

Sunday, July 27th, 2025
St. Paul Lutheran Church

THE GATHERING

Prelude

“The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)”

Praise Band

Words and music by Matt Maher, Bryan Fowler, & Jacob Sooter CCLI annual license #1124556

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Message

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: "For the Troubles and the Sufferings" ACS #1051



Pe - las do - res des - te mun - do, ó Se - nhor,
For the trou - bles and the suf - f'ings of the world,

im - plo - ra - mos pi - e - da - de. A the
God, we call up - on your mer - cy: the

um só tem - po ge - me a cri - a - ção. Teus ou -
whole cre - a - tion's la - bor - ing in pain! Lend an

vi - dos se in - cli - nem ao cla - mor des - sa
ear . . . to the ris - ing cry for help from op -

gen - te o - pri - mi - da. A - pres - sa - te com
pressed and hope - less peo - ple: Come! Has - ten your sal -

tu - a sal - va - ção. A tu - a paz,
va - tion, heal - ing love! We pray for peace,

ben - di - ta e ir - ma - na - da co'a jus -
the bless - ed peace that comes from mak - ing

ti - ça a - bra - ce o mun - do in - tei - ro.
jus - tice, to cov - er and em - brace us.

Tem com - pai - xão! O teu po - der
Have mer - cy, Lord! We pray for pow'r,

sus - ten - te o tes - te - mu - nho do teu po - vo.
the pow'r that will sus - tain your peo - ple's wit - ness:

Teu rei - no ve - nha a nos! Ky - ri - e - e - le - i - son!
un - til your king - dom comes. Ky - ri - e - e - le - i - son!

