

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 12, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

As we seek reconciliation with God and our neighbor,
let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

O God of mercy,
**we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another,
and against your good creation.**

**We have stored up treasures for ourselves
and turned away our neighbors in need.**

We have used our time foolishly and strayed from your path.

**Forgive us, that we may know true joy and freedom
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Through death on the cross, God has given us life and hope.
Know that in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.
Amen.

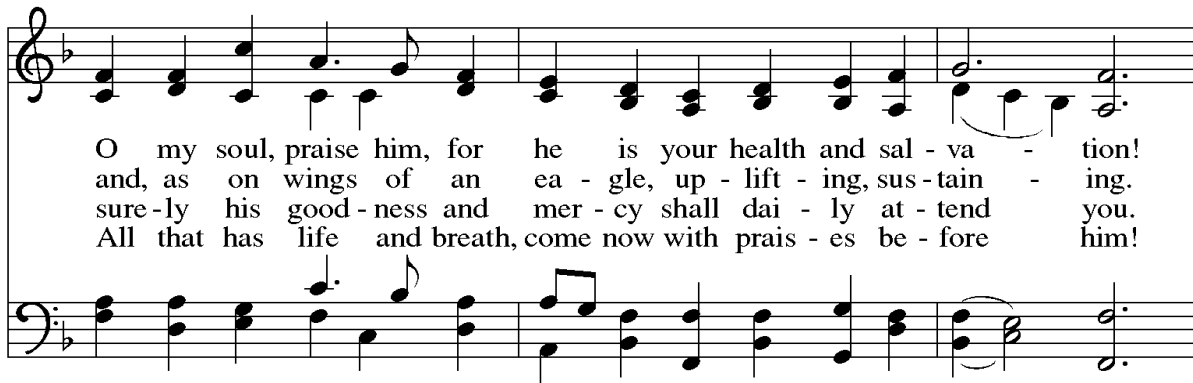
GATHERING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty


Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

A Reading from Isaiah

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off. (Isaiah 55:10-13)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:[1-8] 9-13 (Read Responsively)

¹Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,

**²O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.**

³When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

**⁴Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.**

⁵By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.

**⁶By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.**

⁷You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.

⁸**Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

⁹You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.

¹⁰**You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.**

¹¹You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

¹²**The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,**

¹³the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

A Reading from Romans

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in

you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. (Romans 8:1-11)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!”

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

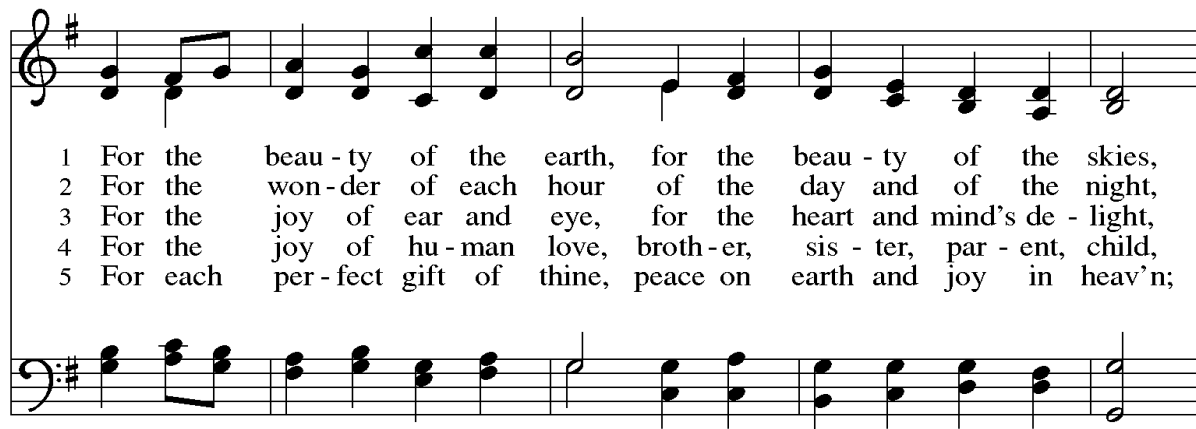
²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23)

The Gospel of the Lord.

