

*Welcome to St. Paul's
The Lord Bless You as You Worship!*



*Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
November 17, 2024*

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Rev. Lori Nickoloff, Pastor

Enter to Listen, Exit to Serve

WORSHIP NOTES

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We're glad you're here! May you experience God's love through the words you hear and sing, the meal you eat, and the fellowship of God's people.

Prayer Requests If you have a prayer request, please give a note to the ushers or send an email to Pastor Lori.

Face Masks Just a friendly reminder...please wear a mask in the building if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19/experiencing any kind of respiratory or flu-like symptoms. Masks are available on the table in the narthex in case you forget yours at home. Thank you!

Holy Communion All are welcome to share in Christ's meal of forgiveness and grace. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. (If you feel your child is ready to receive or have additional questions, please speak with Pastor Lori.) *Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray. Grape juice is in the center of the tray. Gluten-free bread is available; please indicate your need to the pastor.*

Pew Cushions Are available on the pew in the back of the sanctuary.

Hearing Assistance Individual hearing devices are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please return the device at the end of worship so they can be sanitized.

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We Worship God

Welcome

Prelude

“My Lord, What a Morning”

by Harry T Burleigh

The prelude is a time for people to become quiet, to meditate and pray, and to prepare their hearts and minds to worship God. You are invited to pray this prayer to help you transition from the cares and activities of daily life to worshipping the Living God:
God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Call to Worship

P: Our hearts exult in God!

All: **Our strength is in God!**

P: There is no holy one like our God!

All: **There is no rock like our God!**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Merciful God,

All: **We come before you with heavy hearts. We do not always follow our Savior’s lead. We insist on our own way, putting worldly things before you. We doubt, we discriminate; we scatter— preferring darkness to the brilliance of your truth. For all this we ask your mercy and forgiveness, that our hearts may be made clean again. Amen.**

P: As a loving shepherd gathers his sheep, so our Lord protects and cares for us. As patient as a parent for a wayward child, so is God’s mercy for us. Let us rejoice that we have received forgiveness, and that every day our Lord seeks to renew us in the image of our Creator, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn:

O God of Love, O King of Peace

#749

1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through-
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders
3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but
4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are

out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.
that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.
on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.
knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.

Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

The musical score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

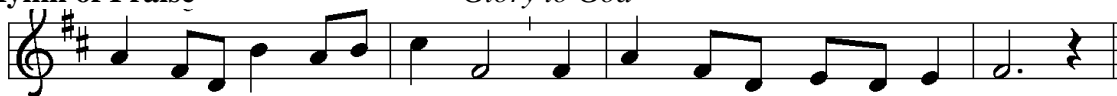
Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

P: God of the beginning and of the end,

All: You ask us to put our trust not in worldly things, but in heavenly things. As we navigate the challenges of daily life and the much larger challenges faced by our communities and all creation, give us confidence in your power and grace, that we might live into our faith each day. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Please be seated)

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

A: Guide us, O God by your Word and Spirit,

All: that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source Book of Worship Resources, Volume 2, published in 1996 by Communication Resources, Canton, Ohio.

Psalm 16

A: Sustain me, O God, for my faith is anchored in You. I say it again, "You are my Lord; when I am estranged from You, I have nothing that is of any real worth."

All: The significant and contributive people of this world know You. I must respect these individuals.

A: Those who make lesser things their ultimate concern are investing in eventual trouble and grief.

All: I cannot worship their idols or respect their objectives.

A: God has become my ultimate concern.

All: He is the pilot of my ship.

A: Thus the course before me will lead to ultimate fulfillment.

All: I am guaranteed an inheritance of infinite value.

A: I look to God as my chief counselor.

All: Even in the darkest night, He is ready to teach and guide me.

A: Because He continually surrounds me,

All: I shall not lose my way.

A: Is it any wonder that I am happy? Even my humanity, my tangible body, rests in the blessed realization of this security.

All: God will keep even my human self from the destructive clutch of evil.

A: You do show me the paths I must take, O Lord. Within Your all-embracing presence lies genuine fulfillment.

All: In my relationship with You, I discover incomparable and eternal joy.

From Psalms/Now by Leslie F. Brandt

Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel

P: The Gospel according to Mark.

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

Mark 13:1-8

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birthpangs.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Rev. Lori Nickoloff

Following the sermon, there is a time of silence for reflection and quiet meditation. Our liturgy is made up not only of words, gestures, and music, but also moments of silence.

As the hymn begins, the assembly stands to sing.

