# Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, August 8, 2021

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

# www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

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# **GATHERING**

**PRELUDE** 

"Prelude in Classic Style"

G. Young

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

#### Amen.

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sins.

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 daily strayed from your path.

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

Through Jesus Christ, the true Bread of life, God has given us life and hope. Know that your sins are forgiven and live abundantly – as we await his coming! **Amen.** 

#### **GATHERING HYMN** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"



#### **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**

"O God beyond All Praising"



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, your Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Always give this bread to us, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

# Word

#### A Reading from First Kings

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."<sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. (1 Kings 19:4-8)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 34:1-8 (Read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

<sup>3</sup>O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

<sup>4</sup>I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

<sup>5</sup>Look to him, and be radiant;

so your faces shall never be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup>O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

## A Reading from Ephesians

<sup>25</sup>So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup>Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup>Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup>and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. <sup>5:1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup>and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 4:25--5:2)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



#### **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>41</sup>Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup>They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" <sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. 44No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." (John 6:35, 41-51)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 

"O Jesus Joy of Loving Hearts" [See back of bulletin]

**SERMON** 

# THANKSGIVING AND BLESSING FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF AN ORDINATION

The Reverend Robert Carl Reier Celebrating 40 years of Pastoral Ministry

## A Reading from 2 Timothy

<sup>1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. Here ends the reading.

(2 Timothy 4:1-5)

#### LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks for the pastoral ministry of our co-worker in Christ, the Reverend Robert Carl Reier, and for the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the whole world.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for pouring out your Spirit upon the Church and bringing forth abundant gifts for the ministry of the whole people of God. Fill the Church with truth and love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We thank you for raising up men and women of faith in every generation, and we especially give thanks for Pastor Reier. As you have blessed him during his 40 years of pastoral ministry, grant that he may continue to fulfill his ordination vows, perform his pastoral duties, serve your people, build up your Church, and glorify your holy name. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O come, Holy Spirit and fill Pastor Reier with your love. Shepherd him who shepherds others. Guide him who guides others. Enlighten him who enlightens others. Bless him who is a blessing to others. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for Sue, Pastor Reier's spouse, and for all his family, colleagues, and friends, who, by their love and support have contributed greatly to the mission of your Church. As they have so generously shared their love, so continue to shower them with your love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bless all bishops and pastors and those who hold authority in the Church, especially our Presiding Bishop, the Reverend Elizabeth Eaton, our Synodical Bishop, the Reverend Christopher deForest, and the pastors of our sister congregations. Grant that by their faithful service, faith may abound and your kingdom increase. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

#### **BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Pastor Reier, may the Lord God always be with you, in your going out and your coming in. May the Lord richly fill your heart and your mind with his love in Jesus Christ. And may the Lord always inspire you to share that love with all those whose lives you touch. **Amen.** 

We give you thanks, almighty and gracious God, that you have blessed us with the ministry and friendship of Pastor Reier and we pray that he may continue to exemplify in word and deed the Gospel of your Son. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now in the Church on earth and one day rejoice before your throne in heaven forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** 

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### 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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

For the church of Christ in all its diverse forms. For mission developers, new mission starts, and all communities of faith exploring new models of ministry. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the health and well-being of creation. For lakes, rivers, and oceans contaminated by pollution and all who lack clean water. God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those called to positions of authority in our legal system, we pray. For judges, lawyers, law clerks, and court employees who ensure the fair administration of justice. God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who cry out to you in their affliction. For exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. We also pray for everyone on our prayer list. God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For this assembly gathered around your table, we pray. For those who bring the food from this table to those who are homebound or hospitalized. God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

(*The Pastor concludes*): For all the saints who have been raised to eternal life, we give thanks. For Pastor Robert Carl Reier, and for all saints who continue to trust in your promise of abundant and everlasting life, we also give thanks. Unite us in a vision of life without suffering and death, where you are all and in all.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

# **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" R. Prichard

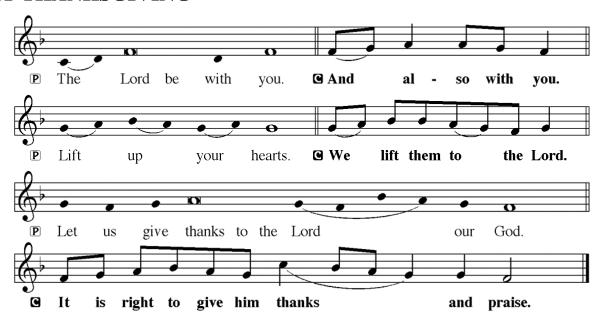
#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

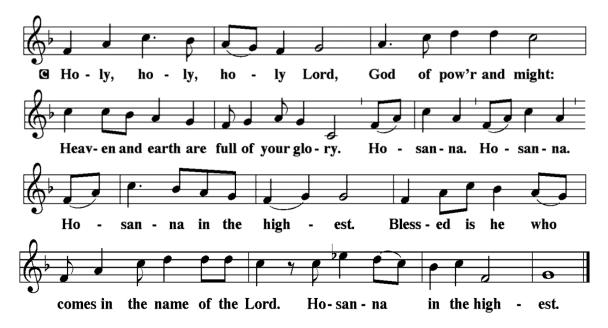
# **MEAL**

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### **SANCTUS**



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

#### Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set this table. There is heavenly food and drink for all. Come and be filled with new life!

