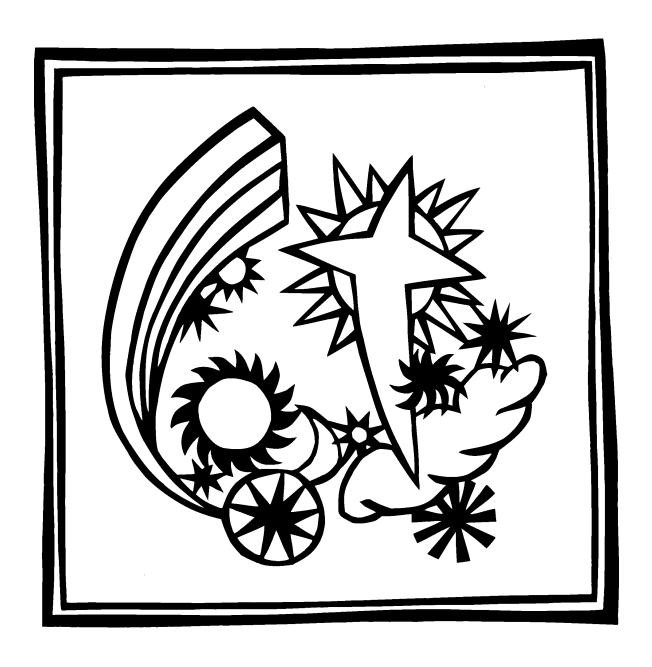
# 23rd Saturday after Pentecost



November 15, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Campus Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus 23rd Saturday after Pentecost November 15, 2025

Musician: Adam Schmidt





# Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be God, the Holy Trinity + the giver of all good, the source of all joy. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- God of all, You have given us all that we need and you ask that we share your abundance. We confess that we have not responded to your call to be open channels of your grace. We clench our fists when you ask for open hands; we close our minds when you ask for grace toward our neighbors. Open our hearts to live in the abundance of your creation; loosen our grip and restore our souls, that we may freely give and receive. Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ, God makes all things new. In the name of Christ, + you are forgiven. Your hearts are unlocked; your grasping is unbound. You are free to live as flowing streams of God's abundant grace.
- C Amen.

# How Firm a Foundation



Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, early American

# 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.

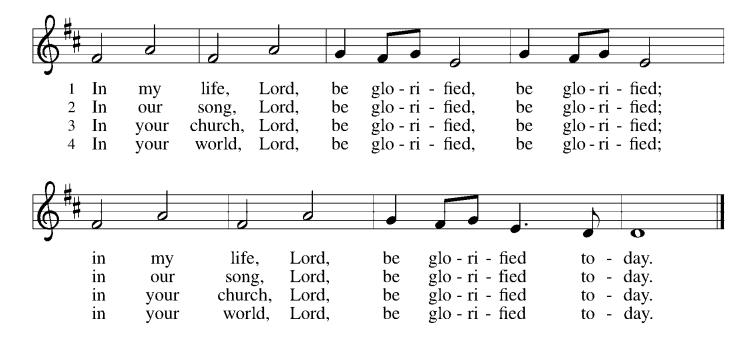
# Prayer of the Day

P O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C Amen

Praise Hymn: W&P 89

# Lord, Be Glorified



Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

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# First Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not

according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

# Psalm 98 (read responsively)

In righteousness will the LORD judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

- A Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- C O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- A You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- C Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- A Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- C With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.
- A Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- C Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.
- A The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Hymn: TFF 26

# Alleluia



Music: South African; arr. Gobingca Mxadana Arr. © Gobingca Mxadana

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- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

## Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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



# Sermon Hymn: LBW 390

# I Love to Tell the Story



Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911

Music: HANKEY, William G. Fischer, 1835–1912

# 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 Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. (Please be seated.)
  - God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they pro claim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God.

- C Your mercy is great.
- P God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

# Offering Hymn: WOV Page 35



# 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/



- P Let us pray.
- C God of life, you have blessed us with every good gift. Through our offerings today and in our planned giving, open us to share all that we have been given and to love the world in Jesus' name. 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.

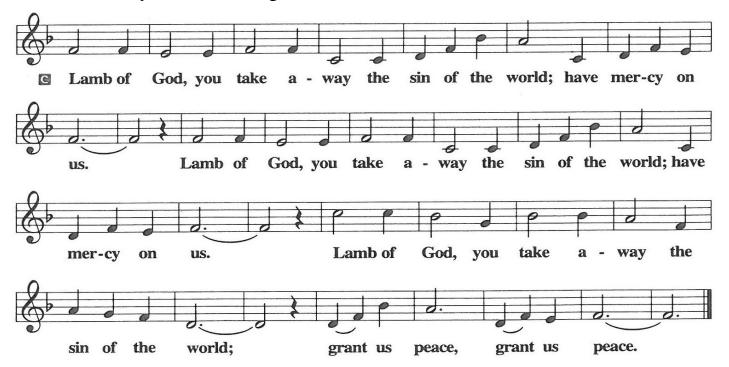
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

# 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



# Let Us Break Bread Together



Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

# 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 field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's 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: LBW 346 (on the following page)

### Dismissal

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

# When Peace, like a River



- 1 When peace, like a riv er, at tend eth my way; when
- 2 Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als should come, let
- 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo ri ous thought; my
- 4 And Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows, like sea bil-lows, roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I clouds be rolled back scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the as a



help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for soul. my Ο, soul! bear more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, no my Lord shall de - scend; e - ven it is well SO with my soul.



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: November 16-23, 2025

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

**Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum

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 Sunday School

10:45 am: New Missionary Orientation Meeting following 10:00 am Worship Service

1:00 pm: Youth Event: Bills Watch Party

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

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

5:30-9:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC

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

**Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study

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

6:00 pm: Burrito Project 7:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale

Wednesday: 12:00 pm: New Beginnings

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: No Events Planned

Saturday: 9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC 5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC 5:00-10:00 pm: Nickel City in Parish Hall

**Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum

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, Sunday School, Middle School Sunday School, and

New Missionary "Welcome to Worship"

11:00 am: Advent Potluck and Kick-Off following 10:00 am Worship Service

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Eileen Knauth; Tammy Thomas; David Wieczorek; Joyce Chace; Elaine Masman; Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda LoTempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; 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: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, Williamsville, NY 14221

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY 14226

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 2025 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 dailybread 4007@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 November are: Thursday 11/20 from 3:00-6:30 pm; Wednesday 11/26 from 3:00-6:00 pm, and Saturday 11/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for November: flour, sugar, and cooking oil.

The Burrito Project could use your help. They are asking for donations of new winters hats, scarves, and socks. Donations can be dropped off in the collection bin in the church vestibule.



Angel Tree 2025

Once again we're partnering with the Amherst school social workers to provide assistance for families who need a little extra help this time of year. You may select a tag and purchase the item and return it by Dec 14th. Attach the tag and place the gifts, UNWRAPPED, under the tree. We also need a few rolls of new wrapping paper. The parents enjoy wrapping the presents themselves. There will be a box for gift cards under the tree.

If you don't like to shop, "angels" will do the shopping for you.

Any questions, Cheryl 716-341-5073



SUN 11/23

# **ADVENT POTLUCK & KICK OFF**

Bring a dish to pass or just your empty belly and we'll enjoy a meal after worship. All ages are welcome and we will share in an Advent devotion together. Sign up at the welcome center.

# ADVENT-IN-A-BOX

These at-home devotional kits designed to help you keep your heart centered on Christ and explorate the season of Advent. They can be done with loved ones or individually. Activities, prayers, scripture, and reflections are included. Sign up on by the welcome center or email office@stpauleggertsville.com.

Boxes will be ready by our Advent Kick Off.

11/30-12/24

11/30 & 12/6

# **CHURCH DECORATING**

Help decorate our sanctuaries after worship!

# **Annual Poinsettia Dedications**

# Poinsettias are \$11 per plant

Dedications for Poinsettias will be noted in the Christmas Eveloulletin. Please indicate how you wish the dedication to read on the form below. Please return order form with cash or check payable to St. Paul's by mail or on the offering plate.



# + 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: Janet Schmidt

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue Barbara Walter

#### **Pastors**

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

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette: scs@stpaulseggertsvlle.com

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan: youth@stpaulseggrtsville.com

<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

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm