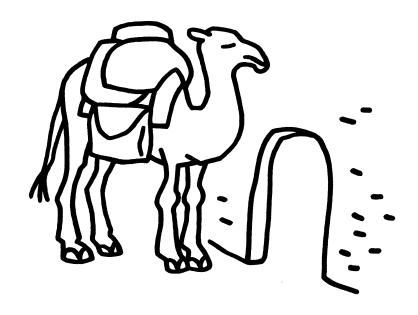
THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



October 13, 2024

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:15am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave

9:00am | Choir Practice

9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School,

Adult Forum

10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave

and Online

11:30am | Coffee Hour

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for Weekly Update newsletter by going to our website at www.stpaularlington.org and clicking on SUBSCRIBE.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Marie Breitenbach & Geneva Carter, *Altar Guild*Adelaide N, and Mikayla N., *Acolytes*Peter Schmidt, *Lector*Sandy Walker, *Deacon*Peter Schmidt, *Cantor*Dan Ries, *Usher*Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast*Peter and Hollie Schmidt, *Coffee Guild*



Today's altar flowers are given in memory of Frances Lucille Myers
Fechtel, born October 13, 1903, beloved grandmother of Kim Fechtel and greatgrandmother to Isaak Osterbur and Marika Osterbur Badhey.

When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable. At the \boxtimes , you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Adagio from Voluntary Op. 6 No. 9

John Stanley (1712-1786)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm 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.

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.

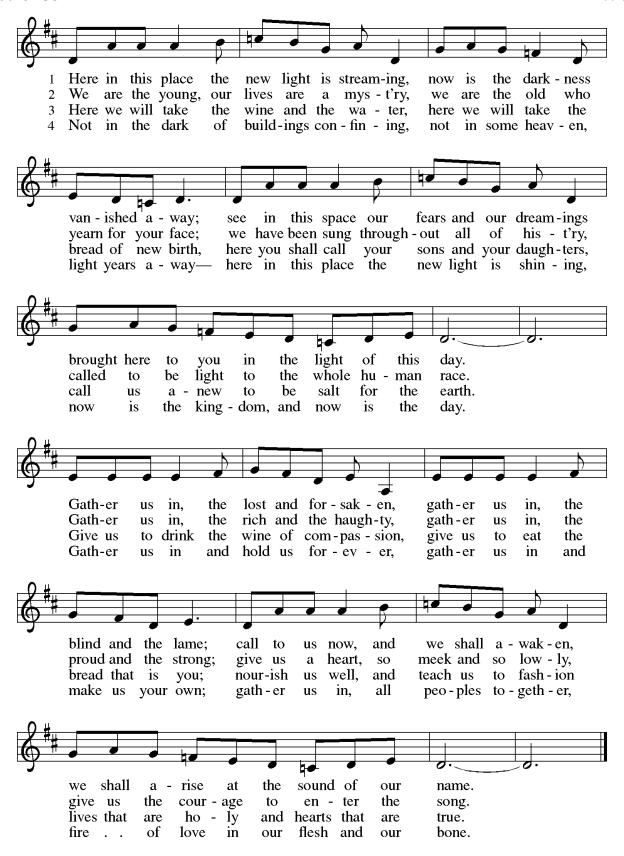
Amen.

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 \pm 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

"Gather Us In" ELW 532



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

*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

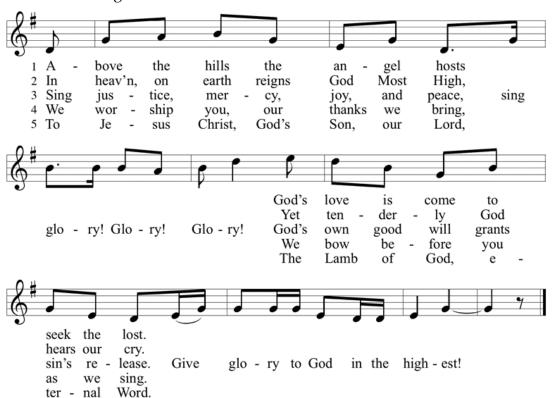




Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Kyrie Music: My Father, How Long, African American spiritual

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Above the Hills the Angel Hosts"



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Gloria in excelsis Music: The Devil's Nine Questions, Appalachian traditional

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING Amos 5:6–7, 10–15

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain,

you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them;

you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—

you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate.

Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live;

and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

Hate evil and love good,

and establish justice in the gate;

it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (read responsively 8:15 am service)



Psalm 90:12-17

So teach us to num- | ber our days that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

Return, O Lord; how long | will you tarry? Be gracious | to your servants.

Satisfy us by your steadfast love ¹ in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad ¹ all our days.

Make us glad as many days as you af- | flicted us and as many years as we suf- | fered adversity.

Show your ser- 'vants your works, and your splendor 'to their children.

May the graciousness of the Lord our God | be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; pros- | per our handiwork.

SECOND READING Hebrews 4:12–16

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

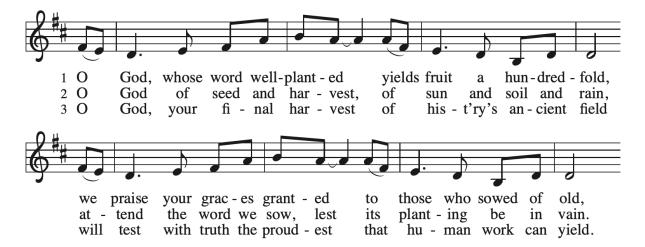
Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

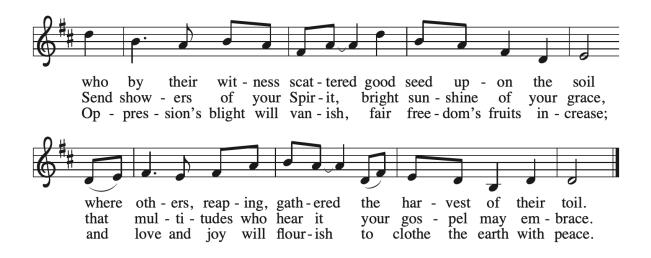
Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (10:30 only)





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

* GOSPEL Mark 10:17–31

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME Pastor Liz Senft

SERMON "The First Step"

Pastor Ross Goodman

* HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

APOSTLE'S 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

The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

Compassionate God, embolden the church to seek all who are lost, clothe those who are naked, and mend what is broken. May we be generous bearers of your eternal love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, as we approach harvest time, we pray for farmers, field workers, and those who process crops. Keep us mindful of environmental threats, especially hurricanes. Be with all who have lost loved ones, homes, and hope in the wake of the recent storms in the southeastern United States. Help us be better stewards of your creation and care for the earth that feeds your people. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Steadfast God, inspire world leaders to share resources and work collectively to end global poverty, starvation, and preventable disease. Direct us to seek justice and equity, that all may live in peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for those who are afflicted, tormented, grieving, oppressed, and lonely, especially Dan, Kai, Lynn, Marilyn, Meredith, Owen, Paul and Susan. Deliver the strength of your love and compassion to all who need it today. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Generous God, we give thanks for the first nations who inhabited the land on which our church resides: the Naumkeag people, Massachusett, Pawtucket and Wampanoag tribes. We lament the harm done by colonization. Call us to deeper appreciation and care for the languages, rituals, and history of all Indigenous people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Ever-living God, we rejoice to be heirs of the eternal life made real in Jesus' death and resurrection. We give thanks for saints of all times and places, especially Massie L. Kennard, Teresa of Ávila, Ignatius and Luke the Evangelist, who still inspire us to faithful living. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

Amen.

* PEACE

Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM (10:30 only)

Jesu, meine Freude BWV 227

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Jesu, meine Freude, meines Herzens Weide, Jesu, meine Zier! Ach wie lang, ach lange, ist dem Herzen bange und verlangt nach dir! Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam, außer dir soll mir auf Erden nichts sonst Liebers werden. Jesus, my joy,
my heart's pasture,
Jesus, my treasure!
Ah, how long, ah long
has my heart suffered
and longed for you!
God's lamb, my bridegroom,
besides you on earth
nothing shall be dearer to me.

MEAL

* OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING

You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code:



* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

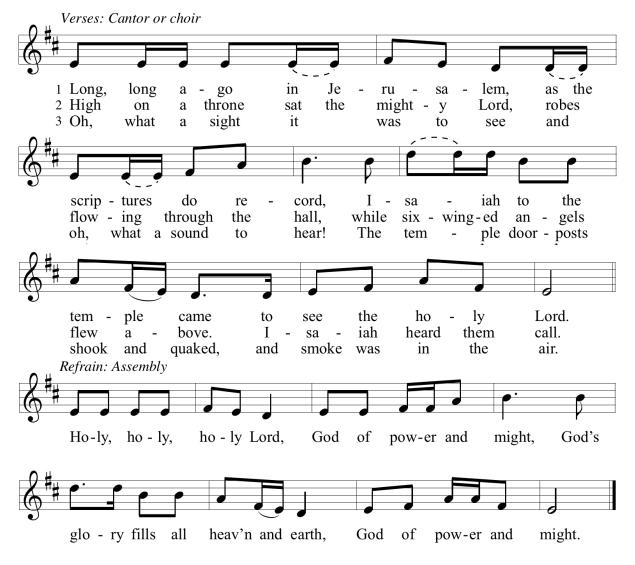
Lift up your hearts.

