

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
NOVEMBER 9, 2025  
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, FALLS CHURCH, VA**



*PRELUDE*

*Praise and Thanksgiving*

Settings: 1. Jim Vyhanek, 2. Manfred Schlenker

*WELCOME*

*ENTRANCE HYMN (Stand) Praise and Thanksgiving*

LSB 789

- 1 Praise and thanksgiving,  
Father, we offer  
For all things living,  
Created good:  
Harvest of sown fields,  
Fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields,  
Blossom and wood.**
- 2 Bless, Lord, the labor  
We bring to serve You  
That with our neighbor  
We may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling,  
We would work with You,  
Harvesting, milling  
For daily bread.**
- 3 Father, providing  
Food for Your children,  
By Your wise guiding  
Teach us to share  
One with another,  
So that, rejoicing  
With us, all others  
May know Your care.**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Living God,

**Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON (Be seated)

Exodus 3:1-6

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

(8:00) ANTHEM

*Jubilation Choir*

*Lord of All Hopefulness*  
*Setting: Healy Willan*

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*(10:30) PSALM 148 (Sung responsively)*

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
For he commanded and they were created.  
And he established them forever and ever;  
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
Beasts and all livestock,  
creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(10:30)CHILDREN'S SERMON*

*ALLELUIA VERSE (Stand)*

LSB 156

**Alleluia.**

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

*GOSPEL*

Luke 20:27-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. And the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife."

And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.” Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

### *SERMON*

Grace, mercy and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen. Dear friends in Christ:

The Gospel lesson just read comes near the end of Jesus’ ministry. And as such, it reminds us of two very important things.

First, various aspects of Jesus’ message will always be questioned. The Sadducees questioned his teaching on the resurrection back in their day, and people today will question his teachings too.

Second, it reminds us that the resurrection is central to both Jesus’ message and ministry. Jesus’ defense of it here shows how vital it is to his message. And his own upcoming resurrection is proof that his message was on point and true.

I’ll say more about the resurrection towards the end of today’s sermon. But first let’s address the topic which our congregation is focusing upon right now – the topic of stewardship.

At its most basic level, stewardship is about making choices. All of us have been given time and talents by the Lord God and must decide what to do with them. Likewise, when we earn or receive money, decisions about its use must follow.

Christian stewardship says that we have the freedom to make these decisions according to our own wisdom and choice. God doesn’t make choices for us but allows us instead to consider our own needs and preferences.

However, Christian stewardship also says that a person chooses best – rightly, in fact – when they align their choices with God’s purposes and priorities. As such, Christian stewardship is a management task guided by God’s word.

Speaking of choices, there’s an interesting one to make in one of today’s readings. It’s not a stewardship choice, but one that can better help us understand our stewardship task. Let me explain.

in today’s second reading, from 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians chapter two, Christians have a choice to make about the translation of verse 13. The translation we read says: “God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved.” But the word “firstfruits” is sometimes translated instead as “from the beginning.” The reason for these two options is that in the earliest Greek manuscripts we can’t tell whether there is one word here or two. If there is one word (aparkein), then it gets translated “firstfruits.” But if there’s a space between the first and second syllable (making it ap arkein), then it gets translated “from the beginning.”

The good news is that both translations convey a truth that is found elsewhere in scripture. God chose his people “before the foundation of the world,” as stated in Ephesians 1:4. And God “brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures,” according to James 1:18. So there should be no worry about this decision.

The reason I point it out today is that the word firstfruits – which, by the way, our English spell-checkers insist should be two words instead (ugh) – has a long history in the scriptures and conveys very important meaning. Firstfruits is a common Old Testament word for the offerings people are to bring to God. An example of this is Deuteronomy 18 where Moses commands the people: “The firstfruits of your grain, of your wine and of your oil, and the first fleece of your sheep, you shall give him (meaning your priest from the tribe of Levi). For the LORD your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand and minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for all time” (v. 4-5).

The idea behind the firstfruits concept is that God’s people are to give the first amounts of their time, talents and treasures to God before using them for their own purposes. In the reading from Deuteronomy, those offerings to the priest were to be given right away, immediately after the harvest, instead of held back and given later or not at all. Such giving honors God with his rightful share, not just the leftovers.

