ORDER OF WORSHIP

Reformation Sunday
Pastor Grube's Retirement Service
October 25, 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

TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY, a day to remember with gratitude those who called the church back to God's Word and the good news of salvation through faith in Christ. We rejoice in the freedom, grace and hope we have in Jesus and welcome all who have gathered to worship Him.

ROOTED IN THE PAST and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission

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 October 31/November 1: Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew :1-12.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Litanies* Jehan Alain

"When the Christian soul does not find any new words in its distress for imploring the mercy of God, it repeats without ceasing the same invocation with a vehement faith. Reason attains its limit. Alone, faith pursues its ascension." Jehan Alain

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, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before our neighbors. Cast away our transgressions, forgive us our sins, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. In his + holy name and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN # 637 *Holy God, Holy and Glorious*

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.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit.

WORD

CHILREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the

least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

Spoken responsively by the lector and the congregation.

[1] God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
[2] **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,**
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

[3] though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
[4] **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,**
the holy habitation of the Most High.

[5] God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
[6] **The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;**
he utters his voice; the earth melts.

[7] The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
[8] **Come, behold the works of the Lord;**
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

[9] He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
[10] **"Be still, and know that I am God!**
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth."

[11] The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

SECOND READING **Romans 3:19-28**

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.
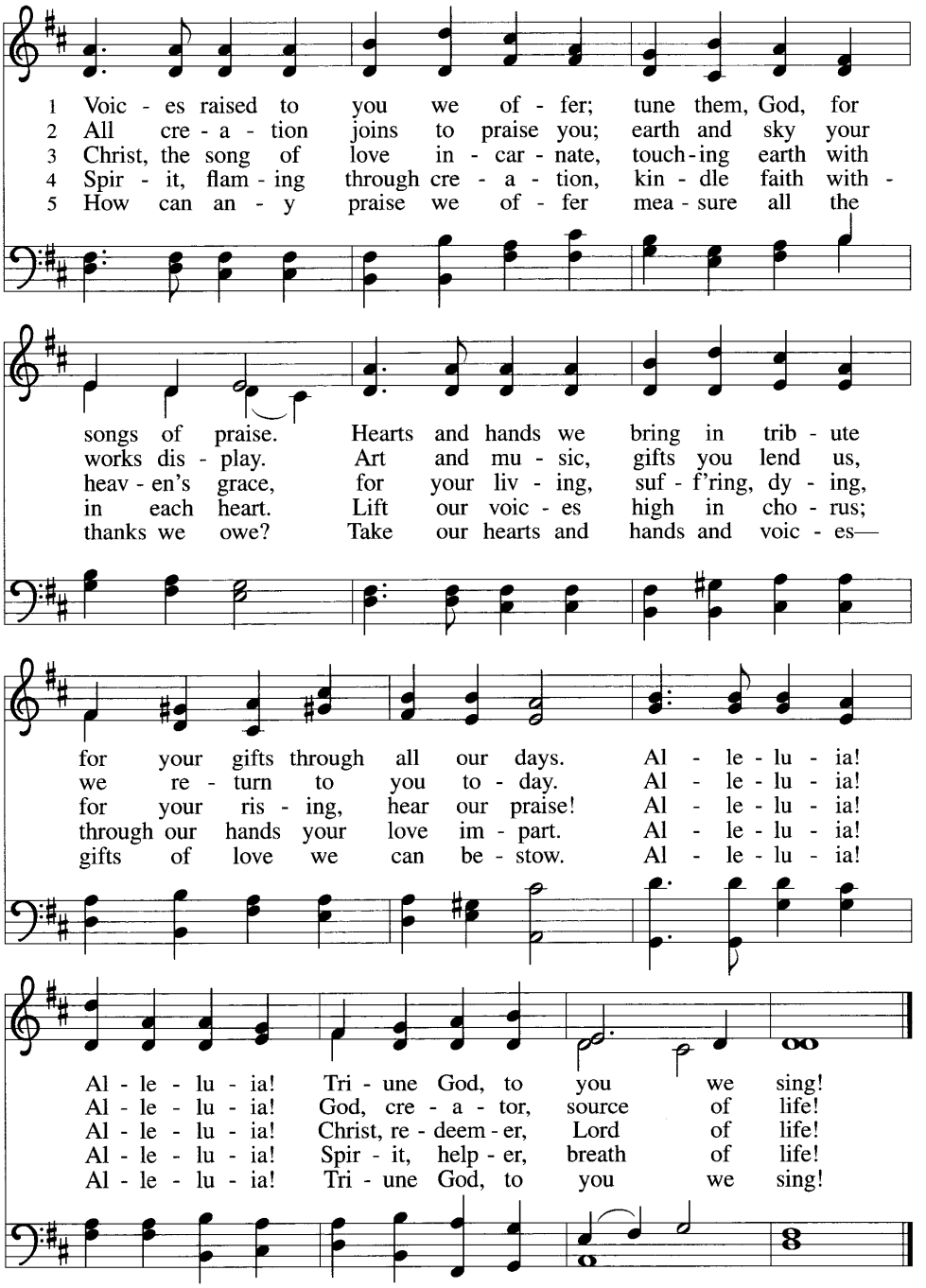
A reading from Romans.

Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION # 845 *Voices Raised to You*

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936

Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music © 1996 Carolyn Jennings

SONG OF PRAISE
8 7 8 7 8 7

GOSPEL **John 8:31-36**

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn

HYMN OF THE DAY # 504 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

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

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see that we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, 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.*

The assembly is seated.

ANTHEM *Beatus homo qui invenit sapientiam* Orlando de Lassus
Hannah Grube Cooper and Kendra Balmer

Latin text and translation:
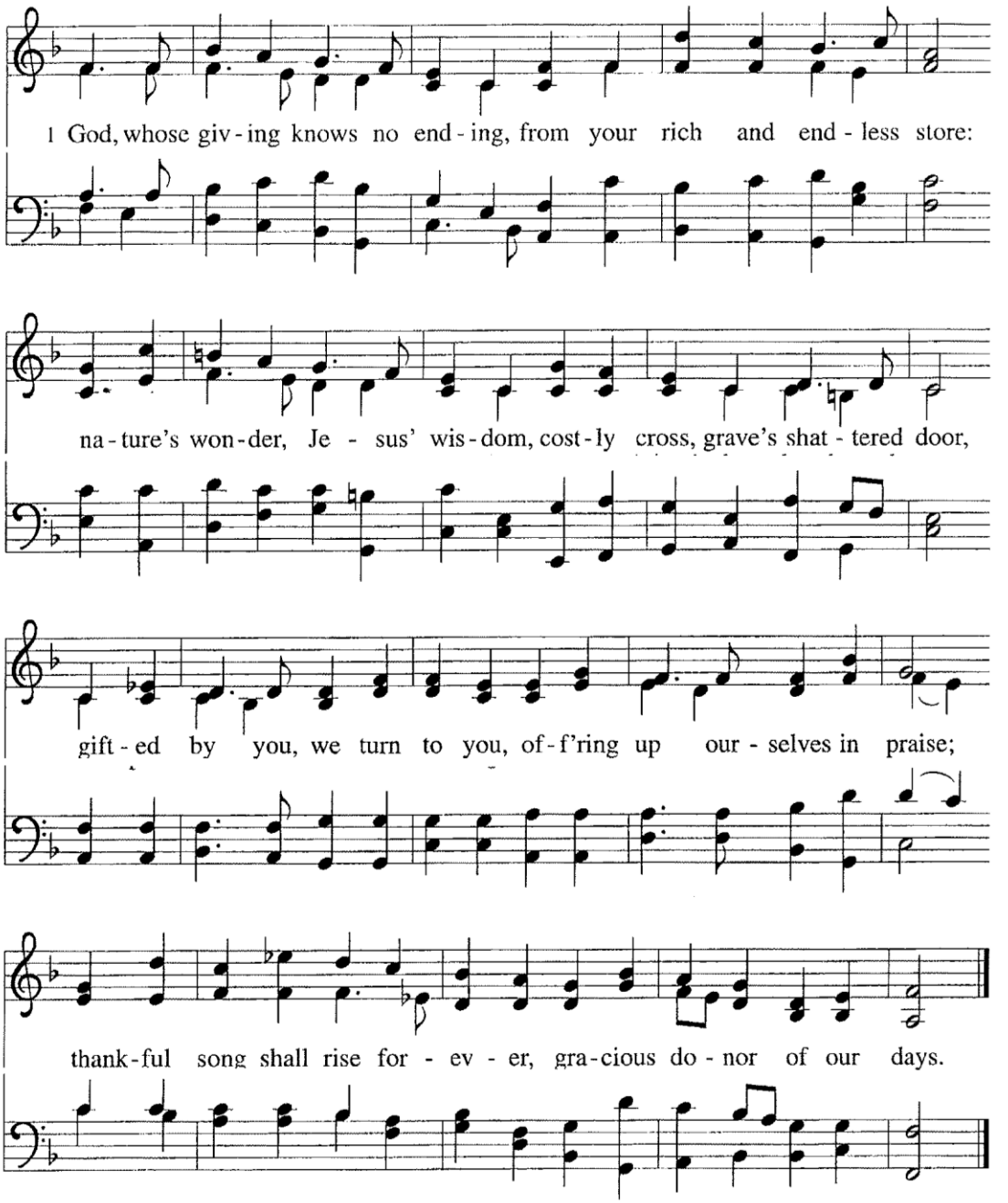
Beatus homo qui invenit sapientiam et qui affluit prudentia:
Melio est acquisitio ejus negotiatione argenti, et auri primi et purisimi.

