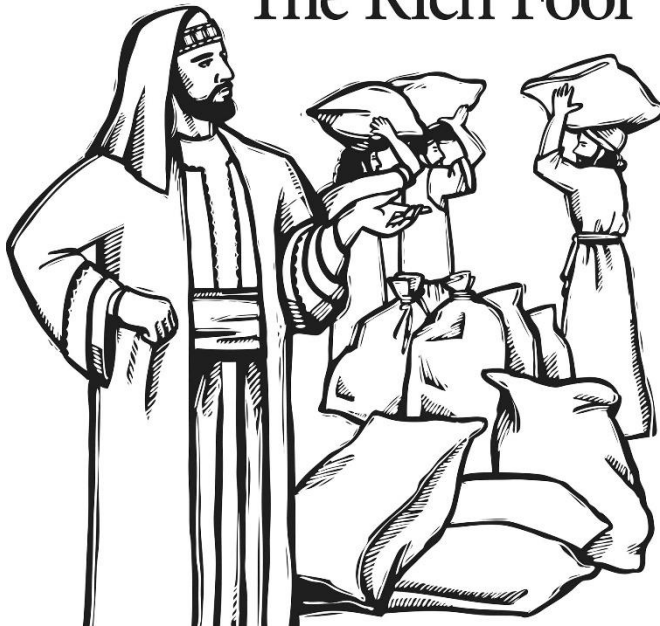


**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**AUGUST 2/3, 2025**

## The Rich Fool



St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
*The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers*  
474 Yalick Road - PO Box 802 – Dallas, PA 18612  
Phone: 570-675-3859; email: [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net)  
Website: [www.stpaulsdallaspa.org](http://www.stpaulsdallaspa.org)

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor  
Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist  
Senior Choir & Chimes  
Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP**

**WELCOME** - Good morning, and welcome! God has invited us here; we are at home in his presence. Let us worship.

**TODAY'S TEXTS** offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the “unhappy business” of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the “things that are above.” To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord’s supper and the encouragement of God’s word.

**WORSHIP BEGINS** in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God’s word.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE** devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

**THE BLUE WELCOME PAD** in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number). Please take a moment to complete it.

**LEAVING THE SANCTUARY** during worship, please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently. **TURNING OFF** cell phone and other electronic devices is greatly appreciated.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** for August 9/10: Genesis 15:1-6, Psalm 33:12-22  
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40.

**IF YOU'D LIKE** someone's name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week's prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person's name during the intercessory prayers.

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## GATHERING

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*PLEASE NOTE: Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.*

**PRELUDE**

*At the Name of Jesus*

John Hebden Schaffner

**BELL, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Stand as you are able to face the font for the confession.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Merciful God,

**you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Heal us, break our bonds, and lead us on the path of life. Amen.**

We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation.

**Amen.**

*Stand as you are able for the hymn.*

**GATHERING HYMN # 416** *At the Name of Jesus [Saturday vs. 1 & 5]*

**GREETING**

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Sit.*

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## WORD

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### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### FIRST READING

**Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23**

*The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.*

A reading from Ecclesiastes:

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity...I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind...I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 49:1-12

*Spoken responsively by whole verse by the lector and congregation.*

<sup>1</sup>Hear this, <sup>1</sup> all you peoples;

give ear, all you who dwell <sup>1</sup> in the world,

<sup>2</sup>**you of high de- <sup>1</sup>gree and low,**

**rich and <sup>1</sup>poor together.**

<sup>3</sup>My mouth shall <sup>1</sup> speak of wisdom,

and my heart shall meditate on <sup>1</sup> understanding.

<sup>4</sup>**I will incline my ear <sup>1</sup> to a proverb**

**and set forth my riddle up- <sup>1</sup> on the harp.**

<sup>5</sup>Why should I be afraid in <sup>1</sup> evil days,

when the wickedness of those at my <sup>1</sup> heels surrounds me,

<sup>6</sup>**the wickedness of those who put their trust in <sup>1</sup> their own prowess,**

**and boast of <sup>1</sup> their great riches?**

<sup>7</sup>One can never re- <sup>1</sup> deem another,

or give to God the ransom for an- <sup>1</sup> other's life;

<sup>8</sup>**for the ransom of a life <sup>1</sup> is so great**

**that there would never be e- <sup>1</sup> nough to pay it,**

<sup>9</sup>in order to live forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever

and never <sup>1</sup> see the grave.

<sup>10</sup>**For we see that the wise die also;**

**like the dull and stu- <sup>1</sup> pid they perish**

**and leave their wealth to those who come <sup>1</sup> after them.**

<sup>11</sup>Their graves shall be their homes forever,

their dwelling places from generation to <sup>1</sup> generation,

though they had named lands af- <sup>1</sup> ter themselves.

<sup>12</sup>**Even though honored, they cannot <sup>1</sup> live forever;**

**they are like the <sup>1</sup> beasts that perish.**

## SECOND READING

## Colossians 3:1-11

*Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.*

A reading from Colossians:


So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

**Luke 12:13-21**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit.*

## SERMON

*Stand as you are able for the Hymn.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY #589** *All Depends on Our Possessing*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended 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**

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, let us pray for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.*



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## MEAL

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### OFFERTORY #182

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERING PRAYER

*The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

*Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:*

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

We give you thanks, Father,...both now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## COMMUNION

The Kingdom of God is set before you. Come, eat, and rejoice.

