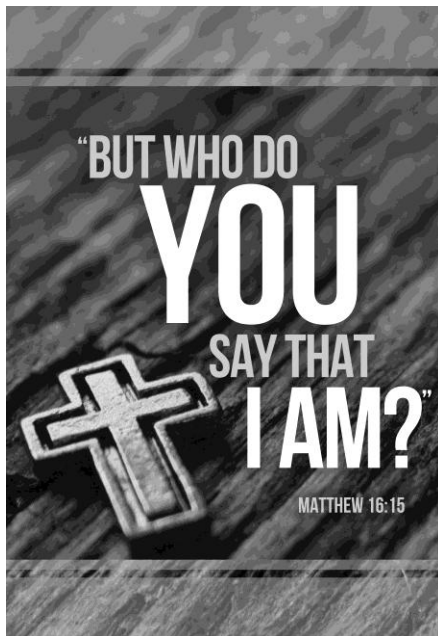


*Welcome to St. Paul's
The Lord Bless You as You Worship!*



***Service of the Word
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2026***

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
135 Hamilton Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527
315-536-8165
email: office@stpaulspennyan.org
website: www.stpaulspennyan.org
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.

Service music reprinted from ELW Liturgies CD-ROM, copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 14997-LIT.) RCL Liturgy – Clergy Stuff used by permission.

We Worship God

Welcome

Prelude

"Just as I am"

arranged by Phillip Keveren

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

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

All: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

P: 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.

All: Amen.

Gathering Song

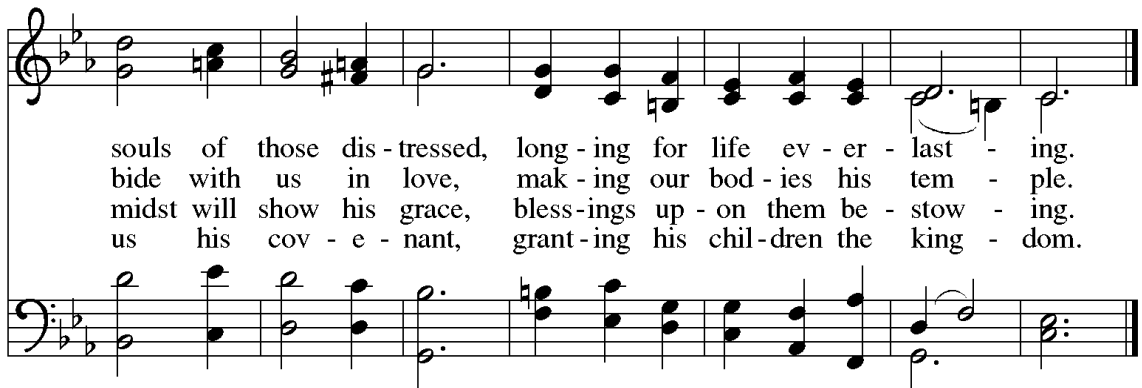
"Built on a Rock"

#652

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee-ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil-dren is

fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our

chim-ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con-fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak-ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,
 many may come to hear your Word,
 who here this promise is bringing:
 “I know my own, my own know me;
 you, not the world, my face shall see;
 my peace I leave with you. Amen.”

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
 Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**



Canticle of Praise

Refrain



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 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.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



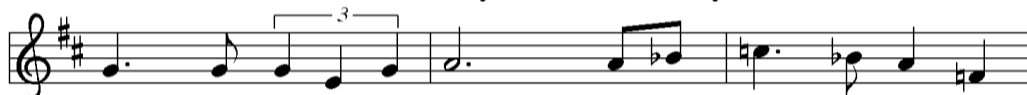
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



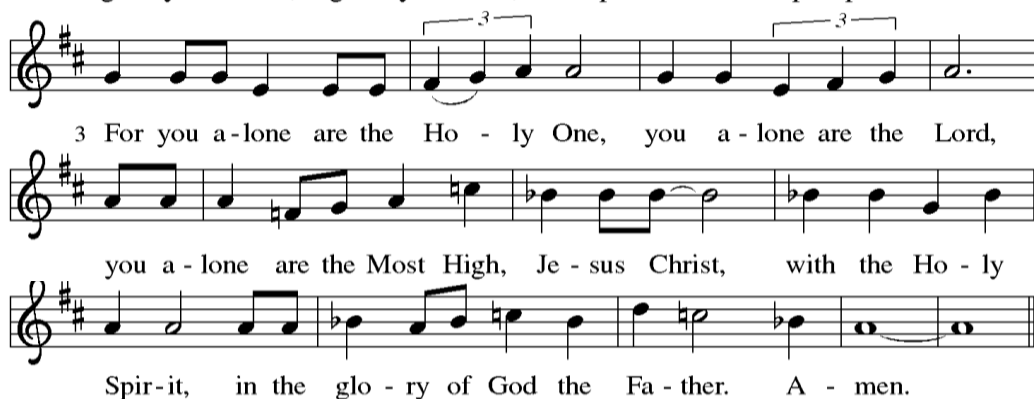
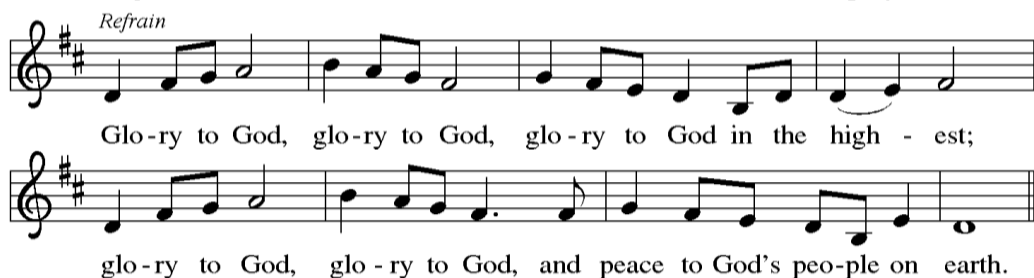
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



