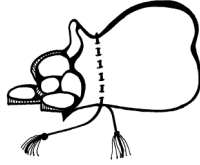


*15th Sunday
after Pentecost*



September 18, 2022

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 18, 2022



Prelude Music

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

P In this season, we worship the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sins, whose fire burns in our hearts and lives still today.

C Amen

P God of mercy and forgiveness,

C We confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

P Loved Children of God: Through the living waters of baptism, your sins are forgiven ☩ and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, so follow Him now and walk in God's abiding love!

C Amen!

Opening Hymn: WOV 776

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,
thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th–10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.
Music: SLANE, Irish tune

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 God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 113 (read responsively)

The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)

A Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

C Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.

A From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

C The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.

- A Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,
C but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?
A The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
C enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.
A The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!
A This is the Word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 16th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he

summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



Hymn of the Day: Hope in Front of Me - Solo by Michael Saxon

*I've been running through rain
That I thought would never end
Trying to make it on faith
In a struggle against the wind
I've seen the dark and the broken places, woah
But I know in my soul
No matter how bad it gets
I'll be alright*

*There's hope in front of me
There's a light, I still see it
There's a hand still holding me
Even when I don't believe it
I might be down, but I'm not dead
There's better days still up ahead
Even after all I've seen
There's hope in front of me, yeah
There's a place at the end of the storm
You finally find
Where the hurt and the tears and the pain
All fall behind
You open up your eyes and up ahead
There's a big sun shining
Right then and there you realize
You'll be alright*

*There's hope in front of me
There's a light, I still see it
There's a hand still holding me
Even when I don't believe it
I might be down, but I'm not dead
There's better days still up ahead
Even after all I've seen
There's hope in front of me, yeah
There's a hope still burning
I can feel it rising through the night
And my world's still turning
I can feel your love here by my side
You're my hope
You're the light, I still see it
Your hands are holding me
Even when I don't believe it
Woah-oh, oh!
Woah-oh, oh!
Oh, I've got to believe
Woah-oh, oh!
I've got to believe
I still have hope
You are my hope
Woah-oh, oh!*

Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith in 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 As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us
gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good
creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able)

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those
preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers,
seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of
grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your
creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide
those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Ruler of the nations, in our current world, we are overwhelmed with stories of
war between nations, mass shootings, racial and gender hatred. Turn the tides
Lord. Bless all those who are in the middle of these tragic events and use us to
dismantle this hatred and evil and replace these stories with examples of
justice, grace, and unity. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into
economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food
ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. We pray especially for the
people on our Prayer List and those we name before you either silently or
aloud. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct
us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share
generously. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

- A God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

Offering Music and 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 able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, 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.
- C 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, 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:

C 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 and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. 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 God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our 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: ELW 583 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Let us go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Take My Life, That I May Be

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad

Refrain/Estribillo

To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,

da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.

1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;

con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;

que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo

pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 18-September 25, 2022

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:30 am: Confirmation Preparation
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:30 pm: Burrito Project
7:00 pm: Cultural Diversity Meeting
- Wednesday:** 8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Alanon
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church Worship Service
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: New Missionary Meeting
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: are given for the glory of God.

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

Lee Abel: 71 Windsor Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Neal DeLeo: Bristol village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032

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

Marilyn Emerson: 364 Burroughs Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

Chad Israel and Hayley Israel

David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214

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

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

Tim Stanley: 270 Ivyhurst Circle, Amherst, NY 14226

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14031

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

Deacon Schedule: 9/18: John Schunak; 9/25: Barbara Walter

Usher Schedule: 9/18: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols; 9/25: Mimi & Scott Fierle

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Masks are now optional while you are in the building. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. 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 remaining pantry hours for September are: Thursday 9/29 from 3:00 pm-6:30 pm; and Saturday 9/24 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for September: crunchy peanut butter, canned peaches, canned pineapple, and any flavor juice.

Daily Bread Food Truck: We are in need of a Restaurant Liaison - someone to contact restaurants for donations of meals or other food supplies. Requirements - a willingness to tell the story of our mission to feed those who are experiencing food vulnerability. A connection to the food service industry is a plus but not necessary. For more information, please contact the office at 716-835-0407 or email at dailybread4007@gmail.com.

Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine: If you would like to donate, you can go to donate.lwr.org for additional information and the donation form, or mail your donation to P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. You can also call 1-800-597-5972 to make a secure credit card donation.

Resettlement Mission: If you would like to help support the AlAli family, they could use donations of Visa gift cards to help them fill in gaps for some of their material needs. Gift cards can be dropped off at the Church Office, or put in the offering plates on Sunday.



God on Tap will return beginning
Tuesday, October 4 from 7:00-8:00 pm.
Please join us as we come together for
faith, food, and fellowship.



+ 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: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: David Schunak

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Gerri Horton

*Bob Brown Susan Epstein Sara Hannon
Vanessa Solomon Robert Simpson Scott Vahue*

Pastor Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfér

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Church Office Staff: Heidi Ginal and Adrienne Leary

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

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