Hymn of the Day:

You Are the Way

#758

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G minor, 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the remaining lyrics. The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the bass part providing harmonic support. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

Apostles Creed

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Trusting in your eternal love, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

A: God of change, guide us to recognize the transient nature of earthly things and to seek the eternal. May we honor those who adapt to change with grace. Above all, grant us the wisdom to see that life is change, and that we need not fear the change coming with you in charge. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

A: Creator of uncertainty, inspire us to trust in you when faced with the unknown, recognizing your constant presence and guidance. May we value the work of those who navigate uncertainty, including crisis managers, emergency responders, and those who support individuals and communities during times of transition and upheaval. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

A: Guide our faithful leaders who strive to create communities of resilience and hope, social workers who support those in distress, and volunteers who extend help to those in need, that they may reflect the teachings of Christ, nurturing hearts that are anxious and spirits that seek assurance. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, we pray for those who are struggling with fear, anxiety, or uncertainty (especially...). May they find comfort in your love, and may friends who offer empathy, professionals who provide counseling, and communities that foster faith and trust be instruments of your grace and peace. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

A: God of hope, we pray for those who instill hope and optimism in others, including educators who nurture dreams, artists who inspire creativity, and those who live their faith with conviction, reflecting the promise of a future filled with your love and grace. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

A: We remember the saints who have gone before us, those who have faced change and uncertainty with faithfulness and hope. May we be inspired by their example, honoring the legacy of saints, visionary leaders, and those who have lived your call with courage and trust. God, draw near,

All: Receive our prayer.

P: We lift all these prayers and more to you, in the name of Jesus,

All: Amen

Sharing of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always

All: **And also with you.**

Please turn to the people near you to offer a gesture of peace and the greeting, "God's peace be with you!" You are also encouraged to turn to the back of the sanctuary and greet the worshippers on Zoom with a wave or gesture of peace.

(Please be seated)

Offering

*This month our Local Hunger Offering will be given to **The Yates County Christmas Program.***

Offertory Music

“Schmucke Dich”

By Paul Manz

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Offertory Hymn:

Verse 3 of As Saints of Old

#695

*In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.*

Offertory Prayer

A: Holy God,

All: **source of all good things, we offer thanks and praise for your generosity to us. Accept now these gifts returned to you from what you have given us, that they might be used for your good purposes in our community and beyond. Amen.**

We Share God's Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Faithful and abiding God, we give you thanks and praise... ...And so with saints and angels and all the company of heaven we sing the praise of your unending glory.



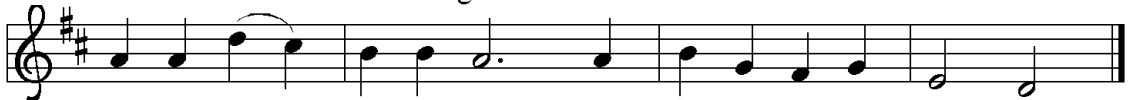
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Inviting God, you bring us to the table... ...Great is the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: Completing and perfecting God, in your Son's cross you took on the grief and failure of the world, and in his resurrection you dismantled the power of sin and death. Look with mercy on all your people whose longings are unmet. When your children plead for the chance to be creative, productive, or nurturing, give them gentleness, fulfillment, and purpose. When your people yearn to bring joy into the life of others, comfort to the afflicted, or trust to the wounded, give them courage, wisdom, and patience. When your kingdom seems far off, strengthen your church to wait with faith and hope and love, until the day when you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Hymns During Communion:

<i>My Life Flows On in Endless Song</i>	#763
<i>My Lord, What a Morning</i>	#438
<i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	#742

Table Blessing

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

All: Amen

Prayer After Communion:

A: O God,

All: in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

Announcements

Benediction

P: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.

All: Amen

Saint Teresa of Avila

Litany

L: Look at these enormous buildings!

All: One day, they will all be gone.

L: The world and all things will pass away.

All: But God's word will not pass away.

L: The Word was there at the beginning,

All: And will be there at the end.

L: And we, who live in the time between,

All: The time of “already and not yet,”

L: We will live in the certainty of Jesus’ presence with us right now.

All: We will continue to work to bring the reign of God into the world.

L: Everything we do in the here and now matters.

All: We will leave the things to come in God’s hands.

(Please stand to sing the hymn and turn to face the flame as it exits the church)

Sending Hymn:

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#632

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,
our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

Sending

A: Go in peace. Proclaim Christ in all you say and do.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Toccata in G”

by Dennis Eliot

Hymn Notes “You Are the Way” ELW 758

George W Doane (1799-1859) based the hymn on John 14:6 and expands the ideas of way, truth and life. Doane was born in Trenton, NJ but moved to Geneva, NY at age ten. After receiving a law degree from Union College in Schenectady he worked as a lawyer for two years. He then attended General Theological Seminary in NYC and was ordained a priest in 1823 ultimately becoming Episcopal Bishop of NJ in 1832. He founded St Mary’s Hall for Women in 1837 and Burlington College for Men in 1846. His writings fill four volumes.

The tune DUNDEE is short and of common meter (CM) that fits many psalms. Its origins are unknown. The two phrases both end with the same notes and its melody spans an octave plus one note. The rising motion of the first phrase is wonderfully answered and complimented by the descending melody of the second. It is harmonically interesting in the second measure with its use of the sub dominant of the sub dominant. Please feel free to ask me about this.