

ORDER OF WORSHIP

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 15/16, 2026



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
Website: 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-Thursday 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

TODAY'S WORSHIP

WELCOME! We come together to “call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised” (Psalm 18:3, NRSV). All are sincerely welcomed to this service of worship and praise.

IN ISAIAH we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing and justice for those in need.

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.

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.

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).

LEAVING THE SANCTUARY during worship? Please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for August 22/23: Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8 and Matthew 16:13-20.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

Partita on *All Are Welcome*

Charles L. Lenz

I. Maestoso

IV. Adagio

II. Andante

V. Allegro

III. Capriccio

VI. Meditation

VII. Final – Dance

BELL, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand as you are able and turn to face the font for the Confession.

CONFESSION

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love. **Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

^{1.}

Eternal God our creator,

in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners, and for his sake, God + forgives us all our sins. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN # 641 *All Are Welcome* (Saturday vs. 1, 3, 4)

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.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.

Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our

Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit.

WORD

CHILREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality or any other category.

A reading from Isaiah:

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah...From the sole of the foot to the head, there is no soundness in it, only bruises and sores and bleeding wounds; they have not been drained or bound up or softened with oil. Your country lies desolate; your cities are burned with fire; in your very presence aliens devour your land; it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners. And daughter Zion is left like a booth in a vineyard, like a shelter in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

Spoken responsively by the lector and the congregation.

May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face to shine upon us,

² **that your way may be known upon earth,**

your saving power among all nations.

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans:

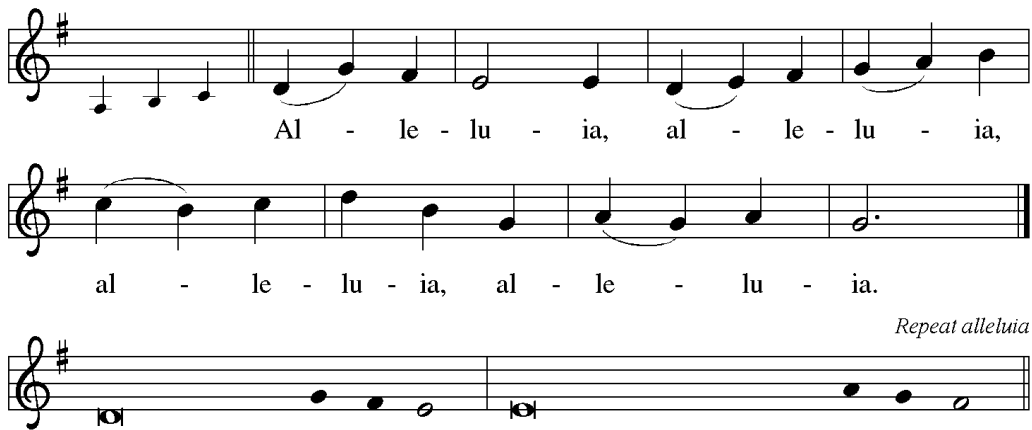
I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?... for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.



Jesus preached the good news | of the kingdom*
and cured every sickness a- | mong the people.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:10-20

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

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

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY #650 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

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

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

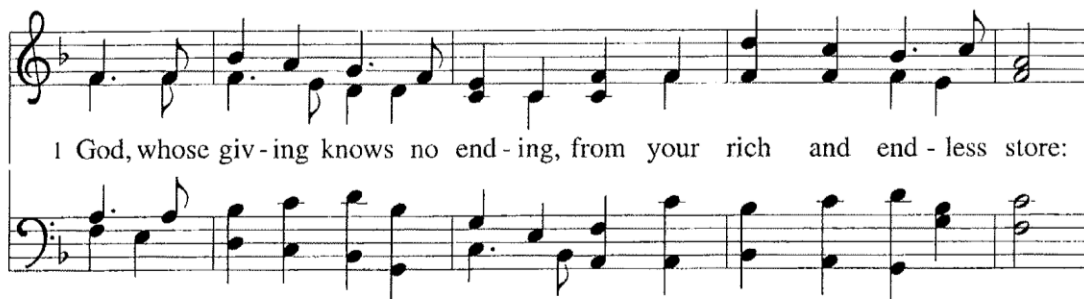
PEACE

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

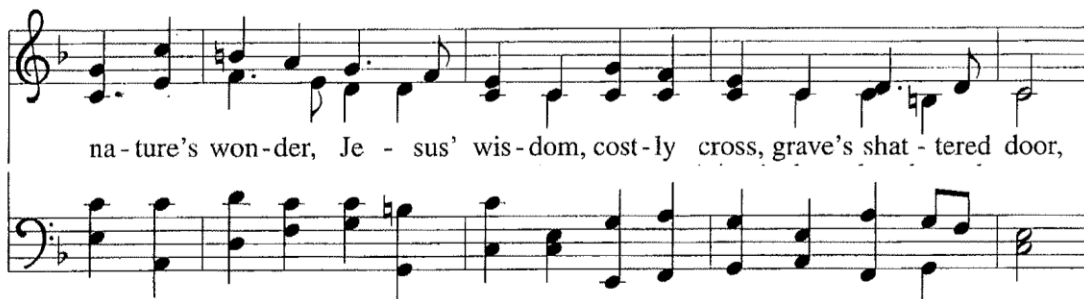
The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