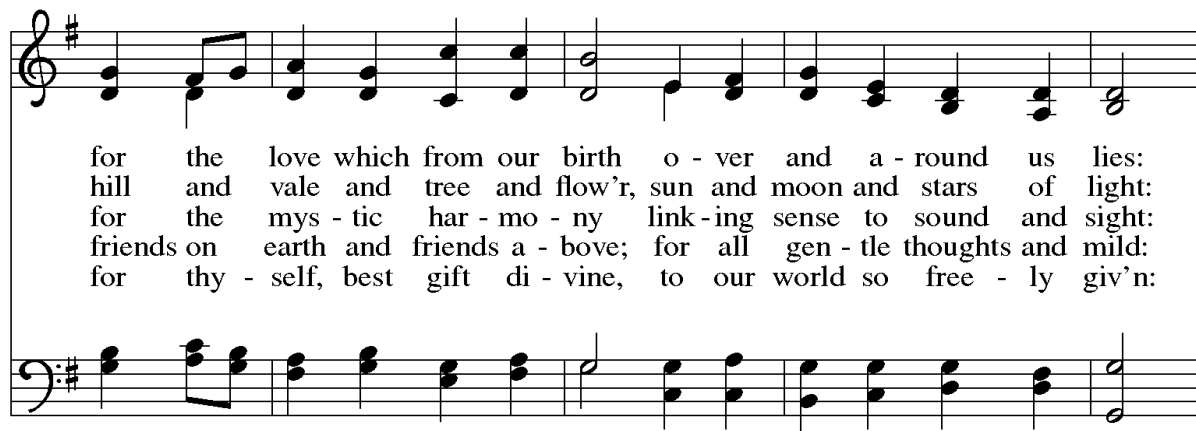
Praise to You, O Christ

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Beauty of the Earth

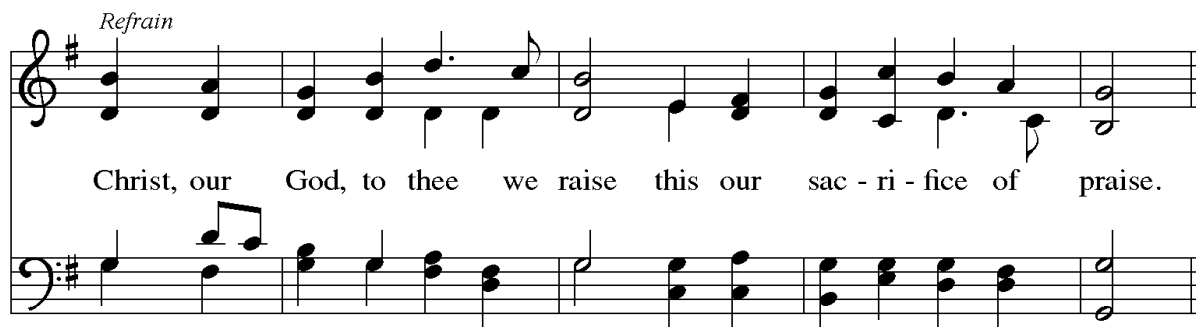


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Read in Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we pray for missionaries and newly planted congregations around the world. Inspire us by their witness to the faith we share. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, we pray for the birds and animals who make their home in the trees, and for lands stripped bare by deforestation. Empower us to preserve and use what you have given. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reigning God, we pray for our nation's leaders. Increase their desire for justice and equality. Bridge the chasms that divide us and guide authorities to a deep and lasting peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding God, renew the faith of those who doubt, provide certainty of those who worry, ease burdens of those who struggle, give hope to those who fear, and bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer in any way (*especially...*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Renewing God, nourish and nurture the seeds of your word, that we might grow strong as disciples. Sustain our ministries and deepen relationships with the wider community that your Church might grow and prosper. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died in faith and now rest from their labors. Comfort us in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Read in Unison)

