

*Incline Your ear, O LORD, and answer me, save Your servant, who trusts in You — You are my God.  
Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to You do I cry all the day.*

## **The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**September 17, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

This Morning's Hymns

504 760 618 732 719 728 725

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

*Hebrews 12:18–24*

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

*1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29*

*Who receives this sacrament worthily?* Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

*Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar*

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

*Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass*

#### A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor Proctor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail.

# ✠ CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

**C** who made Heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O Almighty God, Merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

## Introit

*Psalm 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: Psalm 86:1a, 2b, 3*



Incline Your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,\*  
save Your servant, who trusts in You—You | are my God.

Be gracious to me, | O Lord,\*  
for to You do I cry | all the day.

**Gladden the soul of Your | servant,\***  
**for to You, O Lord, do I lift | up my soul.**

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*  
listen to my | plea for grace.

**But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious;\*  
turn to me and be gra- | cious to me;**

give Your strength to Your | servant,\*  
and save the son of Your maid- | servant.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;*

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Incline Your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,\*  
save Your servant, who trusts in You—You | are my God.

Be gracious to me, | O Lord,\*  
for to You do I cry | all the day.

## Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us, Christ, have mer - cy up - on us,  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

**P** Glory be to God on high!

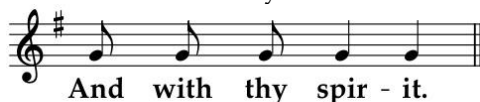
And on earth peace, good will toward men. We  
praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we  
glo-ri-fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great  
glo-ry, O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Fa-ther Al-  
mighty. O Lord, the on-ly be-got-ten Son, Je-sus Christ,  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther,  
that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have  
mer-cy up-on us. Thou that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, re-ceive our prayer. Thou that sit-test-at the  
right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up-on us.  
For Thou on-ly art ho-ly, Thou on-ly art the  
Lord. Thou on-ly, O Christ, with the Ho-ly



Ghost, art most high in the glo - ry of God— the Fa - ther,  
A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

Sit

## Old Testament

*1 Kings 17:8–16*

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah, <sup>9</sup>“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup>And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” <sup>13</sup>And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’” <sup>15</sup>And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that He spoke by Elijah.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalms 118:8-9*



It is better to take refuge | in the LORD\*  
than to | trust in man.

**It is better to take refuge | in the LORD\*  
than to trust in | princes.**

## Epistle

*Galatians 5:25-6:10*

<sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. <sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. <sup>5</sup>For each will have to bear his own load.

<sup>6</sup>One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. <sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Stand

### Alleluia & Verse

*Psalm 65:1*



Alle- | luia!\*

Alle- | luia!

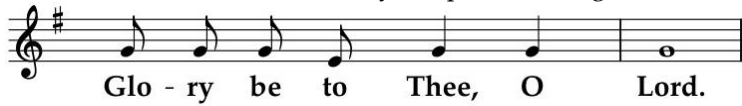
**Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;\***

**let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation! Alle- | luia!**

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 6:24–34*

**P** The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

*At that time Jesus said:* <sup>24</sup>“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

<sup>25</sup>“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup>For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup>But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup>“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is *worshipped and glorified*, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

What God Ordains Is Always Good

760

Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy  
pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion



## Prayer of the Church

*At the end of each petition:*

**P** Let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



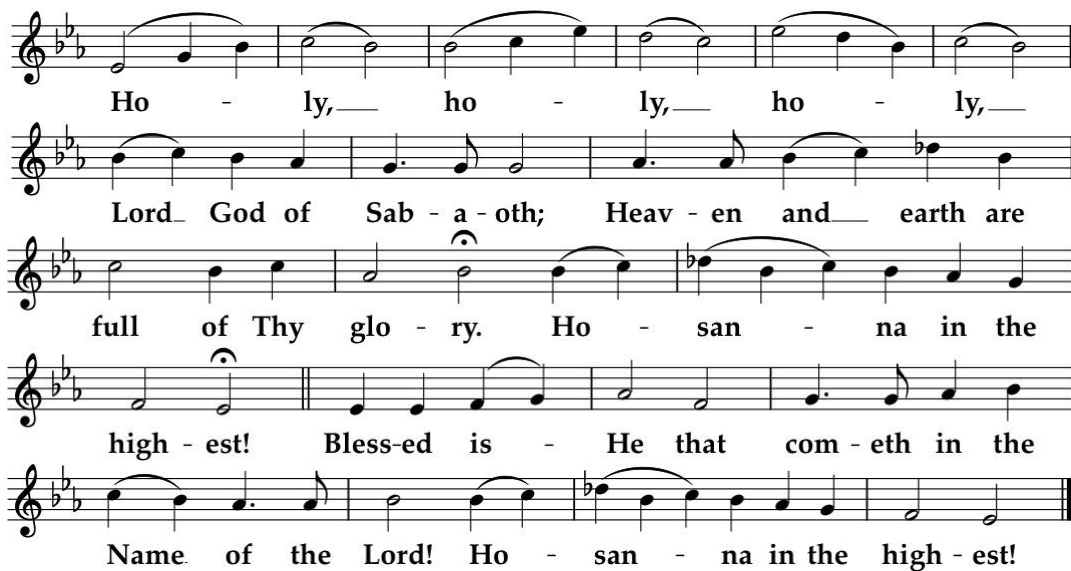
**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



## Proper Preface

It is truly meet, 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we laud and magnify Your Glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
Lord God of Sab - a - oth; Heav - en and earth are  
full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est! Bless - ed is - He that com - eth in the  
Name of the Lord! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

## The 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.

## 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."

## Pax Domini

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



A - men.

## Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the  
sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O  
Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the  
sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O  
Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the  
sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table	618
All Depends on Our Possessing	732
I Leave All Things to God's Direction	719
How Firm a Foundation	728

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace  
ac - cord - ing to Thy Word,

for mine eyes have seen Thy sal - va - tion  
 which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peo - ple,  
 a Light to light - en the Gentiles  
 and the Glory of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son  
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it. As it was in the be - gin - ning,  
 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

**P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.

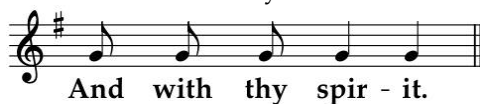
And His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

## Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Bless we the Lord.



## Benediction

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



## Hymn

## Children of the Heavenly Father

725

### Acknowledgments

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Flowers under the cross are given in celebration of  
**VIVIAN TRESSLER'S BIRTHDAY!**



## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"*

# BULLETIN NEWS

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Sunday, September 17</b>	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
<b>Wednesday, September 20</b>	1:00pm	Bible Study	Library
	4:00pm	Confirmation	Pastor's Study
<b>Saturday, September 23</b>	10:30am	Matins	Sanctuary

## PRAISE REPORT FROM DENNIS STONECYPHER

I have been blessed to be a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church for more than 30 years. Both of my children, Angela and Joshua, grew up in this church. God has truly blessed me! I had never been sick one day for 77 years. Two days after Christmas 2022 I drove myself to the emergency room and was diagnosed with a severe gallbladder infection. It took more than 90 days to find a surgeon to remove it! When I went in for surgery, I weighed 255 pounds. When it was all said and done, I had lost nearly 80 pounds! This whole ordeal has been such a mental, physical, and spiritual roller coaster, there were times I thought I was going to die. Praise our Heavenly Father! I am on the right side of the dirt! Thanks be to God for His faithfulness, and thanks to each and every one of you for your prayers! I am truly humbled and at a loss for words to express my deepest feelings. Please remember always that God loves you, and so do I. God is good . . . all the time.

## LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at [info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com](mailto:info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com). Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

### ON-GOING CONCERNS:

**Nigel Proctor** – suffering from severe digestive issues  
**Wayne Bartels** – recovering from brief hospitalization  
**Debbie Dyjak** – ongoing eyesight concerns  
**Jonathan Brant** – recovering from surgery  
**Bea Hendricks** – fell and currently in a care center  
**Rose Tressler** – health issues  
**Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas**

**Kevin Stamm** – recovering from surgery  
**Christopher Richards** – recovering from fall  
**Dennis Stonecypher** – seeking employment  
**Suzi Riley** – suffering from sleep apnea  
**Jorge Jimenez** – fighting cancer

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Kathy Page** (former member of St. Paul) is in the hospital with kidney stones and an infection.  
**Rei Irmer** (sister of Louise Ahrens) was diagnosed with breast cancer.  
**Sharon Wies** (wife of Cliff Wies, cousin of Vickie Hulteen) has been diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer.  
**Nick Koontz** (husband of Mary Howard's stepdaughter) has been diagnosed with leukemia.  
**Jean Lorenzen** (mother of Debbie Dyjak) fell recently and broke her arm.

### THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Family and friends of **Pam Werdabaugh** died August 27, 2023.

### MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.      **Debbie Dyjak**, preparing to serve in Latvia  
Rev. Steven Massey and son, Marco, serving in Guatemala.      **PSWD Missions**  
Rev. Stephen Oliver and wife, Maggie, and children, serving in Taiwan and the Asia Region.

### PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Jeff Proctor and family      LCMS officers, congregations & schools  
Sunday School teachers & children      Lexington Life Academy families & staff  
Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

**OUR NATION:** For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY** (*members, friends, or relatives*): **Lucas Butterfass, Erich Dyjak, Nathanael Dyjak, Juan Garcia, Robert Gilmore, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Ethan Peterman, Andy Smiley, Jacob Wilson**

**OUR SHUT-INS:** **Anne Smith, Lois Carlson, Suzanne Berna**