And this giving is done as an act of faith, too. For it reflects the belief that God will care for his people – either by using the amount the people have left or by somehow providing them more if needed.



Proverbs 3:9 echoes this idea when it says: “Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce.” And this is not only another example of how the term “firstfruits” is synonymous with the offerings we are to bring, but shows, too, how God accepts our ownership of material things by calling them “your wealth.”

The proverb then goes on to convey an important promise of God by saying: “then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (v.10). In other words, God blesses those who honor him. And while the greatest blessings he gives are spiritual blessings, we see here that he promises material blessings too.

Today the church calls us to give new and extra thought to the stewardship choices we make each day. And not just to those choices which concern our giving to the church, but rather all our choices. Christian teaching says that we are to use 100% of our time, talent and treasure for purposes which are pleasing to God. And this means that we will need to discern between those things which give God praise and those which don't.

At the same time, we are also called today to give new and extra thought to our offerings for God's work through the church. God commanded his people in the Old Testament to give a percentage of their firstfruits to the priest and the work he represented. And God's New Testament people provided payment for work to be done in the church and collected offerings for the care of the poor and helpless. In the same way, we today are also to give offerings to the church as part of our stewardship task.

A good measure is 10% of our income, and possibly that same amount of our time and talents as well. The tithe was a rule back in Old Testament times and has remained a wise counsel in our days of New Testament freedom too.

And yes, we know that some people will be able to give time more easily than money. And some will be able to give money more easily than time.

Also, some people will need to work up to that level of 10%. And some will need to adjust what they've been giving based on current life circumstances.

As a means to prompt and further your thoughts on this matter, St. Paul's is again asking each of you to consider sharing with us an estimate of what you can give for the year. We all have a need to give, and our church has things we would like to accomplish. When estimates are given and commitments made, this helps us all.

The forms we have for this are called My Commitment forms. They've been mailed to those of you who are members. But anyone can fill one out and return it. I will remind you that the Bible calls us to make the commitment of faith. And a commitment of giving helps both your budgeting and your discipline.

As mentioned, these are estimates of giving and not a contract. If life changes at some point and you are not able to reach your estimate, that is not a problem.

But here let's return to thinking again about the idea of firstfruits giving. The word, as we've noted, has important meaning as a synonym for our offerings to God. In today's reading from Thessalonians, however, Paul uses the word in a different way.

Here Paul tells his Christian readers that God chose them "as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth." And by calling them this, Paul suggests that they have been offered to God and given to humanity.

Think about this. The people there had been offered to God by Jesus Christ. Jesus had paid for their sins through his death on the cross and commended them to the Lord as holy and righteous. Because of this they were saved.

But this salvation was not just for them alone. Jesus would be saving many, many more. And this salvation would come, in part, through the witness of those first Christians.

The people there had been both offered to God and given to humanity. And it is the same with you and me. God has saved us from our sins through the Lord Jesus Christ. And when we know this salvation and witness to it in our lives, God uses us to bring salvation to others. What an amazing calling and opportunity we have!

At the beginning of our sermon, I mentioned that we would eventually return to the subject of the resurrection. And through our consideration of the word "firstfruits," we've now come to a point where a great connection to it can be made.

If Paul really did intend to use the word "firstfruits" with the Thessalonians here – as I suspect he did – then he probably also had in mind his use of the word with the Corinthians, in the fifteenth chapter of his first letter to them, as part of his beautiful and moving proclamation on the resurrection. There Paul refers to Jesus, twice, as the firstfruits, saying: "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ" (20-23).

Here Paul not only echoes the idea of Christ as an offering but also uses the phrase to connect our destiny with his. Christ is the first to be raised. And we believers will be raised too – in God's time, when Christ comes again.

The combination of ideas this word presents tells how Christ is the guarantee of the resurrection of all God's redeemed people. The message is: since Christ is raised, we will be raised too.

Knowing of our resurrection, we can therefore go about our stewardship task joyfully and with faith. We can give confidently and generously for the Lord's work in all things. And we can trust in the Lord's leading.