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

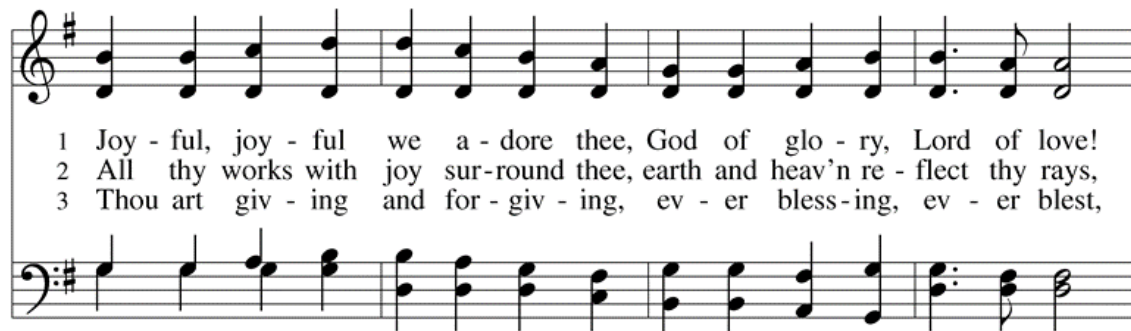
May the Holy Spirit, the wisdom and power of God,
and the source of our life in Jesus Christ,
keep you safe from all evil,
and awaken in you a hunger to love and to serve.

And may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

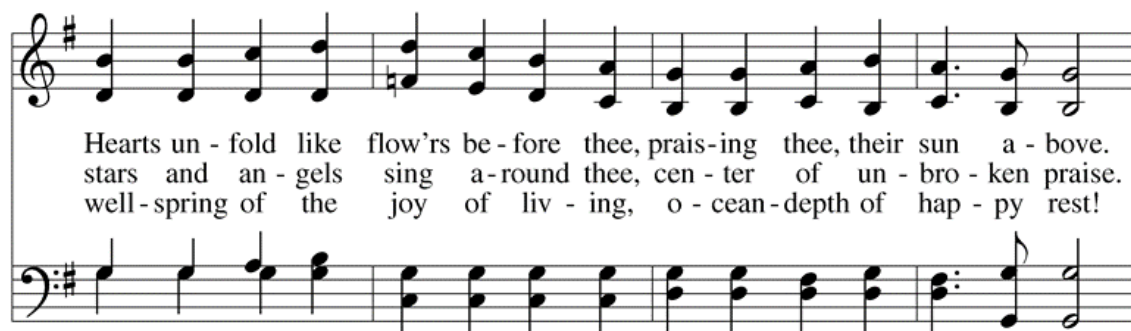
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flashing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in memory of Lena Ruff from her family.

Chancel flowers are presented in honor of our daughter, Alexandria Spitler, by Tina and Scott Butler.

Bulletins are presented in memory of family by Kathy Miller and Dale Strouse.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, July 12	4:00 PM	Outdoor Worship at Albright's Woods Pavilion. Everyone welcomed.
Monday, July 13	6:30 PM	Finance Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 15	7:00 PM	Adult Forum via Zoom Meeting
Sunday, July 19	9:30 AM	Worship for everyone

SERVING TODAY (7/12/20)

4:00 PM

GREETER: Karen Travor; USHER: Doug Travor;

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (7/19/20)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Juli Schenck; USHER: Tina Butler;

ALTAR GUILD: Barb Lafko and Beth Post

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke and Gloria Dierwechter

Reverend Michael T. Petresky, Pastor pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316 Ext. 11
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-573-4076
Juli Schenck, Office Support Staff office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-8757
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-366-8766
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	936-648-6809

PROGRESSIVE PICNIC

The Evangelism Committee would like to have a progressive picnic on Saturday, August 8th from 6 to 9 PM. The picnic is a tentative event depending on the virus situation in August. Three host homes are needed. The first home for appetizers, a second home for hot dogs, hamburgers, and salads, and a third home for desserts. Anyone wishing to host and/or plans to attend should let the committee know by calling the church office. There WILL NOT be a signup sheet at the Gathering Place.

COMMUNITY EVENTS CANCELLED

The annual “Farm to Square” Event set for Thursday, August 13, 2020 and the annual “Heritage Day” Event set for Saturday, September 12, 2020, have been cancelled this year.