*The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word, The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.*

*We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step beginning with the person seated closest to the ambo. The communion ministers will come to you, beginning with the bread. Then, take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice or a prefilled glass of juice for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine. When you have communed, return to your seat by the opposite end.*

*We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say,*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond Amen.*

*During the distribution, Lamb of God is sung:*



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.

*Stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

Loving God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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*The service concludes with the blessing and the dismissal.*

## **BLESSING**

The love of God abounds in us; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fills our hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless us and give us peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN #655** *Son of God, Eternal Savior*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Son of God, Eternal Savior*

Ewald Weiss

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## **SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS**

Greeter:	Lois Gdovin
Acolyte:	Volunteer needed
Assisting Minister:	Cynthia Mahalick
Lector:	Bill Peiffer
Communion Bread:	Fran Dierolf
Saturday Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Sunday Altar Clean Up:	Martha Kush
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God, by Jodi Sprau.

**SPCA COLLECTION** – Once again, St. Paul's will be celebrating all our non-human friends and family members and asking God to bless each and every one of them, and in fact, all of God's creatures. In celebration of this event and to assist our local animal rescue shelter, we are again collecting items on their wish list. Beginning next Saturday and culminating at the Blessing of the Animals service scheduled for Saturday September 27, the following items are being collected:

Canned Cat Food (Pate)	Dry Kitten Chow
Canned Dog Food	Cat Litter (Clay, Non-Clumping)
Cat Toys & Scratchers	Kong Toys for Dogs
Small Cat Beds	Cat & Dog Treats
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper
Dish Soap	Laundry Detergent
Bleach, Windex, Clorox Wipes	Latex / Non-Latex Gloves (all sizes)
Drawstring Tall Kitchen Trash Bags	
Gift Cards for Petco or Pet Supplies Plus	
Rubbing Alcohol / Peroxide	Towels & Washcloths

If you have other items that you would like to donate, but do not see on the list, please contact Ray Mancke at 570.430.8639. There will be a table with an SPCA display located in the Narthex starting Saturday, August 9.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

August 12	7:00 pm Brotherhood Meeting
August 14	8:32 am Retired Ramblers Breakfast at Lakeside Skillet
August 17	Deadline for September newsletter articles
August 20	3:00 – 6:00 pm Labyrinth Walk
August 21	6:30 pm Grief Support Group
August 23	7:00 pm 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Outdoor Movie
August 30	O'Brien Wedding

**GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS. – Sunday, September 7, 2025** - The Social Ministry Committee is looking forward to this day as an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. As in the past few years, the committee is asking for your donations of sneakers – youth sizes 9-12 – for boys and girls who will be filling our Head Start classrooms in the fall. The Sneaker Display table is in the Narthex; please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes. The committee will hold a meeting (date TBA) in August to discuss and plan other projects; if you are interested in joining the Social Ministry Committee, watch for future announcements in the weekly bulletins. All members of St. Paul’s are thanked for supporting Social Ministry projects!

**ONGOING FUNDRAISING PROJECT** for our Landscaping Fund: Please help us raise funds and help protect the environment by bringing in your used computer ink cartridges. A collection basket is located on the table in the hallway between the Narthex and Social Hall. Cartridges are packaged and shipped (free of charge) to Planet Green’s recycling center in California, who in turn sends us a refund check. Thank you for your support!

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S**

Today:	9:30 am Worship
	10:45 am 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meeting
Tuesday:	11:00 am Pinochle Card Group
	7:00 pm Council meeting
Saturday:	5:30 pm Worship
Sunday:	9:30 am Worship

**PRAYER LIST** - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregations of Good Shepherd, Wilkes-Barre and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.**

**Pray for those suffering illness:** *Members:* Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi Fassett, Marge Fritzinger, Jean Grube, Morgan Holbrook, Robert Kline, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Dave Scheff, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Anita Weiss, Geri Williams, Peter Wittkamp, Alyson Wood, Shirley Zimmerman.

**Please note:** Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net) if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

***Family & Friends:*** Robert Binger, Michael Bowanko, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janice DeFebo, John Diel, Manfred Diel, Denise Ekdahl, Karen Evanish, John Fisher, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Deacon Barb Gessner, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenny Graveira, Jenn Hubbard, Joe Hudak, Mike Iannuzzi, Christine Ide, Michael Kaminski, Joe Kerestes, Bradley Kessler, Elsie Kosmach, Rebecca & Ryan Kozloski, Alice Laskowski, Lindsey Lattari, Carol Marker, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Betty Jane Mokychic, Patty N., Marlin Nuehring, Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Debbie Smith, Mark Sokolowski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Lori Strobel, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Judi Vietz and family, Jere Vietz, Karen Wise, Frank and Cheryl Wright, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Keith, Diane, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Greg, Josh, Justin, Jim, Megan, April, Connie, Jill (no last names given).