# Seventh Saturday after Pentecost



July 26, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Campus

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus Seventh Saturday after Pentecost July 26, 2025

Musician: Adam Schmidt



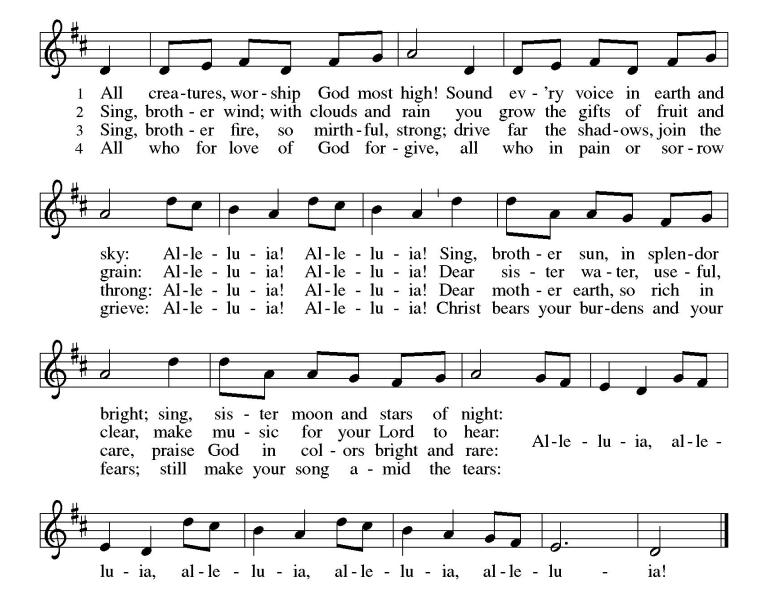


#### Confession and Forgiveness

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
- You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life in you. Amen.
- P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
- C Amen.

#### Gathering Hymn: ELW 835

# All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



## 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 and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C Amen

## Praise Hymn: WOV 798 (repeat three times)

# Bless the Lord, O My Soul



Text: Ps. 103:1

Music: PRAISE PSALM 103, traditional

# First Reading: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision,

by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

[Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.]

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

## Psalm 138 (read responsively)

Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (Ps. 138:8)

- A I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.
- C I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
- A When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.
- C All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- A They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.
- C The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.
- A Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
- C You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.



- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 11th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

Sermon



Sermon Hymn: LBW 439 (on the following page)

#### What a Friend We Have in Jesus



- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?



We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer. Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer! Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

#### Apostle's Creed

- P With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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

P In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. (Please be seated.)

Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you. God of grace,

## C hear our prayer.

P Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home. God of grace,

## C hear our prayer.

P Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven. God of grace,

## C hear our prayer.

P To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you. God of grace,

### C hear our prayer.

P Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships. God of grace,

# C hear our prayer.

P We give thanks for all who went before us. May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

#### C Amen.

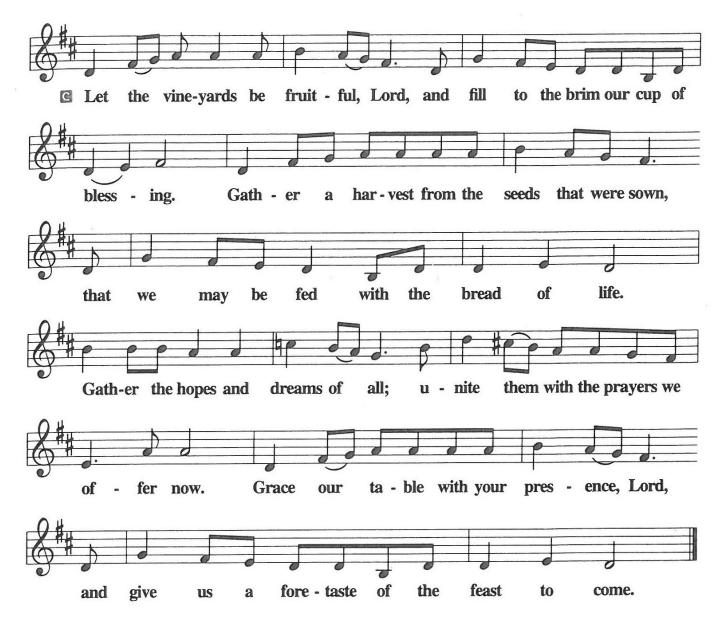
#### Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

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: Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/



#### Offering Hymn: WOV Page 35



## Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor. May the gifts we offer here and in our planned giving be used for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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

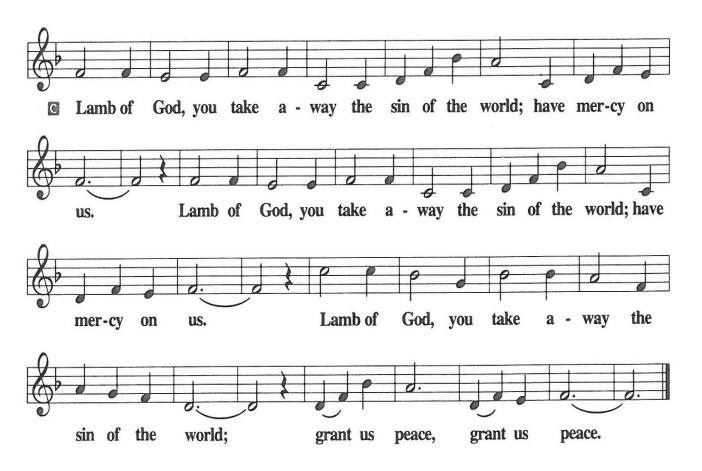
- P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
  - Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, 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 Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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 Hymn: WOV Page 39



# Lord, Listen to Your Children



Text: Handt Hanson

Music: ON BENDED KNEE, Handt Hanson

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#### Communion Blessing

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

## Prayer After Communion

- P Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

#### **Benediction**

- P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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 721 (on the following page)

#### Dismissal

- P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
- C Thanks be to God.

# Go, My Children, with My Blessing







In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er. Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry. Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com-fort stilled you. I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav-ior, Com - fort - er and Broth-er.



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: July 27-August 3, 2025

\*Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus\*

Sunday: 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV 10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Baptism of Myla Gorenflo

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Monday: 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share

5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC

7:00-8:30 pm: Waiting in Hope

Tuesday: 5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)

Wednesday: 6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

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

Friday: 4:00-10:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC

Sunday: 9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

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

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Baptisms of Henry Gordon Vanthoff, Vivian

Lynette Vanthoff, Evelyn Rose Vanthoff, and Lilah Grace Spinuzza

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; Marian Coco Reilly; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda LoTempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Sue Epstein

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

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

Charles Scofield: Beechwood, 2235 Millersport Highway, #706, Getzville, NY 14068

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

#### PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

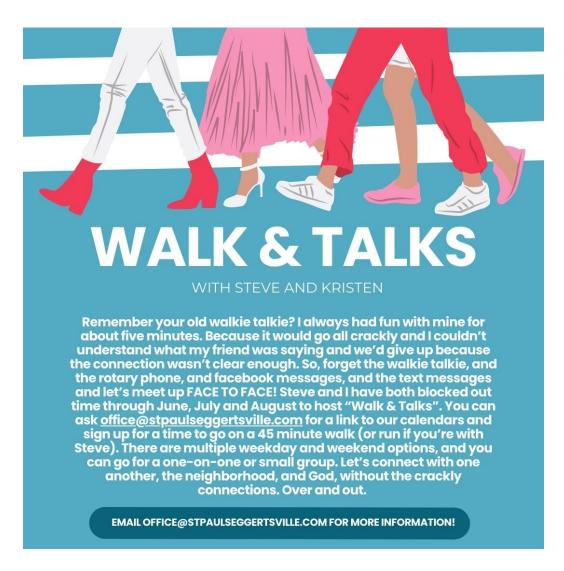
Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

**Prayer Team Ministry:** Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

**Daily Bread Food Truck:** The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

#### **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for July are: Thursday 7/31 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for July: crackers, juice, and granola bars.





# + 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: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

#### **Pastors**

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan

<u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka

<u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

#### Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

St. Paul's Amherst Campus

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm