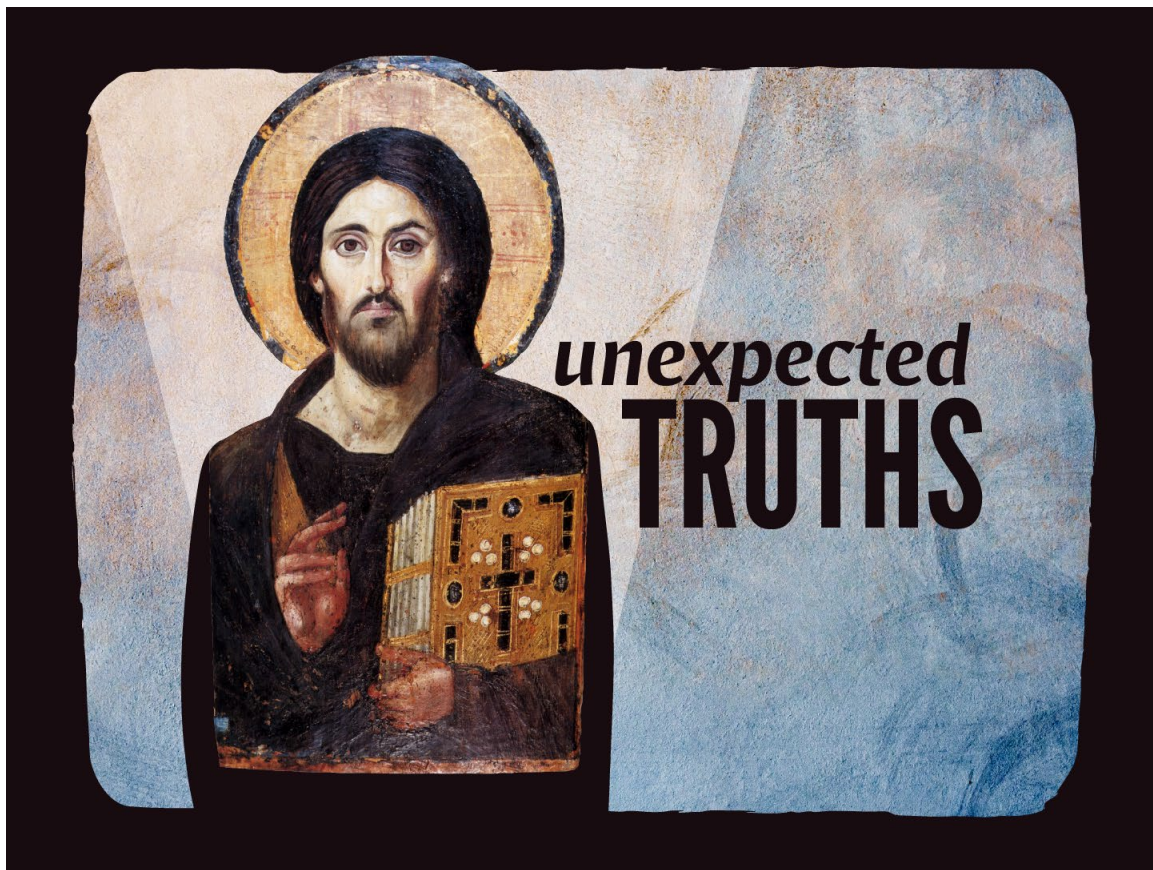




St. Paul's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 27, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost



Real Repentance Looks Different

Welcome to honored guests and St. Paul's family alike!

In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to be strengthened through the study of God's holy and powerful Word, and through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Restrooms and a drinking fountain are located on the right in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

Our worship is designed for your whole family. Find children's busy bags, a book that teaches young children about worship, children's bulletins, and children's worship note sheets on the **cart of children's worship materials** near the central sanctuary doors.

God loves the sound of children in worship, and so do we! If you need to step out of worship for a moment, we have a **family room** located through the door in the back of the fellowship hall. The facility includes a TV, a window, and speakers so that you can still follow along with the worship service.

If you do not have a church home, we would love to talk with you about how we can serve you with the Gospel and make here your home!

Today's service begins on page 5

Our worship series | **Unexpected truths**

Many of the most important truths revealed in the Bible are not self-evident at all. They frequently appear surprising or even contrary to human expectations. Scripture teaches that humanity is not naturally good but deeply sinful. God declares that salvation cannot be achieved through human efforts, but it comes entirely by his grace. Most unexpected of all is the message that God brings forgiveness and eternal life through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ.

Biblical truth is revealed by God rather than discovered by reason alone. While some truths may seem obvious to human judgment, the truths of the Bible are often unexpected.

Today's worship theme | **Real repentance looks different**

It might be expected for someone to look sorry when they are caught doing something wrong. You might even see tears and hear words of apology. But you might not be surprised if the shock of being caught wears off and so does the intensity of the repentance.

Real repentance looks different. God doesn't want us to simply go through religious motions like some sort of show. God's desire is that our repentance would demonstrate sincere sorrow over sin. It might be unexpected, but God wants us to see the grace and forgiveness he has shown to us in Christ, and in response to love him back deeply and sincerely.

Our prayer before worship | **to live genuinely and with real repentance**

O Lord our God, we need your guidance in all we do. Let your wisdom counsel us, let your hand lead us, and let your arm support us. Reveal to us the unexpected truths of your Word so that we can know and grow in faith and love. Conform us to your image, and make us like Jesus that we may live as he lived on earth and may do all things as he would and did. In his name we pray, Amen.

Personal Preparation for Holy Communion

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: He says I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: ***"Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."***

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

CW 657

Since we are washed and covered by the waters of baptism, we are equipped for a life of real repentance.



1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me as I ap -
2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, his bod - y
3 Lord, may your wound - ed hand im - part your heal - ing
4 From your own mouth comes forth a word; your shep - herd
5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's wound - ed



proach on bend - ed knee; my Fa - ther's mer - cy
bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore him
to my bro - ken heart; your love a - lone can
speaks, but you are heard; through him your hand now
hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's



here I plead, for griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
all my sin, my dark - est se - crets from with - in.
form in me a heart that serves you joy - ful - ly.
stretch - es out, for - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.
strong em - brace, with joy I praise him for his grace.

Text: Kurt E. Reinhardt, b. 1969

Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742

Text: © 2003 Kurt E. Reinhardt. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

Tune: Public domain

P(residing minister) | In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C(ongregation) | **Amen.**

Confession

CW 172

P | If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C | If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P | Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C | Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P | Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C | Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

P | In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C | Lord, have mercy.

P | For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C | Lord, have mercy.

P | For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C | Lord, have mercy.

P | For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C | Lord, have mercy.

P | Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C | Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is composed of half and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span multiple notes. The score concludes with a double bar line.

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

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth. 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. A - men.
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
 peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen
 Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

The Word

P | The Lord be with you.

C | **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P | Let us pray: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C | **Amen.**

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

A strong warning to Christians who have grown dismissive of their sin.

¹The word of the LORD came to me:

²What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the soil of Israel, “Fathers eat sour grapes, and their sons’ teeth are set on edge”? ³As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵But you say, “The Lord’s way is not fair.” Listen now, house of Israel. Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? ²⁶If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

²⁷But if a wicked man turns from his wickedness that he has done and practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. ²⁸Because he has seen and turned away from all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. ²⁹But the house of Israel says, “The Lord’s way is not fair.” Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

³⁰Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. ³¹Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and obtain a new heart and a new spirit for yourselves. Why should you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!

P | The Word of the Lord.

C | **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day | I Lift My Soul to You

Psalm 25B



1 I lift my soul to you, LORD, I trust, O God, in you.
2 Your cov - e - nant and mer - cy are with me all my days
Send forth your truth to guide me, and teach me what to do.
to com - fort and to bless me, to keep me in your ways.
Re - mem - ber your great mer - cy, your ev - er - last - ing love;
When - ev - er I look up - ward, I find you wait - ing there,
for - give me, God, my Sav - ior, my guilt and sin re - move.
to bear me and to keep me all safe be - neath your care.

Text: para. William Miller; Jaroslav Vajda, alt.

Tune: Swedish

Text: © 1991 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1–11

Moved by Christ's love and empowered by the Spirit, we seek to imitate the humility of Jesus.

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit, and having one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. ⁶Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, ⁷but he

emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

P | The Word of the Lord.

C | **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 51:17

P | Alleluia! My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you will not despise. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:23–32

Sincere love for God involves not just saying what God wants to hear, but doing what God wants done.

²³When Jesus went into the temple courts, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him while he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things?” and “Who gave you this authority?”

²⁴Jesus answered them, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer it, I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?”

They discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Then why did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From men,’ we are afraid of the crowd, since they all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.”

