

St. Paul's Lutheran Church *Pentecost 15*
September 21, 2025

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our maker,
our helper, and our keeper.

C Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the
presence of God and of one another.

God of all mercy and consolation,

C come to the aide of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C **Amen.**

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

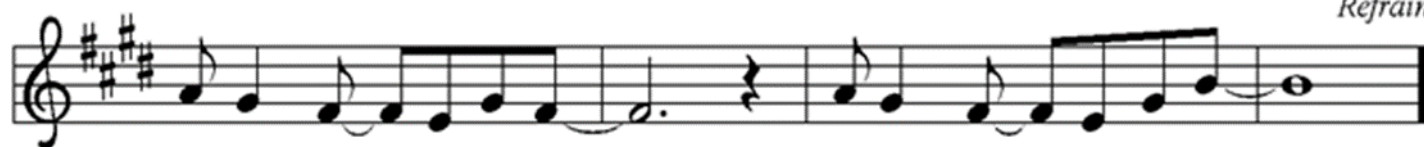


u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

(cont.)



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-5, 20-33 19:15-29

¹ The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."

²⁰ Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹ I must go down and see whether they

have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.” ²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” ²⁶ And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” ²⁷ Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” ²⁹ Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰ Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” ³¹ He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak

to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³² Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³ And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

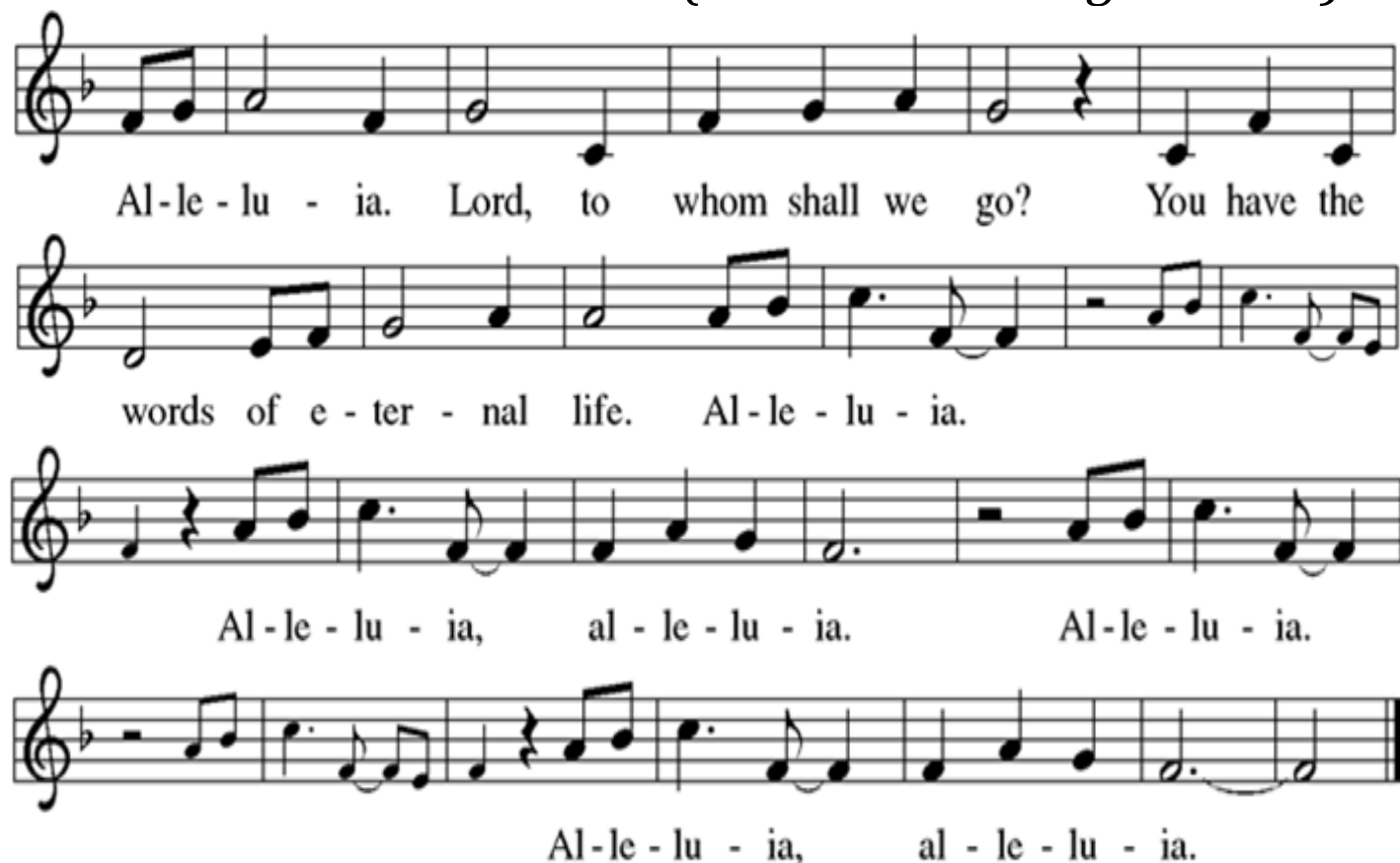
¹⁵ When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city.” ¹⁶ But he lingered, so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city. ¹⁷ When they had brought them outside, they said, “Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed.” ¹⁸ And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords; ¹⁹ your servant has found favor with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life, but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die. ²⁰ Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape

there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” ²¹ He said to him, “Very well, I grant you this favor too and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. ²² Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there.” Therefore the city was called Zoar. ²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven, ²⁵ and he overthrew those cities and all the plain and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. ²⁷ Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord, ²⁸ and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the plain and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace. ²⁹ So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had settled.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(10 measures organ intro)*



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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.

² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away

from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and

love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON *Pastor Timothy Holt*

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW 499 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

APOSTLE’S CREED

C 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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones. *(We pray especially for Joe Alles, Zach Andry, Ron Bauer, Judy Beckman, Karen Bettag, Clint Breitweiser, Martha Buchta, Angie Danzer, Courtney Hagedorn Drew, Juanita Hembree, Brenda, Lana Hoffman, Ann Hopf, Mary Ann Jerger, Carol Keller, Tammy Kieffner, Zach Leinenbach, Larry Lorey, Bob Lottes, Zander Mann, Melvin Meyer, Logan Musgrave, Pat Opel, Tammy Peek, Remington Rainey, Adam Ramsey, Steve Rothgerber, Melody Saylor, Annette Schepers, Glen Schmitt, Kaine Seitz, Larry Sendelweck, Makenzie VanHoy, family and friends of Bill Leistner, and all those we name before you either silently or aloud.)* May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

We pray that you guide the military serving to protect us. Grant them safety and wisdom to carry out their assigned duties. (*We pray especially for Austin Breitwieser, Luke Himself, and Cooper Uebelhor.*) God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children who have not yet received instruction about Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. As you approach the communion assistant, the first will hand you the bread. Take and eat it. Then take a communion cup from the tray. After you have taken the wine, place your empty cup in the tray table beside the pillar.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

