

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 14, 2024

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"How Great Thou Art"

M. McDonald

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.

GATHERING HYMN

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
[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, give to us that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM AMOS

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’ ”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ”
(Amos 7:7-15)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:8-13 (Read responsively)

⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

⁹**Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

¹²The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.**

A READING FROM EPHESIANS

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:3-14)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason, these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

(Mark 6:14-29)

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Let Streams of Living Justice”
[See back of bulletin]

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 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

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

Almighty Father, lavish your wisdom upon us and redeem us from our faults. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Awesome Creator, increase the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the oppressed, protect those who speak difficult truths, and teach us to stand with those who are oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of strength, bring healing and wholeness to all who are sick, injured, or suffering. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, we give thanks for everyone whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed. Keep them strong in faith and bless the work of their hands. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you, God, for all who have died in the faith. Daily remind us that we are not alone in our good works but are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"How Beautiful"

T. Paris

Deb O'Connor & Justin McClure

OFFERTORY HYMN

"As the Grains of Wheat"

Refrain



The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table and invited us to this bountiful feast. As we share this meal, strengthen us in faith and transform us, so that we can be your living body for the sake of the world. **Amen.**

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

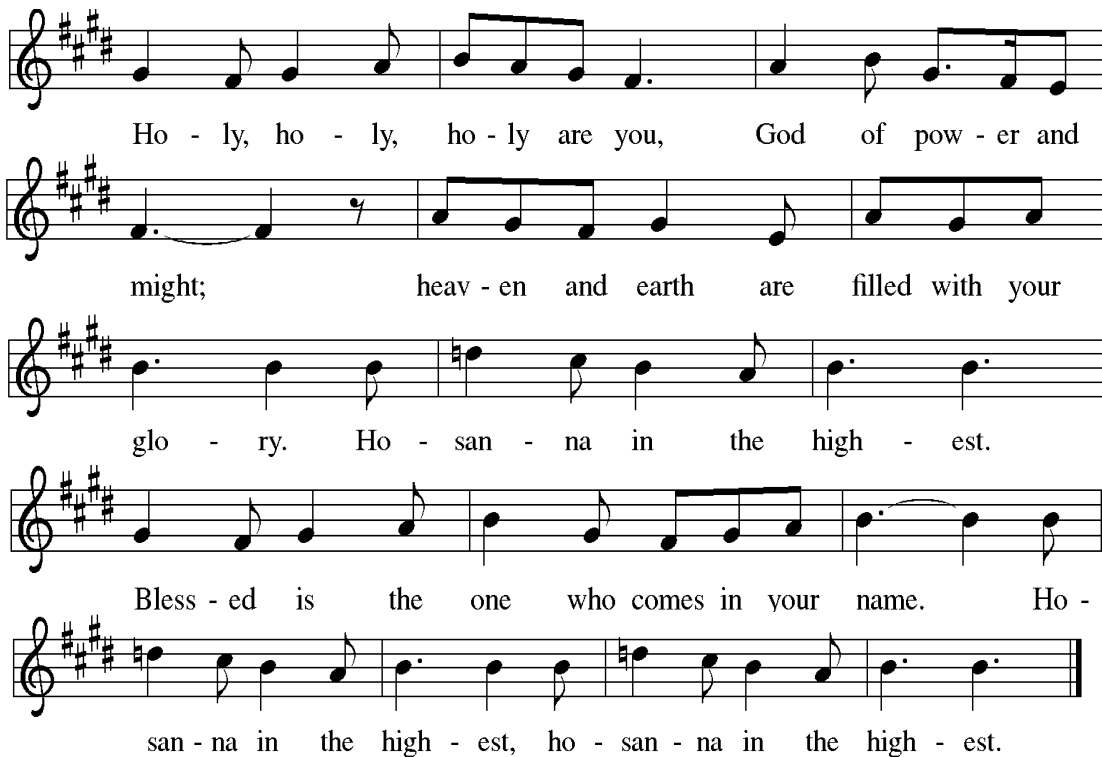
We lift them to the Lord.

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 are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 (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.

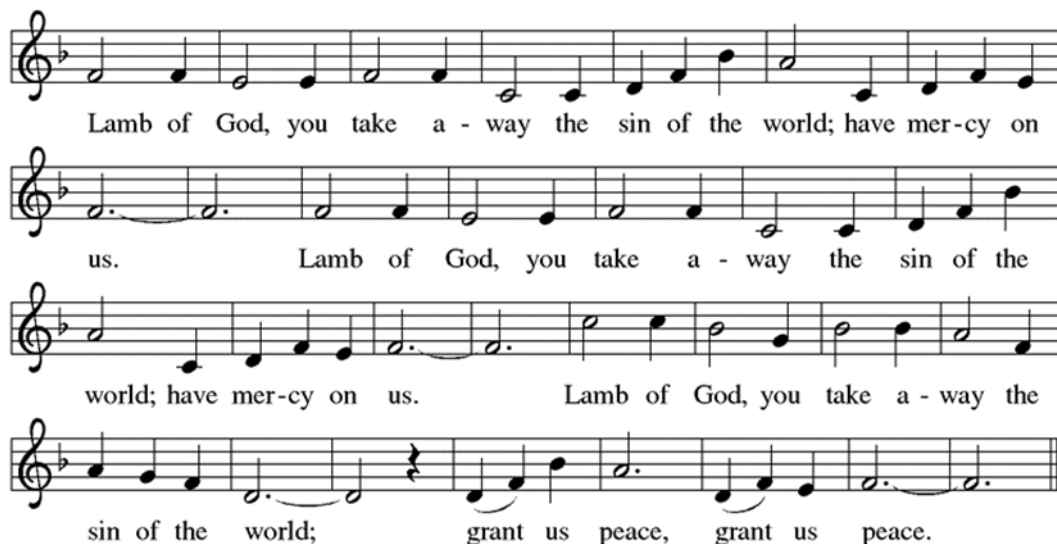
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat. If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest. Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.