Blessed is the man that findeth wisdom, and is rich in prudence:
The purchasing thereof is better than the merchandise of silver,
And [her fruit] than the chief and purest gold.
Proverbs 3:13-14

Please sign the blue pew pads as you listen to the anthem.

MEAL

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



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

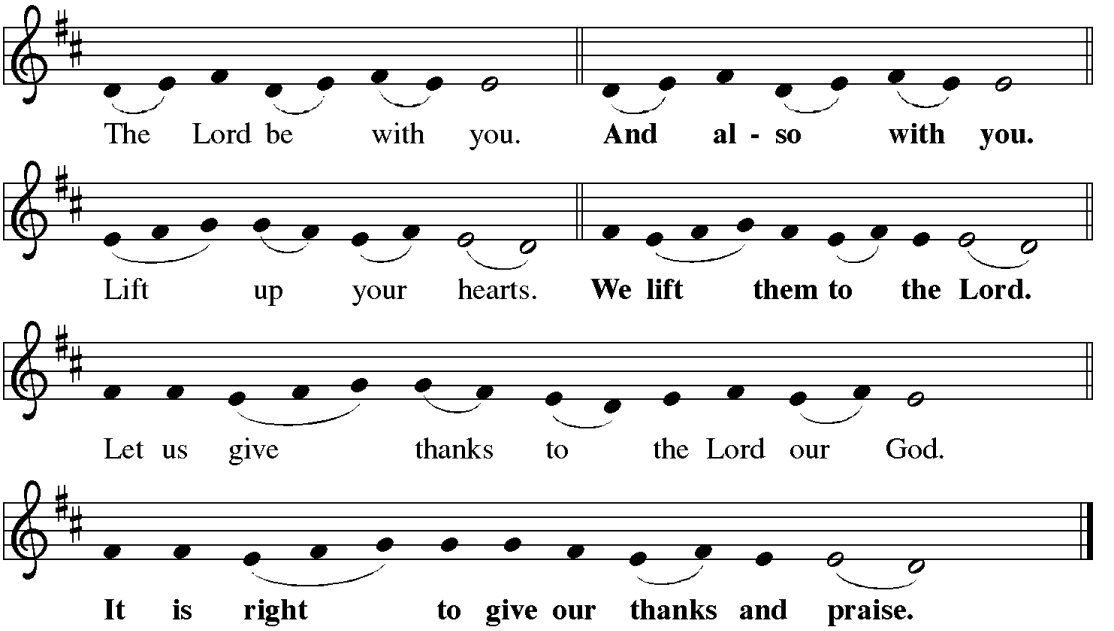
OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray. God of all creation, all blessings are from you. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, and in this meal, your gift to us, form us into the body of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