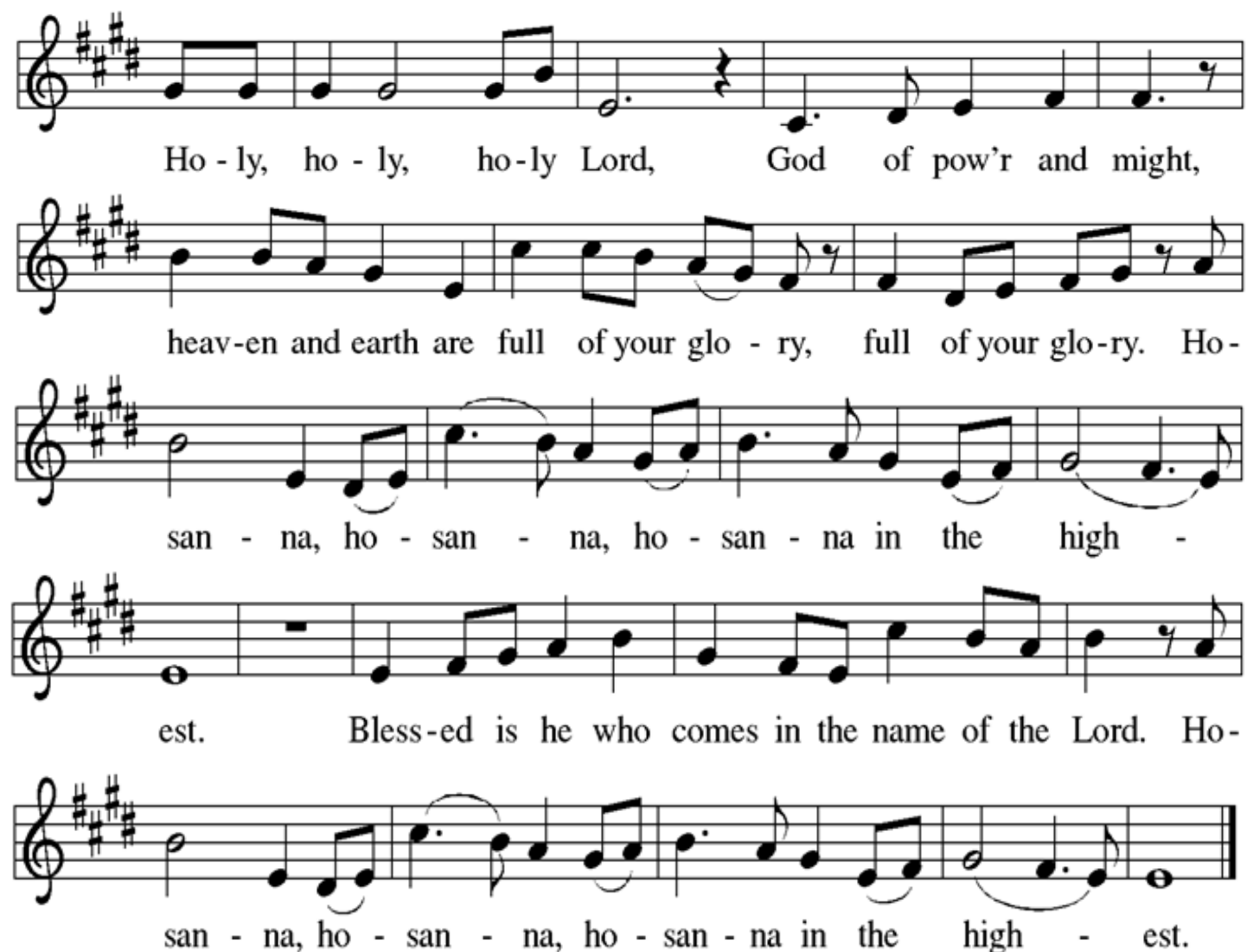
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

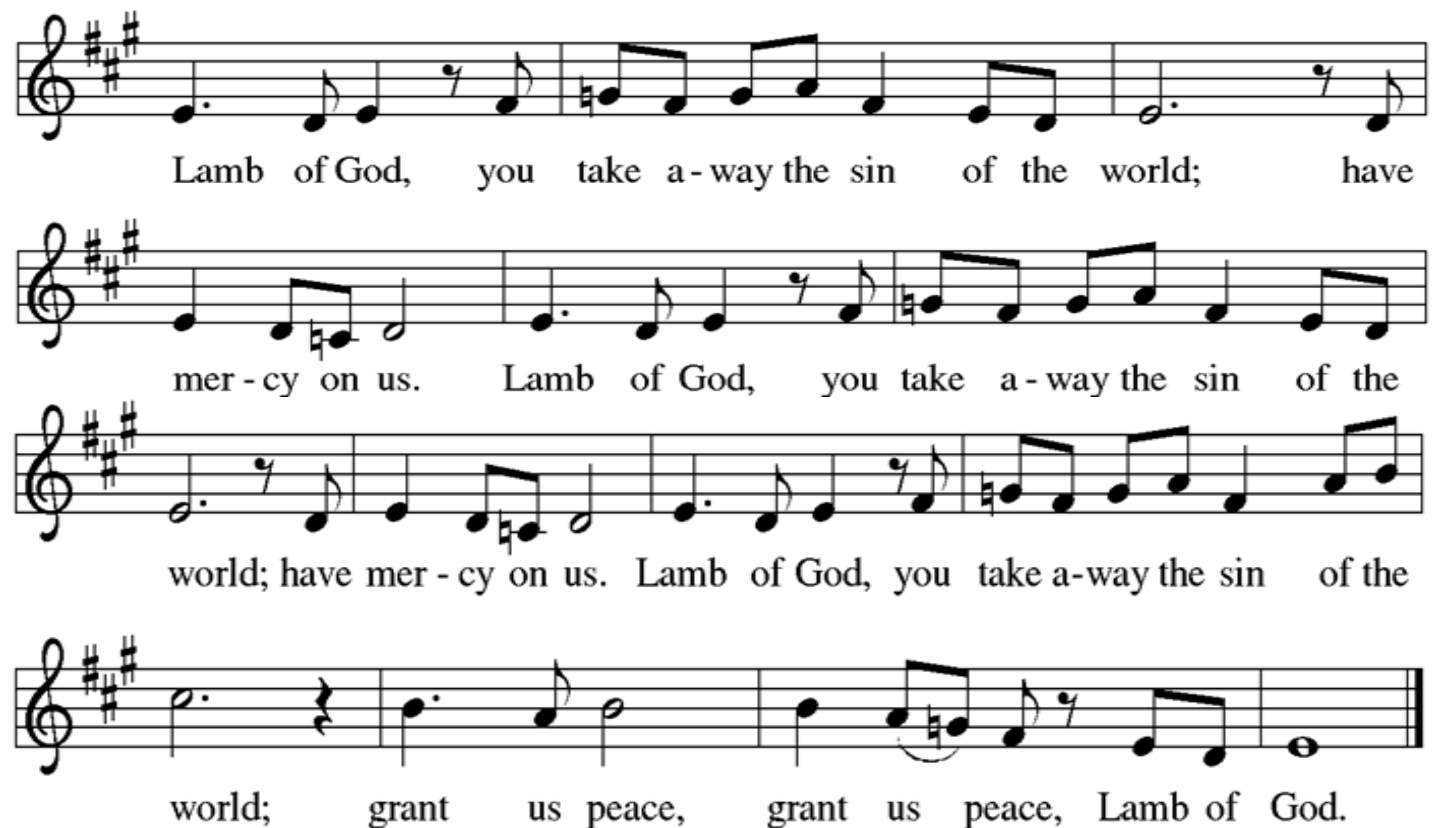
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

WOV 716 *“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”*

WOV 737 *“There is a Balm in Gilead”*

WOV 734 *“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”*

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

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

May you run and not be wea - ry. May your

heart be filled with song. And may the

love of God con - tin - ue to

give you hope and keep you strong. And may you

run and not be wea - ry. May your

life be filled with joy. And may the

road you trav - el al-ways lead you home.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray

C Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

LBW 383 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Mission Statement: *Worship Boldly, Empower for Discipleship,
Cultivate Spiritual Maturity, Strengthen Community, Serve.*

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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR YOUR SERVICE TODAY:

Greeters: Jeff Schmitt
Comm. Asst: Debbie Bauer
Video: JoAn Breitwieser
Organist: Barbara Dell
Lay Reader: Sandy Schaus
Audio: Keith Keller
Acolytes: Jake Lottes

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 176 SS: 18

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF Sept 21st – Sept. 28th

Sun. Sept. 21 st	7:30 AM	Church Council Meeting
	8:00 AM	Chancel Choir
	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service <i>(First day of Sunday School)</i>
Wed. Sept. 24 th	6:30 PM	Handbell Practice
	6:30 PM	Confirmation
Thurs. Sept. 25 th	1:00 PM	Blanket Tacking
Sun. Sept. 28 nd	8:00 AM	Chancel Choir
	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service <i>(Sunday School following communion- 10:30)</i>

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are presented in honor of Pat and in memory of George Opel's 69th wedding anniversary.

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There will be an **LYO** meeting today, September 21st in the fellowship hall following the service. Members who are in Confirmation through high school Seniors are invited!

-Tara Betz

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WELCA BOOK SIGN-UPS

There are sign-up sheets on the welcome center desk for committees for the 2026 year. Committees include flower, visiting, birthday cakes for members 85+, and refreshments for our monthly meetings. Please review the list and faithfully consider one of these projects.

-Darlene Ziegler, President

The **Strassenfest Committee** would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped, contributed, or supported us in any way this year. Thanks to your incredible efforts and generosity, we had a very successful festival and sold out every item!

We are thrilled to announce that we've raised \$11,000 to contribute to the Sacred Places Grant. Over the 18 years, our fundraising team has proudly donated a total of \$151,222.22 to the church, this money went to building fund, general fund and fixing issues that arise in our church.

This success would not be possible without the time, energy, and teamwork everyone brings. Along the way, we've built new friendships, shared many laughs, created lasting memories, and proudly spread the name of our church throughout the community.

Thank you all for being part of this journey!

- Erin Kalkb

ST. PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2025

9/14

Kick-Off Day: Youth Art Show

9/21

PreK-1st: Welcome Day: Intro + Routines

2nd-6th: Welcome Day: Intro + Routines

9/28

PreK-1st: Jesus Calls Disciples

2nd-6th: David as King





ALL ABOUT THE ROUNDAABOUT!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

FROM 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

**CEDAR CREST INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL PARKING LOT
4770 IN-162, HUNTINGBURG, IN 47542**

If you're not familiar with using roundabouts, don't worry — there's no stress with driving this simulation. We'll provide slow carts and drivers on a mock course, and you can ride along to note signage, ask questions, and simply see how easy it flows.

You can also talk with INDOT project engineers on-site to answer questions about roundabout design, practicality, and safety.

COME PRACTICE WITH US ON OCTOBER 4

Check out our FAQs and timeline, and sign up for text alerts about the project, at INSafePassage.com/roundabout-simulation.



**OPERATION:
SAFE PASSAGE**



ALTERNATIVE INCLEMENT WEATHER DATE: OCTOBER 25.

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WELCA is sponsoring a Life Stories writing class with Martha Rasche. Martha believes everyone's story matters, and she uses a mix of prompts, conversation and examples to help others write their stories to share with their families. The class will meet from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays from Sept. 23 through Oct. 28 at the church. The fee is \$100. To register or if you have any questions, call Martha at 812-630-8992.

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Emanuel Lutheran Hill Church of rural Dubois, Indiana, will hold the annual homecoming today, Sunday, September 21st at 2:30 p.m. Rev. Tim Kraemer of Christ Lutheran will conduct the service. Holy Communion will be celebrated during the service. After the service, there will be a carry-in meal in the old schoolhouse. The public is invited to come and join the activities at the old Hill Church.

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the GREAT GETAWAY RAFFLE

\$25/Ticket
Limit 1,500 Chances

Drawing on September 27th at the DC Multisport Pickleball Tournament at Bohnert Park in Jasper, IN.

4 PRIZES. 4 WINNERS.
Four lucky winners will be drawn – and each will select their prize based on the order drawn.

LICENSE #14824
Cash or check made payable to Crisis Connection. Must be 18 years or older to purchase ticket. Crisis Connection employees, board members and their immediate family members living in the same household are not eligible to win. Getaways expire December 31, 2026. Owners determine weeks of availability. Winner pays prize taxes. Need not be present to win. License and additional information on file at Crisis Connection.

COLUMBIA FALLS, MT
Home donated by Katie + Jared Pfaff

Up to a 6-night stay in an amazing 4-bedroom home nestled in the Montana mountains + \$400 gift card



MIRAMAR BEACH, FL
Home donated by Brenda + Andy Welsh

Up to a 7-night stay in a beautiful 2-bedroom ocean view Florida condo + \$400 gift card



LAS VEGAS, NV
Corporate Sponsors

2-night stay in 4-star hotel on the Las Vegas Strip, plus 2 tickets to a concert of your choice at the Sphere Las Vegas + \$400 gift card



PURCHASE TICKETS
through any Crisis Connection Board Member or volunteer:

THANK YOU to our corporate sponsors.





Linda Bawel	Dean Merder
Elizabeth Begle	Jason Nord
Katherine Bender	Wendi Rich
Deidra Church	Devin Springston
Lisa Fleck	Channing Ziegler
Renee Kabrick	

STAY + PLAY LOCAL
Corporate Sponsors

2-night stay at French Lick Hotel
4 Wilstem tickets, 4 Big Splash tickets,
2 Holiday World tickets,
\$150 gift card, \$100 Butcher & Barrel,
\$50 Emerald Greens
\$50 The Broken Tee, \$50 The Grind



Crisis Connection is here for our neighbors in times of need, offering compassionate support, advocacy, and resources to those facing domestic violence, sexual assault, and other life challenges. ❤️

Want to join in making a difference?
Purchase a Great Getaway Raffle ticket
and help support their mission!

Contact Board Members, Deidra Church or Renee Kabrick to buy a ticket. They can accept cash, checks made payable to Crisis Connection, or Venmo.

In Service to Our Country

Austin Breitwieser
AMC Luke Himself
Cooper Uebelhor

Redzikowo, Poland
Virginia Beach, VA
Colorado Springs, CO

