

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 28, 2022

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

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Prelude in G Major"

F. Ritter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

If we say we have no sins, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN “O God Beyond All Praising”
[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, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Help us to be as humble as your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM PROVERBS

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence
or stand in the place of the great;

⁷for it is better to be told, “Come up here,”
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. (Proverbs 25:6-7)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112 (Read responsively)

Praise the LORD!

Happy are those who fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

**For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.**

They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

**Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

**The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

A READING FROM HEBREWS

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

(Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16)

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. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

(Luke 14:1, 7-14)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”
[See back of bulletin]

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

A new school year will begin later this week. We invite all students with their backpacks, tablets, and school supplies, and all teachers, and everyone who is part of our educational system to come up to the chancel to receive a blessing.

In St. Paul's letter to the Romans, he encourages believers to be transformed by the renewing of their minds, so that they may discern what is the will of God – what is good, acceptable, and perfect (*Romans 12:2b*).

Students, will you listen and learn from those whom God has called to teach? And will you daily strive to grow in wisdom and learning? If so, please say: "We will, and we ask God to help us!"

We will, and we ask God to help us!

Teachers and everyone who is part of our educational system, will you help our students learn, grow, and become wise? Will you help them not only to follow, but prepare them to lead? If so, please say: "We will, and we ask God to help us!"

We will, and we ask God to help us!

Students, and all who have been called to help educate them, will you trust in God and pray for one another, and ask the Lord to show you new opportunities as well as warn you of new dangers? If so, please say, "We will, and we ask God to help us."

We will, and we ask God to help us!

Let us pray. Bless these backpacks, tablets, and school supplies that help our students to learn, O Lord. Bless our students as they return to their studies to daily learn, grow in knowledge, and become wise. Bless our teachers in school or in the home and bless all those who support them. Bless all parents, grandparents and all caregivers who love, nurture, and guide our young people.

Help to daily pray for our students, for their teachers, and for parents and guardians. Give wisdom to all our leaders and help them to work together for the good of all your people. Protect those who risk their health for the safety of the sake of others.

Finally, teach us to love one another as you continue to love us – in church, at home, at work, and especially, O Lord, in school. We bless and pray in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED (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 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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us pray with confidence.

A brief silence.

Bless all deacons, pastors, and bishops who serve and teach your people. Awaken in your church a spirit of invitation and hospitality. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Stir in us reverent awe for the beauty of the natural world: for oceans and lakes, rivers and streams, and forests and deserts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Strengthen and embolden those who pursue justice and equity for all. Defend and comfort all people who are incarcerated or detained unjustly. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be present with those who live in isolation or fear. Bring healing and renew the spirit of all who suffer. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list and for the people of Ukraine. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Prepare students, teachers, school personnel, parents, and guardians for a new year of learning. Teach us to value knowledge and to grow in wisdom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who have witnessed to their faith and blessed our congregation. May we cling to the promise of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

"He Touched Me"

W. Gaither

Janice Snyder, soloist

THE LORD'S PRAYER (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 shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"March"

G. F. Handel

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Introduction to the Day: Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism, we have a place at Christ’s banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

The “Blessing of the Backpacks” is today! Teachers, students, and school staff are welcome to bring forward their bookbags, devices, etc. to be blessed for hopes of a wonderful 2022-23 academic year!

<h3>THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S</h3>

Sunday, August 28	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Blessing of the Backpacks
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Friday, September 2	9:00 AM	STiC Walk in Tumbling Run
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Saturday, September 3	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
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Sunday, September 4	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
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SERVING THIS SUNDAY (8/28/22)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Deb Bolinsky; USHER: Joyce O’Rourke; LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Madelyn Knecht

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (9/4/22)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Glenda Bright; LECTOR: Doug Travor

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Wayne Lutsey

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”

The Evangelism Committee has placed a box in the narthex to hold items donated to Opportunity House in Pottsville, PA. This will be our congregation’s “God’s Work. Our Hands.” project for 2022.

The following items are needed: shampoo and conditioner, body soap, hand sanitizer, deodorant, hand lotion, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, blankets, and towels.

Our donations will be presented to Opportunity House on September 11, 2022, “Gods Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer break! The Sunday School team is busy planning for the upcoming term which will begin the Second Sunday of September. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11th!

If you are interested in volunteering your time to help with the Sunday School program, please contact me. Any amount of time or effort would be greatly appreciated!

Sarah Eger – 570-394-3522 (cell) – swoodring86@hotmail.com

“REGULAR” WORSHIP SCHEDULE RETURNS

Beginning September 11, 2022, we will be returning to two Sunday morning services; one at 8 AM and the other at 10:30 AM. Holy Communion will be offered at both. We will continue to worship on Saturday evenings at 5:30 PM, where Holy Communion is offered the first Saturday of each month.

