ORDER OF WORSHIP

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 12/13, 2024

"MANY WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST.



AND THE LAST WILL BE FIRST."

MARK 10:31, NRSV

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers
474 Yalick Road
PO Box 802 – Dallas. PA 18612

Phone: 570-675-3859; email: stpaul@epix.net Website: www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist Senior Choir & Chimes Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

TODAY'S WORSHIP

WELCOME! Because Jesus is our great high priest, we "approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16, NRSV).

THE RICH MAN who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

WORSHIP BEGINS in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God's word.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

THE BLUE WELCOME PAD in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number). Please take a moment to complete it.

LEAVING THE SANCTUARY during worship? Please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently. **TURNING OFF** cell phone and other electronic devices is greatly appreciated.

IF YOU'D LIKE someone's name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week's prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person's name during the intercessory prayers.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for October 19/20: Isaiah 53:4-12, Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45.

GATHERING

PLEASE NOTE: Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.

PRELUDE

All Depends on Our Possessing

Wayne L. Wold

BELL, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand as you are able to face the font for the Confession.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 589 All Depends on Our Possessing

GREETING

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

And also with you.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Amen.

Sit.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON [Sunday]

FIRST READING Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

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

A reading from Amos:

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you who turn justice to wormwood and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live, and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

A reading from Hebrews:

Indeed, the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Blessed are the | poor in spirit,* for theirs is the king- | dom of heaven.

GOSPEL MARK 10:17-31

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

The holy gospel according to Mark:

Glory to you, O Lord.

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.' "He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY #775

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

Sit.

ANTHEM

You Are Holy Senior Choir Per Harling

Please sign the blue pew pads as you listen to the anthem.

MEAL

OFFERTORY #691 Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring Stand as you are able as the offering is presented.



OFFERING PRAYER

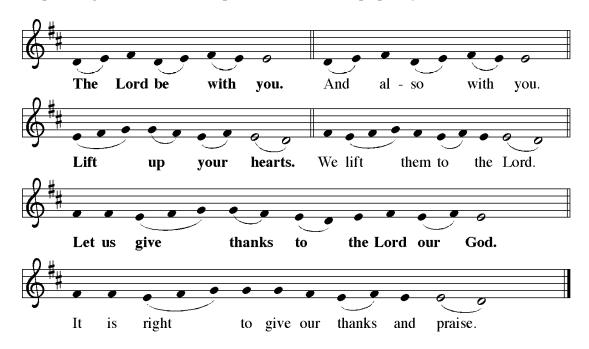
The assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister unveils the paten and chalice and prepares for the communion.

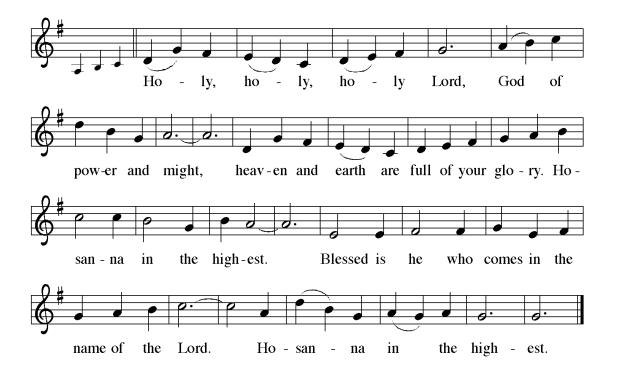


The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy God, holy and mighty,...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember,...all our sins and sorrows will be no more. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, holy and merciful,...sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God,...Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

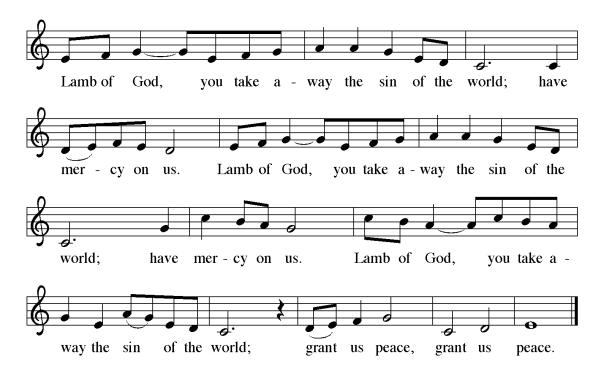
We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step. The communion ministers will move around the predella step counterclockwise communing you in turn. The person seated closest to the ambo comes to the first place by the ambo, and those behind and to their right follow in turn by taking the next open position, filling the predella step around the table. We progress from that seat section counterclockwise through each seat section in turn to the choir, who communes last. When you have communed, return to your seat, and the next person can take that position.

Take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice. Prefilled glasses of juice are available for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine.

We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say, The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond Amen.

During the distribution, Lamb of God is sung.



When all have communed and the ministers have communed, the table is re-dressed and the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God almighty, God most merciful, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #678

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending Wayne L. Wold

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SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeter: John Thomas

Acolyte: Morgan Holbrook

Assisting Minister: Frank Mariano

Lector: Gail Ide

Saturday Altar Set Up: Cookie Fetterman Sunday Altar: Gail Smallwood Communion Bread: Martha Kush Minister of Technology: Marissa Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, in memory of Barbara Kessler, who passed away two years ago; by her family.