He said to them, “Then I will not tell you by what authority I do these things.”

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in my vineyard.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, ‘I will go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said to him, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Amen I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.

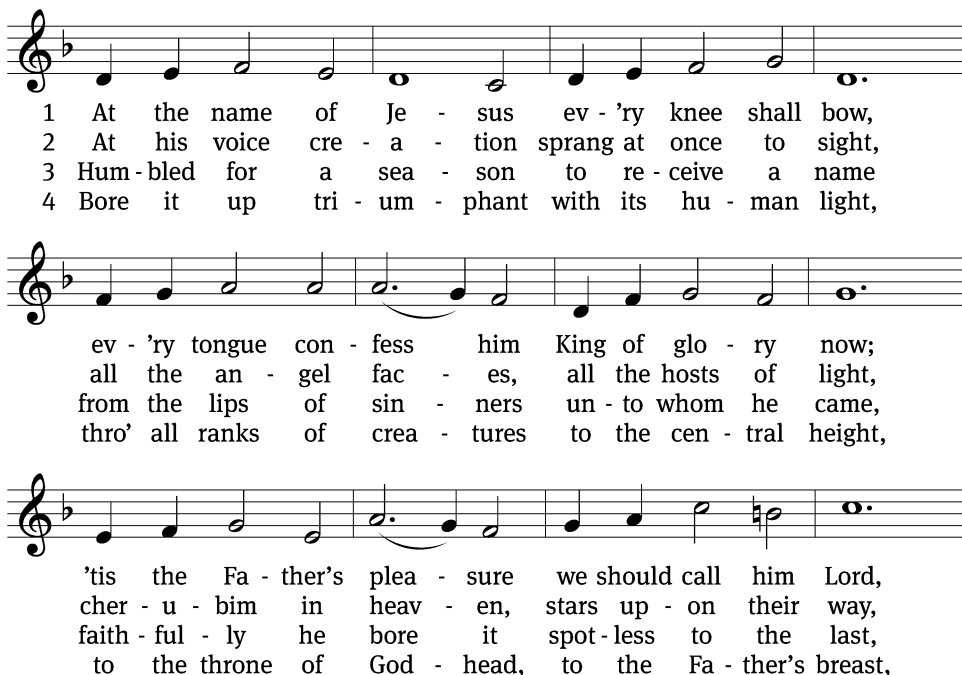
P | The Gospel of the Lord.

C | Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day | At the Name of Jesus

CW 547

Our Creator and Redeemer leads us to enthroned him in our hearts with lives of real repentance.



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
 4 Bore it up tri - um - phant with its hu - man light,

ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 thro' all ranks of crea - tures to the cen - tral height,

'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 cher - u - bim in heav - en, stars up - on their way,
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed;
filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.

5 | In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue all that is not holy, all that is not true.
Crown him as your captain in temptation's hour; let his will enfold you in its light and pow'r.

6 | Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again in his Father's glory, with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877, abr., alt.
Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

Coming to grips with sour grape gripes

Points to ponder following the sermon:

- How often do I repent? How often should I?
- How often does my repentance include visible action? How often should it?
- Reflect and respond: Repentance is exciting.

Nicene Creed

C | We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

To our honored guests: We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you today! Our offering is not a debt we owe God but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation but love for God. Our offerings are how St. Paul's funds our Gospel mission work. As our honored guests, please do not feel obligated to contribute.

*If you would like to support our Gospel ministry with an offering, you have options! Place your offering in **the offering plate** in our gathering space as you leave worship today, **mail an offering** to our church anytime, or go to **stpauls.edu** or **scan this QR code** to give an offering online.*



Prayer of the Church

P | Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. Let us pray for the people of God in Christ Jesus that, through repentance and faith in the gospel, they may remain secure in your love. Lord God, gracious Father, we thank you for setting your Son's sacrifice between us and sin's reward. By your Spirit work in us through the gospel, give us repentant hearts, make our faith firm in Christ, and enliven us to serve you faithfully.

C | Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

P | Lord God, almighty Father, renew your Church throughout the world that it may constantly look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Bless us with faithful ministers who always proclaim Christ's cross and resurrection for the salvation of the world.

C | Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

P | Lord God, loving Father, in your mercy you abundantly supply our needs of body and soul. Create in us the mind of Christ, that in humility and generosity—considering not only our own interests, but also the interests of others—we may be merciful to those in need. Direct our efforts to help poor, lonely, troubled, and ill people.

C | Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

P | Lord God, heavenly Father, comfort all who are mourning the death of people they loved. Lift their eyes to the cross where your Son defeated death and to the empty tomb where he assured us that we will live with him forever. Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

C | Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

P | Lord God, heavenly Father, look with favor upon all sick, injured, and recovering people. If it be your will deliver them from their infirmities. Let them hear of your unfailing love.

C | Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

P | Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P | Hear us for the sake of him who was crucified for us and always intercedes on our behalf, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C | Amen.

The Sacrament

Preface

CW 183

P | The Lord be with you.

C | And also with you.

P | Lift up your hearts.

C | We lift them up 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 and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical score is written on seven staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains an instrumental introduction. The subsequent staves contain the following lyrics: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en 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, ho - san - na in the high - est!' The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en 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, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715833

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P | Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C | Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C | Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

P | Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C | Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Distribution of Holy Communion

To our honored guests: Scripture teaches us that those who commune together are expressing a unity in faith and in all of Scripture's teachings. This is called close communion. If you are not a member of St. Paul's, the Wisconsin Synod, or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, you will want to learn what we teach and can express that unity at your confirmation before you commune with us. If you are interested in taking a class to learn more about our teachings, or if you have any questions, please speak with our pastors.

Savior, When in Dust to You

CW 393

In the dust of real repentance we cry out to our Savior, whose life, death, and resurrection are now ours.



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom - age due,
2 By your help - less in - fant years, by your life of want and tears,
3 By your hour of dire de - spair, by your ag - o - ny of prayer,
4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, by the sad se - pul - chral stone,



when, re - pent - ant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes,
by your days of deep dis - tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,
by the vault whose dark a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God,



O, by all your pains and woe suf - fered once for us be - low,
by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of th' in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,
O, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,



bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
turn, O turn a fa - v'ring eye, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!
bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, abr., alt.

Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

Text and tune: Public domain

Before You, God, the Judge of All

CW 655

We humbly lay our sins before the righteous Judge of all in real repentance and trust he will give us peace.

1 Be - fore you, God, the judge of all, with grief and shame I
2 O Lord, my God, to you I pray: O cast me not in
3 O Je - sus, let your pre-cious blood be to my soul a
hum - bly fall. I see my sins a - gainst you, Lord,
wrath a - way! Let your good Spir - it ne'er de - part,
cleans - ing flood. Turn not, O Lord, your guest a - way,
my sins of thought and deed and word. They press me
but let him draw to you my heart that tru - ly
but grant that jus - ti - fied I may go to my
sore; to you I flee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
pen - i - tent I be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
house at peace to be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–1880, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.

Tune: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Text and tune: Public domain

P | Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C | **his mercy endures forever.**

P | Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C | **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

P | We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C | **Amen.**

Blessing

P | The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C | **Amen.**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CW 927

Only by the blessing of God can we live our lives in real repentance until we reign with him in endless day.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for the gos - pel's
3 So when - e'er the sig - nal's giv - en us from earth to

joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
call a - way, borne on an - gels' wings to heav - en,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,
glad the sum - mons to o - bey, may we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er reign with Christ in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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The Beginning of the End >



10-4	It's time to speak truth to power
10-11	It's time to invite the unworthy
10-18	It's time to give to God what is God's
10-25	It's time to stay steadfast
11-1	It's time to focus on the future
11-8	It's time to watch for final events
11-15	It's time to put your affairs in order
11-22	It's time to hope for the best

Hopeful for the end
because it's just the beginning.



St. Paul's
Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

Precious
Lambs
PRESCHOOL

+ Ministry Notes +

Our good day in God's house continues after worship, too.

Our after-worship adult Bible Class time is a great time for good Christian encouragement as we **grow** in the Word together and take time to pray for one another. Today we will have our new member potluck in the fellowship hall.

Sunday funday

Next **Sunday, October 4** we will have the children of our K-8 school singing their chapel hymn during the service. Following that service we will have a special opportunity to enjoy some finger food and minute-to-win-it fun with our next Sunday Funday! Join us then!

Wise worship whys

Why do we worship the way we do? Why do we follow the series of readings that we do? Why is our church designed like it is? Starting on **October 11** we will have a Bible study series that answers these whys, and will help us understand and appreciate the services, scriptures, and settings we use from week to week. All are welcome!

FEATured October event: Trunk or Treat

Highlight Saturday, October 24th on your calendar and look for more info very soon on this community event, hosted by the St. Paul's Fellowship Event Action Team!