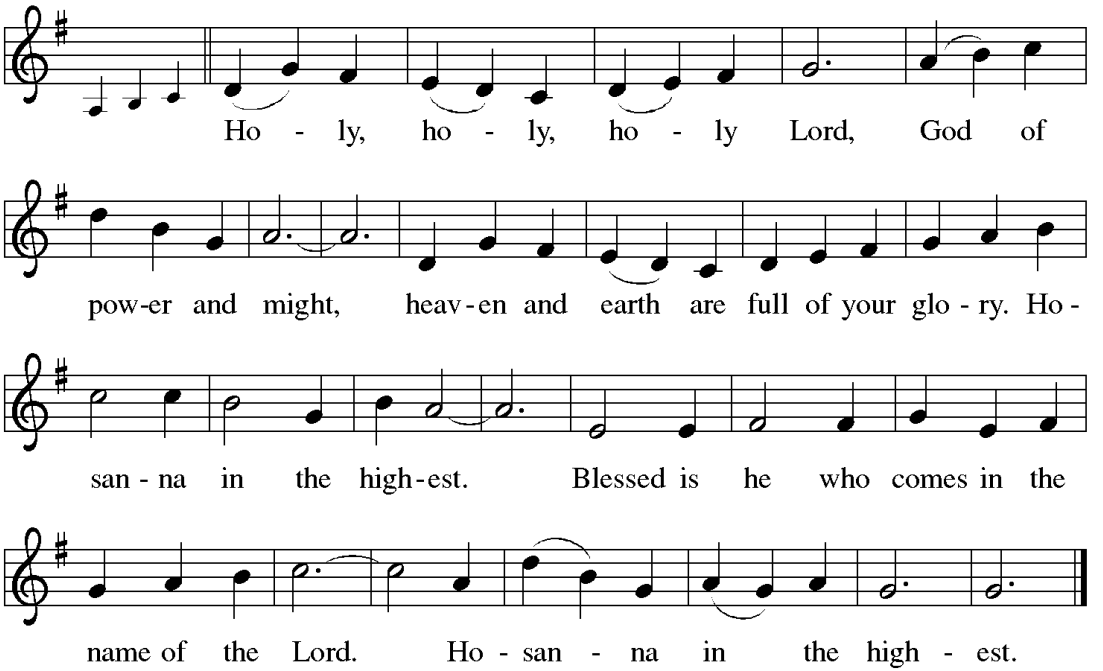


The presiding minister continues:

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:



Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:…we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God,…to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray,…with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers…all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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

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

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.

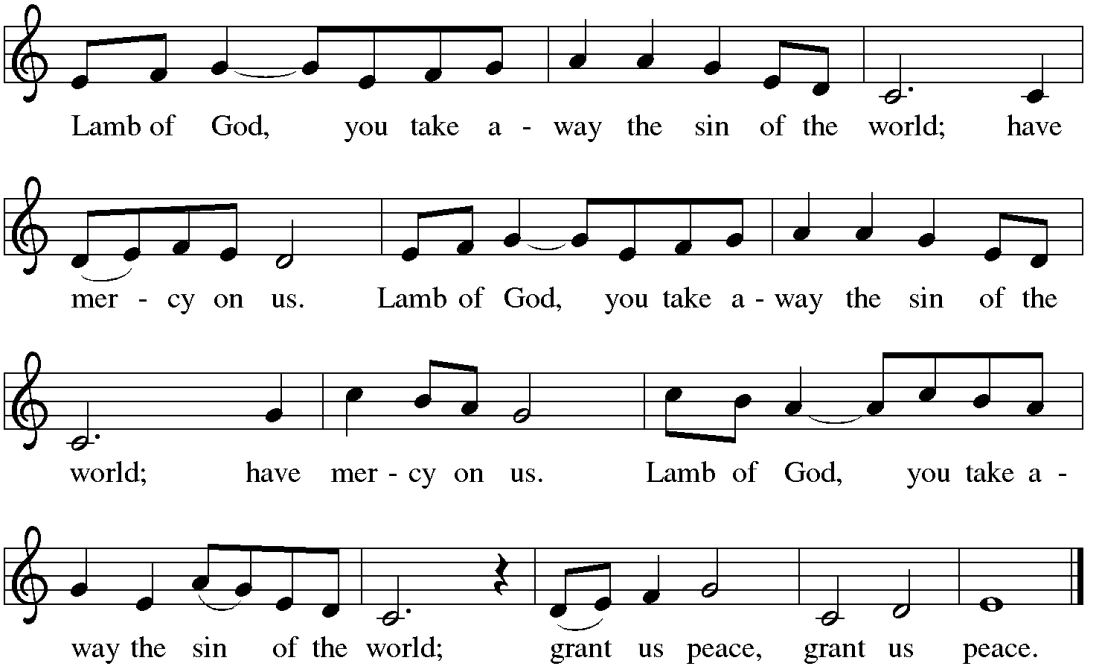
Distribution by procession

We invite you to come forward in procession in two columns down the center aisle beginning with those closest to the table. Those seated behind follow, then those from the side sections, beginning at the front of the section walking back behind the center sections to join the center aisle line. The communion ministers will stand in two stations on the predella step. Receive the bread from the pastor, take an empty cup to be filled with wine or a cup prefilled with juice, move on to the minister with the chalice, deposit your used glass in the tray, and continue back to your seat. Remain seated to sing the hymns while you wait your turn. If you desire to commune but are unable to come forward, please inform an usher or neighbor so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

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.