MEAL

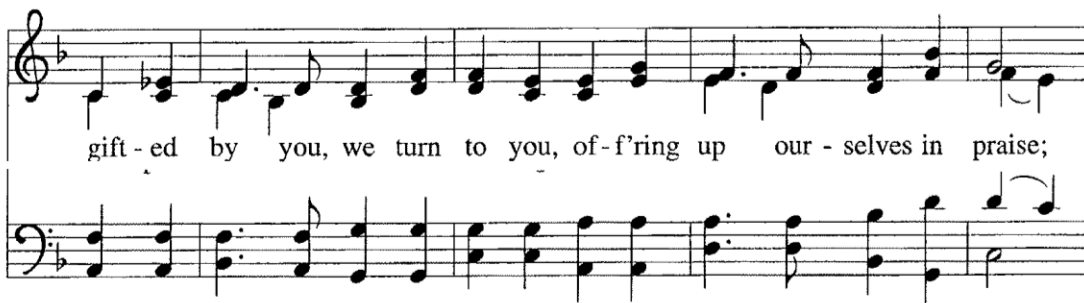
OFFERTORY #678, v. 1 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*



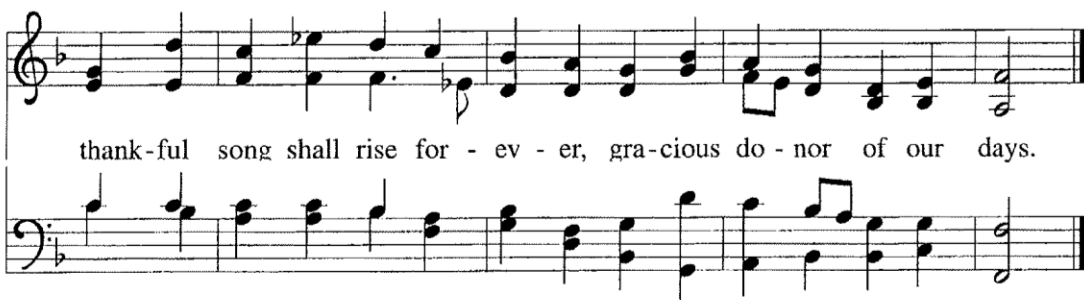
1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store:



na-ture's won-der, Je - sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company

RUSTINGTON

8 7 8 7 D

Alternate tune: HYMN TO JOY

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. **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.

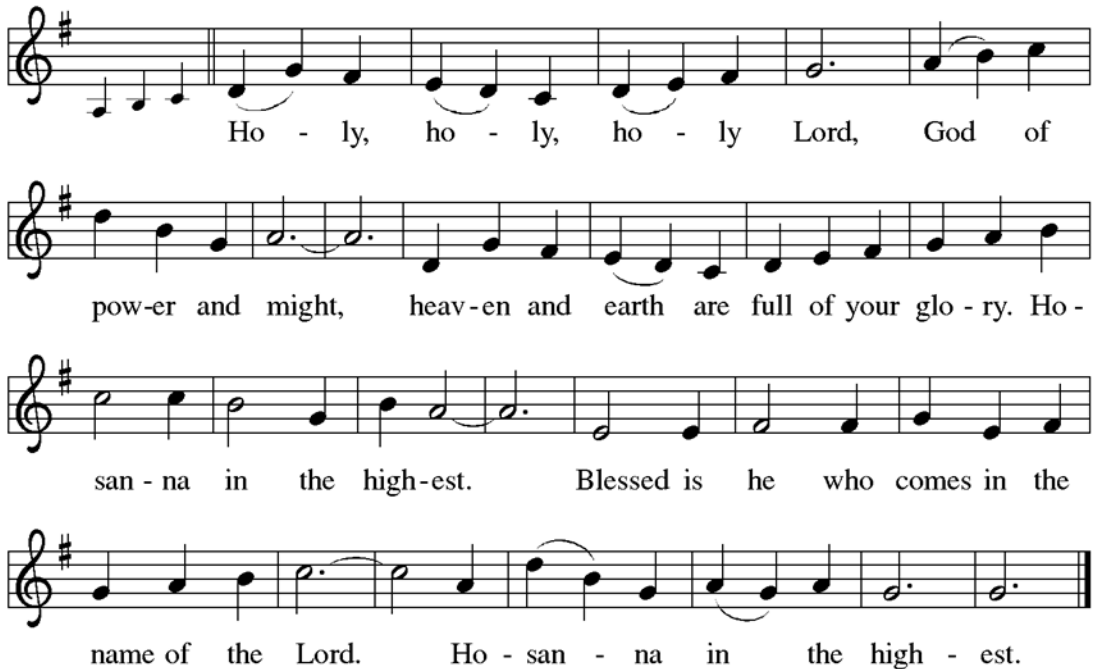
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out upon us...be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

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

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

Come and taste the goodness and mercy of God.

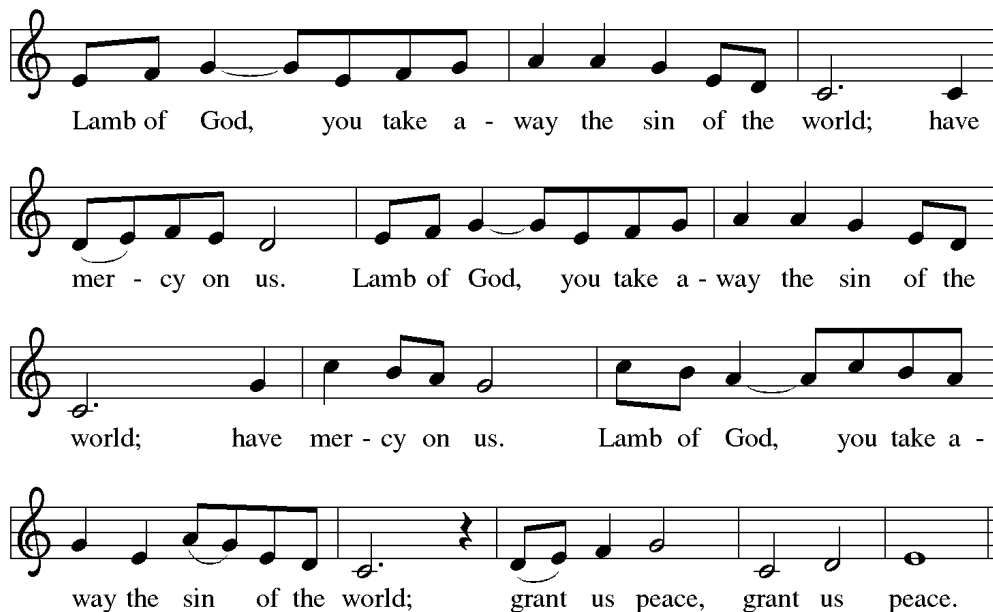
The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word, The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

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:



When the assembly and ministers have communed, the table is re-dressed and the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, turn us to hunger for your reign of justice and thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant us the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN # 434 (Saturday vs. 1, 3, 4) *Jesus Shall Reign*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jesus Shall Reign

Wilbur Held

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright 2006. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # 14096-ELW.

SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeters:	Marianne and Ray Mancke
Acolyte:	Volunteer Needed
Assisting Minister:	Gail Smallwood
Lector:	Melissa Janoski
Communion Bread:	Cookie Fetterman
Saturday Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Sunday Altar Clean Up:	Gail Smallwood
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to Frank Mariano for serving as our Supply Pastor today while Pastor Grube is on vacation.

BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God by the Smallwood Family.

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE to submit articles for the September issue of the GOOD NEWS.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today:	9:30 am – Worship
Wednesday:	3:00-6:00 pm—Indoor Labyrinth Walk
Saturday	5:30 pm – Worship
Next Sunday	9:30 am – Worship

RETIREMENT UPDATE – Pastor will be returning for worship on Saturday, August 22/23. His final service with us will be Sunday, October 25 (the Saturday service on October 24 will be cancelled).

1. There will be a reception for Jean on Sunday, October 18, sponsored by the Christian Education Committee. Jean has been the Director of the Youth Choir and a member of the Christian Education Committee since Sept. 1977.
2. Journal of Memories/Names – This will be the last weekend the journal will be on display in the Narthex to jot down a memory, thank you note, or you could just sign your name. The journal will continue to be available in the Parlor during the week or if you are unable to come to church or if you worship on Zoom, please feel free to either contact Carol Fett (cafett54@gmail.com) or call Carol (570.852.9176) or Gail Smallwood (gesmallwood56@gmail.com) (570.852.1438) and we will be happy to transcribe your comments for you. It will also be available before and after the service on Oct. 25 for anyone who hasn't had the chance to sign it. The journal will be presented to them at the close of the October 25 worship service.
3. Starting next weekend a sign-up form will be available in the Narthex for you to indicate if you will be attending the reception in the Social Hall. We need to tell the caterer how many people will be attending for room set up and food preparation purposes. Deadline is October 4.
4. At the end of the service, there will be time for sharing a few words, gifts will be presented and a prayer will be said before dismissal and the reception in the social hall. The entire service and presentations will be available on Zoom. No Sunday School this day.
5. Baut Studios is designing two window hangings using colored glass from the windows of our Shavertown church building; one for Jean with a music theme and a nature theme for Pastor's. If you would like to contribute towards the gift, envelopes are available in the Narthex or you may contribute via our website (stpaulsdallaspa.org) and click on the online link. Then click on the **SPECIAL GIFT** tile to donate and indicate it is for Pastor's retirement.

INDOOR LABYRINTH WALK will be held on Wednesday, August 19 from 3:00-6:00 pm. This walk is free and open to the public. St. Paul's members will be on hand for guidance.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE – LDR is the ELCA's ministry to accompany disaster survivors, and they are already at work with congregations, synods and local partners in affected communities. Catastrophic flooding in south Texas has forced people from their homes and left communities covered in debris and mud as the water recedes. At the same time, wildfires across the western United States continue to threaten lives, homes and entire communities. You may have noticed the Lutheran Disaster Response envelopes by the offering plate; if you would like to help victims, please take an envelope and return it at any time. Donations may also be made by clicking on the Disaster Response tile on your Vanco account.

THE ROAST BEEF DINNER sign-up sheets have been posted in the Narthex. Please consider signing up to help in one of the many ways volunteers are needed. No experience is necessary – on the job training is gladly given!

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS” Sunday, September 13. As in the past few years, the Social Ministry Committee is asking for your donations of sneakers for boys and girls who will be filling our Head Start classrooms in the fall – youth sizes 9-12. The Sneaker Display table is in the Narthex; please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes. All members of St. Paul's are thanked for supporting our Social Ministry projects.

6261 BUNDLE GATHERING—All members of St. Paul's are invited to attend a first gathering of congregations in our 6261 Bundle, to be held on Thursday, August 20 at 6:30 pm at Prince of Peace Church, Dallas. The goal of this meeting is to begin bringing people together to start forming relationships between St. Paul's, Prince of Peace, Grace Episcopal and Trinity Episcopal. This gathering marks the beginning of exploring 6261 and discernment together. If you are interested in attending, please sign the gathering list on display in the Narthex as soon as possible, so that we may give Prince of Peace a headcount.

SUMMER HARVEST: Have some extra zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, or other bounty from your garden to share? Please feel free to place it on the table in the foyer for members to enjoy!

ORGAN RECITAL and Re-dedication, featuring Mark Pall performing on the fourth largest organ in Pennsylvania. August 28, 2026, 7:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church, 210 W. Green Street, Hazleton. Free Admission and refreshments.
<http://www.clchazleton.org>.

HYMN NOTE: In Christ There Is No East or West – John Oxenham, 1852-1941 (pen name for William Arthur Dunkerley). Source: Bees in Amber, 1913. The text was written for a pageant presented by the London Missionary Society and is an example of a prophetic hymn – one that states the ideal to be achieved rather than the present situation. Unity and mission are combined, for the mark of a disciple is love for every person and the willingness to serve all humankind.

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. Pray for the Congregation of Good Shepherd, Wilkes-Barre, Prince of Peace Episcopal, Dallas, Grace Episcopal, Kingston and Trinity Episcopal, West Pittston.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Tom Ash, Chris Bellezza, Annie and Marty Bisher, Pam Cyphers, Mary Lou Daley Button, Fran Dierolf, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Grace Fisher, Marge Fritzinger, Lois Gdovin, Colin Grube, Daniel Henderson, Robert Kline, Martha Kush, June Lorah, Raelene Napierkowski, Leah Pambianco, Wally Richardson, Val Rothrock, Greta Ruckno, Dave Scheff, Carol Swanson, John Thomas, Linda Traver, Anita Weiss, 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 if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Jack Babuscak, Alanna Berger, Cliff and Ron Bunt, Marjorie Catania, Joni Conway, Paul Davis, Janet DeCosta, Debbie Demuro, Nancy Harm, Debbie Hilbert, Marty Hille, Jenn Hubbard, Christine Ide, Frank Ide, John Jaikes, Candace Jones, Michael Kaminski, Patricia Kay, Joe Kerestes, Debbie Kertesz, Ken Kertesz, Bradley Kessler, Alice Laskowski, John, Karen and Charlie Lulun, Jim Madonna, Carol Marker, Becky Morgan, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Abraham Quintanar, Febe Quintanar, Andy Reistetter, Doris Rosencrans, Bonnie Ryman, Bob Schooley, Sandra Serhan, Nancy Shymanski, Richard Skurski, Sandy Sprau, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Larry Titus, Corrine Varneke, Tabitha Walters, Jean Weeks, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Ashley, Bethann, Keith, Megan, the M family, Johnny, Betsy, Dawn, Jonathan, Mandy (no last names given).