COME GROW SERVE

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church!

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.

*Words printed in **bold** are spoken by all. Visitors are invited to sign the guest registry in the Narthex or fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate.*

THIS SERVICE IS LIVE STREAMED. TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

GATHERING

WELCOME

P: Welcome to those who are joining us online. Welcome to worship at St. Paul's!

PRELUDE *Autumn* **Peter Tchaikovsky**

The assembly is invited to stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

All: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Thru the Night of Doubt and Sorrow* **ELW 327, v. 1-3**

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

The assembly is invited to be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from the Prophet Amos.
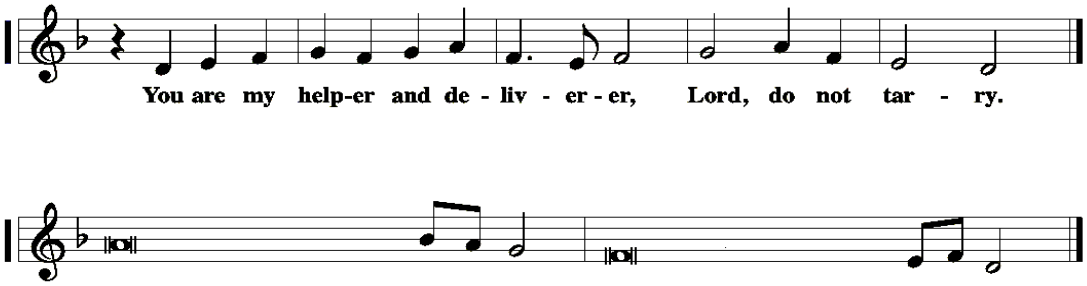
18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even 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.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 70



[1] Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O Lord, make | haste to help me.
[2] Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced. R
[3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
[4] Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the Lord!"
[5] But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, | do not tarry. R
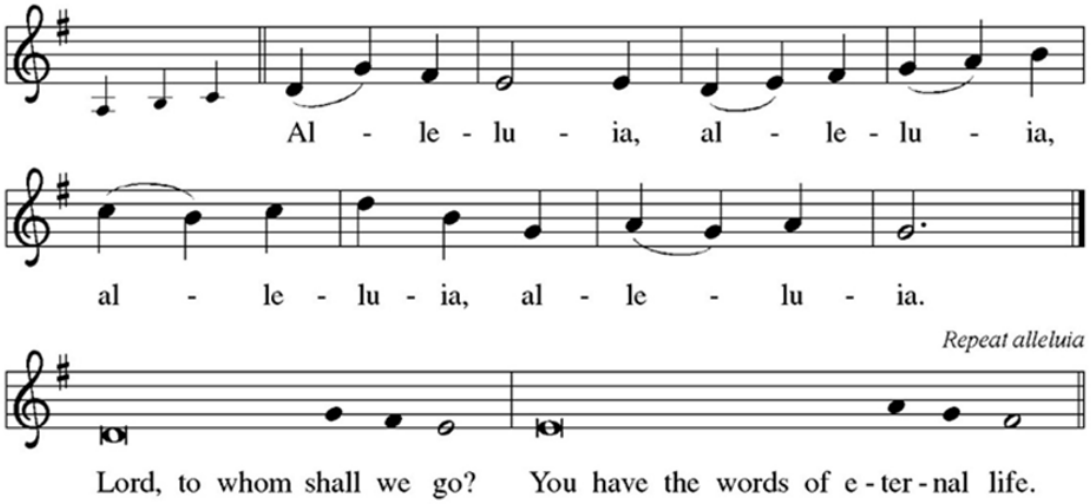
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

[13] We 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. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For 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. [16] For 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. [17] Then 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. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God. Word of Life.
All: Thanks be to God.

The assembly is invited to stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
All: Glory to you, O Lord.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON **Pr. Matt Holmes**

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* **insert**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

A: You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

P: You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

A: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options, especially for those on our prayer list and those we pray for either silently or aloud. (*pause*) God, in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

P: You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

All: **Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

The assembly is invited to be seated.