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:



COMMUNION MUSIC *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* Johann Sebastian Bach
Chime Choir

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the ways of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessing of almighty God, the Father of glory, + Jesus Christ our peace, and the Spirit of truth, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN # 548 *Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen*

PLEASE BE SEATED WHILE PASTORS REMOVE VESTMENTS

And Presentations are set up…..

PRESENTATIONS:

Master of Ceremony: Frank Mariano
Proclamations: Representative Brenda Pugh
Senator, Lisa Baker, by Frank Mariano
Boy Scouts
Comments by Keith Brosious
Devotional reading: Amanda Brevosky
Presentation of Gifts: Frank Mariano
Closing Thoughts and Prayer:

Heavenly Father, shepherd of your people, we thank you for your servant, Pastor Charles Grube, who was faithful in the care and nature of your flock for the past twenty-nine years. We pray that, following his example and the teaching of his holy life, we may by your grace attain our full maturity in Christ. We thank you for the food prepared for us this day, for the hands that prepared it, and for the provisions of the earth. We thank you for the fellowship time and memories we will share through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The reception, sponsored by Dorcas and catered by "Leave It To Donna Catering, follows in the Social Hall after the Dismissal.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeters:	Brad & Ruth Ide
Acolyte & Assisting Minister:	Hannah Grube Cooper
Lector:	Hilary Grube Regan
Communion Assistants:	Rev. Stan Reep, Hannah Grube Cooper, Clara Grube Orgitano, Hilary Grube Regan, Keith & Trish Brosious
Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Altar Clean Up:	Gail Smallwood
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, in Memory of Todd Holbrook, by the Miller-Holbrook Family. The **SIDE VASE OF FLOWERS** is given in Honor of Pastor & Jean Grube, for twenty-nine years of faithful service to the members and children of St. Paul's, by Lee & Carol Fett and Miguel & Stephanie Younger. **BULLETINS** are sponsored by the Smallwood Family, in Honor and Gratitude to Pastor Charles and Jean Grube.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Rev. Stanley Reep, Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in York, Pa. and best friend of Pastor Grube's since seminary days for participating in our service today.

FAREWELL AND GOD'S SPEED to Pastor and Jean Grube. Pastor Grube was called to St. Paul's on June 29, 1997, and took office on August 11, 1997, and holds the record of being the Pastor longer than any other Pastor in St. Paul's history. He has officiated at countless baptisms, first communions, confirmations, weddings, funerals, attended countless council and committee meetings; joined in the planning and chaperoning of numerous youth group gatherings, traveled to South America to our companion synod in Argentina, led us through the building construction and move to our current locations, the addition of the Porte Cochere and most recently, saw us through the Covid pandemic (and countless other meetings & events). Jean, became Director of our Chapel and Emmanuel Choirs in September 1997 which turned into the Youth Choir, worked extensively with the youth of St. Paul's with her involvement with the Sunday School and Youth Groups and wrote and directed several Sunday School Christmas programs. Retirement blessings to both Pastor and Jean!

COMMUNION ELEMENT EXCHANGE: We have celebrated Reformation Sunday for more than 30 years by exchanging communion elements with St. Therese's Catholic Church in Shavertown. St. Therese's will celebrate with the wafers we shared with them, while we celebrate with the wine they have shared with us. These communion elements are a sign of the unity we share in Christ.

