16th Sunday after Pentecost



In-Person/Live Service
September 12, 2021

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church 16th Sunday After Pentecost September 12, 2021



Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.

MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:

For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.
- C Amen
- P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
- God, you made me, you know me better than I know myself, and you love me more than I can imagine. You watch over me everyday. You see me when I'm not at my best, when I struggle to love myself, or others, or You. For Jesus' sake, forgive me. Help me see myself as you see me. With eyes of love, patience, kindness, and mercy. Amen.
- People of God, God knows our struggle and feels our hurts. In love, we have been given the gift of grace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Hear this good news! The Kingdom of God has come near. You are forgiven. You are beloved. You are saved. Christ has undone all the things that would divide us from the Love of God. Let go of your fear, guilt, and shame. Know that God loves you and will always love you.

C Amen

"Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said



- 1 "Take up your cross," the Sav ior said, "if you would my dis ci ple be;
- 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight per-vade your soul with vain a larm;
- 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your fool-ish heart re bel;
- 4 Take up your cross and fol-low Christ, nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day, and hum-bly fol - low af - ter me." his strength shall bear your spir - it up, sus-tain your heart, and nerve your arm. for you the Lord en - dured the cross to save your soul from death and hell. for on - ly those who bear the cross may hope to wear a gold-en crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.

Music: NUN LASST UNS DEN LEIB BEGRABEN, G. Rhau, Newe deudsche geistliche Gesenge, 1544

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

- P O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

- A The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-9 (read responsively)

I will walk in the presence of the LORD. (Ps. 116:9)

- A I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,
- C for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.
- A The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.
- C Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- A Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.
- C The LORD watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.
- A Turn again to your rest, O my soul, for the LORD has dealt well with you.
- C For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;
- A I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.
- A The Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

- P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the Eighth Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

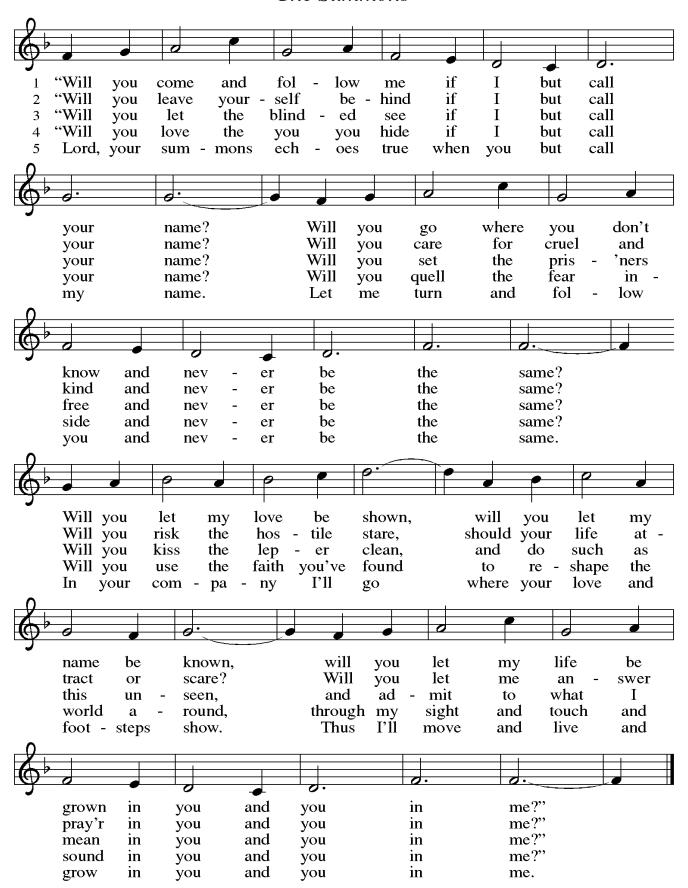
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner

Hymn of the Day: ELW 798 (on the following page)

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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Apostles' Creed

