

*“Landmark of the Gospel Since 1834”*

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Our Purpose: Led by the Word of God, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family who lives and shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

November 19, 2023

10:30 AM

**Thanksgiving Service**

*After the ringing of the bell ...*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mary Anne Weibel, Organist

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved.

**Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

**we confess that we are not awake for you.**

**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

**We forget the least of our siblings.**

**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

**We are infected by sin**

**that divides your beloved community.**

**Open our hearts to your coming,**

**open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,**

**open our hands to serve your creation.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, we are God’s children,  
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us  
from the foundation of the world.

**Amen.**

HYMN

*Come, You Thankful People, Come*

*LBW #407, vs. 1-2*

**1 Come, you thankful people, come;**

**raise the song of harvest home.**

**All is safely gathered in**

**ere the winter storms begin.**

**God, our Maker, does provide**

**for our wants to be supplied.**

**Come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.**

**2 All the world is God's own field,  
fruit unto his praise to yield.  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.**

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

*Let All Things Now Living*

*LBW #557*

**1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**2 His law he enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

*Times of abundance tempt us to forget God and rely on our own power and resources. But God is the one who took Israel out of Egypt, led and fed them in the wilderness, brought them into the land, and gave them power to be productive. To thank this God is to remember and proclaim God's deeds.*

<sup>7</sup>For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, <sup>8</sup>a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, <sup>9</sup>a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. <sup>10</sup>You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

<sup>11</sup>Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. <sup>12</sup>When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, <sup>13</sup>and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup>then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, <sup>15</sup>who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, <sup>16</sup>and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. <sup>17</sup>Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." <sup>18</sup>But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

PSALM 65

*Read responsively*

p. 242-243

<sup>1</sup>You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;  
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>**To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,  
because of their transgressions.**

<sup>3</sup>Our sins are stronger than we are,  
but you will blot them out.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!  
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

<sup>5</sup>Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

<sup>6</sup>**You make fast the mountains by your power;  
they are girded about with might.**

<sup>7</sup>You still the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

<sup>8</sup>**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;  
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;  
the river of God is full of water.

<sup>10</sup>**You prepare the grain,  
for so you provide for the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

<sup>12</sup>**You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

<sup>13</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,  
and the hills be clothed with joy.

<sup>14</sup>**May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;  
let them shout for joy and sing.**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

*Christian fellowship involves sharing with those in need. Here Paul is gathering a collection for the church in Jerusalem from all the Gentile churches he helped found. We can be extravagant in our giving because God is extravagant in providing for our lives.*

<sup>6</sup>The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; <sup>12</sup>for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. <sup>13</sup>Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, <sup>14</sup>while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. <sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

#### GOSPEL VERSE

*Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.*

GOSPEL READING            Matthew 26:26-29

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

26 While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ <sup>27</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.’

#### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

#### PROCLAMATION

#### HYMN

*Praise and Thanksgiving*

*LBW #409*

**1 Praise and thanksgiving,  
Father, we offer,  
For all things living  
Created good;  
Harvest of sown fields,  
Fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields,**

blossom and wood.

**2 Bless, Lord, the labor  
We bring to serve you,  
That with our neighbor  
we may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling,  
We would work with you,  
Harvesting, milling  
For daily bread.**

**3 Father, providing  
Food for your children,  
By your wise guiding  
Teaches us share  
One with another,  
So that, rejoicing  
With us, all others  
May know your care.**

**4 Then will your blessing  
Reach every people;  
Each one confessing  
Your gracious hand.  
When you are reigning  
No one will hunger:  
Your love sustaining  
Fruitful the land.**

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 85

**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**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PEACE

OFFERTORY

pg. 96

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.  
Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.  
**Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.  
*A brief silence.*

Generous God, we thank you for the legacy and gift of the church. Make our proclamation clear, our generosity bold, and our community rich in welcome. We raise grateful hearts for the body of Christ where we find belonging. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creator of the earth, the bounty of creation reveals your abundant love. Provide safety and shelter for all wildlife. Save us from the waste of natural resources. We raise grateful hearts for the earth, our home. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, make all tribes and lands places where justice and peace is realized and celebrated. Protect any who are in the midst of conflict among nations and provide for their needs. We raise grateful hearts for civil rights and just leaders. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you see us and are moved with compassion. Attend to those who are sick or dying, surround with love all who are lonely and despairing, and comfort those in need (*especially*). We raise grateful hearts for your lovingkindness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of the welcome table, you gather people to be shaped by your word. We pray for all who notice and respond to human needs: food banks, shelters, community resource centers, foster to adopt agencies, mental health providers, veterans support groups. We raise grateful hearts for these organizations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you raise those who have died to new life in Christ. We raise grateful hearts for the lives and faithfulness of all the saints. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## BLESSING

May the God of all creation,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved,  
who strengthens us for service,  
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!  
The blessing of God,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
be with you today and always.  
**Amen.**

## HYMN

*Now Thank We All Our God*

*LBW #534, vs. 1&3*

**1 Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms,  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.**

**3 All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.**

**DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace, to **live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.***

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*Serving in mission together: Pastor Laura Cavendish and the members of St. Paul*  
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*Please take advantage of the worship stream if you are sick. Please mask if you have been closely exposed to someone with a virus. Sanitizer is available in the pews.*