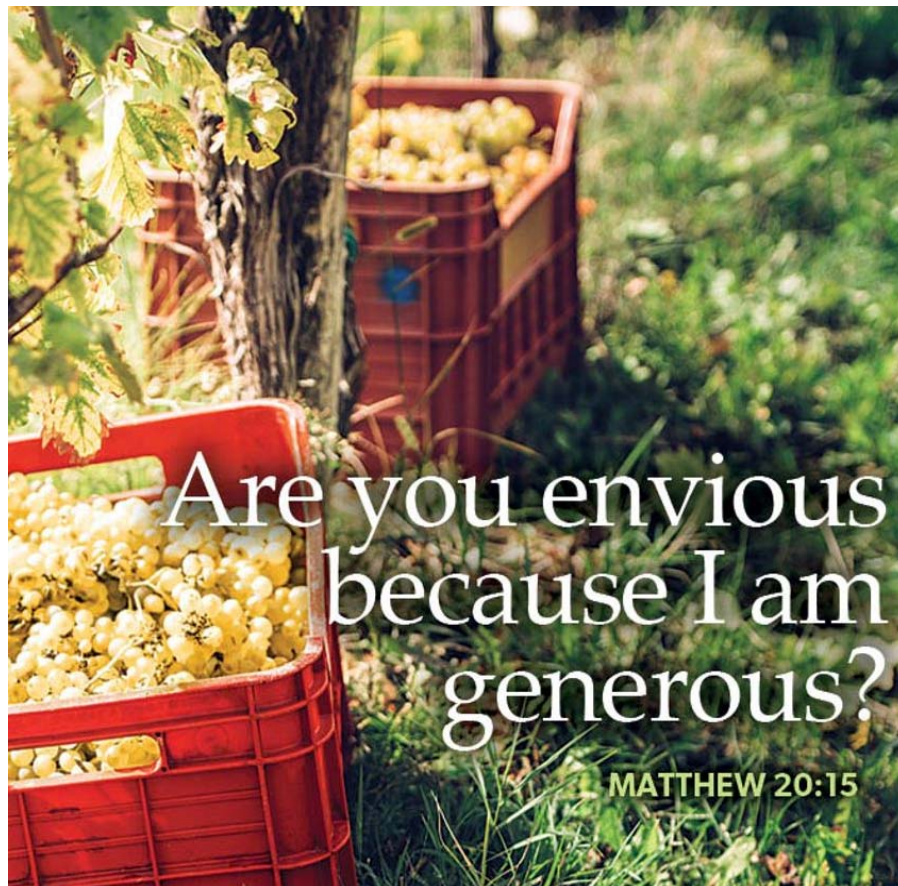


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## *The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Sunday, September 24, 2023 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

10 West 31st Street Savannah, Georgia 31401 (912) 233-8895

**Sunday, September 24, 2023**  
**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

+ *Please Stand*

**Welcome & Announcements**  
**Prelude    Rebecca McClain**

**Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Most merciful God,

**C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors and ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

+

## Opening Hymn

# Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty #250

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty  
waits for God who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place,  
filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before thee;  
come thou also unto me;  
where we find thee and adore thee,  
there a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, oh, enter thou,  
let it be thy temple now!
- 3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted,  
here thy seed is duly sown;  
let my soul, where it is planted,  
bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
so that all I hear may be  
fruitful unto life in me.
- 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken,  
let me keep thy gift divine;  
howsoe'er temptations thicken,  
may thy word still o'er me shine  
as my guiding star through life,  
as my comfort in all strife.
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,  
let thy will be done indeed;  
may I undisturbed draw near thee  
while thou dost thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

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

**C** And also with you.

## The Hymn of Praise



♩ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



♩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## The Prayer of The Day

### Recognition of Birthdays & The Children's Sermon

## **The First Lesson**

## **Jonah 3:10-4:11**

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. <sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

## **Choir Anthem**

## **The Chancel Choir**

## **The Second Lesson**

## **Philippians 1:21-30**

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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.

**P The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.**

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**P The Gospel of the Lord.**

Praise to you, O Christ.

**The Sermon**

**Rev. Peter J. Hartmann**

**The Sermon Hymn**

**Beneath The Cross of Jesus #107**

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I long to take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land,  
a home within a wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and burdens of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus,  
my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of one  
who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears,  
two wonders I confess:  
the wonder of his glorious love  
and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, your shadow  
for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all, the cross.