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, 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:



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

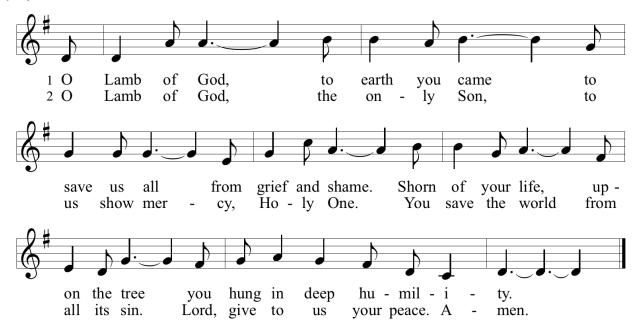
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request. Both wine and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.

Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei Music: The Suffolk Miracle, Appalachian traditional

"Shout to the Lord ELW 821 my Sav-ior, Lord, there is none like you. My Je - sus, \mathbf{o} All of my days I want to praise the won-ders of your might-y love. my shel-ter, My com - fort, tow-er of ref - uge and strength; let ev-'ry breath, all that I am nev-er cease to wor-ship you. Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow-er and maj - es-ty, praise to the King. Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar at the of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands; sound for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev er I'll stand. **.** O O. Noth-ing com-pares to the prom-ise I have you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965 Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

* 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 (10:30 only)



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 \pm give us peace. **Amen**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue from Voluntary Op. 6 No. 9

John Stanley (1712-1786)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

at SAINT PAUL



LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF DONATION OPPORTUNITY

We've all read headlines or heard reports from loved ones about Hurricane Helene's and Milton's paths of wreckage across the southeastern US. To help those who are affected, consider donating to Lutheran Disaster Response, a ministry of the ELCA that supports local short and long-term recovery efforts, using the QR code.



LUTHER LEAGUE PUMPKIN DECORATING AND HALLOWEEN CRAFTS | October 20, 7:00-9:00

5th graders and above are invitees to join us for a fun evening of decorating, snacking, and socializing with the youth. This is a great time to socialize and reconnect as we get ready for Halloween. Please RSVP.

THEOLOGY ON TAP AT MIGHTY SQUIRREL BREWERY | October 27, 4:00-6:00 Join Vicar Sam for a time of community at a local brewery, Mighty Squirrel, 411 Waverley Oaks Rd, Waltham. All are invited to grab a beer or seltzer (non-alcoholic options available) and gather for a relaxed conversation about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

SUPPER CLUB AT ST. PAUL | November 2, 6:00, ongoing

Bring a dish to share with our community. We will be starting a Supper Club on the 1st Saturday of the month. Come when you are able, and enjoy some time with other members of the congregation. All are welcome to join!



AUTUMN ADULT FORUM | September 22 - October 27

The Gospel of John – A Beginner's Guide to the Way, the Truth and the Life. As so many of us have found, the Gospel of John can be problematic. But its beauty and depth also form some of the core tenets of our faith. Pastor Liz will be the primary leader of this six-week session on the Gospel of John.



929 Concord Turnpike Arlington, Massachusetts 02476 www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, Pastor
The Reverend Liz Senft, Pastoral Associate
Samantha Menapace, Vicar
Ana Zecic Jeffers, Director of Music
Paul Ricci, Business Administrator
Sarah Carter, Children, Youth and
Families Director
Jennifer White, 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 Secretary
Mark Olson, Financial Secretary
Kristen Anderson
Eric Carlson
Peter Hedlund
Kevin Kreutter
Bob Sniffen
Sandy Walker
Taryn Walsh





Liturgical materials and visuals reproduced by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003024. © Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible. Copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. © Music reprinted under OneLicense #A-709763. All rights reserved. © Psalm reprinted from St. Martin's Psalter by Thomas Pavlechko. Copyright © 2010 St. James Music Press.