

St. Paul Lutheran Church
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road

PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Parish Administrator’s Email: parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month & Festivals

Christian Education: Sunday’s at 10:15 A.M.

Air Conditioned & Handicapped Accessible

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Grounded in faith and growing in grace, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed in our local community and throughout the world.



Are you visiting St. Paul? Are you interested in membership or just looking to see if St. Paul is a good fit for you and/or your family??

Please call (570-629-1992) or stop by our office during regular business hours (Mon – Thurs 9:00am – 1:00pm) and speak to our Parish

Administrator, Leanna Wickline, who will be happy to guide you through

the membership process and help you find information on all of the great programs at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

SILENT MEDITATION. . . Please note – the silent meditation is a part of the morning worship service. This is a time for individual reflection; a time for communicating with God, as well as a time of preparation for the service of worship. We encourage you to use it in a meaningful way.

Please respect the prayerful atmosphere of this holy place. We ask that you turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

Pastor: Reverend Rashion “Woody” Santiago

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline

Choir Director/Organist: Mr. Robert Jones

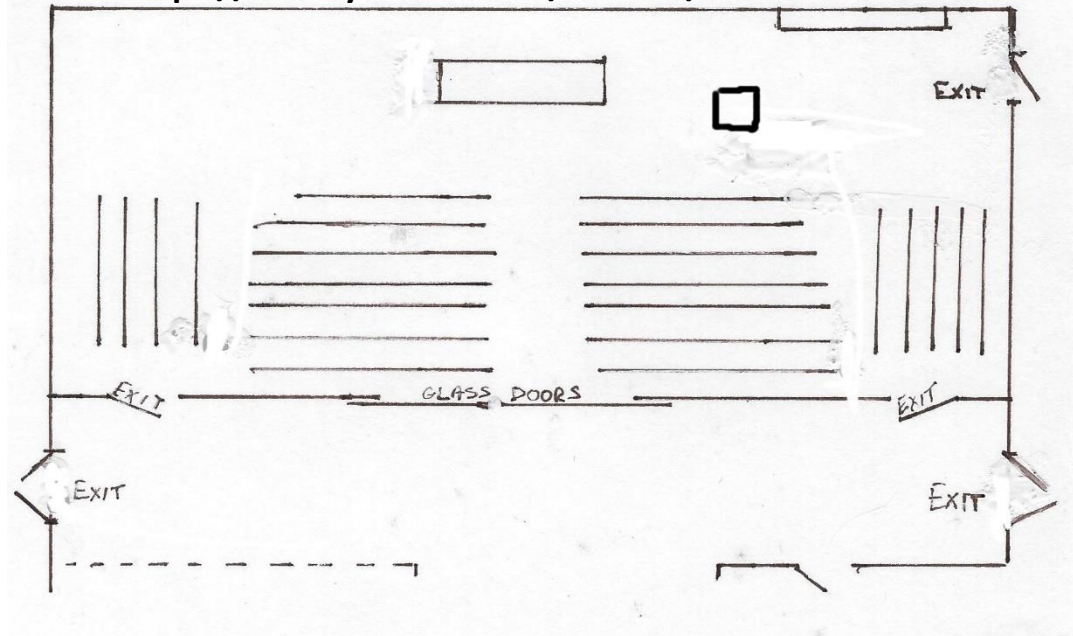
2023 Council Members

Grant Allen, Dawn Bartron, Bill Below, Chris Kinsley Sr., Nicole Kresge,
Carl Reindl, Deb Storman, Beth Werkheiser, Leanna Wickline

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsvvR6Fl09zcaiDPY174k5A>



Worship Service

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, July 30, 2023

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

**Please stand, if able.*

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes

Announcements

Prelude

***Confession**

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***Absolution**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of ✠ Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

ELW #641


***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.


*Kyrie

Leader or All



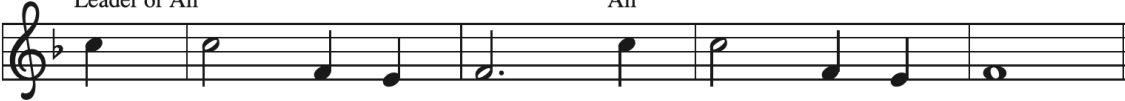
Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.
O Lord, have . . . mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no - so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.
O Lord, have . . . mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

Leader or All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.
Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

*Hymn of Praise



1 ¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
1 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem - pre! ¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem - pre!
To God be glo-ry for - ev - er! To God be glo-ry for - ev - er!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you. (*Please share a sign of peace with one another from your seat.*)

*Prayer of the Day (Lector)

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask. What should I give you?"

⁶ And Solomon replied, "You have shown great and faithful love to your servant, my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, righteousness, and integrity. You have continued this great and faithful love for him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today.

⁷ "Lord my God, you have now made your servant king in my father David's place. Yet I am just a youth with no experience in leadership. ⁸ Your servant is among your people you have chosen, a people too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹ So give your servant a receptive heart to judge your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ Now it pleased the Lord that Solomon had requested this. ¹¹ So God said to him, "Because you have requested this and did not ask for long life or riches for yourself, or the death of your enemies, but you asked discernment for yourself to administer justice, ¹² I will therefore do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has never been anyone like you before and never will be again.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:129-136

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wondrous; therefore I obey them.

¹³⁰ **The revelation of your words brings light and gives understanding to the inexperienced.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commands.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your practice toward those who love your name.**

¹³³ Make my steps steady through your promise; don't let any sin dominate me.

¹³⁴ **Redeem me from human oppression, and I will keep your precepts.**

¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant, and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶ **My eyes pour out streams of tears because people do not follow your instruction.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

²⁶ In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings.

²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He did not even spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. How will he not also with him grant us everything? ³³ Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies. ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: Because of you we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered.

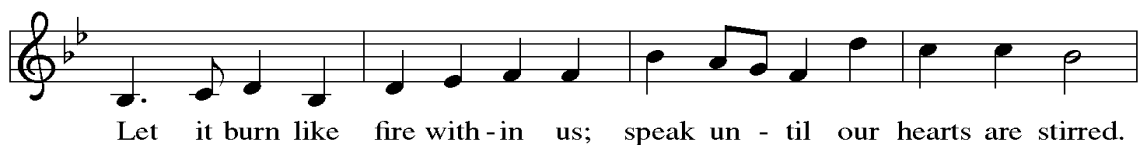
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel. (*Lector*)

*Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ He presented another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It’s the smallest of all the seeds, but when grown, it’s taller than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the sky come and nest in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and mixed into fifty pounds of flour until all of it was leavened.” ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure, buried in a field, that a man found and reburied. Then in his joy he goes and sells everything he has and buys that field:

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a large net thrown into the sea. It collected every kind of fish, ⁴⁸ and when it was full, they dragged it ashore, sat down, and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw out the worthless ones. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out, separate the evil people from the righteous, ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” They answered him, “Yes.”

⁵² “Therefore,” he said to them, “every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom treasures new and old.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day**

ELW# 720

***The Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 the People** (*Lector*)

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, we pray for the church and all servants of the gospel. Equip rostered and lay ministers to proclaim that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Form confirmands and catechumens into disciples. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, we pray for the well-being of creation. Safeguard the environment, clean polluted rivers and lakes, preserve the mighty tree and the tiny mustard seed, and send advocates for sustainable practices. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, we pray for the nations. Instill in all who govern the ability to discern between good and evil, free those who are oppressed, and protect those facing danger. Promote peace across the world and in our towns and neighborhoods. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, we pray for all in any need. Protect those fleeing from war, shelter any who are in poverty, clothe the naked, soothe all who grieve, and heal the sick. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Holy God, we pray for this congregation, both those gathered today and those absent from our assembly. Grant safety to travelers and refreshment and safety for children attending summer camps or community programs. Give direction to any experiencing life transitions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, we give thanks for your saints who now rest from their labors. Inspire us by their witness to treasure the gospel, and continually nourish us with your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

At this time, you are welcome to share your joys and concerns, either out loud or silently. *Pause.* Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky,

you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***The 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***Blessing**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

ELW # 538

***Choral Benediction "Go Now and Pass It On"**

May the Lord _____ walk be - side us _____ as we

6
leave _____ this qui - et place, _____ for the Lord _____ will al - ways

12
guide us _____ if we walk in the light of His grace. _____

17
_____ May we feel God's love a - round us _____ as it

22
keeps us faith - ful and strong, _____ for the peace _____

27
_____ of God sur rounds us, _____ and now we must pass it

32
on. _____ Go now and pass it on. _____

Charge to the People

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"The worship ends. . .the service begins."



Prayer Requests

Prayers have been requested for the following brothers and sisters in Christ who have concerns needing God's help...

Sr. Msgt. William F. Allen; Specialist William "Blake" Allen; Sr. Master Sargent William F. Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; Captain Katy Blessings; David Brong; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; the family of Chris Finnerty at his passing; Jamie Fisher; Todd & Anna Geil; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Louis Genset; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; Charlie Hemple; T. J. Imhof; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Robbie Kinsley; Nikolaos Kotretsos; Eleanor Kreuger; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Steven Moore; Ada Morales; Nelson Morales; Donna Myers; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Anna Rivera; Jean Ross; Gina Santiago; Rafael Santiago; Claudette Segear; Frank Schambra; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; Brenda Van Why; Scott Wickline; Jacob Wilson; John Woodling; for the people of Ukraine; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the families and victims of the mass shootings, for all those around the world and here at home suffering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Have your prayers been answered? Or do you still need God's help? Please let us know. Thank you to everyone who prays with us for those in need.



Thank you to all who have helped to support St. Paul's Strunk Food Pantry! Your commitment to help is a true blessing to those who are struggling to feed their families. The pantry is always in need of basic food supplies, and we need your continued support to keep this program going strong. ***Items of particular need are peanut butter, cereal, pasta sauce, mac & cheese, soup, canned veggies, canned fruit, and tuna.***

Grocery Tapes

If you shop at Kinsley's Shoprite or Weis markets we get a percentage of your purchase. Just bring your receipts in and put them in the box on the table in the Narthex. In order for us to receive credit, the receipts must include the date and store number. Please don't tear off the bottom of the receipts.

St Paul Tee-shirts

St Paul Tee-shirts are available to purchase, in sizes from medium to 3XL. The price is \$10.00. Personalized with St Paul Lutheran Church, Tannersville on the back the colorful front says "Faith, Hope & Love 1 Corinthians 13".

August Sermon Series

Pastor is doing a sermon series during the month of August titled "Gotta Have Faith".

August 6th "Faith for the Ages"

August 13th "Living in Hope"

August 20th "Faith for the Whole Body"

August 27th "Let Faith Grow"

Inside Out Church

Inside Out Church is held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, in Spies Hall. We join together with a meal and a deep dive into the scriptures. This is an opportunity to grow your faith and increase your knowledge and understanding of God's Word and the Bible.

Help Wanted

As many of you already know, Leanna Wickline, our Parish Administrator (and all-purpose problem solver), will be moving to the Harrisburg area at the end of August to be closer to her family. With this in mind, Council is looking to fill Leanna's position by mid-August while she would still be here to assist with any necessary training. The position currently calls for twenty hours per week, but it could be shared between two people. If any of you have an interest in the position or may know of someone who does, please contact Bill Below, Deb Storman, Pastor Woody, or Leanna.



Worship Assistant Schedule						
	Acolyte	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistants	Counters	Altar Guild
8/6/2023	Emily Kresge	Linda Below	Bill Below	Dawn Bartron	Beth Werkheiser	Barbara Allen
		Deb Storman		Dawn Weiss	Donna Warner	Leanna Wickline
8/13/2023	Deb Storman	Charlie Hempel	Linda Below		Deb Storman	
		Donna Warner			Barbara Allen	
8/20/2023	Dawn Weiss	Charlie Hempel	Dawn Bartron	Dawn Bartron	Beth Werkheiser	Barbara Allen
		Donna Warner		Leanna Wickline	Barbara Allen	Leanna Wickline
8/27/2023	Barbara Allen	Linda Below	Kris Kent		Deb Storman	
		Deb Storman			Donna Warner	

If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please contact the office.

Next Week's Readings:

Hebrew 11:1-11 Faith

Psalms 145:8-9, 14-21 You open wide your hand & satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Romans 15:7-13 Please others, not yourself

James 1:1-12 Faith & Wisdom