WE WELCOME into the membership of St. Paul's by Holy Baptism, Ronan Paul Miller, son of Marcus and Rachel Miller; and Lyanna Kay Aiple-Mcdonald and Willow Rose Aiple-Mcdonald, children of Maureen Aiple. Ronan's sponsors are Marissa Miller and Tim Miller; Lyanna's sponsor is Annalicia Garcia and Willow's sponsor is Ashley Aiple. The red roses are given in honor of their Baptisms, by St. Paul's Dorcas Society.

THE MONTHLY LABYRINTH WALK will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 3:00-6:00 pm and is open to all from St. Paul's and the public. Gail Ide will be present to offer guidance on walking the labyrinth.

ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER – The committee is sponsoring a KrispyKreme doughnut sale to help defray expenses with up-coming events.

One dozen Original Glazed: \$12.00

Half dozen Chocolate Iced Glazed, Raspberry Filled Glazed, Glazed

Kreme Filled and Glazed Lemon Filled: \$12.00 each

Payment is due when ordering; orders must be placed by Sunday, October 13. Delivery date is Saturday, October 19 from 10:30 to Noon and before/after services on the 19th and 20th. Orders are being taken in the Narthex.

"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS" - our work continues...collecting sneakers for our Head Start children has been a favorite project the past several years. Twenty-nine children are attending Head Start at St. Paul's this school year and we are asking for donations of new children's sneakers – boys or girls, sizes 7 ½ - 13. Please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes. There is a Sneaker Display table in the Narthex; sneakers should be brought to church by October 19/20. Thank you for your care and support of our Head Start children and their families through this Social Ministry project.

FLEECE BLANKET making time is almost over for the fall! No special skills are needed. Please join the Social Ministry Committee at 10:00 am in the social hall for its last blanket-making session on Wednesday, October 16. Receiving their own special blanket is the highlight for children who attend Grief Camp at Hillside Farm. If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Mancke at 570.675.9858 or via email at: mhmancke@gmail.com.

RAILROAD CLUB PRESENTATION: The Back Mountain Railroad Club and St. Paul's will hold the second of their planned semiannual historical presentations on Saturday, October 19 at 1:00 pm at St. Paul's. Presenters are Harry Owens, Jr., the renowned historical expert on area railroads, and Dr. Harrison Wick. Owens will continue his trip along the old Bowmans Creek Branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, this time continuing on from where he left off in Dallas, westward to Alderson, Noxen, Mountain Springs and beyond. Wick, the former archivist at Misericordia University who now is the Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, will present a history of the streetcars and the trolley lines that ran throughout the greater Wyoming Valley and the Back Mountain from the 1880s to 1950. A "Meet 'n Greet" with light refreshments will be available following the presentations. Future lectures may include the history of Hillside Farms, the Irem Temple and other historic buildings and sites in the area.

100th **ANNIVERSARY "FUN FACT"** — In 1965 the Fred Anderson family joined the congregation and immediately helped the church to acquire the present organ from the disbanded Swedish Lutheran Church of North Wilkes-Barre. The organ was free—but the church needed to add a two-story addition to accommodate it. (To be continued...)

ORGAN CONCERT...for All Hallows Eve. A program of organ music, both powerful and peaceful, with organ music for the feasts of All Saints and All Souls – with a little Halloween mischief, just for fun – presented by Michael Sowa, Organist and Director of Music at Saint John the Evangelist R. C. Church, 35 William Street, Pittston, Sunday, October 27, 2024 at 2:00 pm. A free-will offering will be accepted.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today: 8:30 am Chime Practice

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Cub Scouts

6:30 pm Boy Scouts

Monday: Columbus Day Holiday; office closed.

Tuesday: 10:30 am Bible Study Wednesday 10:00 am Blanket Project

3:00-6:00 pm Labyrinth Walk

6:30 pm Back Mountain Railroad Club Board Meeting

Thursday: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday: 1:00 pm-3:30 pm Back Mountain Railroad Club speakers

5:30 pm Worship; Healing Service

Next Sunday: Deadline for items for November Good News newsletter

Healing Service Sunday 8:30 am Chime Practice

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am New Members Orientation meeting

5:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts <u>PRAYER LIST -</u> Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. Pray for the Congregation of St. Matthew United, Scranton and St. Peter, Scranton.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Hope Beisel, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Bowman, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Marge Fritzinger, Ruth Ide, Robert Kline, Marge McCarty, Rachelle Pryor, Bill Smith, Alyson Wood, Justin Yost, Shirley Zimmerman.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Mrs. Behm and Family, Robert Binger, Kathy Boston, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Janice DeFebo, Manfred Diel, Gene Eyerman, Rich Fufaro, Chuck Gomer, George Hrubowchak, Ruth Hummel, Christine Ide, Linda Johnson, Michael Kaminski, Tyler Karasinski, Erin Kavanaugh, Bradley Kessler, Jacqueline Kretz, Alice Laskowski, Audrey Mace, Carol Marker, Wanda McCall, Ernie McCarty, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Molly Crispel McIntyre, Rob Merritt, Carl Miers, Baby Miles, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Ortega, Nancy Ott, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Sherry Probst, Paul Pryor, Febe Quintanar, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Edward Sabol, Marilyn Roll Shaver, Nancy Shymanski, Wally Skurski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Raymah Tasco, Abigail Thomas, Jean Thompson, Bill Ward, Karen Wise, Woody Wolfe, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Josh, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Cindy, Keith, Kim, Diane, Mark, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Mike, Cathy, Gene, Rose, Betty (no last names given).