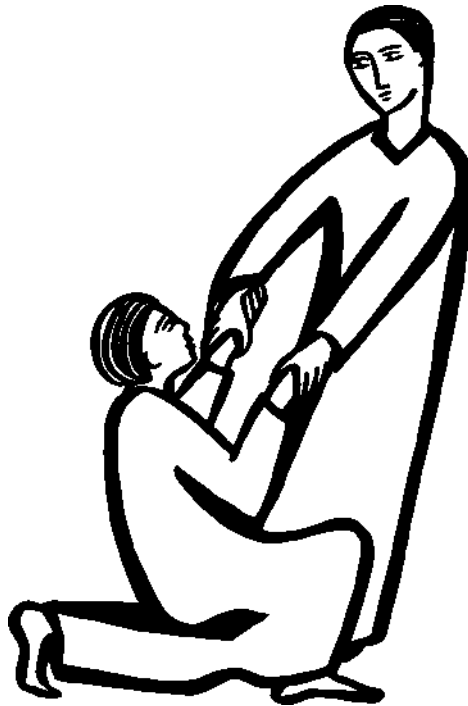


THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



September 17, 2023

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are happy you have joined us for worship today. Wherever you are on your journey with or toward God, you are welcome here—you are a blessing to this assembly.

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

Lutherans believe, teach, and confess that in, with, and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. All who are drawn in faith are welcome to join in this confession and receive the Sacrament.

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. With this service bulletin you can follow and participate in this morning's liturgy.

New to St. Paul? Ready to make it your own? Questions about St. Paul, including transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, reception, or transferring from one of the other Christian traditions, may be directed to the Church Office at 781-646-7773 or parishadmin@stpaularlington.org.

*When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.*

At the ✠, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

*The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Fantasia in A major No. 9, HWV 577
G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

WELCOME

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN

"Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven"

ELW 864

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.

Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for-giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

* GREETING

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

And also with you.

* KYRIE

Cantor



We pray for peace, O Lord, make plow - shares of our swords, make



plow - shares of our swords: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor



Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un -



til we see your face: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Christ, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Christ, have



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor



De - fend your church, O Lord, and root it in your word, and



root it in your word: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly



Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have



mer-cy on us: hear our cry. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Kyrie
 Music: MY FATHER, HOW LONG, African American spiritual

* HYMN OF PRAISE

“Above the Hills the Angel Hosts”

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.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Gloria in excelsis
 Music: THE DEVIL'S NINE QUESTIONS, Appalachian traditional

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15–21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in

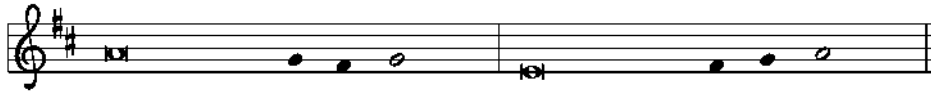
the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:[1—7] 8—13

The psalm is sung responsively, with the congregation singing the bold verses.



Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
Bless the Lord, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—
who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;
who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
O Lord, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
 Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952

* GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21–35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and

reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME / BLESSING

Vicar Katie Linthicum

SERMON "Forgiveness"

Pastor Ross Goodman

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Before the Waters Nourished the Earth"

ACS 1049

1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
 2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
 3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
 4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness

ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
 E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
 par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
 still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -

u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
 mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
 faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
 gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961
 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody

* APOSTLES' CREED

In response to the gospel, let us confess the faith of the church:

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 into hell. 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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and relief to regions that are flooded. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy, especially Dan, Janna, Jeanne, Jeffrey, Lois, Lynn, Meredith, Owen, Roberta, and Susan. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

continued next page

We pray for the thousands of people who have been killed or displaced by the earthquake in Morocco and the floods in Libya. Comfort those who mourn, weep with those who are hurting. Inspire neighbors from around the world to provide help and aid as the community begins to heal. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, whom we commemorate today. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

* PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING



GiveLify QR code to scan for offering

* OFFERING HYMN



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.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer
Music: BARB'RY ELLEN, Appalachian traditional

* OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Sanctus
 Music: SHADY GROVE, Appalachian traditional

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.

* LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

عربي (ARABIC)

اسْمُكَ لِيقَدَّسَ.
 مَلَكُوتِكَ لِيَأْتِ،
 السَّمَاءِ كَمَا الأَرْضِ فِي مَشِيئَتِكَ لِتَكُنْ
 يَوْمَنَا كَقَافِ خُبْرَانَا ارزُقْنَا
 خَطَايَانَا عَن اَعْفُ وَ
 بِحَقِّقْنَا يُخْطِئُونَ عَمَّن نَعْفُو فَإِنَّا
 لِلْعَوَايِةِ تُعْرِضُنَا لِأ
 الشَّرِيرِ مِنَ نَجِّنَا بَلْ
 أَبْدَأَ المَجْدُ وَ الجَبْرُوتُ وَ المَلَكُوتُ فَلكَ

abā-nā alladhī fī as-samāwāt-i,
 li-ya-ta-qaddas-i asm-u-ka!
 li-ya-'ti malakūt-u-ka!
 li-takun ma-shī'at-u-ka 'alā al-'arḍ-i kamā
 hīa fī as-samā'-i!
 khubz-a-nā kafāf-a-nā 'a-'ṭi-nā al-yawm-a!
 wa-aghfir la-nā dhunūb-a-nā,
 kamā na-ghfir-u naḥnu li-lmu-dhniḇ-ī-na
 'ilay-nā!
 wa-lā tu-dkhil-nā fī ta-jribat-in,
 lakin najji-nā mina ash-shirrīr-i,
 l'anna laka al-mulka wa-al-qūwaha wa-al-
 majda 'ilā al-'anadi.
 'āmīn.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine. Individual communion kits are available in the trays located in the center of the sanctuary.