- A Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:
- C 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 the Church

A Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared. Lord, in your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- A Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters. Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Today we also remember all those who died on 9/11 twenty years ago. Continue to surround their families with your presence and healing in their grief. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked. We

pray especially for the people on our prayer list, and those we name either silently or aloud Lord, in your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- A Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace. Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen

Offering, Music, and Offertory Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- In-Person Worship: Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- Giving by Mail: If you are not be able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's to the church office 4007 Main St., Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/
- P Let us pray.
- God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence and your love. Amen

Dialogue and Preface

- 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 and proper 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 speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

- P In the night in which he was handed over, 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

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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread, take the wine and return to your seat via the side aisle. *Or remain in your seat and use the elements you picked up on the way into church. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Communion Blessing

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

Prayer After Communion

- P Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C Amen.

Closing Hymn: WOV 651 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P May you be unleashed, unleashed into the world, as we go in peace and serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

Shine, Jesus, Shine

V1: Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me
Shine on me.

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word, Lord
And let there be light.

V2: Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me
Shine on me.

Refrain

V3: As we gaze on Your kingly brightness.
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me
Shine on me.

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 12-19, 2021

TODAY: 9:00-11:30 am: Daily Bread Food Truck: Pastries with Emilie

9:30-9:45 am: Falling Upward outdoor service

10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion

10:00 am: Sunday School begins

11:00 am: Craig Maefs' Afghanistan Presentation

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

1:00 pm: Opening Day: Buffalo Bills!!

Tuesday: 10:00 am: Bible Study Begins

7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting

Thursday: 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

7:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety Too Meeting

Friday: 6:00 pm: Rehearsal Rock and Houle Wedding

Saturday: 2:00 pm: Wedding of Christine Rock and Brandon Houle Sunday: 9:00-11:30 am: Daily Bread Food Truck: Pastries with Emilie

9:00 am: New Missionary Meeting

9:30-9:45 am: Falling Upward outdoor service

10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion 10:00 am: Sunday School and Blessing of Backpacks

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 65 Offering: \$8,003.00

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Marion Alexander: Tennyson Court, #127 in Memory Care Unit, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Chad Israel and Hayley Israel

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Diane Siegel: 636 Evergreen Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Larry Woodward: GreenFields, 5949 Broadway, Room C119, Lancaster, NY 14086

We offer our prayers and condolences to the Mols family in the passing of Grace Mols.

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Ira Striejewske; Thomas Maier

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Reservations are not required. With the increase of the Covid variant in our area, we are asking everyone to wear a face mask until they are seated and distanced in church. If you are singing, please make sure you have a face mask on. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also being livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

WNY Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The September Pantry hours are: Thursday 9/16, and 9/30 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm; and Saturday 9/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for September are: canned corn, white rice, sugar, oil, and any tomato products.

Daily Bread Food Truck: The Daily Bread Food Truck will be parked outside St. Paul's on Main Street EVERY Sunday from 9:00-11:30am serving yummy coffee and pastries. The original "get one, give one" mission is back in action, so remember that for every meal purchased, one meal is given. There are many opportunities this summer to get involved, as well. We need help in the kitchen! We would love to add you to the team! Contact Katie at 716-835-0407 or email dailybread4007@gmail.com

Want to know more about the Afghanistan situation? Join Craig Maefs in the Gathering area TODAY at 11:00 am. Craig will lead a forum with information and question/answer time based on his military service in that area. Craig will focus on the following questions: Why were we there? What was the plan? What went wrong?







+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives, and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President/Secretary: Debbie Regan-Howe

Vice-President: Janell Andersen Treasurer: William Niblock Susan Epstein Matt Fricano Kathryn Francis Nick Hazlett Gerri Horton David Schunak Robert Simpson

Pastor at St. Paul's: Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell) E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

> Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Parish Administrator: Katie Basham E-mail: katie@stpaulseggertsville.org

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