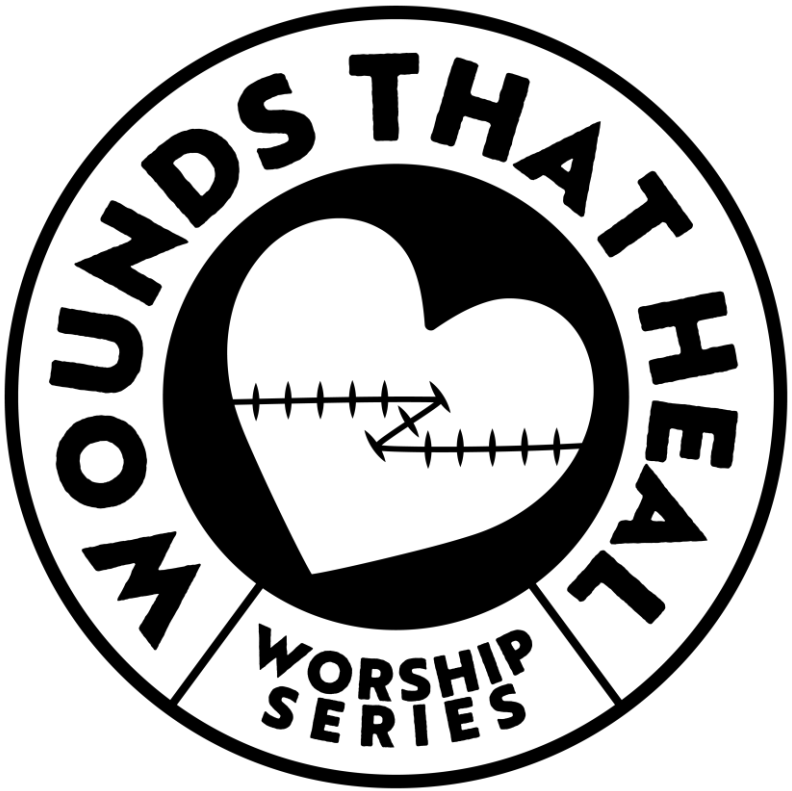


Sunday August 31st, 2025



**THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES
WILL BE HUMBLLED**



ST. PAUL

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES



ST. PAUL

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

As Christians united in common faith, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to nurture believers and bring the lost to faith in Jesus through God's Holy Word and Sacraments.

Welcome!

- Restrooms are in the church basement located just at the bottom of the front stairs. Changing tables are available to parents.
 - An elevator is available on the north side of the church entrance.
 - The basement is available to parents needing to quiet small children. The area is equipped with closed circuit TV.
 - Out of respect for all who worship today, please silence all electronic devices.
 - Children's Activity Bags are available in the narthex. Please return them to the 'used' bin after service.
-

THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES WILL BE HUMBLLED

Everyone knows that humility is a positive trait and pride is a negative one. So, why bother talking about what we already know? Because in spite of that knowledge, we still helplessly fall into the trap of pride. We all desire acclaim, recognition, and praise. Jesus' sharp words this week teach us that seeking exaltation in futile and fleeing ways will only result in receiving the opposite. Those who attempt to exalt themselves will eventually be humbled by God. In contrast, Jesus promises that those who leave their exaltation to God will receive honor and glory far greater than any that can be awarded in this life. Our exaltation does not need to be our responsibility, because Jesus has already made it his.

Service Setting 3, CW p. 188

Father, We Praise You

CW 778

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

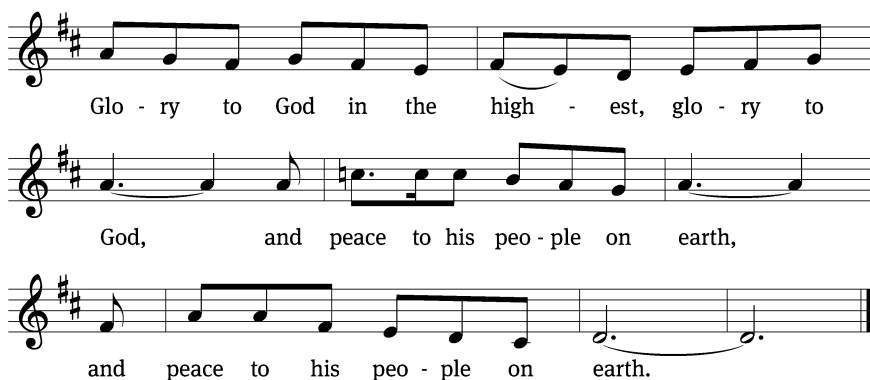
Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second staff begins the lyrics: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to'. The third staff continues: 'God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,'. The fourth staff continues: 'and peace to his peo - ple on earth.' with a final double bar line. The fifth staff concludes with: 'Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
 Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
 Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Proverbs 25:6,7a

Solomon provides common sense about humility and pride.

⁶Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
 and do not claim a place among his great men;
⁷it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
 than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day *(spoken responsively)*

Psalm 112

²Their children will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,
for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.

⁵Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶Surely the righteous will never be shaken;
they will be remembered forever.

⁷They will have no fear of bad news;
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

⁹They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,
**their righteousness endures forever;
their horn will be lifted high in honor.**

¹⁰The wicked will see and be vexed,
**they will gnash their teeth and waste away;
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.**

Second Reading

James 2:1–13

James teaches that showing favoritism to those we think can provide us with upward mobility shows a lack of mercy and puts us at risk of God's judgment.

¹My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man

wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

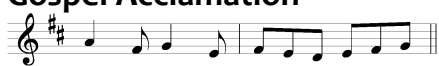
¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

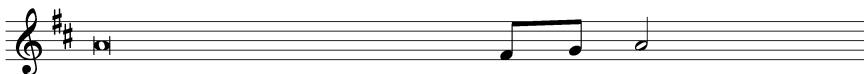
Luke 14:11



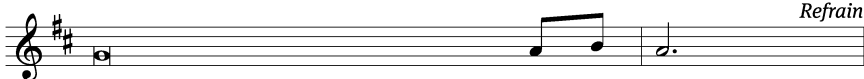
Refrain



Tone



For all those who exalt themselves will be hum - bled,



and those who humble themselves will be ex - alt - ed.

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Gospel & Sermon Text

Luke 14:1,7-14

Jesus teaches some ways to demonstrate humility and promises that those who humble themselves will be exalted.

¹One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place.

¹⁰But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church *(Congregational response is bold.)*

Several prayers and petitions will be made. Each ends:

Lord, you are forgiving and good.

You abound in love to all who call to you.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Listen, Lord, to the thoughts and cares of our hearts.

Silent prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commit ourselves this day. Give each of us a watchful, humble, and diligent spirit, that we may seek to know your will in all things, and perform it completely and gladly to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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Offering

In Unity and Peace

CW 732

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

May the Peace of God

CW 929

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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WORSHIP NOTES

Preacher: Matt Holtz

Presiding Minister: Matt Holtz

Accompanist: Stacey Kraus

Service Teams:

8:00 a.m. Team Blob; AV: G. Fredericks

9:30 a.m. Team Hoh; AV: To. Falck

6:00 p.m. No Service