1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
 2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly 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.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei
 Music: THE SUFFOLK MIRACLE, Appalachian traditional

COMMUNION HYMN

“When We are Living”

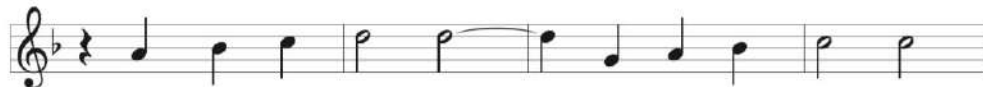
ELW 639



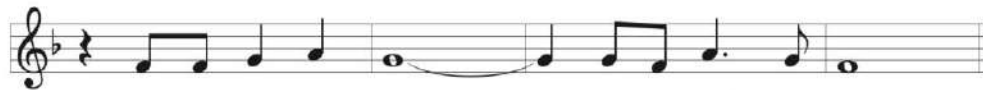
Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,
 1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.
 and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 and when we help them, or when we feed them,



so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942
 st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946

* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

1 We praise you for the life that stirs when
 2 We praise you for the sum - mer sun, for
 3 We sing your praise for au - tumn's glow, for
 4 We sing your praise through win - ter's night, when
 5 We praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and

spring - time warms the sleep - ing earth; but
 rip'n - ing grain and length - ened days; but
 har - vest yield from spring - time seed; up -
 earth in fro - zen si - lence lies, for
 praise the Spir - it, with the throng of

most, we praise the grace that lures our
 most, we praise you for the Son whose
 on our hearts your grace be - stow till
 prom - ise of re - turn - ing light, for
 saints and an - gels, joined as one in

slum - b'ring souls to love and mirth.
 light brings heal - ing in his rays.
 faith bears fruit in lov - ing deed.
 life in Christ that nev - er dies.
 grate - ful, ev - er - last - ing song.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.
 Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table,
 you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
 with bread for the journey.
 Give us your grace on the road
 that we might serve our neighbors with joy;
 for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

May God bless and keep us. May God's face shine on us and be gracious. May God look on us with favor and ☩ give us peace.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING HYMN

"Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"

ELW 544



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902-1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645-1705, adapt.

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sonatina in D minor HWV 581

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS *and*
UPCOMING HAPPENINGS
at SAINT PAUL**



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF | Donations for Victims of Natural Disasters in Morocco & Libya

Lutheran World Relief is a humanitarian agency collecting donations to meet families' urgent needs in Morocco and Libya after devastating earthquakes and floods. Food, water, shelter, hope — whatever they need most. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/uk5ch8jp> to donate.

THE ELNA MARIE CARLSON MEMORIAL FUND

The memory of longtime parishioner, Elna Carlson, has inspired her children to start a fund in her name. The Elna Marie Carlson Memorial will be a funding source for the St. Paul pastoral team to offset the losses from the health challenges that many elders experience. For some, this leads to loss of connection to people and activities that once provided comfort and joy. Concrete support such as a new plant, book, or music to counteract boredom, a meal or massage to provide comfort in the home, an airplane ticket to enable a family visit. The Carlson children say Elna's spirit was generous and her intuition was remarkable in how to provide support to others. Donations can be made in church or online through Givelify at <https://tinyurl.com/4pj4rae4> with the memo Elna Carlson Memorial Fund.

ALTAR GUILD APPEAL AND TRAINING | October 15, 9:30 am

The Altar Guild of St. Paul is responsible for preparing the worship space incorporating ceremonial objects, flowers and procedures established by tradition and service.

Marie Breitenbach leads this group. Teams of two are scheduled for each Sunday, each person generally serving 2 times a month in addition to group get togethers for special tasks during Holy Week and Christmas. New members are initially paired with veteran members to give time to learn the steps involved in set up and clean up. If the opportunity to demonstrate reverence for the sacred and decorative aspects of worship is appealing, you are invited to consider participating in the Altar Guild. Look for the sign-up forms in the Upper Narthex.



SAINT PAUL
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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Arlington, Massachusetts 02476
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Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*
The Reverend Liz Senft, *Pastoral Associate*
Katie Linthicum, *Vicar*
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and Families Director*
Jennifer White, *Interim Parish Administrator*
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

Church Council and Officers

Elizabeth Heichler, *President*
Monique Airasian, *Vice-President*
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*
Kerri Frick, *Secretary*
Norma Ofsthun, *Financial Officer*
Mark Olson, *Financial Officer*
Kristen Anderson
Eric Haugen
Peter Hedlund
Kevin Kreutter
Julia A. B. Pearson
Bob Sniffen
Taryn Walsh



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