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

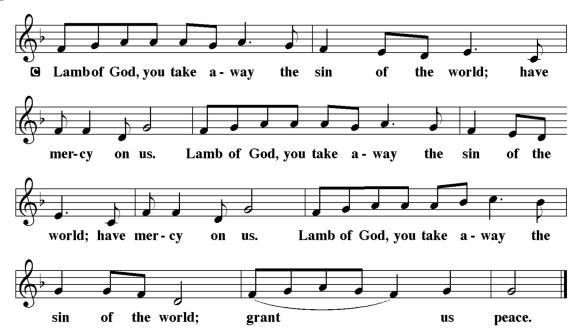
If you wish to receive the Sacrament, please move into the center aisle when instructed to do so. Walk towards the Pastor allowing sufficient space between you and the person in front of you.

When you stand before the Pastor, please open your hand to receive a wafer of bread, and then turn to the Communion Assistant to dip the tip of the wafer into the chalice of wine. [Please be careful not to touch the chalice or wine with your hand.] After you have eaten the wafer, you may return to your seat by the side aisle.

Those unable to come forward to receive the Sacrament may receive in their pews.

Those who would like to receive a blessing from the Pastor rather than the Sacrament should stand before the Pastor and say, "A blessing."

#### **AGNUS DEI**



#### **COMMUNION HYMN** "Bread of Life from Heaven"



#### TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world as you love the world. In your name we pray.

Amen.

# **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

**SENDING HYMN** 

"O Living Bread from Heaven" [See back of bulletin]

#### THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** "I Will Go in the Strength of the Lord" D. Wagner Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

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**Altar flowers** are presented in honor and recognition of the 40th anniversary of the ordination of the Reverend Robert C. Reier.

**Chancel Flowers** are presented in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Miller, Sr., by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

**Bulletins** are presented in memory of Russell C. Zehner by Lester and Constance Teter.

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**Introduction to the day**: Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

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# SERVING THIS SUNDAY (8/8/21) 9:30 AM

LECTOR: Rob Reier; GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; USHER: Jim Spotts

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Juli Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

# SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (8/15/21) AT ALBRIGHT'S WOODS PAVILION 9:30 AM

LECTOR: Tom Wehr; GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; USHER: Sue Reier

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT: NONE** 

ALTAR GUILD: Susan Schenck and Barb Sterner

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

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S		
Sunday, August 8	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, August 9	7:00 PM	Council
Friday, August 13	9:00 AM	STiC Walk in Landingville, PA.
Saturday, August 14	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, August 15	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion at Albright's Woods Pavilion
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#### BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS AND CONNECT EVENT

Our annual "Blessing of the Backpacks and Connect" event will be held on August 22, at 9:30 a.m. Bring your backpacks, technology, and school supplies to church for a blessing. Let us pray and provide encouraging support for our students, parents, and teachers as they begin a new school year.

#### **COOKBOOKS ON SALE!**

The Evangelism Committee will be selling our cookbooks at the Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association "Farm to Square" event from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, August 12, for \$7.00 each. If you cannot attend this event and would like to purchase a cookbook, please contact Juli Schenck at 570-366-2316 (or leave a message).

#### "GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS"

The Evangelism Committee has placed a box in the narthex for items which will be given to Opportunity House on September 12 at the 10:30 a.m. service. This is our "God's Work. Our Hands" project for 2021! The Opportunity House supports services for Veterans and their families. Their office is in Pottsville, and their case manager is our very own St. Paul's member, Victoria Spitler. You can visit their website: www.opphouse.org.

Below is a list of items which will help the homeless (or the at-risk-of-becoming-homeless) veterans in our area.:

-basic household items
-shampoo and conditioner
-body soap
-hand sanitizer
-deodorant
-hand lotion
-feminine hygiene products
-toothbrushes and toothpaste
-razors
-new or lightly used blankets and towels

Thank you in advance from the Opportunity House for giving back to the community!

#### REGULAR WORSHIP RETURNS

On Saturday, September 11, we will return to our regular worship schedule with services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be shared on the first Saturday of each month and at every Sunday service. Please mark your calendars!

#### **BE "VAX" SMART**

If you have questions about any of the COVID-19 vaccines, please contact your physician or health care provider for answers. Don't believe information shared by friends, family, or social media -- without checking it out first!

# **HYMN OF THE DAY** "O Jesus Joy of Loving Hearts"



#### **SENDING HYMN**

#### "O Living Bread from Heaven"