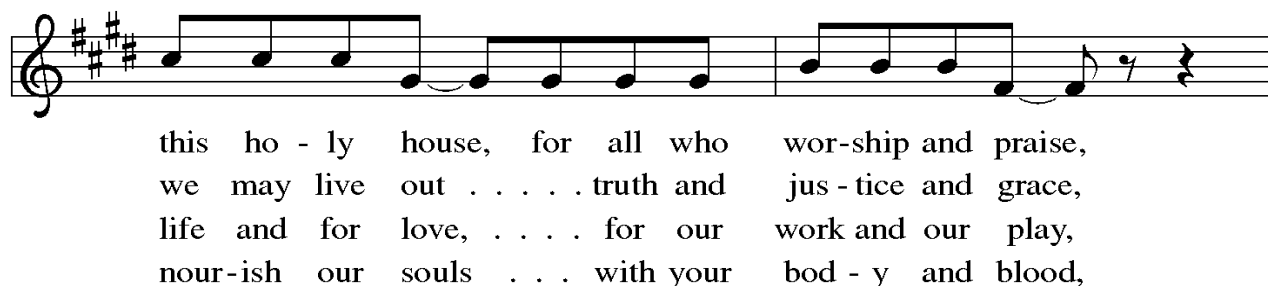
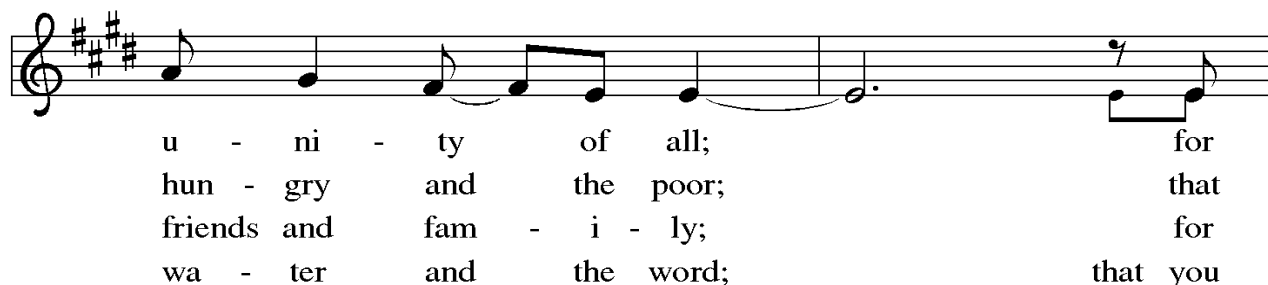
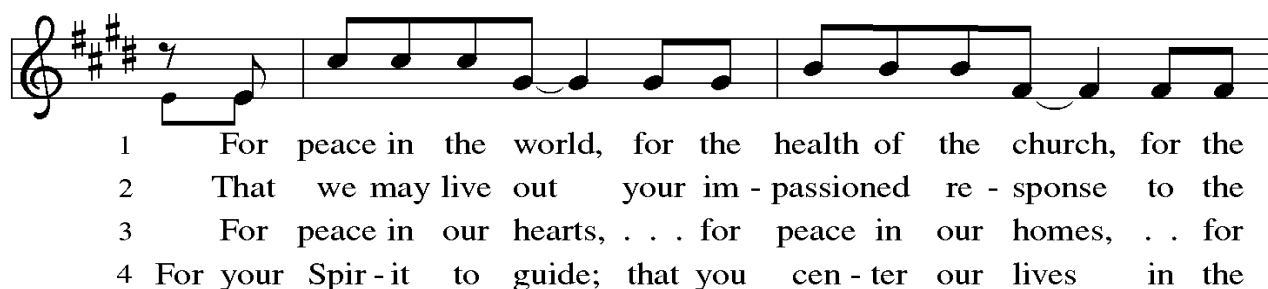
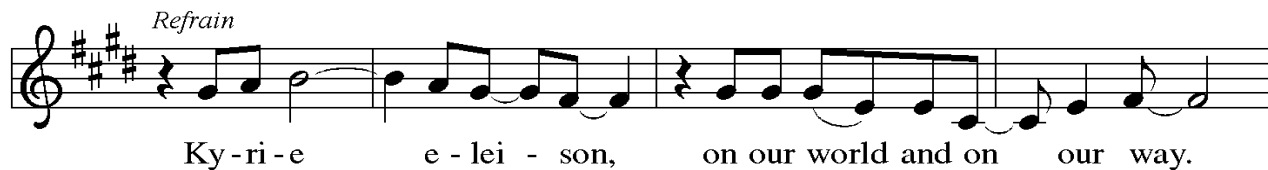
Text: Rodolfo Gaede Neto, b. 1951; tr. Simeí Monteiro, b. 1943, and Jorge Lockward, b. 1965
Music: PELAS DORES DESTE MUNDO, Rodolfo Gaede Neto
Portuguese text and music © 1998, 2004 Rodolfo Gaede Neto, admin. Augsburg Fortress
English text © 2004 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

Greeting

P: 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:



Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God,

C: you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy.

Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 18: 20-32

A: A reading from the book of Genesis

A: ²⁰Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I 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."

²²So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose 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? ²⁵Far 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?" ²⁶And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose 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." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then 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." ³¹He 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." ³²Then 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."

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 138

A: We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

A: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**C: I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

A: When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

**C: All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

A: They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

**C: The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

A: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**C: You will make good your purpose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15

A: A reading from the book of Colossians.

A: ⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

A: Word of God. Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation:



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.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 11:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 11th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be

opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit.

Song of the Day:

"His Mercy is More"

♩ = 40

VERSE

G G/B C G

1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
 (2. What) pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
 (3. What) rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His

3 D Em C D^{sus} G Am⁷ G/B

-ni-scient, all know-ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown in - to a sea with-out bot-tom or
 Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the
 blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af -

7 C G/B C G/D

1, 2. **TURNAROUND**
 D^{sus} D⁶ D^{sus} G G/B C G D Em

shore, our sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 poor. Our sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 -ford. Our sins they are man - y; His

13 C D^{sus}

3. **CHORUS**
 D^{sus} D⁶ D^{sus} G C G Em⁷ D^{sus}

2. What mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord, — His mer - cy is
 3. What

18 C G D^{sus} D D^{sus} C G D Em⁷

more. — Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. — Our

22 C G

1. D^{sus} G 2. D^{sus} G

sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more. Praise the mer - cy is more.

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The congregation is invited to be seated

Prayers of Intercession

P: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

A: Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful connection with you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. We pray especially for Larry Clayton, Barb Strom, Deb Liebzeit, Rachel McIntyre, Melissa Feit, Sonja Magnifici, Chase Flynn, Tim Stiens, and those we name aloud or in our hearts... *brief silence....* Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We give thanks for all who have gone before us. May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office by phone or email.

We Share the Peace of the Lord

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And, also with you!

Please share a sign of Christ's peace however you feel comfortable.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

MEAL

Offering

General & special offerings may be placed in the plates by the doors as we enter or depart.

*In addition to the offering that supports the ministry of St. Paul,
the children of St. Paul receive a weekly Children's Offering.*

The Children's Offering is received during worship and during Sunday school.

The July offering will support Habitat for Humanity.

We thank the children and youth for their help collecting the children's offering today

Offering Song: "Let us Talents and Tongues Employ" ELW #674



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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Please rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Creator God,

C: in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...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, 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.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which He was betrayed,...Do this for the remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
"The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you."*

And each person may respond, "Amen".

St. Paul Lutheran Church and the ELCA practice "open table" communion.

This is Christ's table; Jesus is our host.

Everyone is invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion, eating at Jesus' table.

Communion Song: "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 Song:

“Breathe”

This is the air I breathe.

This is the air I breathe.

Your holy presence living in me

And I, I'm desperate for you

And I, I'm lost without you.

This is my daily bread.

This is my daily bread.

Your very word spoken to me.

And I, I'm desperate for you

And I, I'm lost without you.

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Please rise in body or spirit

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. Mothering God,

C: you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "Go My Children with My Blessings" ELW #543



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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Postlude

"When You Walk From Here"

Praise Band

Words by Linnea Good and music by Tom Witt used with permission under One License #A-730141

Leading Worship

Musicians: Gerad VonHolten & Praise Band

Presider and Preacher: Pastor Riley

Worship Assistants: Saturday Joyce Craney Sunday Robin Colglazier

Announcements

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

August 2 (Saturday): at Immanuel

August 3: Glen Hughes

Today's Altar flowers were given by the Judith Spangler Memorial fund to the glory of God.

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, July 27:	Worship Service 10:45 am ~ Praise Band
Monday, July 28:	Prayer Team 10:00 am Book Study Group 6:00 pm
Tuesday, July 29:	Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am at St. Paul High School Great America Trip
Thursday, July 31:	Chair Yoga 11:00 am Book Study Group 11:00 am
Saturday, August 2:	Worship 5:30 pm at Immanuel
Sunday, August 3:	Worship Service 10:45 am

Out and About will meet at Culver's (1317 N Galena Ave, Dixon, IL) on
Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome!!! For more information or to arrange for a ride, call or text Beverley Eykamp at 815-677-8545. We hope you will join us!

You are invited to attend ILC Mary Circle Summer Lunch 11:30 am at Rivers Edge.



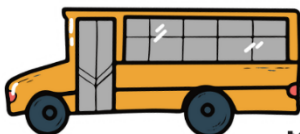
St. Paul / Immanuel will cooperate to serve the community
by working at Dixon Habitat for Humanity on

Saturday, September 6th We start at 8 am and will plan to
work until early afternoon. Lunch will be provided by us. We
need volunteers to provide a picnic type lunch, plus a small group that work on the house
throughout the week. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.

Contact Bob Gingras for any questions at 815-288-5262 or segragingras70@comcast.net



The St Paul children and youth are collecting school supplies to
make school kits for LWR. Pick up a shopping list in the gathering
area to see which items are needed. Items may be dropped off at
St Paul anytime before September 8. lwr.org/kits



BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 17 at 10:45 AM worship.

Kids & teachers/staff - bring your backpacks, computers, tablets,
lunchbox, anything you use at school that you want blessed.