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Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869

## The Apostles' 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**


## The Prayers of The Church The Lord's Prayer


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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**


## The Words of Institution & The Communion

- P** The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C**  Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.


 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.

 He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with

 shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord Bless You & Keep You, The Lord Make His Face Shine on you and Be Gracious to You, The Lord Look Upon You with Favor, and Give You Peace.

**C**  A - men, A - men, A - - - men.



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## The Closing Hymn

### Earth & All Stars #558

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Oh, victory! Loud shouting army!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!

#### *Refrain*

He has done marvelous things.  
I too will praise him with a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Flowers and trees! Loud rustling dry leaves!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
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**P/C** Go In Peace! Serve The Lord! / **Thanks Be To God!**

**Organ Postlude** **Rebecca McClain**

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**We Welcome You to  
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church...**

Whether you are a long time member, friend at St. Paul's, or here for the first time, we are glad you are with us in worship today! If you are in need of pastoral care, please give us a call. If you will be entering the hospital or preparing for any surgical procedures, please let the Pastor know so he can plan to visit and have prayer with you during this time. Thank you for checking the "prayer list" posted in the bulletin today and for helping us to keep this list current by notifying the office with any updates. All are welcome to partake in The Communion during the service. After The Consecration, come forward as able to receive the Blessing and The Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ and then return to your pew to complete the service.

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**We Remember in Our Prayers...**

Kevin Boatright, Ronnie & Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Florence Brown, Tom Brown, Jean Camp, Jennifer & Rob Campbell, Nancy Flood, Virginia Huber, Connie Jones, Don Kennedy, Shirley Kennedy, Dottie Kraft, John I. Lanier, Ann Lariscy, Rev. Oddie C. Lockett, George Martin Sr., Joan Martin, Leonora Reid, Al Schunemann, Kay Sellman, Terry Sheldahl, Isabelle Sherouse, Mary Sikes, Charlie Smith, Marilyn Stemsrud, Barbara & Tim Tyson, and Melissa Waller.

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**Current Budgetary Needs Each Sunday From 2023 Offerings**

\$8,600.00

**Received From Current Offerings Last Week**

\$2,967.00

**Worship Statistics Last Week In Person & At Home**

8:30 am - 41 11:00 am - 55 Facebook - 65

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**W E L C A**

**SEPTEMBER COLLECTIONS ...**

**We are collecting "Cards for Veterans" in  
Honor of Veterans' Day...**

**Items for Operation Shoebox... And  
Encouragement Cards for the Children of P A C K  
Available in the Narthex**

## **Our Worship Leaders & Staff...**

**Senior Pastor...** The Rev. Peter J. Hartmann  
**Director of Music & CFO ...** Donald R. Martin, Jr.  
**Senior Organist ...** Rebecca T. McClain  
**Office Administrator ...** Fran Snipes  
**“The Epistle” ...** Betsy Martin  
**Facebook Live Broadcasting...** Lisa B. Martin  
**Chancel Choir Soprano Section Leader ...** Melissa Flummerfelt  
**Chancel Choir Tenor Section Leader ...** Carl Lettow  
**Chancel Choir Bass Section Leader ...** Anthony Broadnax  
**Pre-School Director ...** Gina Johnson  
**Assistant Pre-School Director ...** Cynthia Thomas  
**Parish Housekeeping ...** April Reilly

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### **Our Lectors Today**

8:30 Kelley Cale 11:00 Rick Gnann

### **September Altar Guild**

8:30 Lisa Gnann & Becky Truluck  
11:00 Candy Green & Alison Gaudry

### **Liturgical Service Cantors**

Melissa Flummerfelt, Emma Martin, Carol Stemsrud

### **Communion Assistants**

8:30 Janet Gnann & Lisa Gnann  
11:00 Gene Henry & Lisa Neville

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## **“Operation Christmas Child” Shoebox Drive Starts October 1st...**





**COAT DRIVE**

**We Are Running Our Annual Coat Drive  
For the Month of September.  
Men, Women & Children's Coats...  
Must Be in Good Condition.**



**Come Join Our Day Care For...  
HALLOWEEN TRUNK or TREAT  
"Box Dinners" On Friday Afternoon  
October 27th ... 4pm - 6pm  
Hamburger or Hot Dog w Fixin's  
Chips & A Cookie**

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