



St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA

Pontiac, IL

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2019

*The people of St. Paul
gather to worship,
reach out and serve the Lord.*

Introduction

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

Presiding Minister: Pastor Mathew Berger
Worship Steward: Brad Solberg
Musician: Sara Solberg
Lector: Carol Thorson
Psalms: Brooklyn Delheimer
Acolyte: Brooklyn Delheimer
Ushers: Jake & Marty Heller
Greeters: Delheimer Family
Prayers: Lucy Kehinde
Communion Prep: Becky Edinger
Comm. Assist: Mary & Denny Leach
Hospitality: Ginger Bauknecht & Gail Thorson
SS Teacher: Carrie Delheimer
Counters: Cody Leach & Jean Harrison

Flowers this morning were given by Doug & Peggie Schneeman in memory of Corey Schneeman’s birthday.

Holy Communion Instructions

The Lutheran Church teaches that Jesus Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine. Christ offers forgiveness of sin and new life in community through this sacrament. You are welcome at Christ’s table.

Those who do not commune may come forward with their arms crossed over their chests to receive a blessing. Communion today will be by intinction. You may dip your wafer into either the darker colored liquid—the wine, or the lighter colored grape juice.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Call to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy never runs out.
A: Amen.

L: God whose love never quits:
Help us admit that we have been wrong.
Give us the word the world cannot.
Tell us again you believe in us,
So we can love ourselves and each other like you do.

A: **Amen.**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Loving God,

A: **We confess that we have turned from your way
To follow our own ways.
Forgive us for the times
We have spoken or acted too quickly;
We have not spoken or acted at all;
We have hurt those closest to us;
We have hurt those we have yet to know;
We have thought more about ourselves than others;
We have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
So that we can live again as your children.
Amen.**

L: Here's the good news!
Even when we have done wrong, God sees the good in us.
Even when we have messed up, God gives us a fresh start.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven.

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.**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Prayer of the Day

L: O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (Following the message, children are invited to Children's Chapel)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading—Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

L: A reading from Amos.

⁶ Doom to those resting comfortably in Zion
and those trusting in Mount Samaria, the chiefs of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes! ⁴ who lie on beds of ivory, stretch out on their couches,
eat lambs from the flock, and bull calves from the stall; ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and,
like David, compose tunes on musical instruments;⁶ who drink bowls of wine, put the best of oils on
themselves, but who aren't grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore, they will now be the first to be taken
away, and the feast of those who lounged at the table will pass away.

L: The word of the Lord.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146

L: A reading from Psalm 146.

L: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

A: **I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

L: Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is not help.

A: **When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

L: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

A: **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them, who keeps promises forever.**

L: Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

A: **The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

L: The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow but frustrates the way of the wicked.

A: **The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading—1 Timothy 6: 6-19

L: A reading from 1 Timothy.

⁶ Actually, godliness is a great source of profit when it is combined with being happy with what you already have. ⁷ We didn't bring anything into the world and so we can't take anything out of it: ⁸ we'll be happy with food and clothing. ⁹ But people who are trying to get rich fall into temptation. They are trapped by many stupid and harmful passions that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some have wandered away from the faith and have impaled themselves with a lot of pain because they made money their goal. ¹¹ But as for you, man of God, run away from all these things. Instead, pursue righteousness, holy living, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness. ¹² Compete in the good fight of faith. Grab hold of eternal life—you were called to it, and you made a good confession of it in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ I command you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and Christ Jesus, who made the good confession when testifying before Pontius Pilate. ¹⁴ Obey this order without fault or failure until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ The timing of this appearance is revealed by God alone, who is the blessed and only master, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ He alone has immortality and lives in light that no one can come near. No human being has ever seen or is able to see him. Honor and eternal power belong to him. Amen. Tell people who are rich at this time not to become egotistical and not to place their hope on their finances, which are uncertain. Instead, they need to hope in God, who richly provides everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Tell them to do good, to be rich in the good things they do, to be generous, and to share with others. ¹⁹ When they do these things, they will save a treasure for themselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way they can take hold of what is truly life.

L: The word of the Lord.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel–Luke 16: 19-31

L: The holy gospel according to Luke.

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹ “There was a certain rich man who clothed himself in purple and fine linen, and who feasted luxuriously every day. ²⁰ At his gate lay a certain poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. ²¹ Lazarus longed to eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man’s table. Instead, dogs would come and lick his sores.

