

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 14, 2025  
9 AM



*The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.*

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
4686 E. Walnut Street  
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@splcwesterville  
[www.splcwesterville.org](http://www.splcwesterville.org)

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

FRIEND OF GOD

*St. Paul Praise Team*

by Israel Houghton &

Michael Gungor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



# GATHERING



*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,  
**we are your stiff-necked people.**  
**We trample on the needy.**  
**We grumble about your grace to others.**  
**We turn away from the poor.**  
**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**  
**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost**  
**and have been found.**

**Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.  
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.  
You who were lost have been found.  
In the name of ✙ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**Amen.**

## WELCOME SONG

## GIVEN AND SHED FOR YOU

Out of the grainfield into the bak'ry, given and shed for you.  
Bread of the promise never forsake me; nourish a hungry world.  
It's the same grain; it's the same body, given and shed for you.  
It's the same grain; it's the same body, given and shed for you.

Out of the storm cloud, into the well, it's given and shed for you.  
Wine of the promise, freely beheld, we nourish a thirsty world.  
It's the same rain, it's the same water, given and shed for you.  
It's the same rain, it's the same water, given and shed for you.

Out of the book and into the heart, it's given and shed for you.  
Word of the promise freely impart and nourish a dying world.  
It's the same name, it's the same Savior, given and shed for you.  
It's the same name, it's the same Savior, given and shed for you.

Fresh from the water, fresh from the table, given and shed for you.  
Fresh from the Word, I'll serve as I'm able, given and shed for you.  
In the same name, with the same power, given and shed for you.  
In the same name, with the same power, given and shed for you.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

✠ ✠ ✠ WORD ✠ ✠ ✠

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING**

**Exodus 32:7-14**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup> they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " <sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup> Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " <sup>14</sup> And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, 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 holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, o Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Jonathan Bull**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **SERMON SONG**

## **CHILDREN OF GOD**

Praise to the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
Our God and our King, to Him we will sing;  
In His great mercy He has given us life.  
Now we can be called the children of God.

Great is the love that the Father has given us.  
He has delivered us. He has delivered us.

Children of God, sing your song and rejoice,  
For the love that He has given us all.  
Oh, children of God, by the blood of His Son  
We have been redeemed and we can be called  
The children of God, the children of God.

**WOMEN:**

We are the saints. We are the children.  
We've been redeemed. We've been forgiven.  
We are the sons and daughters of our God. *(all repeat)*

Children of God, sing your song and rejoice,  
For the love that He has given us all.  
Oh, children of God, by the blood of His Son  
We have been redeemed and we can be called. *(repeat)*

We are the saints. We are the children.  
We've been redeemed. We've been forgiven.  
We are the sons and daughters of our God.

## APOSTLES' CREED

*With the whole church, let us confess our faith.*

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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**



Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain especially those we name silently or spoken. Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

*Please be seated.*

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERING SONG**

**AS THE DEER with FAIREST LORD JESUS**

by Martin Nystrom

*Zach Ruppel, piano*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,

but on you, who richly provides for us.

Multiply what we have gathered

to bless all who are suffering and in need,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

✠ ✠ ✠ MEAL ✠ ✠ ✠

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.

## 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.**

## COMMUNION SONG

## EAT THIS BREAD

### REFRAIN

Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst. *(repeat first and last time only)*

Leader:

I am the bread of life, the true bread sent from the Father. *(refrain)*

Leader:

Eat my flesh and drink my blood, and I will raise you up on the last day. *(refrain)*

Leader:

Anyone who eats this bread, will live forever. *(refrain)*

*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 PRAYER

Let us pray.  
O God,  
through this meal you have strengthened us  
and appointed us to be your servants.  
Send us to do good and to share our possessions  
with all in need.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

## DO LORD

### CHORUS

Do, Lord, oh, do, Lord, oh, do remember me,  
Do, Lord, oh, do, Lord, oh, do remember me;  
Do, Lord, oh, do, Lord, oh, do remember me,  
'Way beyond the blue.

I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun,  
I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun,  
I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun,  
'Way beyond the blue. (*chorus*)

I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,  
I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,  
I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too,  
'Way beyond the blue. (*chorus 2x*)

### DISMISSAL

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

### POSTLUDE

### EVERLASTING GOD

by Ken Riley & Brenton Brown

*St. Paul Praise Team*

*Altar Flowers are given today by Faith Kappeler McCafferty in memory of Shirley Kappeler.*

Prayer requests may be sent to [prayer@splcwesterville.org](mailto:prayer@splcwesterville.org)



**Free Concert!**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:zach.ruppel@splcwesterville.org)

## **JOIN US!**

## **RAIN OR SHINE**

## This Week's Activities at St. Paul

### Sunday, 9/14

- 9 AM: **Contemporary Worship** (Sanctuary)
- 9 AM: **Adult Form** (Lower Level)
- 9 AM: **Journeying with Jesus** (Lower level)
- 9 AM: **Harold Kruse Memorial Book Event**  
(Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 AM: **Discussions in Today's World**  
(Library)
- 10:30 AM: **Worship** (Sanctuary)
- 4 PM: **Healthy Body & Healthy Mind**  
(Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 PM: **Concessions for Concert** (Shelter House)
- 6 PM: **Praise Band Concert** (Shelter House)

### Monday, 9/15

- 3 PM: **Music Lessons** (Nursery)
- 5:30 PM: **Yoga** (Fellowship Hall)

### Tuesday, 9/16

- 11 AM: **Seniors – Utica Outing**
- 12 PM: **Lunch Bunch** (Shelter House)
- 6 PM: **Ladies Night Out** (Rusty Bucket, Polaris)

### Wednesday, 9/17

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

### Thursday, 9/18

- 10 AM: **Pastor's Bible Study** (Library)
- 6:45 PM: **Bell Choir Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)
- 7 PM: **Pastor's Bible Study** (Library)

## PERMISSIONS

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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

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Prayer requests may be sent to  
[prayer@splcwesterville.org](mailto: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.