As Christians, we give of our time, talents and treasures knowing that we are loved by God. And this is something that Paul highlights at the beginning of our reading, where he calls the Thessalonian Christians "brothers and sister beloved by the Lord."

Through this love, and through working with God as his stewards, our love will grow. And this is the point made by our theme verse for this year's stewardship emphasis. Paul says to the Thessalonians, at the beginning of his letter, "We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing."

Speaking of increase, as someone who's getting up there a little higher in age, I find myself thinking more these days about savings and investments. And part of that thinking, as you know, involves trying to find the best returns.

People have lots of thoughts and ideas on how to get these. And I'm grateful for those who share advice with honesty, clarity and wisdom.

But what I'm even more grateful for is the promise of God to bring an increase in faith and love through his Son, Jesus Christ. Increased faith and love bring the greatest blessings of all and are much more valuable than any financial gain.

It's not always easy to see when faith and love are increasing. In fact, sometimes we may wonder whether they really are.

But when we hear the Word of God, trust in his Son Jesus, and live our lives trying to steward God's gifts in the best way we can, we can be confident that faith and love will increase. We have God's promise.

May God then continue to lead us and guide us through his Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

- 1 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing,  
May we ripen and increase,  
Fruit to life eternal growing,  
Rich in love and joy and peace.
- 2 Laden branches freely bearing  
Gifts the Giver loves to bless;  
Here is fruit that grows by sharing,  
Patience, kindness, gentleness.
- 3 Rooted deep in Christ our Master,  
Christ our pattern and our goal,  
Teach us, as the years fly faster,  
Goodness, faith, and self-control.
- 4 Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending,  
May we grow till harvests cease;  
Till we taste, in life unending,  
Heaven's love and joy and peace.

## APOSTLES' CREED

*Hymnal, back cover*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\text{✙}$  everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING

*Offerings support the church's mission work – both here and through our many partners. Offerings may be placed in the box at the sanctuary entrance or sent to the church through our website or the mail. **Fellowship Cards** help us welcome new people and track participation. Please fill one out and place it in the offering box following the service.*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God and Father, You sent Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to overcome the world's troubles through His cross and resurrection. Grant us grace and peace in Him, that whatever afflicts us in this world of sin and sorrow would not cause us to forget or forsake You. Strengthen us by Your grace, that we may bear our crosses in patience and trust and remain faithful in Christ Jesus until He comes again in glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You have built Your Church and called her to hold fast to the Word of life. Preserve her from the evils of this world and from all grumbling, rivalry and conceit. Sustain her in humble and devout faith, that her children may be ready for the day of the resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to us, heavenly Father, the faith and wisdom to practice good stewardship in our lives. And move us to do good works that flow from faith in Your precious Son. Grant that everything Your children do in thought, speech and action would bring glory and honor to the name of Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, we give thanks for the rich and abundant blessings you have given to this country. Guide our elected and appointed leaders in their serving and governing tasks. And deliver us from violence and discord, teaching us, instead, the way of peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father, bless the sick with healing, the suffering with relief, the grieving with comfort, and the dying with peace. We especially pray for all those on our prayer list, and for those we name in our hearts at this time... Grant to them and to us the things truly needful for this body and life. And keep us all in faith amidst our afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

ord, You have set us apart as Your own people and given us a place at the table of Your Son. Grant us faith to discern Christ's body and repentance to receive this Holy Communion worthily. Bless our fellowship at the table of the Lord, that we may be

sustained in unity of doctrine and life together. And bring us to that day when divisions shall no longer hinder us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*OFFERTORY (Stand)*

LSB 159

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**

**I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**



*THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION*

*PREFACE (Stand)*

LSB 160

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

LSB 161

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into

heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*LORD'S PRAYER*

**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.**

*PAX DOMINI*

LSB 163

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**Amen.**

*AGNUS DEI*

LSB 163

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*DISTRIBUTION (Be seated)*

*Those wishing to commune at the foot of the steps should come forward first. Those wishing to commune at the altar rail should come forward after these, front rows first, from both sides of the aisle. After receiving, all should return to their seats. A common dismissal will be given at the end.*



- 1    Lord, Thee I love with all my heart;  
     I pray Thee, ne'er from me depart,  
         With tender mercy cheer me.  
     Earth has no pleasure I would share.  
     Yea, heav'n itself were void and bare  
         If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.  
     And should my heart for sorrow break,  
     My trust in Thee can nothing shake.  
         Thou art the portion I have sought;  
         Thy precious blood my soul has bought.  
     Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord,  
     Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.
- 2    Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich bounty gave  
     My body, soul, and all I have  
         In this poor life of labor.  
     Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place  
     May glorify Thy lavish grace  
         And help and serve my neighbor.  
     Let no false doctrine me beguile;  
     Let Satan not my soul defile.  
         Give strength and patience unto me  
         To bear my cross and follow Thee.  
     Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord,  
     In death Thy comfort still afford.
- 3    Lord, let at last Thine angels come,  
     To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home,  
         That I may die unfearing;  
     And in its narrow chamber keep  
     My body safe in peaceful sleep  
         Until Thy reappearing.  
     And then from death awaken me,  
     That these mine eyes with joy may see,  
         O Son of God, Thy glorious face,  
         My Savior and my fount of grace.  
     Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend, my prayer attend,  
     And I will praise Thee without end.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

*NUNC DIMITTIS (Stand)*

LSB 165

**Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the  
sight of ev'ry people:  
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*POST-COMMUNION COLLECT*

*BENEDICTION*

*SENDING HYMN*

*The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place*

LSB 838

- 1 The saints in Christ are one in ev'ry place  
To serve the Gospel of His costly grace;  
From those first days to this, our hope the same:  
The love of Christ, one Lord, one saving name.**
- 2 In chains for Christ! His pris'ners love to sing,  
For slaves and free rejoice to praise our King;  
What though the Church on earth still suffers wrong?  
The cross of Christ remains our pilgrim song.**
- 3 To live is Christ, for us, to die is gain;  
Where then shall be our hunger, danger, pain?  
Our joy to preach good news to rich and poor,  
Then be with Christ, to live forevermore.**
- 4 Lord Jesus Christ! Heav'n's praise let earth repeat;  
The work that You began, You will complete.  
By grace let ev'ry foe become Your friend;  
Your day, O Christ, shall dawn and never end.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (Be seated)

## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE

*The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place*  
Setting: Gerald Near

## FELLOWSHIP CONTRIBUTORS: Board of Property Management

Those serving:

8:00 a.m.:

Greeter: Steve Janssen  
Comm. assist: Judy Koucky  
Reader: Melissa Hecht

10:30 a.m.:

Greeter: SP Youth  
Comm. assist: SP Youth /Jill Hecht  
Reader: SP Youth  
Acolyte: Natalie Starck  
AV Assistants: Hannes Buuck, Andreas Buuck

## Acknowledgements

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Tune: Ralph C. Schultz,

708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg Text and tune: Public domain

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**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7426 IDYLWOOD ROAD  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22043**

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

**CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES**

Leadership Officers, Working Boards, Chinese Ministry, The Preschool,  
Sunday School, LWML, Youth Group, Worship Assistants, Choirs,  
Caring Ministry, Safety Ministry, Leisure Group, Young Adults Group,  
Other seasonal and occasional working groups

**CHURCH STAFF**

**The Rev. Mark Shaltanis, Pastor**

**The Rev. Xinhong “Chris” Yang, Associate and Chinese Pastor**

**The. Rev. Wayne Lehrer, Pastor Emeritus**

Kantor Aaron Jansen, Director of Music  
Tawni Harrell, Director of Youth  
Linda Fekete, Parish Secretary

Jill Cha, Preschool Director  
Norm Williams, Business Manager  
Richard Irwin, Building Manager

**CONTACT US**

Web site: [www.stpaulsfallschurch.org](http://www.stpaulsfallschurch.org)

Office email: [Secretary@stpaulsfallschurch.org](mailto:Secretary@stpaulsfallschurch.org)

Business Manager email: [businessmanager@stpaulsfallschurch.org](mailto:businessmanager@stpaulsfallschurch.org)

Pastor's email: [pastormark@stpaulsfallschurch.org](mailto:pastormark@stpaulsfallschurch.org)

Safety Ministry: [stpaulsafety@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsafety@gmail.com)

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