Please note that Holy Communion is shared with those seated on the pulpit side and then with those seated on the lectern side.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of Light"
[See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN "Lead On, O King Eternal"
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "March in B Flat" R. Hewes

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Introduction to the day: When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he threatens the power of the priests and the king. When John the Baptist speaks truth to power and Herod has him killed. But God's justice will not be denied. There is indeed hope for all who are oppressed.

Altar flowers are presented in honor of Pastor Mike's 30th Anniversary of Ordination by Mikey and Sue Petresky.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Elaine Kamp by Scott & Tina Butler and Victoria & Alexandria Spitler.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Starting Monday July 8, and continuing throughout the summer months, our church office will be open Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, July 14	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	2:00 – 4:00 PM	STiC Walk at Frog Hollow
Thursday, July 18	7:00 PM	Property
Friday, July 19	10:00 AM	STiC SRT walk at Landingville
	6:00 – 7:00 PM	Fill boxes at the Food Pantry
Saturday, July 20	8:45 – 11:00 AM	Distribute boxes at the Food Pantry
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, July 21	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (7/14/24)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Gloria Dierwechter
LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul
ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (7/21/24)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: TBA
LECTOR: Sue Schenck; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Greg Sklar
ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst
COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

TODAY, Sunday, July 14, 2024, the Reverend Dr. Joseph J. Scholtes, Jr., will celebrate fifty years of ordained ministry. Rev. Scholtes was pastor of this congregation from 2000 to 2013. In retirement, he and his wife, Bonnie, live in the Easton area, where he enjoys birdwatching and spending time with his grandchildren. If you would like to send a card in celebration of his long and faithful service to the church, his address is 680 Whitemarsh Drive, Easton, PA 18040.

WHERE ARE OUR OFFERING PLATES?

Our offering plate is in the back of the church near the center aisle. If you would like to give an offering and have not already done so, please place your offering in the plate before worship begins or as you leave the church.

GWOH 2024

This year we will again collect items requested by Servants to All - My Father's House, as our congregation's "God's Work. Our Hands." project.

"New" Items requested by "Servants to All" include:

Hygiene Products - tampons/feminine pads, toothbrushes and toothpastes, deodorant, soap, wet wipes, disposable razors, lotions, bath towels, and washcloths.

Bedding - Bed linens (twin or full-sized sheet sets), blankets, pillows, and pillowcases.

Cleaning Products - All-purpose cleaners, laundry detergents, disinfectants, hand sanitizers, mops, brooms, and buckets.

We will collect items through August 31. "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday is set for September 8, 2024.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God!

WELCA SIGN-UP SHEET

Our Women of the ELCA will provide light refreshment for the "Jump for Joy" Concert on Sunday, August 4 at 7 p.m. Proceeds from this concert will benefit the Red Creek Wildlife Center. A sign-up sheet is located in our gathering room.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP TABLE

Good fellowship with tasty food is a terrific way to top off our Sunday worship. Our Fellowship Table will follow our 9:30 a.m. service through Sunday, August 18. Please stop by after worship and enjoy!

GATHERING HYMN "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



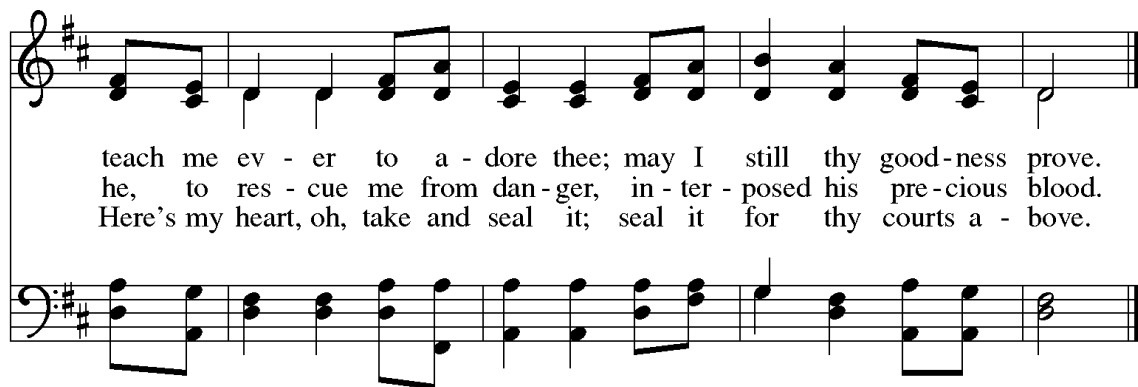
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Let Streams of Living Justice”



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

COMMUNION HYMN "I Want to Walk as A Child of the Light"

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain on next page...

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

NEW BOOKS TO READ!

Our church mice have informed us that our Library Ladies have filled a new bookcase with brand new books. Copies of their list of new additions are in our narthex next to our bulletins. Please pick up a list and consider how reading a new book might make this summer -- even more enjoyable!

JUMP FOR JOY CONCERT

Our Stewardship in Creation (STiC) Team will host their second annual "Jump for Joy" Concert here on Sunday, August 4, at 7 p.m. This concert will benefit the Red Creek Wildlife Center located in Schuylkill Haven, PA. Music, fun, and more than a few surprises are promised. Peggy Hentz from the Red Creek Wildlife Center will even bring one of her animal friends to this event. A free-will offering will be taken, door prizes will be awarded, and light refreshments will follow the concert. Come, bring a neighbor, and help save our wildlife "friends!"

SENDING HYMN

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!