Reformation potluck

The final Sunday in October we celebrate the festival of Reformation in worship, and we'll gather for some food and Reformation trivia following an abbreviated Bible study. For those planning to bring food, German-themed dishes are encouraged, but not required.

Monday mystery readers

Miss Foley's first grade classroom loves reading! They are looking for volunteers to come in on Monday afternoons as mystery readers to share this love of reading. Volunteers will be asked to come in from 12-12:50 to both read to the students and listen to the students practice their reading skills. Note: All volunteers must be fingerprinted and pass a level two background check. School will help set up the necessary screening, but the cost of the screening (about \$38) will need to be covered by the volunteer. Sign up using this QR code or talk to Miss Foley for more information. Thank you!



Our Christian Stewardship of God's Gifts

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. – 1 Cor. 4:2

preacher | **James Saatkamp** *presiding minister* | **Tim Rosenow**
accompanist | **Justin Siegler** *ushers* | **Rick Freihofer and Bruce Salzmänn**
worship streaming tech | **Bill Hoeltke**
flowers | **Pastor Tim & Hilary**

last Sunday's worship attendance | 99
freewill offering | \$2,274

Let's pray! This week, we offer special prayers for...

birthdays | **Linda Bond** (9-27) | **Shammra Eynon** (9-27) | **Bill Hansen** (9-27) |
Randy Tarnowski (9-29) | **Tina Gayo** (10-2) | **Peter Johnston** (10-3)

anniversaries | **Ken & Susan Clonts** (10-1 | 43 years!)

homebound members | **Dave Brandt, Sharon Cummons, Leon and Barbara Johnson, Susan Rammel, Kathy Saracione, Josephine Throo, and Paula Vitolo**

health | **Carole Chapman** (recovering from surgery at home); **Kris Christie** (mother of Karl, continued recovery); **Denise Costa** (mother of 1st grade student, malignant brain tumor); **Liesse Foley** (mother of Hannah, health complications); **Mark Hasenjager** (brother of David, terminal brain cancer); **Brenda Rivers** (recovery from surgery); **Stacey Rolén** (daughter of Rick and Angie Freihofer, recovering from surgery); **Barbara Sadler, Kathy Babcock** (Barbara's daughter), and **Kathy's daughters** (genetic health issues); **Nancy Scruton** (recovery)

This Week | September 27th – October 3rd

TODAY | New member potluck (after the service)

MON | BIC 6:00 PM

WED | Kingsway Bible study 10:00 AM

FRI | Morning chapel (w/donuts & coffee) 8:30 AM | VPK afternoon chapel 12:15 PM

SAT | Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM

Upcoming events

Oct 4 | K-8 singing in church | Sunday funday (after the service)

Oct 6 | Picture retake day

Oct 12 | Kingsway birthday celebration

Oct 13 | Council of Ministry meeting 5:15 PM

Oct 14-16 | NO SCHOOL (teachers' conference)

Our congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family. As a family, we **gather** together around God's Word in church and in Bible classes. We have a school where children can **grow** in their relationship with our Heavenly Father and where we can **go** to share the love of Jesus with them.

If you would like to learn more about our church family or our church, school, and preschool can serve you, please speak with our pastor, principal, preschool director, faculty, or one of our members.

Our Synod

St. Paul's belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), congregations united in faith and in desire to serve everyone we can with the truth of God's saving Word. To learn more, visit wels.net or ask a pastor.

Our worship

We gather for worship Sundays at 9:30 am and for children's and adult Bible study about ten minutes after worship.





**St. Paul's
Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL

**Precious
Lambs**
PRESCHOOL

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☎ 414.335.2316 ✉ pastor.saatkamp@stpaulsk8school.org

School and Outreach Pastor | **Timothy Rosenow**

☎ 920.860.2216 ✉ pastor.rosenow@stpaulsk8school.org

Principal | **Dave Goddard**

☎ 813.702.5853 ✉ principal@stpaulsk8school.org

Preschool director | **Sharon Welfel**

☎ 352.462.1814 ✉ sharon.welfel@stpaulsk8school.org

Find us online!

Website | stpauls.edu

Church Facebook | [stpaulslutheranchurchbeverlyhills](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulslutheranchurchbeverlyhills)

School Facebook | [stpaulsbeverlyhills](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsbeverlyhills)

YouTube | [@StPaulsBeverlyHills](https://www.youtube.com/@StPaulsBeverlyHills)

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