IT'S FLEECE BLANKET MAKING TIME— Please join the Social Ministry Committee in the Social Hall from 10:00 am-noon to make blankets for the children's grief and special needs camps at Hillside Farm on any of the following dates: Mondays—October 26, November 2 and Wednesdays—October 28. No special skills are necessary. If you have a question, please contact Marianne Mancke.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY: We are preparing a collection of photos for All Saints' Sunday, November 1. As in past displays, we will include photos of church members who have died this year. We will also include photos of the newly baptized members. During the liturgy, names of those who have died this year and names of those who have been baptized this year will be remembered out loud in prayer. We invite you to bring a photo of any loved one who has died to add to the display in the Narthex. You may take your photo home after the November 1 service. Included in the October newsletter is a form and envelope for our Annual All Saints' Day Appeal, or you may make your donation via our on-line giving link (Vanco) by visiting our web site at stpaulsdallaspa.org and clicking on the link to on-line giving.

READY FOR a great meal and lots of fellowship? A Brotherhood Roast Beef Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 7; tickets (available at the door) are $16.00/adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Take-outs begin at 3:30 pm and dinner is served beginning at 4:00 pm. Invite family members and friends too. The sign-up poster for volunteers to help with the meal (we still need volunteers and cake bakers) is located in the Narthex.

MANY THANKS to the Dorcas Society for its very generous gift of $6,000 to the church operating budget. The fall rummage sale was one of the most successful ever; congratulations to all the members for holding another outstanding sale!

REMEMBER TO set your clocks back one hour next weekend as Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 1.

THE MARTIN LUTHER BANNER (or Luther Rose banner) used in churches displays Martin Luther's personal seal, which serves as a visual summary of the core Christian faith and Protestant Reformation theology. The seal and banner feature five distinct elements, as explained by Luther in 1530:

- **Black Cross:** Placed inside the heart to represent faith in Jesus Christ crucified, which brings salvation.
- **Red Heart:** Kept in its natural color to show that faith in the Crucified One gives life, comfort, and vitality.
- **White Rose:** Placed around the heart to symbolize that faith provides joy, comfort, and peace—resembling the joy of angels rather than the world.
- **Sky-Blue Field:** The background behind the rose, denoting that joyful faith in the spirit is the beginning of heavenly joy to come.
- **Golden Ring:** Encircling the entire seal to signify that heavenly blessedness is precious, endless, and of greater value than all earthly treasures.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today:	9:30 am – Pastor's Retirement Service
	11:00 am—Grube Retirement Reception
Monday	10:00 am – Blanket Project
Wednesday:	10:00 am – Blanket Project
Thursday:	7:00 pm – Choir rehearsal
Saturday:	5:30 pm – Worship
Next Sunday:	9:30 am – Worship –All Saints' Sunday
	5:00 pm—Scouts

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NOVEMBER:

Oct. 31/Nov. 1	Keith Brosious (No Communion)
Nov. 7/8	Frank Mariano (No Communion
Nov. 14	Rev. Lynn Rothrock (Baptism/Communion)
Nov. 15	Trish Brosious (No Communion)
Nov. 21	Gail Smallwood (No Communion)
Nov. 22	Rev. Reiner (Communion)
Nov. 28/29	Deacon Talley (No Communion)

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. Pray for the Congregation of St. Peter, Hughestown, 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, Wally Richardson, Val Rothrock, Greta Ruckno, Carol Swanson, John Thomas, Colette Weaver, Anita Weiss, Judy Wise, 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, Brenda Banaszek, Alanna Berger, Tim Brown and family, Cliff and Ron Bunt, Donna C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janet DeCosta, Debbie Demuro, Harrison Frye, Sharon Mary Golden, Nancy Harm, Debbie Hilbert, Marty Hille, Joyce Horan, Jenn Hubbard, Christine Ide, Doug Ide, Frank Ide, Candace Jones, Michael Kaminski, Patricia Kay, Joe Kerestes, Debbie Kertesz, Ken Kertesz, Bradley Kessler, Alice Laskowski, Chuck Litkin, John, Karen and Charlie Lulun, Jim Madonna, Carol Marker, Cathy Martin, Becky Morgan, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Abraham Quintanar, Febe Quintanar, Andy Reistetter, Doris Rosencrans, Bonnie Ryman, Sandra Serhan, Nancy Shymanski, MaryAnn Size, Richard Skurski, Wally Skurski, Gayle Smith, Sonny Smith, Sandy Sprau, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Larry Titus, Corrine Varneke, Tabitha Walters, Nancy Weller, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Chris Z., Mary Z., Ashley, Bethann, Keith, Megan, the M family, Johnny, Betsy, Dawn, Jonathan, Joni, Beth, Stone Family, Stacey, Laura, Debra and their families, Josiah, Mary, Tommy (no last names given).