

Back to the Basics:
Rediscovering Foundational Truths for a Fruitful Faith
August 31, 2025
10:30 AM



Encouraging dedication to holiness in thought, word, and deed as followers of Christ.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4686 E. Walnut Street
Westerville, OH 43081
614-882-7601
@splcwesterville
www.splcwesterville.org

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

FAIREST LORD JESUS

arr. Eric Daub

Philip Cordell, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

SPIRIT SONG

arr. Mark Hayes

Philip Cordell, piano



GATHERING



Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

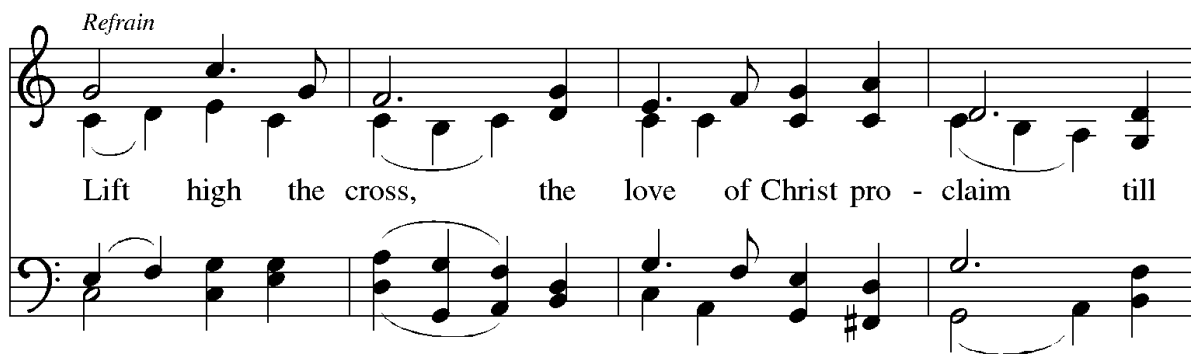
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our light and our truth. Amen.

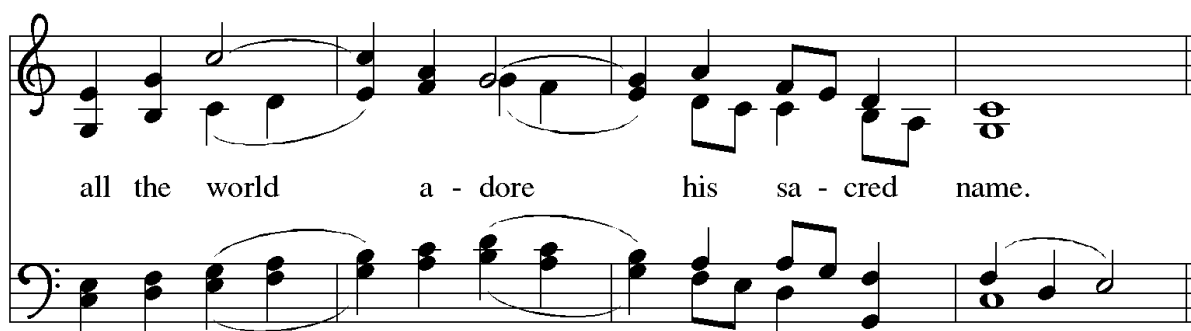
With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

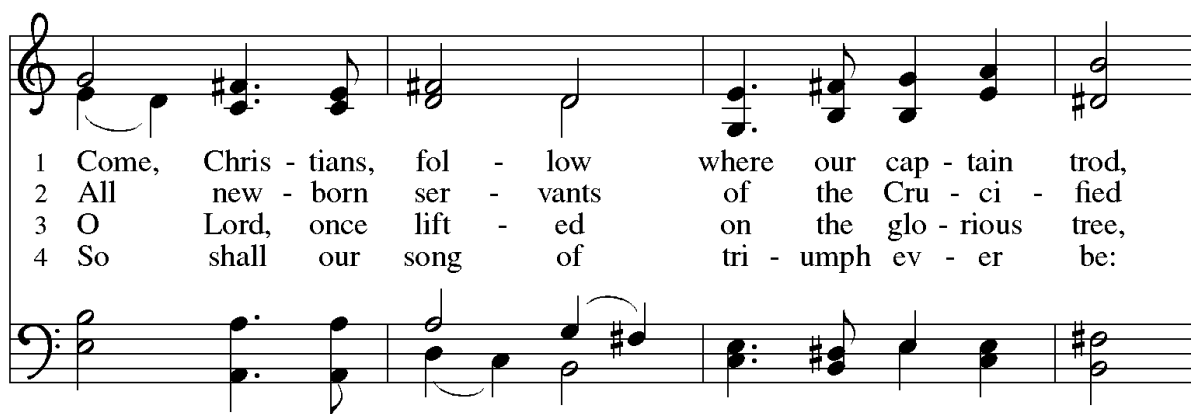
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

