

# *Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost*

## *Sunday, October 13, 2024*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
215 N. Warren St.  
Orwigsburg, PA  
570-366-2316  
[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

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### GATHERING

**PRELUDE** "Now Thank We All Our God" J. S. Bach

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the One who is faithful.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin holds us in its grasp.**  
**We have not protected your good creation.**  
**We have failed to do justice, love kindness,**  
**and walk humbly with you.**

**Turn us in a new direction and lead us to new and abundant life.**  
**Be our refuge and strength, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

Believe and trust in God. Take comfort in God's amazing grace.  
Know that for the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"  
[See back of bulletin]

### **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



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase our faith, that, letting go of what lies behind we may eagerly strive for what lies ahead. Guide us to follow your commandments each day and grant us the joy of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

### A READING FROM AMOS

- <sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD and live,  
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.
- <sup>7</sup>Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,  
and bring righteousness to the ground!
- <sup>10</sup>They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.
- <sup>11</sup>Therefore because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.
- <sup>12</sup>For I know how many are your transgressions,  
and how great are your sins—  
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate.
- <sup>13</sup>Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;  
for it is an evil time.
- <sup>14</sup>Seek good and not evil,  
that you may live;  
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,  
just as you have said.
- <sup>15</sup>Hate evil and love good,  
and establish justice in the gate;  
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. (Amos 5:6-7, 10-15)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 90: 12-17 (Read responsively)**

- <sup>12</sup>So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
- <sup>13</sup>**Turn, O LORD! How long?**  
**Have compassion on your servants!**
- <sup>14</sup>Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**<sup>15</sup>Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,  
and as many years as we have seen evil.**

**<sup>16</sup>Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.**

**<sup>17</sup>Let the favor of the LORD our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands —  
O prosper the work of our hands!**

## **A READING FROM HEBREWS**

<sup>12</sup>Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup>And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

<sup>14</sup>Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:12-16)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **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.

## **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>18</sup>Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’ ” <sup>20</sup>He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then

come, follow me.”<sup>22</sup>When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup>Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”<sup>24</sup>And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!<sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”<sup>26</sup>They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?”<sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

<sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”<sup>29</sup>Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,<sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.<sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

(Mark 10:17-31)

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

[See back of bulletin]

### **BLESSING AND SENDING OF GIFTS (10:30 AM)**

Today, we thank God and seek His blessing as we give our annual Harvest Home offering.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. With all creation we lift our voices in praise and thank you for the many blessings you have given us.

Bless those who oversee the Orwigsburg Food Pantry and all who volunteer their time and effort to help them. Bless everyone who contributes to our Food Pantry, especially those who provided food or donations for our Harvest Home offering.

Bless the food and our donations which we have gathered to help our neighbors in need. May those who receive these gifts know they are not forgotten, but that they are valued and loved.

Let us pray. Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ, you have shown your boundless love to the world, so that all people might live abundantly and share in the promise of eternal life.

Renew our commitment to generously share all your gifts with those in need, and daily remind us that we are rich beyond measure, through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)**

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.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful God, give hope and courage to all who have been battered by the wind and nearly drowned by floods. Help them to endure and persevere, for you are our refuge and strength. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, as harvest time approaches, we pray for farmers, field workers, and those who process crops. Keep us aware of environmental threats to the food that nourishes the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of faithfulness, inspire world leaders to share resources and work together to end poverty, hunger, and disease. Guide us to seek justice and equity so that all may live in peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for those who are suffering, grieving, oppressed, and lonely. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list, and for all whose suffering is known only to you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of truth, too often we are deceived by the devil who is a liar and the father of lies. Teach us to listen for your voice and help us to follow in your path. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ever-living God, we rejoice in the promise of eternal life given to us by Jesus' death and resurrection. We give thanks for saints of all times who inspire us to live faithfully. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*(The Pastor concludes):* Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

## PEACE


The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY (8 AM)** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" E. Diemer

**ANTHEM (10:30 AM)** "For Beauty of Meadows" H. Hopson

**OFFERTORY HYMN** "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord"



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### SANCTUS

☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.



We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

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.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

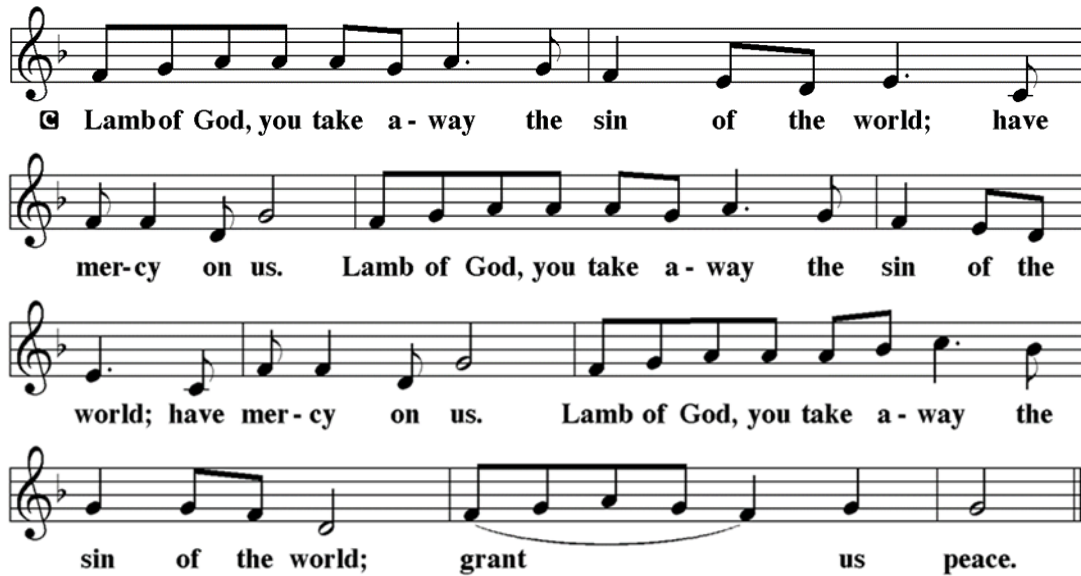
*All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it.*

*If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.*

*Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.*

*Communion is shared with those seated on the pulpit side and then with those seated on the lectern side.*

## AGNUS DEI



☩ 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.

## COMMUNION HYMN “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” [See back of bulletin]

### TABLE BLESSING

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

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

### SENDING HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God” [See back of bulletin]

### THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Give Thanks Unto God”

F. Ritter

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**Introduction to the day:** A rich man asks Jesus how he can inherit eternal life. He is sincere in his question. The Gospel of Mark mentions that Jesus looked at him with love. Jesus, out of love, tells him to sell everything he owns and give the money to the poor. This is not a judgment but an invitation to a fuller life. While our culture often tells us that consuming more and more will make us happy, Jesus teaches us that true life comes from giving to others.

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**Altar flowers** are presented in honor of our wedding anniversary by Barry and Dana Jenkins.

**Bulletins** are presented in memory of Dr. Michael Lado Sr. by Michael and Elinda Lado.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S**

Sunday, October 13	“HARVEST HOME” and “SECOND SUNDAY”
	8:00 AM      Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM      Adult Forum and Youth Sunday School
	9:00-10:15 AM      Second Sunday Snacks and Fellowship
	10:30 AM      Worship with Holy Communion
	Children’s Sunday School
Monday, October 14	COLUMBUS DAY / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
	Our Church Office is closed.
	7:00 PM      Council
Tuesday, October 15	6:00 PM      Service Ministry
Wednesday, October 16	6:00 PM      Bell Choir
	7:00 PM      Chancel Choir
Thursday, October 17	6:30 PM      Men of St. Paul’s
Friday, October 18	10:00 AM      STiC Walk in Auburn
Saturday, October 19	5:30 PM      Worship
Sunday, October 20	30 <sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION SERVICE
	9:30 AM      Worship with Holy Communion

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**ALTAR GUILD ALERT!**

We will be meeting to “clean and shine” our communion sets, candlesticks, and other items at 9AM tomorrow Monday, October 14, 2024. Please join us!

**SERVING TODAY (10/13/24)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Amy Dewald  
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Deb Bolinsky; LECTOR: Eric Eger  
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Greg Sklar  
ALTAR GUILD: Hope Clarke and Madelyn Knecht  
COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle and Diane Brobst

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (10/20/24)**

**9:30 AM**

GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Karen Travor; LECTOR: Deb O'Connor  
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Pat Kunkle  
ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel  
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

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**LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?**

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God!

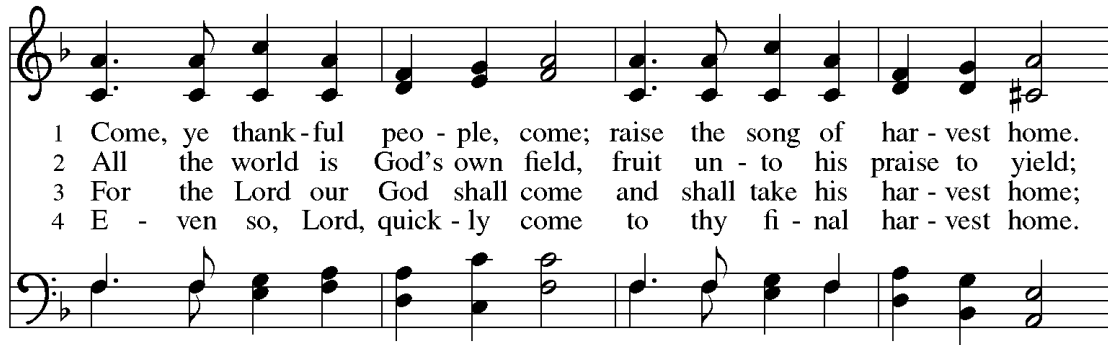
**REMEMBRANCE TABLE**

St. Paul's will have a "Remembrance Table" honoring our loved ones who have passed away this year during our services on Saturday, November 2, and Sunday, November 3. Please bring your pictures of family and friends who have previously found their eternal home to the church gathering room by Friday, November 1.

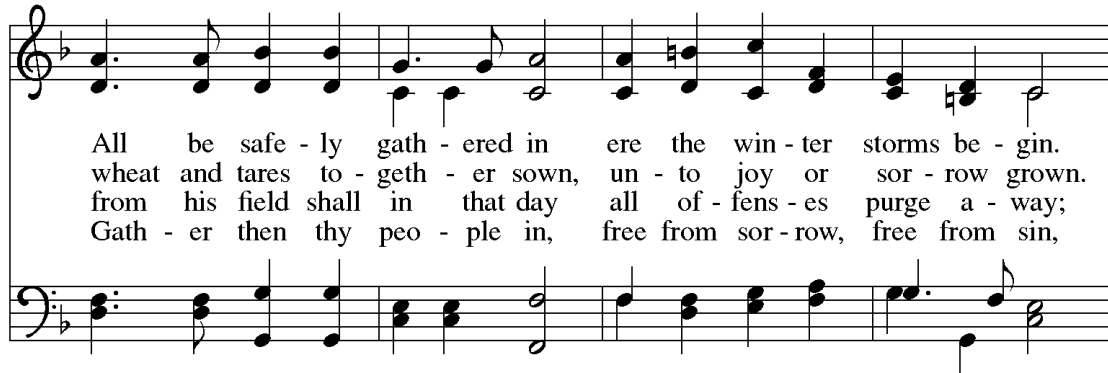
**EVANGELISM: UPCOMING EVENTS**

The Evangelism Committee will participate in the Orwigsburg Halloween Parade at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 23 and our Trick-or-Treat Night on Monday, October 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. They will meet on Monday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m. to fill candy bags and prepare for these events. New members are invited to attend!

