

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

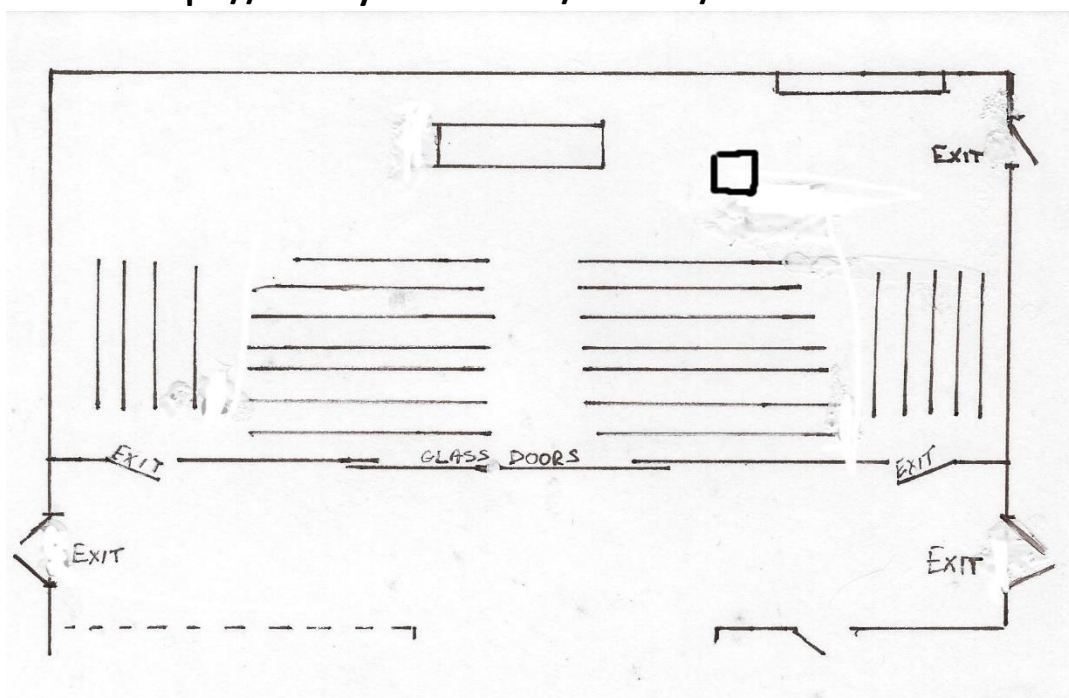
2023 Council Members

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/UCsvvR6FI09zcaiDPY174k5A>



Worship Service

Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 29, 2023

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes

Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

***Confession**

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

***Absolution**

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with one another.

Please stay in your pew area and show a sign of peace and greeting with one another.

***Hymn**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW (Red Book) # 505

1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing turns to
3 Though all the world with dev - ils fill and threat - en to de -
4 God's Word shall stand a - bove the pow'rs, shall end all their thanks-

fail - ing; our help - er frees us from the flood of
los - ing; the righ - teous one fights by our side, the
vour us, we trem - ble not, we trust God's will: they
giv - ing. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,
one of God's own choos - ing. You ask who this may be:
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Though Sa - tan rant and rage,
God with us is liv - ing. Let goods and kin - dred go,

for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might
Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;
this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,

for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
 in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;
 this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,

is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no e - qual.
 No oth - er God we claim! None else can win the batt - le.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word shall tri - umph.
 they yet have noth - ing won. The king - dom's our for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1805–1890, alt.
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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***Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

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

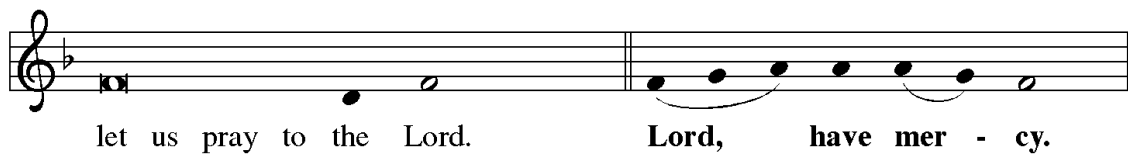
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

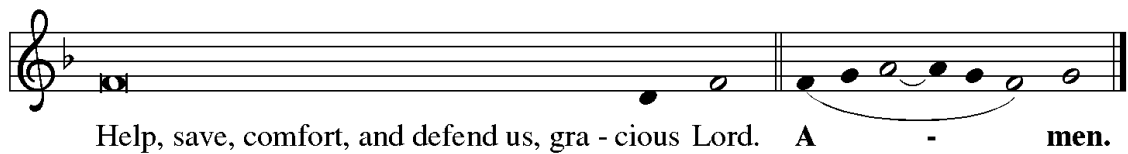
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