GATHERING HYMN "O God Beyond All Praising"



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,

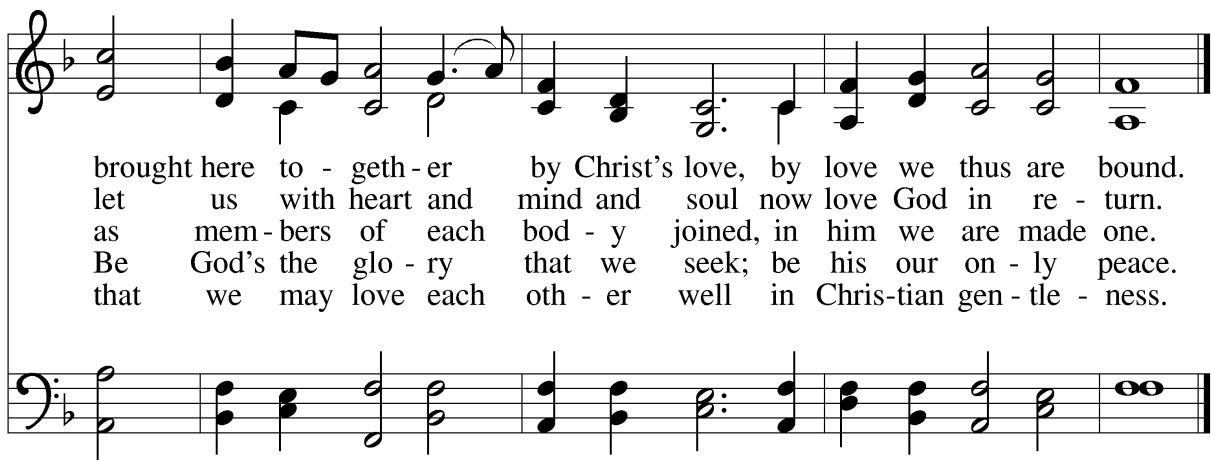


we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Where Charity and Love Prevail”



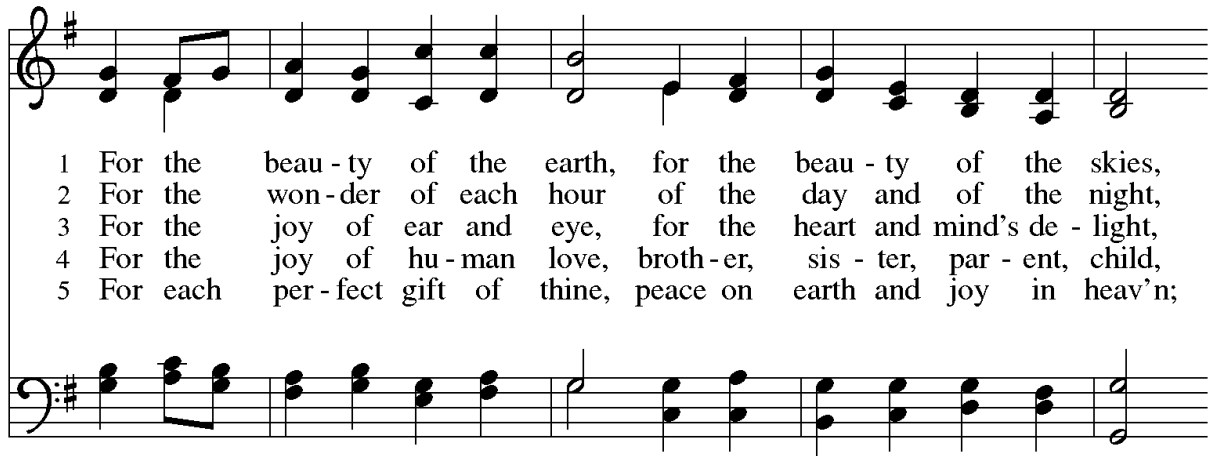
1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



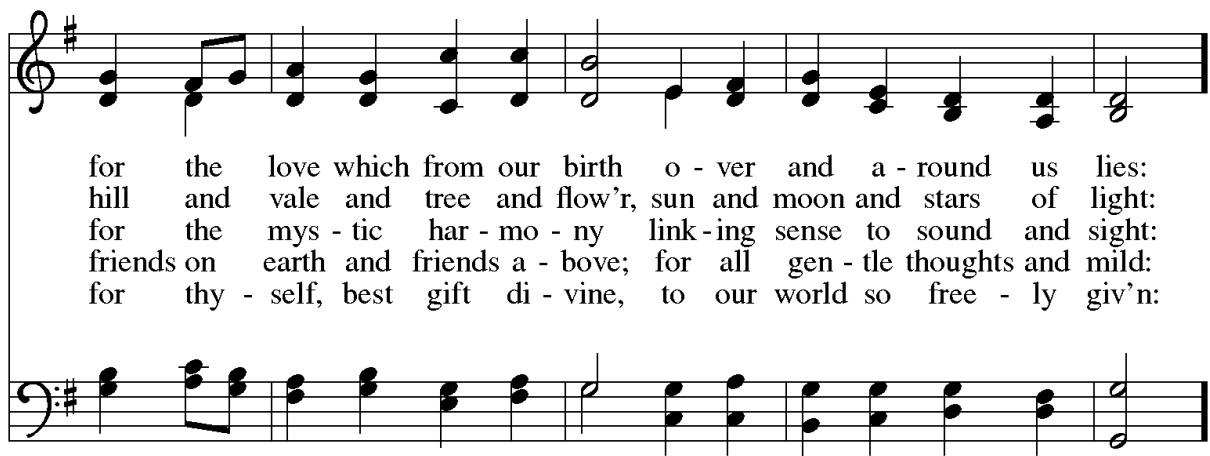
brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

SENDING 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:

Refrain



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