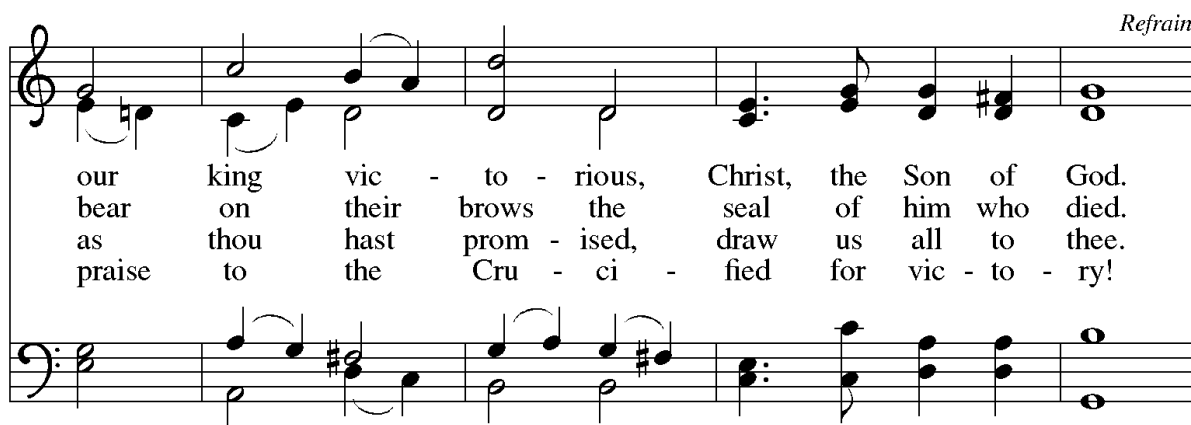


all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

continued on the next page

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

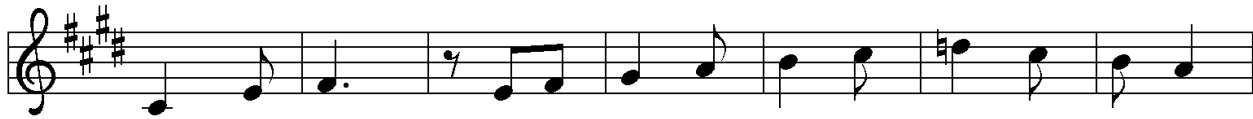
mer - cy. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



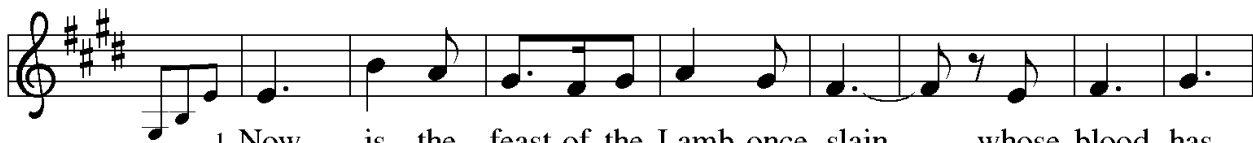
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of




God; to make all things new.

Refrain

SALUTATION

Presider: *Congregation:*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ WORD ✠ ✠ ✠

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

1 Peter 1:13-16

¹³ Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴ Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵ Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct, ¹⁶ for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

THE JESUS WAY

I follow Jesus

I follow Jesus

He wore my sin, I'll gladly wear His name

He is the treasure

He is the answer

Oh, I choose the Jesus way

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:2, 5-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

² And Jesus began to speak and taught them, saying:

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

PURSUING HOLINESS

Pastor Jonathan Bull

VOW RENEWAL

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON HYMN

YOU ARE MINE

ELW 581



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,

I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see.
heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.

(2) In the



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here.
Come and rest in me.
all will know my name.
up, now walk and live!

To stanza 2

To refrain

To refrain

To refrain



Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you home; I

To stanzas 3 and 4



love you and you are mine."

“

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' creed.

I believe in God, the 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 INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

WHEN YOU CALL

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Mary Shaner, vocals

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING SONG

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,
Creator God,
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.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

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 to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
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,
forever and ever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord
It is made ready for those who love God
and for those who want to love God more.
So come, you who have much faith
and you who have little;
You who have been here often
and you who have not been here long;
You who have tried to follow
and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

[illegible]

-
- The first staff of music is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G, an eighth note A, and an eighth note B. This is followed by a quarter note C, an eighth note D, and an eighth note E. The next measure contains a quarter note F, an eighth note G, and an eighth note A. The final measure of the staff contains a quarter note B, an eighth note C, and an eighth note D. The staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

The first staff of music is written on a five-line treble clef. It contains a sequence of notes: a quarter note on G4, an eighth note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on B4, an eighth note on A4, a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on F4, a quarter note on E4, and a half note on D4. The staff ends with a double bar line.

grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Please stand as you are able.

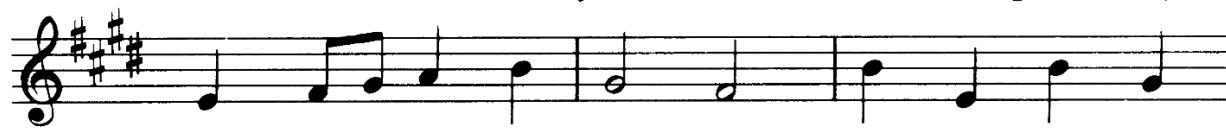
POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION HYMN



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy,
2. From of old you loved and sought us,



Thanks be to you for - ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for - ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



3. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy, Thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



Thanks be to you for - ev - er, Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

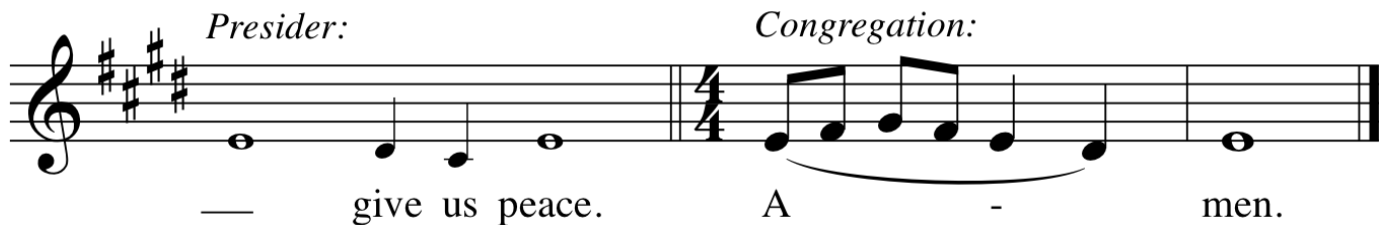
Let us pray.
Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ SENDING ✠ ✠ ✠

BLESSING

Presider: God bless and keep us.
God's face shine on us and be gracious.
God look on us with favor and ✠ give us peace.

Presider: *Congregation:*



— give us peace. A - men.



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



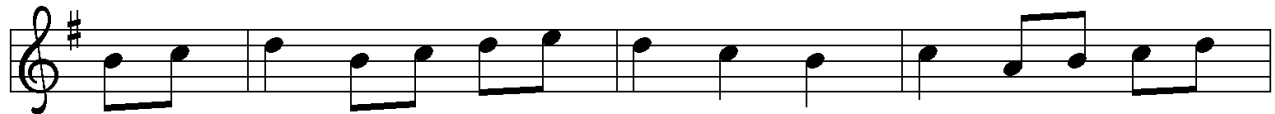
the peo - ple of our God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Follow the way of Jesus. Experience God's Love!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

arr. Mary McDonald

Philip Cordell, piano

(Livestream)

TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney

Philip Cordell, piano

*Altar Flowers are given today by Dave & Judy Castor,
in honor of their son Tim's 45th birthday, and
in memory of Dave's dad, Robert Castor.*

Prayer requests may be sent to prayer@splcwesterville.org

 **Free Concert!**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH 2025

**ST PAUL
LUTHERAN
PRAISE BAND**

**Concessions | 5:30
Concert | 6:00
SPLC Shelterhouse
Weather Permitting!**

**Freewill offering
to support the
Praise Band's
future gear &
tech upgrades!**

 **4686 E. WALNUT ST
WESTERVILLE, OH 43081**

**Questions?
zach.ruppel@splcwesterville.org**

**JOIN US!
RAIN OR SHINE**

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday, 8/31

9 AM: **Contemporary Worship**
(Shelter House)
10:30 AM: **Worship** (Sanctuary)
12 PM: **Private Event** (Nursery)
3 PM: **Grief Group** (Library)

Monday, 9/1

The Office is Closed

Wednesday, 9/3

9:30 AM: **Piece & Sew** (Lower Level)
6:30 PM: **Vocal Choir Rehearsal** (Fellowship Hall)
7:30 PM: **Praise Team Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)

Thursday, 9/4

10 AM: **Bible Study** (Library)
6 PM: **Inreach/Outreach** (Library)
6:45 PM: **Bell Choir Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)

Saturday, 9/6

4 PM: **Rally Day Set-Up** (Fellowship Hall)

PERMISSIONS

Scripture passages are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All Rights reserved worldwide.

Worship Texts are portions from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in American and sundayandseasons.com; © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress. Permission is granted to reproduce this material for non-sale, local use, provided that this copyright notice is included.

Now the Feast and Celebration liturgy words and Music by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-728642. All Rights Reserved. Worship Texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS007380. Scripture readings are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Fairest Lord Jesus, arr. Eric Daub, performed by Philip Cordell, Used with Permission. *Spirit Song*, arr. Mark Hayes, performed by Philip Cordell, Used with Permission. *Lift High the Cross*, Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-728642. All rights reserved.; Permission to podcast/stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-728642. All rights reserved. *The Jesus Way*, by Jonathan Smith & Phil Wickham, © Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs, Used by Permission. CCLI License #1804144, Streaming License #20106325. *You Are Mine*, Text and music © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-728642. All rights reserved.; Permission to podcast/stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-728642. All rights reserved. *When You Call*, by Ruth Elaine Schram, performed by Mary Shaner, Used with Permission. *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*, Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, admin. International Liturgy Publications.; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-728642. All rights reserved.; Permission to podcast/stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-728642. All rights reserved. *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*, Music Public Domain, Text © 1964 World Library Publications. 3708 River Road, Suite 400. Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. www.wlpmusic.com. All rights reserved.; Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-728642. All rights reserved.; Permission to podcast/stream this music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-728642. All rights reserved. *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*, arr. Mary McDonald, performed by Philip Cordell, Used with Permission. *Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*, arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney, performed by Philip Cordell, Used with Permission.

As we cultivate welcoming communities of faith with our neighbors and world, we strive for a world where everyone **"Experiences God's Love"**.

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion at every service. We welcome you to join us at the table of the Lord. Our Communion Bread is gluten, peanut, tree nut, soy, and dairy-free. **White grape juice is always available in the center of the tray.** All are welcome.

NURSERY

The nursery is located at the top of the ramp of the main entrance to the church. Currently, the nursery is not staffed, however, it is available for you to use with your child. Also, for our young worshippers, please find **Worship Wonder Bags** on the small coat rack in the rear of the sanctuary, untie, and enjoy. After worship, please put the **UNTIED bag back** on the rack to be replenished and cleaned.

Online giving to St. Paul is available: Using your mobile device, scan below or Text **SPLCGIVE** to **73256**.

CONTACTS

Pastor Jonathan Bull, 614-886-5364,
jon.bull@splcwesterville.org

Pastor Gary Grieger, 989-350-8411,
gary.grieger@splcwesterville.org

Karla Kruse, 614-882-7601,
karla.kruse@splcwesterville.org

Amy Drake, 614-882-7601,
amy.drake@splcwesterville.org

Prayer requests may be sent to
prayer@splcwesterville.org

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Closed for lunch: 12 pm – 1 pm

MUSIC STAFF

Karla Kruse, Director of Music Ministries
Judy McLeod, Handbell Director
Zach Ruppel, Director of Contemporary Music
Philip Cordell, Organist
Susan Treer, Contemporary Keyboardist

Please contact us if you have any questions. Check out the web site for more information. St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

