

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 29, 2021

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

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Song of Hope"

L. Smith

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 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!



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”

1 O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can-not re - pay;
for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
at bless-ings with - out num - ber and mer-cies with - out end:
we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A Reading from Deuteronomy

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting

before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

(Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15 (Read responsively)

O LORD, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**

who do not slander with their tongue,

and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised,

but who honor those who fear the LORD;

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest,

and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

A Reading from James

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

(James 1:17-27)

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. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

(Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Just As I Am”

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Help us to welcome all who seek sanctuary. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals may thrive and flourish. Teach us to protect all things which you have made good. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for everyone in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning men and women and help them to be a blessing to all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Open our hearts to share with everyone who is unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are sick, injured, or ill, and we especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. Bring healing to all who suffer, and protect and encourage all scientists, professors, doctors, nurses, technicians, and healthcare providers as they strive to care for your people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your truth and love. Inspire us by their example and daily renew us in faith. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

(The Pastor concludes): Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"How Beautiful"

T. Paris

Jackie Markus & Justin McClure

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

Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

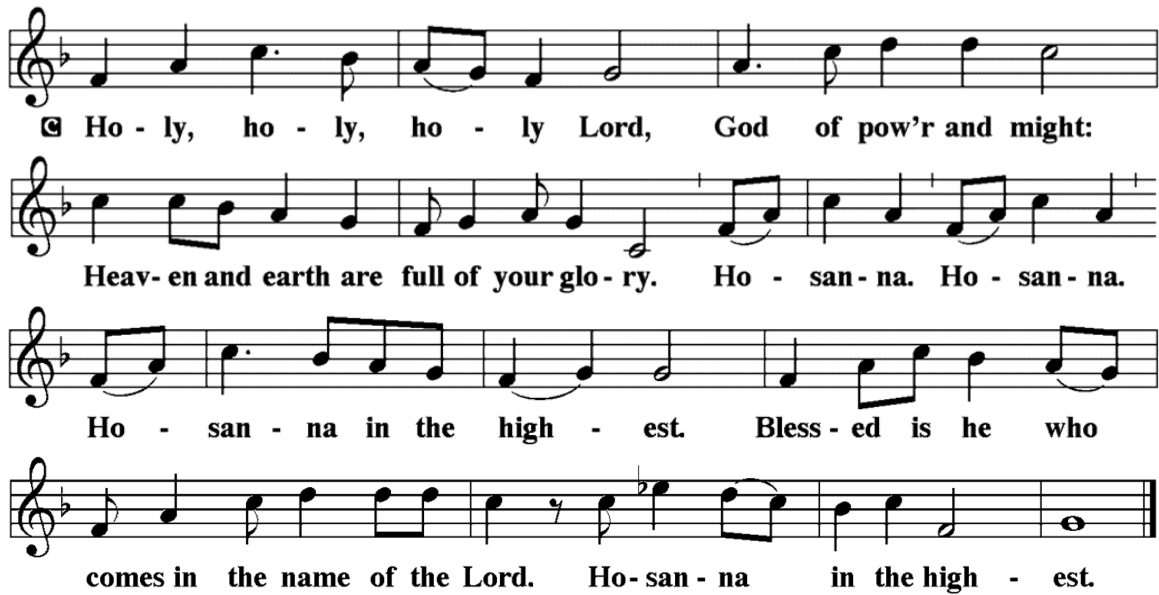
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

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 it is your turn to do so. When you stand before the Pastor, please open your hand to receive a wafer of bread, and then move toward the Communion Assistant to dip the tip of the wafer into the chalice of wine. 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. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please stand before the Pastor and say, "A blessing."

AGNUS DEI

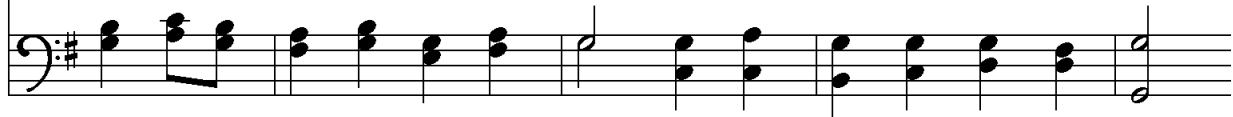
☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

“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:



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



TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O 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.**

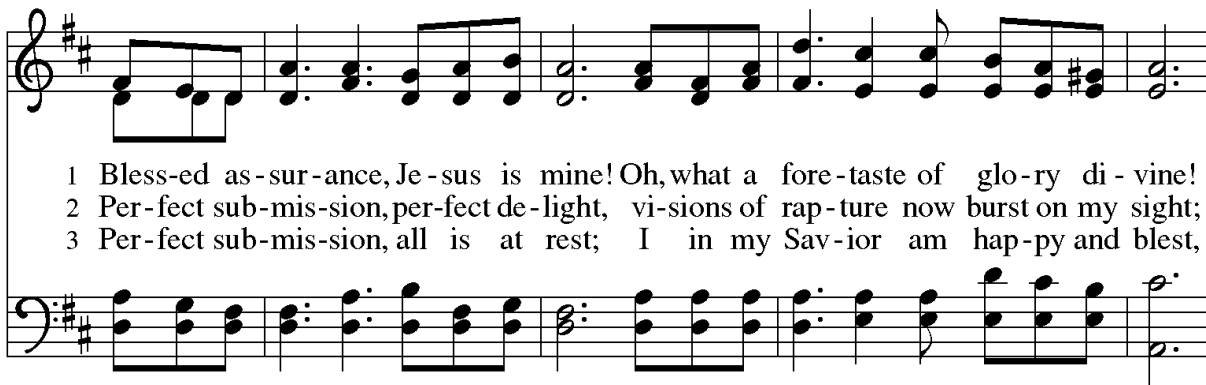
SENDING

BLESSING

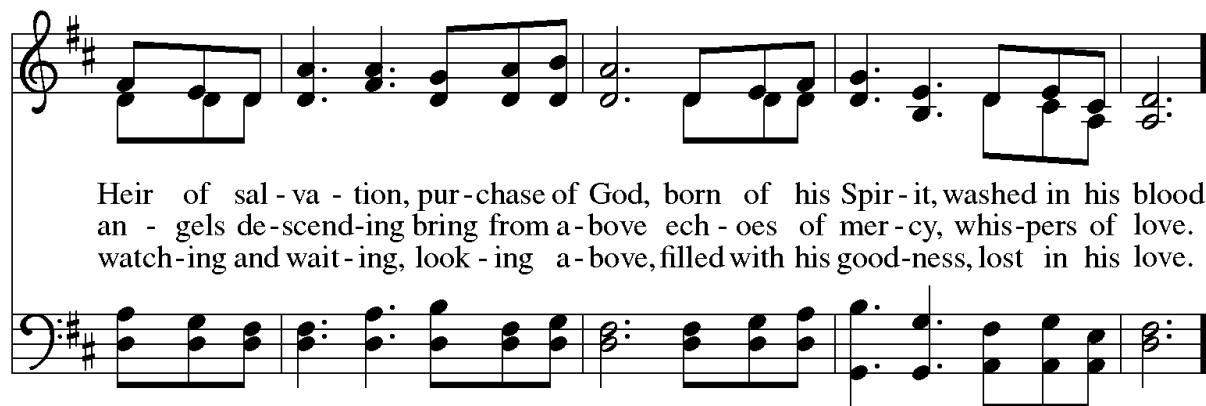
May Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

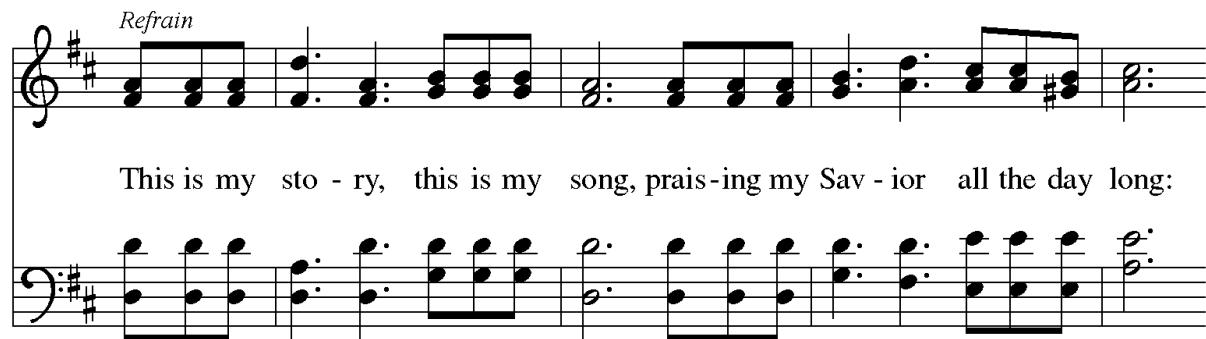


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



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.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his 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.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Sing to the Lord"

F. Ritter

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Introduction to the day: Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God’s law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us: “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (8/29/21)

9:30 AM

LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky; GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; USHER: Chris Long

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Reier

ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Barb Sterner, and Glenda Bright

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (9/05/21)

9:30 AM

LECTOR: Doug Travor; GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Karen Travor

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst

COUNTERS: Tom Wehr, Gwen Wehr, and Glenda Bright

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

Sunday, August 29	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Tuesday, August 31	6:00 PM	Evangelism, “God’s Work. Our Hands”
Friday, September 3	9:30 AM	STiC Sojourn in Landingville, PA
Saturday, September 4	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, September 5	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”

On Sunday, September 12 at the 10:30 a.m. service, representatives from our Evangelism Committee will present Victoria Spitler, Case Manager at the Opportunity House in Pottsville, PA, with donations collected to help homeless or needy veterans and their families. This is our “God’s Work. Our Hands” project for 2021.

The following items are requested: shampoo and conditioner, body soap, hand sanitizer, deodorant, hand lotion, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes and toothpaste, razors, and new or lightly used blankets and towels. Donations may be placed in a box located in the narthex. Thanks for giving back to our community!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HERITAGE DAY!

St. Paul’s will participate in Heritage Day in Orwigsburg on Saturday, September 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. STiC will sell water bottles and Evangelism will sell our cookbooks. This will be a great chance to tell visitors about our church, our music program, and our ministry. Please sign up for a 2-hour time slot from the 9:30 a.m. set up to 3:30 p.m. take down. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for your convenience.

SING FOR JOY!

Our Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals on Wednesday, September 8 at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Room. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!!!**

SUMMER WORSHIP ENDS

On Sunday, September 12, we will return to two services on Sunday mornings; one at 8:00 a.m., and the other at 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be offered at each service. Saturday evening worship will continue at 5:30 p.m. with Holy Communion offered on the first Saturday of the month.