

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.
A: And also with you.
L: Lift up your hearts.
A: We lift them to the Lord.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death; And by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
“Holy, Holy” (music on screen)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L: Holy, living and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: Carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
A: Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,
A: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Communion Music Video "Remembrance” by Matt Maher

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray.
A: Amen.

SENT FOR WORK AND WITNESS

BLESSING
L: The God of glory, ✙ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.
A: Amen.

SENDING HYMN- “How Great Thou Art”, ELW 856
Verse 1

DISMISSAL
L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.
A: Thanks be to God!

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Worship Steward: Greg Putnam
SS Teacher: Betsy Westergreen
Greeters: Ted & Ginger Bauknecht
Musician: Sandy Erickson
Lector: John Mehlberg
Ushers: Mark Mackinson
Communion Prep: Pat Lund
Comm. Asst: John Mehlberg & Judy Sykes
Counters: Denny Leach & Marty Heller
Hospitality: Tami & Greg Putnam & Julie Mehlberg
Livestream: Louis Kehinde



St. Paul Lutheran Church
October 15, 2023
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction: In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus’ parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Flowers this week were donated by Marian Brown in memory of Ben Brown.

GATHERING HYMNS
“Open our Eyes, Lord” (sing two times) - words on screen
“I Lift Your Name on High” (sing two times) ELW 857

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM
L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and salvation.
A:Amen.

L:Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
Water may be poured into the font.

A: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

L: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
A: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.

L: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord In the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
A: Amen.

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
A: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
A: Amen.

Children’s Message—Dismissal to Children’s Chapel

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading- Isaiah 25:1-9

L: A reading from Isaiah.
1O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
2For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin; -----
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
3Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
4For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
5the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
6On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
7And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
8he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
9It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save
us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L: Word of God, word of life.
A: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

L: A reading from Psalm 23
1The Lord| s my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
2The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.
3You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.
4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
shall | fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
L: Holy Wisdom; Holy Word.
A: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Philippians 4:1-9

L: A reading Philippians.
1My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,
stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.
2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the
Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these wom-
en, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, to-
gether with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are
in the book of life.
4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gen-
tleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about
anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiv-
ing let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your
minds in Christ Jesus.
8Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever
is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commend-
able, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of
praise, think about these things. 9Keep on doing the things that you
have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of
peace will be with you.
L: Word of God, Word of Life.
A: Thanks be to God.
Please rise, as you are able, for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (music available ELW 171)

“Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah.
“Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah.

Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
A: Glory to you, O Lord.
1Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2“The kingdom
of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet
for his son. 3He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to
the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4Again he sent other
slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have pre-
pared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered,
and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ 5But they
made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his busi-
ness, 6while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed
them. 7The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those
murderers, and burned their city. 8Then he said to his slaves, ‘The
wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9Go therefore in-
to the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding ban-
quet.’ 10Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom
they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with

guests.
11“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man
there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12and he said to him,
‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was
speechless. 13Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand
and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14For many are called, but few are
chosen.”
L: The Gospel of the Lord.
A: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon SAM Marcia Buchs

HYMN OF THE DAY “Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”
ELW 523, Vs.1

APOSTLE’S CREED

L:Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed.
A: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and
earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who
was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suf-
fered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he as-
cended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition will end “God of Grace,” and the congregation will re-
spond “Hear our prayer.”

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
A: And also with you.
You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors by
turning to the people near you saying, “Peace be with you.”

OFFERING

Offerings can also be sent by mail or given online. You can send a check to
St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764 or give
online at stpaulpontiac.org

Offering Prayer

L: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring
your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of
your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.
A: Amen.

MEAL

All are welcome at Christ’s table. Communion is distributed in front of the
altar by intinction. Please dip the wafer into the lighter colored liquid
which is grape juice or the darker liquid which is wine. If you prefer not to
receive communion you may come forward with your hands crossed over
your chest to receive a blessing or you may remain in your seat.