

September 10, 2023
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now *LSB 902*



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Lutherisch Hand-Büchlein, 1648, Altenburg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Canticale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim
Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Exhortation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

[John 20:19-23] LSB 203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants,
 Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are
 right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus
 Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
 Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, chapter 33.

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
 Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Romans 13:1-10

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 13.

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The 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.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

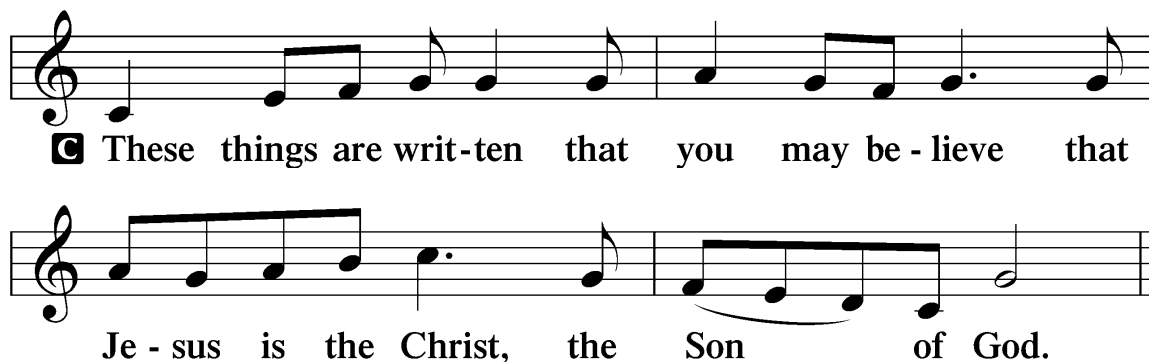
Alleluia

LSB 205



Verse

John 20:31 LSB 205



Alleluia

LSB 205



Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker *LSB*

820



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
righ - teous-ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose
yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we



meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and
spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as



care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who
heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So



leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.
far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.

vv. 3-4, next page

3 For as a tender father
Has pity on his children here,
God in His arms will gather
All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers,
Who but from dust are made.
We flourish like the flowers,
And even so we fade;
The wind but through them passes,
And all their bloom is o'er.
We wither like the grasses;
Our place knows us no more.

4 His grace remains forever,
And children's children yet shall prove
That God forsakes them never
Who in true fear shall seek His love.
In heav'n is fixed His dwelling,
His rule is over all;
O hosts with might excelling,
With praise before Him fall.
Praise Him forever reigning,
All you who hear His Word—
Our life and all sustaining.
My soul, O praise the Lord!

Text: Johann Gramann, 1487–1541; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Knowing that our Lord has promised to be in our midst wherever two or three are gathered in His name, let us bring our prayers and supplications before Him. In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For pastors, that as God's watchmen, they may be faithful in calling sinners to repentance and joyfully announcing the Lord's forgiveness to those who heed their warning, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the faithful, that each of us may serve as our brother's keeper both in our earthly families and among our brothers and sisters in Christ; and that we may owe no one anything except to love each other, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our leaders, that they would bear the sword righteously; and for all who protect us, especially our armed forces, police and firefighters, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the ill, grieving, and lonely, [especially _____,] that they may remember that the Good Shepherd who loves them seeks and saves the one lost sheep, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For childlike faith as we receive Christ's body and blood, that it may strengthen us in faith toward God and in fervent love toward one another, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all God's little ones, that they would not perish but be called back to Him when tempted to stray, delivered from temptation, and kept in the faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

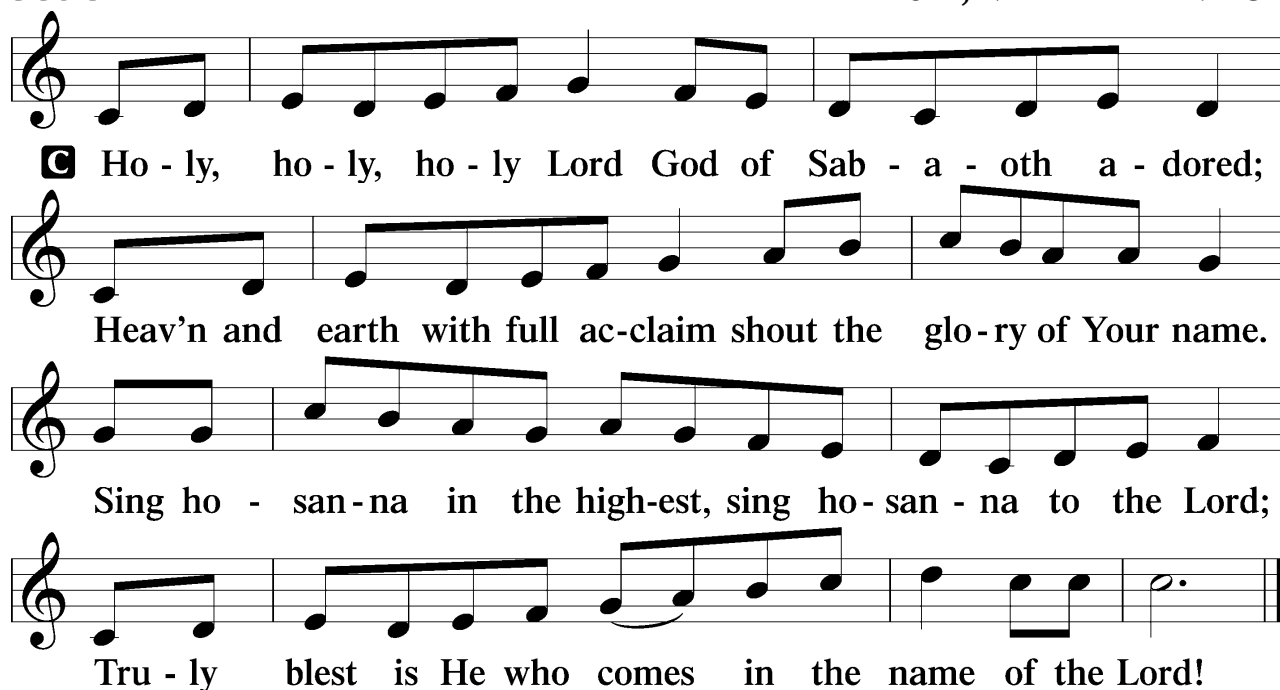
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.
☐ Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any questions.

Distribution Hymn: "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

LSB 843

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
 2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
 3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls

You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in

grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-87, alt.
 Tune: A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony, 1820, Harrisonburg
 Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522
 Tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Lord God, to Thee We Give All Praise

LSB 522

1 Lord God, to Thee we give all praise, With grate - ful
 2 They shine with light and heav'n - ly grace And con - stant -
 3 They nev - er rest nor sleep as we; Their whole de -
 4 The an - cient drag - on is their foe; His en - vy

hearts our voic - es raise, That an - gel hosts Thou didst cre -
 ly be - hold Thy face; They heed Thy voice, they know it
 light is but to be With Thee, Lord Je - sus, and to
 and his wrath they know. It al - ways is his aim and

ate A - round Thy glo - rious throne to wait.
 well, In god - ly wis - dom they ex - cel.
 keep Thy lit - tle flock, Thy lambs and sheep.
 pride Thy Chris - tian peo - ple to di - vide.

5 As he of old deceived the world
And into sin and death has hurled,
So now he subtly lies in wait
To undermine both Church and
state.

6 A roaring lion, round he goes,
No halt nor rest he ever knows;
He seeks the Christians to devour
And slay them by his dreadful
pow'r.

7 But watchful is the angel band
That follows Christ on ev'ry hand
To guard His people where they go
And break the counsel of the foe.

8 For this, now and in days to be,
Our praise shall rise, O Lord, to
Thee,
Whom all the angel hosts adore
With grateful songs forevermore.

Text: Philipp Melancthon, 1497-1560; German version, Paul Eber, 1511-69; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841-1931, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds *LSB 867*

1 Let chil - dren hear the might - y deeds Which God per -
2 So make to them His glo - ries known, His works of
3 Our sons and daugh - ters we shall tell And they a -
4 O teach them with all dil - i - gence The truths of
5 To learn that in our God a - lone Their hope se -

formed of old, Which in our youn - ger
pow'r and grace; And we'll con - vey His
gain to theirs That gen - er - a - tions
God's own Word, To place in Him their
cure - ly stands, That they may nev - er

days we saw, And which our par - ents told.
won - ders down Through ev - 'ry ris - ing race.
yet un - born May teach them to their heirs.
con - fi - dence, To fear and trust their Lord,
doubt His love But walk in His com - mands.

Text (sts. 1-3, 5): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.; (st. 4): Bernhard Schumacher, 1886-1978
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
Text (sts. 1-3, 5) and tune: Public domain
Text (st. 4) and tune: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522

Stand

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go LSB 920



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
 2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
 3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
 4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
 5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
 King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
 This world of time to con - se - crate,
 Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
 That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
 With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
 This world of sin by grace to heal,
 Christ's truth in love that we may be
 Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
 Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
 Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
 Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
 True peace, true love to all man - kind.

Text: James Quinn, 1919–2010
 Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.
 Text: © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004522
 Tune: Public domain

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Welcome Back Sunday School
Today	12:00 - 2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Monday	6:00 PM	Confirmation Orientation
Tuesday	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Elder Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Quilters
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Trail Life USA

TRAIL LIFE USA Join us this Wednesday, September 13th at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for an information meeting. Also, to learn more, see the display at the Welcome Center for this outreach geared for families with boys in K-5th grade. This is a Christian ecumenical alternative to the Boy Scouts. Questions? Contact Rev. Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

LWML SUNDAY LUNCHEON is coming up on October 8th at 12:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet for those ladies (only) who are planning to attend this event; this will be helpful so that food may be planned accordingly. Thank you.

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2023 Oct.-Dec. devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take your copy home today.

YOUTH GROUP for grades 6-12 is every other Wednesday and will meet next on Wednesday, September 20, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

WIGGLE BAGS Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities that kids may engage and participate in worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that “big church” is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the “Used Wiggle Bag” plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your Worship folders, filled out or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below.

Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about “bill-pay” options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on “Give Online” - you’ll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

WORSHIP BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SLIPS You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that is located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place **ONLY the bulletins (including Large Print as we do recycle the black combs) and the unused attendance slips.** Thank you.

September 2023					
	SERVICE	September 3 SUNDAY	September 10 SUNDAY	September 17 SUNDAY	September 24 SUNDAY
		Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle / Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle/Steve Kato
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Jim Sherry	Mark Gordon	Dave Hesketh
	10:30am	Jay Moser	Erich Gottl	Brian Dearth	Joe Bennet
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Elder	David & Mackenzie Duran	Elder
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Elder	Barb Pijor	Elder
ELDER INFO	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.