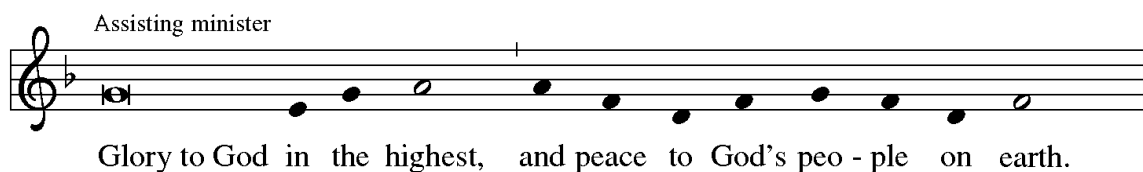
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

*Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister

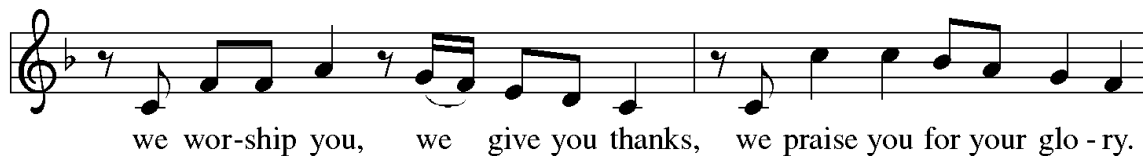


Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

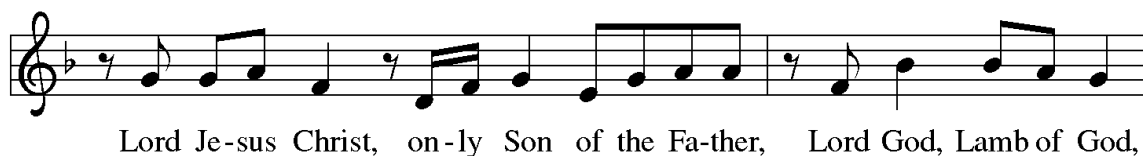
All



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.



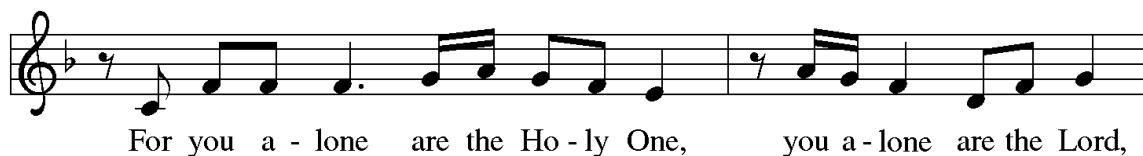
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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 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.

***Prayer of the Day (Lector)**

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹ “Look, the days are coming” — this is the Lord’s declaration — “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³² This one will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt — my covenant that they broke even though I am their master” — the Lord’s declaration. ³³ “Instead, this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days” — the Lord’s declaration. “I will put my teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will one teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they will all know me, from the least to the greatest of them” — this is the Lord’s declaration. “For I will forgive their iniquity and never again remember their sin.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble.

² **Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth trembles and the mountains topple into the depths of the seas,**

³ though its water roars and foams and the mountains quake with its turmoil. Selah

⁴ **There is a river - its streams delight the city of God, the holy dwelling place of the Most High.**

⁵ God is within her; she will not be toppled. God will help her when the morning dawns.

⁶ Nations rage, kingdoms topple; the earth melts when he lifts his voice.

⁷ The Lord of Armies is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah

⁸ Come, see the works of the Lord, who brings devastation on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease throughout the earth. He shatters bows and cuts spears to pieces; he sets wagons ablaze.

¹⁰ "Stop fighting, and know that I am God, exalted among the nations, exalted on the earth."

¹¹ The Lord of Armies is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are subject to the law, so that every mouth may be shut and the whole world may become subject to God's judgment. ²⁰ For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. ²² The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. ²³ For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as the mercy seat by his blood, through faith, to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his restraint God passed over the sins previously committed. ²⁶ God presented him to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be just and justify the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By one of works? No, on the contrary, by a law of faith. ²⁸ For we conclude that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel. (Lector)

*Gospel Acclamation



***Gospel: John 8:31-36**

The holy gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. ³² You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³ "We are descendants of Abraham," they answered him, "and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴ Jesus responded, "Truly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

"The gospel of the Lord."

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

***The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People (Lector)

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God our parent, you call us your children and have made us siblings through your son Jesus. Heal the church's many divisions, bring understanding and peace where there has been contention and strife, and unite us in one body through the love of Christ. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our creator, your hands have made the heights of the mountains, the depths of the sea, and the life that animates all creation. Bring relief to areas harmed by wildfires, floods, storms, and human carelessness. Renew the face of the earth. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our ruler, the nations rage and the kingdoms shake, but your word stands fast forever. Let your justice and peace roll down like waters wherever there is strife, injustice, war, or religious conflict. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our champion, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Draw near to all who suffer. Be their rest and comfort. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our reformer, you make all things new. Free us from complacency, open us to unexpected ways, and kindle zeal in us for the future. We pray for young people affirming their baptism. With them, stir in us a desire for your wisdom. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our savior, you made yourself known in the lives of all who have died in the hope of your grace. We give thanks for the witness of reformers like Martin Luther and for all whose example has brought us closer to you. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

At this time, you are welcomed to share your joys and concerns, either out loud or silently. (Pause) Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

***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.

*Proper Preface

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of our ancestors, friend in our midst, your children come before you. Here is food! Here is drink! These things are yours before they are ours. Now we are making a feast, but it is a thanksgiving: God, we are thanking you. With our ancestors in faith and all the hosts of heaven, O God, we thank you and rejoice. This food—we shall eat it in your honor! This drink—we shall drink it in your honor!

We thank you for giving us life.

We thank you!

We thank you for giving us freedom.

We thank you!

We thank you for bringing us peace.

We thank you!

We thank you for the one who bore our sins upon the cross.

We thank you!

We thank you for the one who brought us over from death to life.

We thank you!

Father, send the Spirit of life, the Spirit of power and fruitfulness. With the Spirit's breath, speak your Word into these things. Give us who eat and drink the living body and the lifeblood of Jesus, our brother, life and power and fruitfulness of heart and body. Give us true communion with your Son.

***Words of Institution**

On the night of his suffering, he gave thanks for the bread that he held in his hands. This bread he shared among his followers, saying: All of you, take this, eat this; it is my body, handed over for you. Do this and remember me.

The body of Christ! Amen

Then he shared drink with them, saying: All of you, take this, drink this; it is my blood, the blood of the new covenant that begins now and lasts forever. This blood is poured out for you and for all people so that sins may be taken away. Do this and remember me.

The blood of Christ!

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 are yours, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Communion

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

***Prayer after Communion**

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

***Blessing**

The God of glory, ✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 2 Faith of our moth - ers, dar - ing faith, your work for Christ is
 3 Faith of our sis - ters, broth - ers too, who still must bear op -
 4 Faith born of God, oh, call us yet, bind us with all who

fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
 love re - vealed, spread - ing God's word from pole to pole,
 pres - sion's might, rais - ing on high, in pris - ons dark,
 fol - low you, shar - ing the strug - gle of your cross

Refrain

when-e'er we hear that glo - rious word. Faith of our fa - thers,
 mak - ing love known and free - dom real. Faith of our moth - ers,
 the cross of Christ still burn - ing bright. Faith for to - day, O
 un - til the world is made a - new. Faith born of God, O

ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.
 ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.
 liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death.
 liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, st. 1, alt; Joseph R. Alfred, b. 1947, sts. 2-4
 Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818-1888; James G. Walton, 1821-1905, refrain
 Text sts. 2-4 © Joseph R. Alfred, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*Choral Benediction



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

As you leave the sanctuary today, may you know the hope to which God has called you, experience the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and trust his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Amen.

Postlude

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

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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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; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; Captain Katy Blessings; David Brong; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; Jamie Fisher; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; John Drury; Louis Genset; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; Charlie Hemple; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Robbie Kinsley; 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; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; the family of Brenda Van Why at her passing; Catherine Wentz; 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.

Worship Leaders

Pastor is asking all worship leaders to join her in a short prayer each Sunday you are scheduled. To enable the ushers to participate, we will meet in the Narthex at 8:45am.

Reformation Sunday Joint Service

Pastor Woody has been asked by the Lutheran Church she grew up in to preach the sermon in their Community Reformation Sunday Service today. Pastor is inviting you to join her. This service is being held at Christ Lutheran Church, at 1301 Luzerne Street, Reading and will begin at 4:00pm.

Inside Out Church

Inside Out Church is held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, in the parlor. 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.

Annual Report

It is time to begin the process of creating the Annual Report which includes 11/1/2022-10/31/2023. If you were/are a committee chair during this time, or a group leader, please write your report for inclusion of the Annual Report and submit it to the office ASAP.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation November 12, 2023

As required by our Constitution, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held after worship service on Sunday, November 12, 2023. Please plan on attending this important event in the life of our congregation.

Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, November 3 and Saturday, November 4.

Donations can be brought in during church hours until noon on Wednesday, November 1.

Worship Assistant Schedule						
	Acolyte	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistants	Counters	Altar Guild
10/29/2023	Christian Kent	Charlie Hempel Donna Warner	Joan Rinker		Barbara Allen Deb Storman	
11/5/2023	Barbara Allen	Beth Reindl Carl Reindl	Bill Below	Linda Below Deb Storman	Donna Warner Barbara Allen	Deb Storman Donna Warner
11/12/2023	Emily Kresge	Linda Below Donna Warner	Linda Below		Barbara Allen Deb Storman	
11/19/2023	Deb Storman	Linda Below Deb Storman	Kris Kent	Dawn Bartron Dawn Weiss	Donna Warner Beth Werkheiser	Deb Storman Donna Warner
11/26/2023	Dawn Weiss	Beth Reindl Donna Warner	Tim Grover		Beth Werkheiser Deb Storman	

[If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please contact the office](#)

Next Week's Readings:

Micah 3:5-12 *Judgment upon corrupt rulers*

Psalms 43 Send out your light and truth, that they may lead me. (Ps. 43:3)

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 *The apostle's teaching accepted as God's word*

Matthew 23:1-12 *All who humble themselves will be exalted*