

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



July 15, 2023

5:00 pm

St. Paul's Amherst Lutheran Campus

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Amherst Lutheran Campus
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 15, 2023*

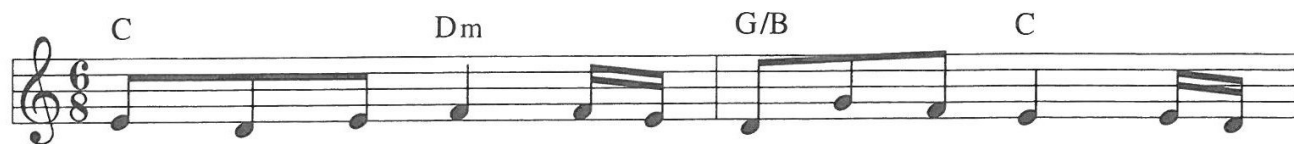


Pre-Service Music: Adam Schmidt

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.
- P Righteous God,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.
- P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Great is the Lord, W&P 53 (on the following page)



Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his



pow - er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is



faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is



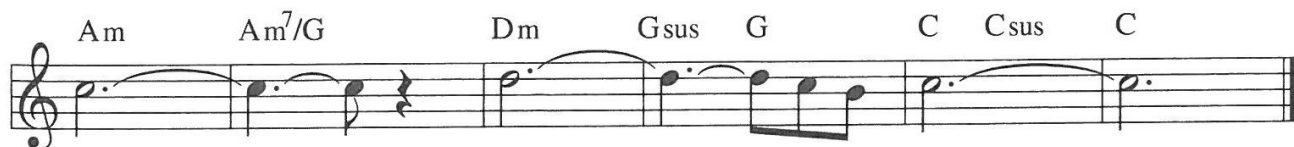
love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.



Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now



lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the



Lord! Great is the Lord!

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.

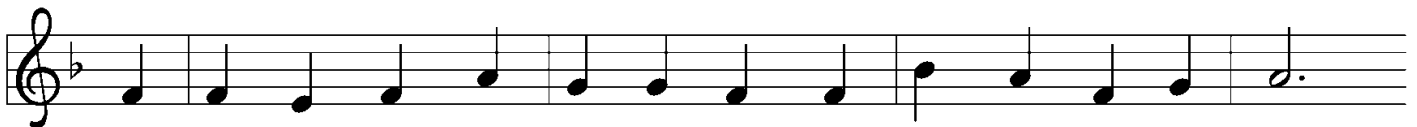
Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Praise Song: ELW 516

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.
Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13 (read responsively)

A You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.

C To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.

A Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

C Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

A Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

C You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.

A You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

C Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

A You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

C You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

A You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

- C May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.
- A May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: Spirit of the Living God, W&P 129

F Gm⁷/B^b D/A Gm F/C C⁷ F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me,

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, key of F major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staff.

F Gm⁷/B^b D/A Gm F/C C⁷ F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

The second system of musical notation, continuing the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the staff.

B^b F G⁷ C F/C C⁷

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

The third system of musical notation, continuing the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staff.

F Gm⁷/B^b D/A Gm F/C C⁷ F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

The fourth system of musical notation, concluding the hymn. The lyrics are written below the staff.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

Sermon

Sermon Hymn: Listen, God is Calling, WOV 712 (on the following page)

Listen, God Is Calling

Neno lake Mungu

Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

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 God answers prayer, so together we pray on behalf of the church, the world, and all those in need.

Lord, help us be good soil so that the seeds of forgiveness, love, justice, and peace may be nurtured in and among your church. Be with those who teach and lead others in faith, especially the counselors and staff of Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center. God of mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Creator God, the earth sings your praises. Help us to be good stewards of all that you have made, to make choices that protect and sustain the beauty and balance of your creation. Be with those who are suffering from the recent floods, restore the land, waterways, and homes. God of mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of all, we pray for our nation, and our community of Western New York, bring peace in places where there is conflict, bring wisdom to those in positions of power, and help us to join our voices with those who need advocates. God of mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God who stills the roaring seas, still the roaring hearts of those in need. May your healing word be a balm to those who are lonely, hurting, ill, and grieving. Guide the hand of health care workers and give strength to those who are

under their care. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of abundance, we give thanks for Bob Schumann who has turned 100 years young, and all those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. Guide Pastor Steve as he completes the second half of his renewal and renew all of us gathered here this day. God of mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A With confidence that you do hear us O God, we lift our prayers to you, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Offering Hymn: WOV 798

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

The musical score is written for a two-part setting, likely for soprano and bass voices. It is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is with - in me bless God's ho - ly name.

Offering Prayer

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

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

Here are 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/>

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

Communion Hymn: ELW 199

Jesus, Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

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.

Distribution Hymn: WOV 705

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

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 We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, 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: Sent Forth by God's Blessing, ELW 547 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Go in peace to serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



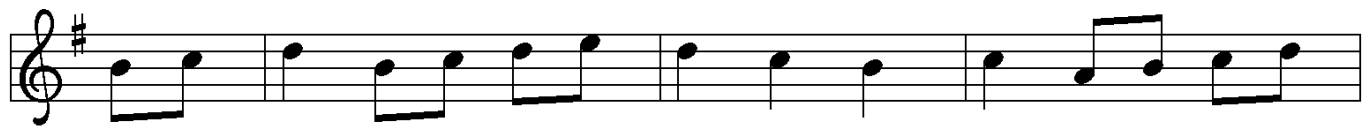
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: July 15-23, 2023

- TODAY:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship and Communion at Eggertsville Campus
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Tuesday:** 6:00 pm: Burrito Project
- Wednesday:** 8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
8:00 pm: Alanon
- Friday:** 12:00 pm: Lutheran Charities Golf Classic at Chestnut Hill Country Club
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at Amherst Lutheran Campus
- Sunday:** 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship and Communion at Eggertsville Campus
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers are given in celebration of the 70th wedding anniversary of John and Esther Dona from their daughter, Maryann Rockwell

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Lee Abell: 71 Windsor Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209
Robert Baus: 30 Westchester Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221
Evelyn Berger: 644 Campbell Boulevard, Getzville, NY 14068
Neal DeLeo: Bristol Village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032
Jan Isaacs: #6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004
Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580
Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Williamsville, 245 Bassett Rd., #54, Williamsville, NY 14221
David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051
Ron Wolfe: 324 Village Park Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Neal Okonzak; Augustino Punturiero; Nancy Durkin; David Ihrig; Kurt Parker Venator (Richard Venator's grandson); Elwood & Jaroslava Chase (Karlen Chase's parents); Shaun Woods; Tracy Robinson; Michael Wallace; Rick Schmidt; Laura Sweet; Greyson Knox; Ira Striejewski; Gary Schmidt; Thomas Maier; Joanne Heizmann; Joan Chatham; Jerry Bucklaew; Joe Falletta; Debbie Lingenfelter; Maureen Kraus; Sally O'Connell; Patrick Irving; Jennifer Ryszkiewicz; Don Irving; Gail Adema; Gail Andrews; Dean Honsberger; Suzanne Gustafson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Lutheran Campus, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as 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, anyone associated with Amherst Lutheran Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for July are: Thursday 7/20 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 7/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for July: soup (other than chicken noodle), juice, cereal, and ramen noodles.

Daily Bread Food Truck: We have concluded our 2022-2023 Monday Meal Share season. Our 2023-2024 Monday Meal Share will begin again in October. For more information to volunteer or donate, please contact the church office at 716-835-0407 or email dailybread4007@gmail.com.

ALC Book Club: The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the narthex at Amherst Lutheran Campus beginning at 7:15 pm. All are welcome! Book for September 14: *The Last Cuentista (Storyteller)* by Donna Barba Higuera. For more information contact Karin Johnson at 716-689-6365 or karinej@roadrunner.com.



Join us for our 25th Annual Golf Classic returning to Chestnut Hill Country Club,
1330 Broadway, Darien Center, NY

Friday, July 21st!

Cost: \$125 per Golfer (includes lunch, golf and cart fees, 1-hour open bar, and dinner)

Non-Golfing Guests are welcome to join us for dinner: \$60 (includes 1-hour open bar)

Event Schedule:

12:00 pm: Registration Begins

12:30 pm: Lunch and Driving Range Open

1:30 pm: Shotgun Start

5:00-6:00 pm: Open Bar

6:00 pm: Dinner and Awards

Contests * Prizes * Awards * Basket Raffle * 50/50 * Specialty Raffle



+ 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 David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon
Janet Schmidt Robert Simpson Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue*

Pastors

Steve Biegner (away for renewal until September)

Kristen Arends (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music

Paul H. Storfer (SPEC)

Adam Schmidt (ALC)

Christian Education Coordinator

June Piette

Youth Ministry

Adam Weber

Digital Ministry

Andrew Gruszka

Church Office Staff

Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Polowy

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