13th Sunday after Pentecost



September 4, 2022

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church 13th Sunday after Pentecost September 4, 2022



"God's Living Waters"

Prelude Music

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Let's take time for Confession together and hear about God's love, grace and forgiveness for us. We worship today in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 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: LBW 558



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.

Children's Time /Prayer of the Day

- P Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

First Reading: Philemon 1-21

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by Onesimus, a man who had run away from Philemon, a slaveowner and a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to Philemon and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brotherespecially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

Psalm 1 (read responsively)

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

- A Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- C Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
- A They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
- C It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- A Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- C For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.



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

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- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



Hymn of the Day: LBW 406 (on the following page)

Take My Life, That I May Be



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: Ратмоs, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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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)

We pray for the church around the world and for the mission of the gospel. Refresh the hearts of your people, deepen our understanding of every good thing we share, and strengthen our partnerships in the faith. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For the well-being of the earth and all its creatures: for trees and forests, for all that will yield fruit this season, and for streams and other bodies of water. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For the nations and those in authority: for the elected leaders of our towns, states, and country, and for international organizations. Grant wisdom to those who govern and raise up citizens who make decisions in the best interest of their neighbors. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For 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 For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care, especially the people on our Prayer List and those we name before you either silently or aloud. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For this community of faith: for all our labors—begun, continued, and ended in you—that they glorify your holy name. Bless your people with the strength to live into their many vocations for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We give thanks for the saints who now rest from their labors. Give us faith, like them, to love you with all our hearts, and by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life. 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 be 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: LBW 487 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Let us go in peace to serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 4-September 11, 2022

TODAY:	10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV 10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion 1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
Monday:	Labor Day: Church Office Closed
Wednesday: 10:00 am-12:00 pm: Comforters Meeting	
	1:00 pm: Pinocle Group
	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, Communion, and Annual Backpack Blessing
	10:00 am: Sunday School Begins
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

<u>The Altar Flowers</u>: Flowers are given in honor of Helen Gibson on her birthday from Wes and Sharon Ries.

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

We share our prayers and condolences with the family of Karen Brzycki. Prayer List: In our and extended family: Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske

Deacon Schedule: 9/4: Sara Gallagher; 9/11: Barbara WalterUsher Schedule: 9/4: Bob & Karen Brown; 9/11: Mike & Michele Degen

<u>ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

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 pantry hours for September are: Thursday 9/15 and 9/29 from 3:00 pm-6:30 pm; and Saturday 9/10 and 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 <u>dailybread4007@gmail.com</u>.

Altar Flowers: Beginning next Sunday, we will be offering you the opportunity to dedicate the Sunday service altar flowers in memory of, in honor of, or in celebration of someone in your life. Your dedication will also appear in that week's Bulletin. At the close of the service, you may take one/both of the arrangements with you. Each floral arrangement is \$18.00, and the Office will need at least a week's notice so your dedication can be added to the Bulletin. Altar Flower Order Envelopes will be available next week in the racks on the backs of the pews.

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.

Upcoming 2022 Church Directory: We will be printing a new Church Directory for 2022 based on the information contained in our current 2021 printed Church Directory. If the information contained in the 2021 printed directory is incorrect, or you prefer not to have your information printed in the 2022 Church Directory, please contact the Church Office. The new directory will be available in late September.

Returning in September



Tuesday Bible Study is Back!

Beginning Tuesday, September 13 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Room. We will be looking at the people and events that are celebrated and commemorated in the calendar of Festivals and Commemorations. These are people and events significant in the life of the Church over the centuries—some of which you may have heard of, and some which will be totally new. Join us on Tuesday mornings—bring your own beverage—Timbits will be provided!



The Comforters Meet the first Wednesday of each month, beginning Sept. 7 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Parish Hall



The Pinocle Group Meets the first Wednesday of each month, beginning Sept. 7 1:00 pm in the Gathering Area



+ 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 (716-868-1232 - cell) E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

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

Church Office Staff: Heidi Ginal and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org