²² “The poor man died and was carried by angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ While being tormented in the place of the dead, he looked up and saw Abraham at a distance with Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ He shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I’m suffering in this flame.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, whereas Lazarus received terrible things. Now Lazarus is being comforted and you are in great pain. ²⁶ Moreover, a great crevasse has been fixed between us and you. Those who wish to cross over from here to you cannot. Neither can anyone cross from there to us.’

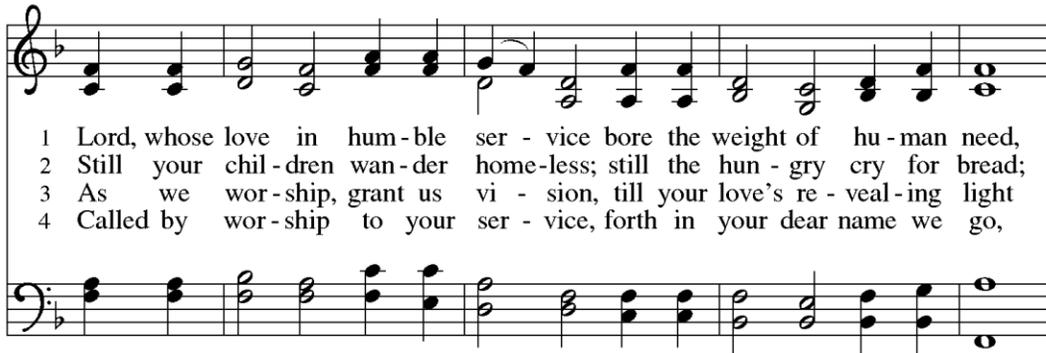
²⁷ “The rich man said, ‘Then I beg you, Father, send Lazarus to my father’s house. ²⁸ I have five brothers. He needs to warn them so that they don’t come to this place of agony.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets. They must listen to them.’ ³⁰ The rich man said, ‘No, Father Abraham! But if someone from the dead goes to them, they will change their hearts and lives.’ ³¹ Abraham said, ‘If they don’t listen to Moses and the Prophets, then neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.’”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

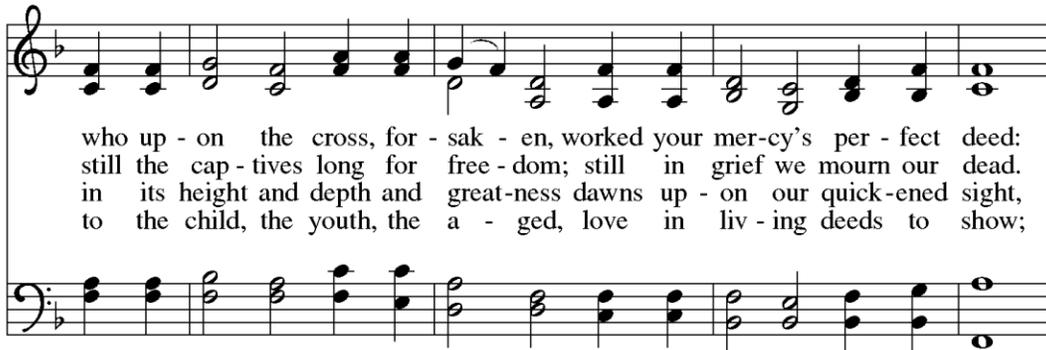
A: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message

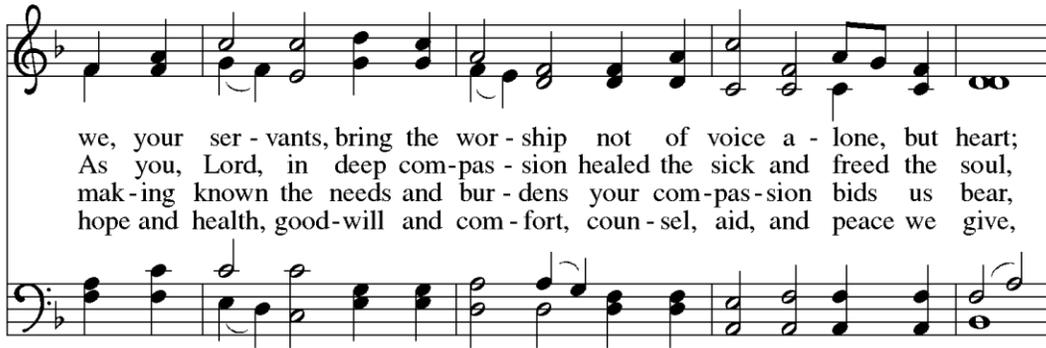
Pastor Mathew Berger



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 Intercession

Throughout the prayers of intercession you will hear "We pray to you, O Lord". Please respond by singing "Hear Our Prayer".

Hear Our Prayer *Prayer Response*



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Text and music: Paul Andress, b. 1956
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Pastor: Trusting in your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sharing 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.

Offering—



As we continue with our offering, please sign the attendance book located at the end of each pew. Guests and visitors, please include your address and phone number.

Presentation of the Gifts

Please rise, as you are able, while the gifts are brought forward.

Offering Prayer

L: God our provider,

A: **We bring nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Words of Institution

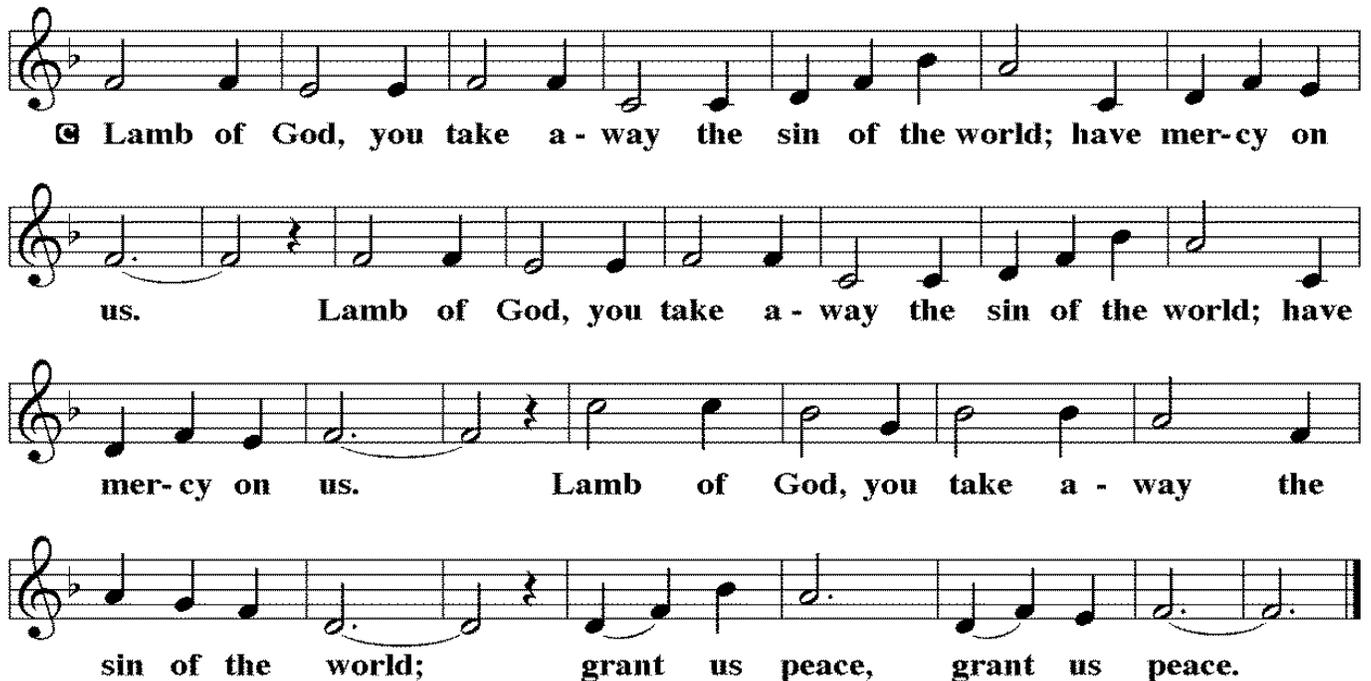
Lord's Prayer

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 welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." <i>Refrain</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." <i>Refrain</i> |
|--|---|

Change My Heart, O God

Refrain



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Refrain

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
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Prayer after Communion

L: God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: **Amen.**

SENT FOR WORK AND WITNESS**Announcements****Blessing**

L: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God ✝
 Bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

A: **Amen.**

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude