

St. Paul Lutheran Church
of Stillwater, Minnesota

November 2, 2025

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost



Your presence at worship is important to God and to us!
Whether you are a first-time visitor, frequent participant,
neighbor, member, or friend, please take a moment as you
prepare for worship to share some information on the "Welcome
to Worship" card included with your bulletin. Place it in the
offering plate at the time the offering is received.

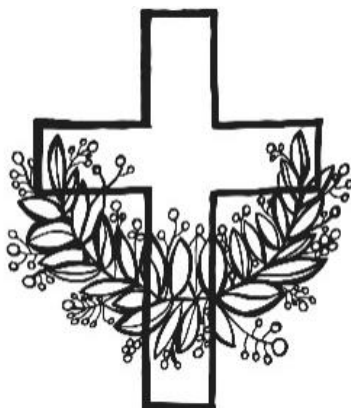
God loves us all, both big and small," a child's verse declares. The sins
of the world are covered. We are able to stand tall before God our
righteous judge because in the person of Jesus "salvation has come to
this house"—to our house

Many of our worship materials are taken from the red Evangelical
Lutheran Worship (ELW). Page numbers are located in the front half of
the book and hymn numbers are located in the back half of the book.

The assembly **speaks** or **sings** the bold responses.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



Prelude

Remembrance of All Saints

Jesus says, Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

Let us remember all the saints before God . . .

We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity. You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion. With them we praise and bless you, O holy Trinity.

Amen.

Let us remember those who have died . . .

Members of this congregation who have died in the past year:

Scott Coleman	Mark Walker	Dorie Nelson
Jerry Sharon	Marlene Ritzer	

Family, friends, co-workers and neighbors who have died in the past year:

Becky Moore, Becky Dufresne, Judy Anderson, Paul Baker,
Jeremy Green, Judy Becker, Richard Markgraf, Sister Eileen
Trinity, Holly Halvorson, Richard Watson, Lois Haase,
Mary Engler, Joan Schaffer

You are welcome to speak the names of any other loved ones.

Jesus says, Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,

and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light

And you will find rest for your souls.

Any are invited to light a candle as all sing together:

"Death Be Never Last"

1 We walk in light of count - less fac - es
2 When sor - row's heav - y hand has weight - ed
3 When joy re - turns with laugh - ter sing - ing

bright as beams of ris - ing sun, cer - tain as the
loss a - gainst the great - er gain, pin - ning down that
thanks to God for life's sweet song, let us fol - low

morn - ing chas - es night in end - less a - ges' run.
grief sore fat - ed lad - en on the bed of pain.
af - ter bring - ing thanks to God for those now gone.

Turn - ing eyes now to their shin - ing mem - 'ry, to their faith - ful past,
saints be now the truth di - vin - ing: death be now but nev - er last.

Gathering Song

ELW Hymn 422

"For All the Saints"

Verses 1, 2, 6, and 7.

Greeting

Beloved of God, called to be saints:
Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, gracious and benevolent, through your Son you invite all the world to a meal of mercy. Grant that we may eagerly follow his call, and bring us with all your saints into your life of justice and joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.



First Reading

Pew Bible: Old Testament Pages 630-631

Isaiah 1:10-18

Isaiah announces God's displeasure with the offerings and sacrifices of a people who are without compassion. He urges them instead to do justice and defend the oppressed. Indeed, if they repent, God promises that they will be made as clean as new-fallen snow.

At the conclusion:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



You are my hid - ing place, You al - ways fill my heart with
songs of de - liv - er-ance: When - ev-er I am a - fraid, I will trust in
You. I will trust in You. Let the weak say,
"I am strong in the strength of the Lord!"

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my
moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. R**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time
of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not
reach them.

⁷**You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. R**



2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

This letter attributed to Paul begins with a typical salutation, blessing, and words of praise for what God is accomplishing among the recipients. By remaining faithful and growing spiritually during hardship, the Thessalonian Christians have become witnesses to the glory of God.

At the conclusion:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's and Outreach Message

Jenny Brelje



Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia”

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus encounters Zacchaeus, a rich man who is also a lost sinner. Moved by Jesus' acceptance of him, Zacchaeus becomes a model of discipleship. In immediate response to being restored to God's people, Zacchaeus ministers to the poor and seeks reconciliation with those whom he has wronged.

The gospel is introduced:

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Sermon

Pastor Nathan Baker-Trinity

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

ELW Hymn 793

"Be Thou My Vision"

Prayers of Intercession

After each prayer:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

At the conclusion:

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



Peace

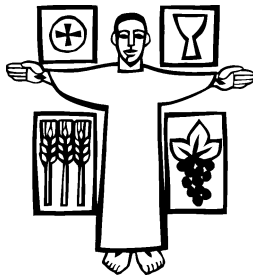
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



Offering

"For All the Saints"

Bell Choir

Our offering is a collection of money for the church's mission, including the care of those in need, as a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all God's gifts. Your offering and "Welcome to Worship" card may be placed in the offering plate. The QR code on the right may be used if you wish to give electronically.



Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

Amen.

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 our thanks and praise.

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

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God . . .

In the night in which he was betrayed . .

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command . . .

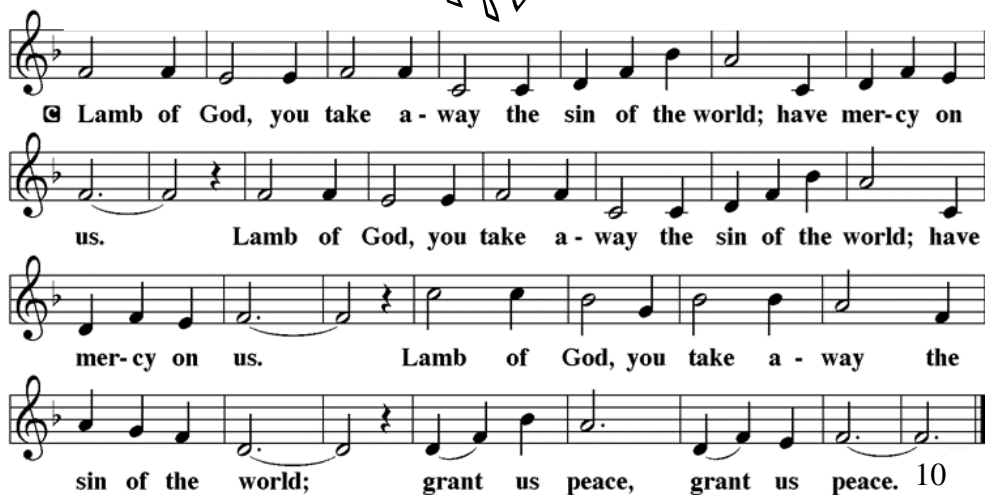
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

**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.**




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. 10

Communion

We celebrate at an open communion table. All who hear our Lord's invitation are welcome to participate. Receive the bread first with an open hand and eat immediately, followed by the juice (white) or wine (red). Gluten-free bread is available at the front end of the center aisle. Please indicate to an usher if you need to receive communion from your pew. Children who have received age-appropriate instruction are welcome to commune. If you prefer instead to receive a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your shoulders.

*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.

Communion Song

"Shall We Gather at the River"

ELW Hymn 423

Prayer After Communion

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song

ELW Hymn 427

"For All Your Saints, O Lord"

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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DAILY PRAYER

The Proper Use of Wealth

O God, in your love, you have given the people of this land gifts of abundance beyond what our forebears knew or could imagine. Mercifully grant that we may not be so occupied with material things that we forget spiritual gifts, and thus, even though we have gained the whole world, lose our souls; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE LITURGY

Charge to the Baptized

By their generosity to the poor, both the prophet Isaiah and Zacchaeus take to heart the charge to the baptized and to their sponsors in the baptism and confirmation services (see ELW pages 228 and 236). All who are called into the assembly of faith promise to “care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace,” to “strive for justice and peace in all the earth.”

CATECHISM CONNECTION

You Shall Not Covet

Perhaps rich Zacchaeus is able to give away so much because he didn't need so many possessions, evidence that he had been guilty of breaking the Ninth Commandment, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house." Martin Luther's summary mirrors Zacchaeus' transition from sin to repentance: "We are to fear and love God, so that we do not try to trick our neighbors out of their inheritance or property or try to get it for ourselves by claiming to have a legal right to it and the like, but instead be of help and service to them in keeping what is theirs."

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639

Monday, November 3, 2025

Martín was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama. As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.

John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873;

Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719;

Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionary

Friday, November 7, 2025

Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Downsizing

Have you noticed how many books there are about ways to get rid of clutter? But doesn't buying a book about decluttering only add to our possessions? Downsizing, or moving from a larger house to a smaller space, is something many people experience. Sometimes they do it willingly by making a change in their living situation as their needs change. At other times, downsizing is unexpected but necessary due to the loss of a job or the process of aging. Some people love to declutter and take their belongings to a thrift shop. Others dread going through their possessions and making decisions about what to pass along. They quickly feel overwhelmed.

From Isaiah to the psalm to Luke's gospel, today's readings center on getting rid of our sin. Not just downsizing it, but truly getting rid of it for good. Jesus invites Zacchaeus to come down from his perch in a tree. He invites himself over to the chief tax collector's home. As onlookers grumble about Jesus' choice of a dinner companion, Zacchaeus offers to give half of his possessions to the poor and pay back the people he has stolen from. Something about being near Jesus makes Zacchaeus want to change his ways. Perhaps he longs for the forgiveness and freedom that come from being made right with God. Jesus confirms that Zacchaeus is forgiven when he declares that salvation has come to his house, acknowledging that he is a "son of Abraham" (Luke 19:9).

When we open ourselves to Jesus' loving forgiveness, won through his cross and resurrection, like Zacchaeus we get to trade the title "sinner" for "child of God." Jesus gives us the forgiveness and freedom to downsize our selfish ways and upsize our service to our neighbor. That's a beautiful new way of life that can't be taught by a book on decluttering. It's a way of life and service that we joyfully share with others.