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



Prayer of the Day

P: God of truth,

All: you reveal the truth to us, even when the world hides it. Show us how to live as your faithful followers, who stand firm in your promises and live in the hope of new life, for the sake of Jesus our savior. Amen.

Please be seated

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

A: Good and gracious God,

All: as we turn to your Word, help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing and in our living. Amen

Psalm 124

A: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—let Israel now say—

All: if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,

A: then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

All: then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;

A: then over us would have gone the raging waters.

All: Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

A: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

All: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

The Gospel

P: The Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

#597



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Creed

A: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A: We are part of one another as members of the body of Christ, even though we
may not serve the same function. Strengthen each of us in our appointed
roles, that we might complement each other instead of desiring to be
something which we are not. Almighty God,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Deliver us from the rising waters of this world, O God, which our own actions
have influenced. Show us constructive ways to help repair the damage which
we have played a role in causing on this planet. Almighty God,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Watch over children around the world who suffer the fallout of conflicts and
political upheaval in their homelands. Help heal their trauma so that they can
find their way and create new, hope-filled futures. Almighty God,

All: hear our prayer.

A: Heal us of our invisible afflictions: self-doubt, worry, jealousy, unrest, and all that separates us from you and others. Give you spirit's power to those who need you most, (*especially...*) and those we name silently in our hearts.
Almighty God,

All: hear our prayer.

Here other petitions may be offered.

A: We give you thanks for all your faithful servants who put loyalty to you above their own fears of persecution or unpopularity. Give us courage to live with integrity and trust in your surpassing grace. Almighty God,

All: hear our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers, both spoken and silent, and use us to bring about their fulfilment, for the sake of Jesus our savior.

All: Amen.

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

Thanksgiving

Offertory Music

"Adagio"

Marcello/Bach

Please rise in body or spirit

Offertory Hymn:

verse 1 of Lord of Light

#688

*Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and suns of space,
use our talents in your kingdom as the servants of your grace;
use us to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son:
Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.*

Offertory Prayer

A: The offering you desire most from us, O God, is the gift of our whole selves to the work of your kingdom.

All: Take these gifts which we now offer and use them to further your purpose in this world. Amen.

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Refrain

Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -
ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O
God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O
Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and

Refrain

sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va-tion be-longs to our
 God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.
 2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and
 bless-ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All
Refrain
 praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va-tion be-longs to our
 God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

Thanksgiving for the Word

P: Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

All: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

All: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

All: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: 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.

Please be seated

Sending

Announcements

Blessing

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: The God of all grace bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

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



Sending Song

"The Church's One Foundation"

#654

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Sonata in D Major”

Domenico Scarlatti

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Hymn Notes “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” ELW 597

Author Edward Mote (1797-1874) was born in England. His parents owned a pub, and he was mostly left alone. Apprenticed to a cabinet maker in 1813 he heard the preaching of John Hyatt and was baptized in 1815. He ran a successful cabinet making business and at age 55 became pastor for the Baptist Church in Horsham, Sussex. He retired in 1873 and wrote over 100 published hymns.

Mote wrote the first 4 stanzas in 1834 on his way to work while thinking of “the gracious experience of being a Christian. He wrote 2 more on the following Sabbath after a visit to a friend’s ill wife. During the visit they sang the first four, which he happened to have in his pocket.

THE SOLID ROCK is the perfect tune for this hymn. The opening melodic gesture outlines the F major triad and defines the vocal range of the melody. The leap upward is supremely confident and the repeated rhythm (short-short, long, long) gains strength throughout the song. The harmony is the three basic chords of I, IV, V, which are intentionally the simplest most straightforward chords available for most melodies. In fact, these are the basic chords for what became the musical form known as “blues.” The “blues” are the foundation of American rock and roll.

The refrain “On Christ, the solid rock, I stand” is the parable of “the wise and foolish builders.” The wise builder constructs with the simplest and strongest materials. As a cabinet maker, Mote knew this and it is reflected in both the text and William B Bradbury’s (1816-1868) tune, which he composed specifically for this hymn.