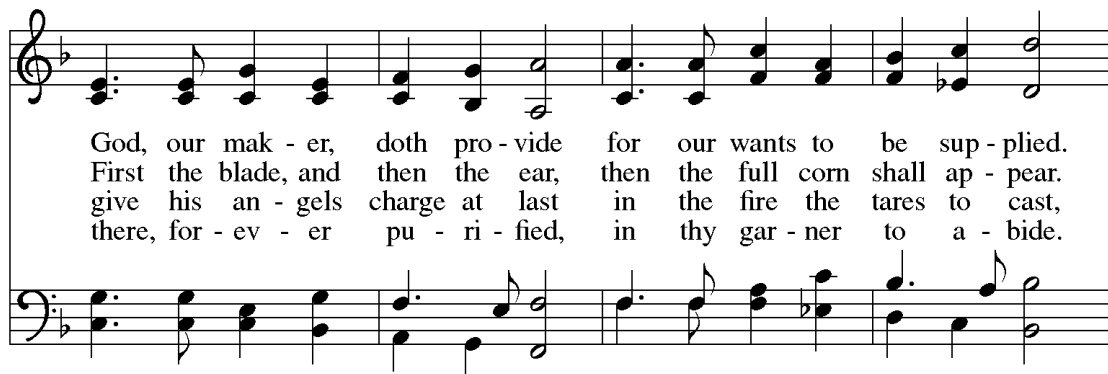
## GATHERING HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"



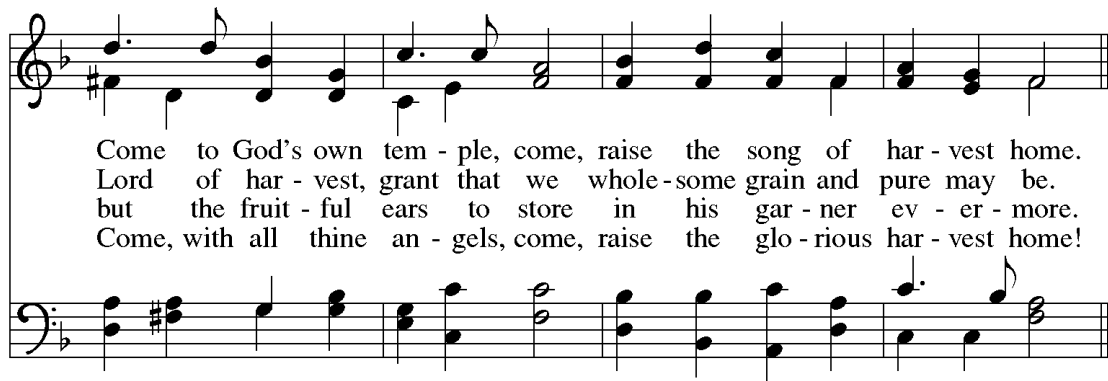
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;  
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;  
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;  
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.

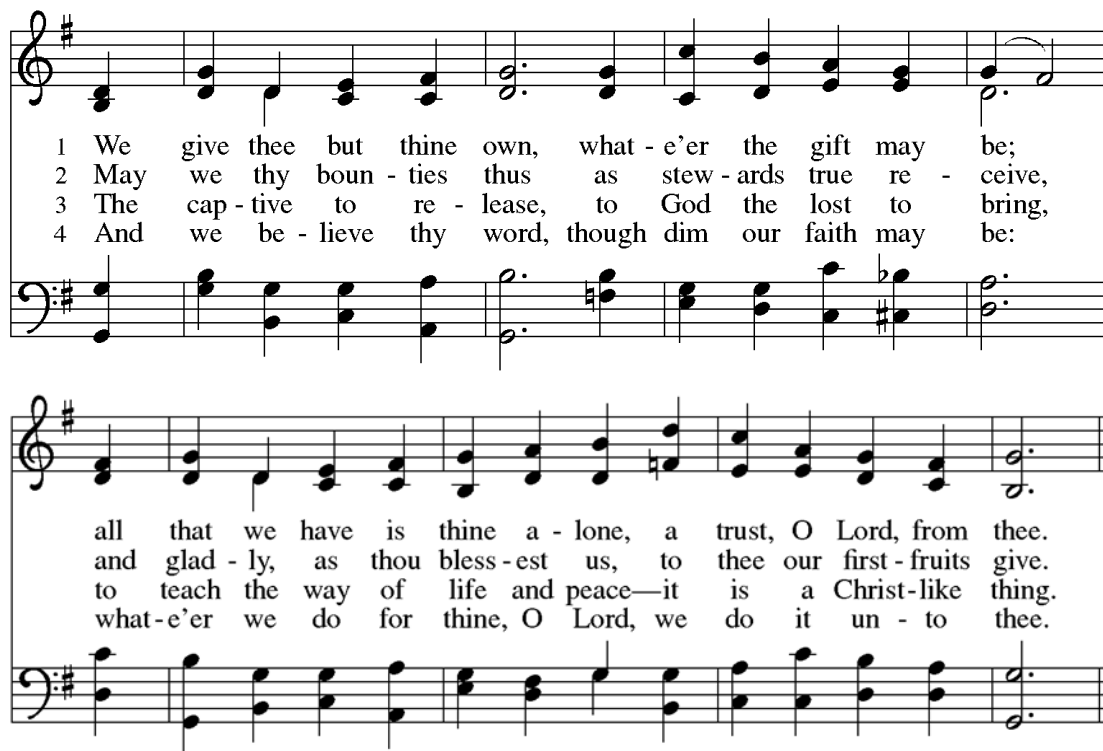


Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.  
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.  
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.  
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

## CHILI & SOUP SALE

The Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup Sale on Saturday, November 2, beginning at 8:30 a.m. "on the square" in Orwigsburg. Come early for the best selection of chilis, tasty soups, and homemade baked goods. Please mark your calendars!

## HYMN OF THE DAY “We Give Thee but Thine Own”



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

### SECOND SUNDAY SNACKS AND FELLOWSHIP

Every Second Sunday through the month of May there will be refreshments and coffee from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. Individuals, families, or groups can host by bringing simple finger foods and juice to share. All paper goods and coffee will be provided by the church. A sign-up sheet is in the gathering room. Please contact Jessica Swick with questions at 936-648-6809 or [jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org](mailto:jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org).

### HURRICANE DISASTER RELIEF

If you would like to donate to help the thousands whose homes and businesses were devastated by hurricanes and torrential flooding, you can do so through our Lutheran Disaster Response. Please send your check to our congregation with a memo line which reads “LDR - Hurricane Response.” Please note that 100% of the money which you donate will go help those in need.

### CHANGE TO REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Just a reminder that next Sunday, October 20, there will only be one Sunday worship service at 9:30 AM. Let us celebrate Pastor Mike’s long and faithful service as pastor and give thanks to God for all the faithful men and women called to shepherd His sheep.

# COMMUNION HYMN “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

*Refrain*

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.

## “SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will take place TODAY! Children ages 1 through 6 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Young people aged 7 through 12 are invited to a youth group with Bible study and activities from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. (Parents are invited to stay and enjoy fellowship time with snacks and coffee while their children are in class.)


Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) [swoodring86@hotmail.com](mailto:swoodring86@hotmail.com).

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<b>Reverend Michael T. Petresky</b>	<b>570-366-2316 - Ext 11</b>	<b><a href="mailto:pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org">pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org</a></b>
<b>Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director</b>	<b>570-573-4076</b>	<b><a href="mailto:justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org">justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org</a></b>
<b>Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff</b>	<b>570-366-2316</b>	<b><a href="mailto:office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org">office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org</a></b>
<b>Carl Heintzelman, Sexton</b>	<b>484-408-5152</b>	<b>No Email</b>
<b>Karen Tavor, Treasurer</b>	<b>610-507-2797</b>	<b><a href="mailto:karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org">karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org</a></b>
<b>Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary</b>	<b>570-617-9617</b>	<b><a href="mailto:cwlutsey@gmail.com">cwlutsey@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager</b>	<b>936-648-6809</b>	<b><a href="mailto:jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org">jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org</a></b>

# SENDING HYMN

## “Now Thank We All Our God”




1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

### WHERE ARE OUR OFFERING PLATES?

Our offering plate is in the back of the church near the center aisle. If you would like to give an offering and have not already done so, please place your offering in the plate before worship begins or as you leave the church.