

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 8, 2020

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

GATHERING

Where responses are indicated, please respond quietly.

PRELUDE: "Prayer" D. Wagner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Let us now confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

O Holy God,

we confess that we have sinned and fallen short of your glory.

We have forgotten your voice and strayed from your path.

We have ignored the cries of those who seek justice.

We have blinded ourselves to the needs of our neighbors.

We have made our hands into fists and raised our voices in anger.

We have been foolish, selfish, wicked, and deceitful.

Break into our hearts, open our eyes, and renew our minds.

Forgive our sins and transform our lives so that we may have new and abundant life through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our loving God forgives all who acknowledge their sins and repent of them.
Know that your sins have been paid for in full through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

Through Jesus Christ, God has reconciled us to himself. Let us also be reconciled and at peace with one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” vs 1 & 2
[See back of bulletin]

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

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

A Reading from Amos

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (Amos 5:18-24)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 70 (Read Responsively)

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.

O LORD, make haste to help me!

**²Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.**

**Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.**

³Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"
turn back because of their shame.

⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.

Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

⁵But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!

You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

A Reading from First Thessalonians

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

(Matthew 25:1-13)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Let Justice Flow Like Streams”
[See back of bulletin]

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

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, enliven our worship with sincere and heartfelt song. Sustain the work of all church musicians and artists who lead us in praise and prayer. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy Creator, the world you have made is beautiful and wonderfully made. Bless the work of all those who invite us to live in harmony with your creation. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy Judge, let justice roll down like waters over this world. Be present in all places where we long for both justice and call out for mercy. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy Companion, console those who feel lonely or abandoned and comfort those who struggle with their identity, purpose, and place in this world. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy Protector, be with who will observe Veterans Day. Guard the lives of active duty and retired military personnel and heal the wounds which they bear. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy and Immortal One, we pray in thanksgiving for the lives of all who have died. Remind us of the frailty and shortness of our own lives and inspire us to use our time to build up your kingdom. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

“Blessed Assurance”

vs 1 & 2

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Be strong in faith. Share God’s peace wherever you go.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

"Fanfare on St. Thomas"

D. Wagner

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

Altar flowers are presented in memory of Wrone and Rose Peifley by Tina Butler.

Chancel flowers are presented in loving memory of Ruth Wehr, Tom’s mother, by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Juan R. Mato by the Lafko family.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (11/8/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Ruth Ann Withers; GREETER: TBA

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Tina Butler; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Sue Petresky

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr;

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (11/15/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul; GREETER: TBA

10:30 AM:

LECTOR: Doug Travor; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Cindy Sklar

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

| | | |
|------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday, November 8 | 8:00 AM | Worship |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship |
| Tuesday, November 10 | 6:00 PM | Service Ministry Meeting |
| Wednesday, November 11 | 6:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| Thursday, November 12 | 7:00 PM | Adult Forum via ZOOM |
| Saturday, November 14 | 9:00 AM | Chili & Soup Sale "On the Square" |
| | 5:30 PM | Worship |
| Sunday, November 15 | 8:00 AM | Worship |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship |

Introduction to the Day: Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Poinsettias for Christmas Eve will again be ordered from
Blue Mountain Farms in New Ringgold, PA.
The cost of an 8+ bloom plant is \$8.00.

Please indicate red or white blooms and to whom you wish to dedicate.
If you choose not to dedicate the plants, you will be listed as a sponsor.

THE DEADLINE TO ORDER POINSETTIAS IS DECEMBER 6TH

Please complete this form
and return it with payment to the plate in the Gathering Room.

YOUR NAME: _____

I would like to order _____ red poinsettia(s),

I would like to order _____ white poinsettia(s),

at \$8.00 each. I wish to dedicate my flowers(s) "in honor/memory of."
(Please circle one)

Honor/Memory: _____

Honor/Memory: _____

Honor/Memory: _____

Honor/Memory: _____

Honor/Memory: _____

Honor/Memory: _____

Total # of Poinsettias: _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

GATHERING HYMN: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

vs 1 & 2

1 Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;

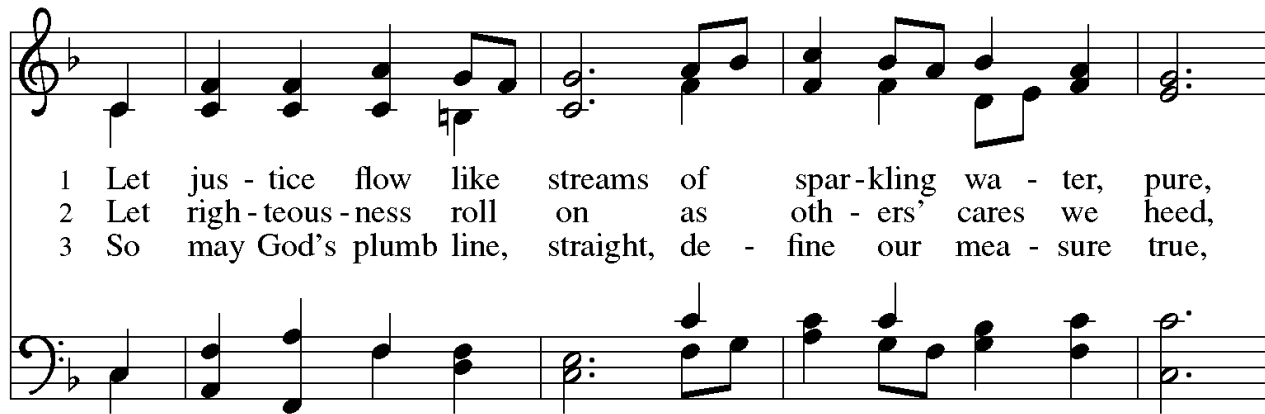
the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.

The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.

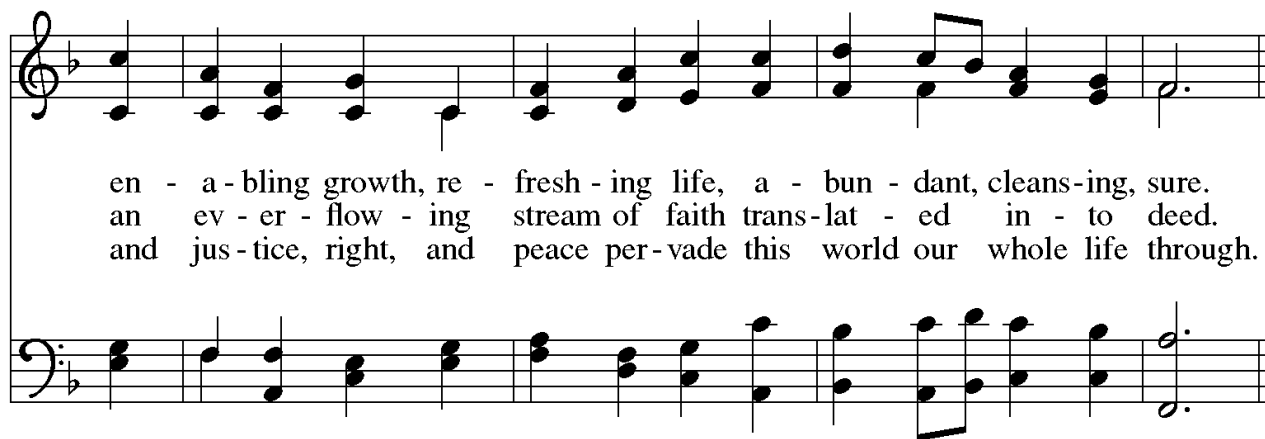
Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Let Justice Flow Like Streams"



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926
Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776
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DRIVE BY CHILI & SOUP SALE

On November 14th at 9 AM on the Square, the Men of St. Paul's will hold a "Drive by Chili and Soup Sale." Some baked goods will also be on sale.

Soups and chili will be sold in "chilled" quart containers for your convenience!
Drive by, say "hi," grab your goodies, and go!

SENDING HYMN:

"Blessed Assurance"

vs 1 & 2

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.