MEAL

THE OFFERING *An offering is gathered and the Table is set.*

MUSICAL OFFERING *My Lord, What A Morning* **arr. Kurt Westerberg**

Rachel Blaustein, soprano; Nicholas Marotta, mezzo-soprano

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

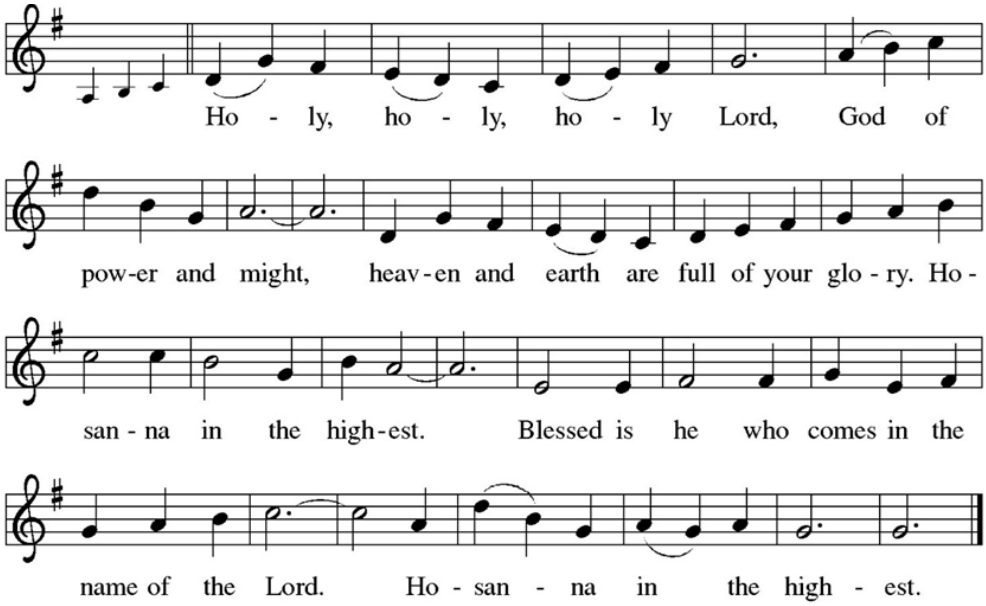
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.
Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Together as one body, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

All: 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNE

P: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!!

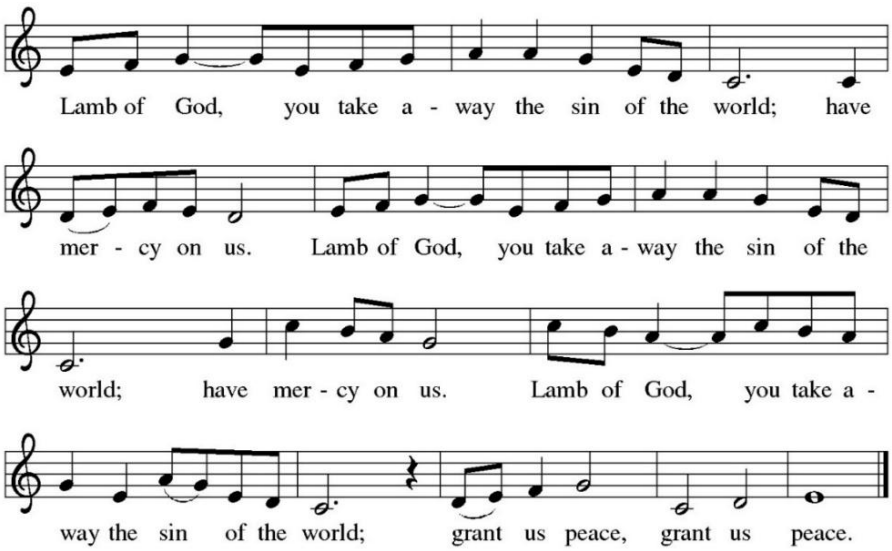


DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

We will commune one side of the church at a time. Please come forward to receive the bread first. Gluten free wafers are available.
You may choose a cup of red wine or white grape juice.
Move to the side eat and drink.
Place your empty cup in the tray provided.

All are welcome at Christ's Table. We believe Jesus is the host and the gifts of God are for everyone. Children will be offered communion unless otherwise indicated by parents. The wine is red and grape juice is white.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN *Come to the Table* **ELW 481**
Goodness is Stronger than Evil **ELW 721**

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

All: Amen.

SENDING

Please be seated for the announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly is invited to stand.

SENDING BLESSING

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* **ELW 434**

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Finale* **J. S. Bach**