

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, September 7, 2025 10:00 a.m.

10 West 31st Street, Savannah, Georgia

Sunday, September 7, 2025
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Welcome & Announcements

Service Prelude
Jared Hall, Organist

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 as 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

“St. Paul’s”

Come you children of salvation,
Come and sing and rally round.
Challenge met and challenge conquered,
Weakness shall not put us down.
Turn we now to goals to strive for,
Turn we now to work begun,
Faith in God our driving motto,
Him our Holy Guide 'till done.

Saints before, whose lives have led us,
to the church triumphant gone.
Mark we now their tasks completed,
Thanks we give for every one.
Sing we all to God the Father,
Sing we to His only Son,
Sing we to the Holy Spirit,
Praises to the Three In One.

Words & Music by William B. Clarke, Jr.

Organist Emeritus, 1952 - 2012

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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 Gloria



W Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



W 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:



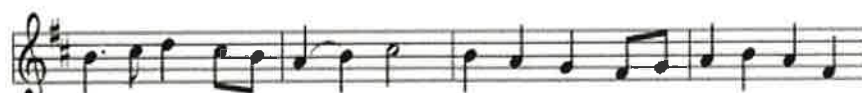
You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Here Ends the First Lesson

The Hymn of The Day

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”



1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -
stars in their cours-es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

The Second Lesson

Philemon 1-21

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Here Ends the Second Lesson



P The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.



²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

P The Gospel of the Lord



The Sermon

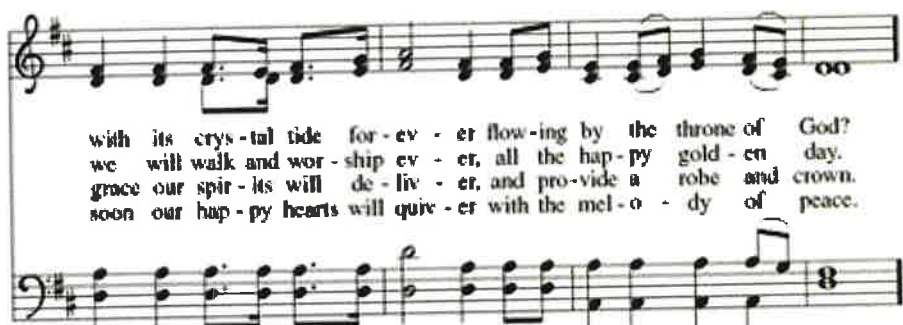
Rev. Peter J. Hartmann

The Sermon Hymn

“Shall We Gather at the River”

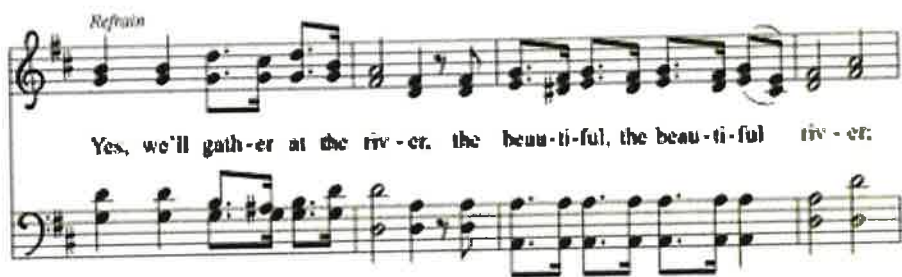


1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

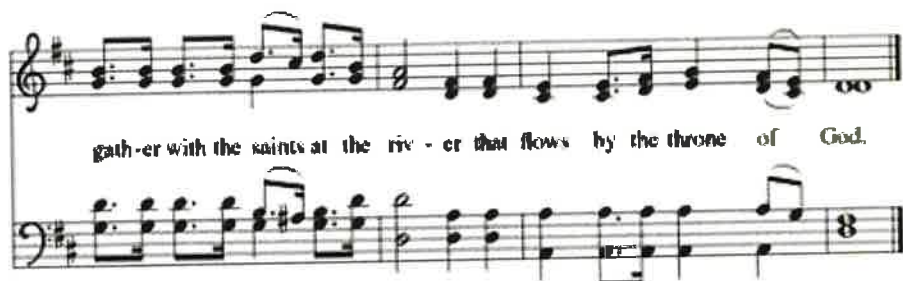


with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

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

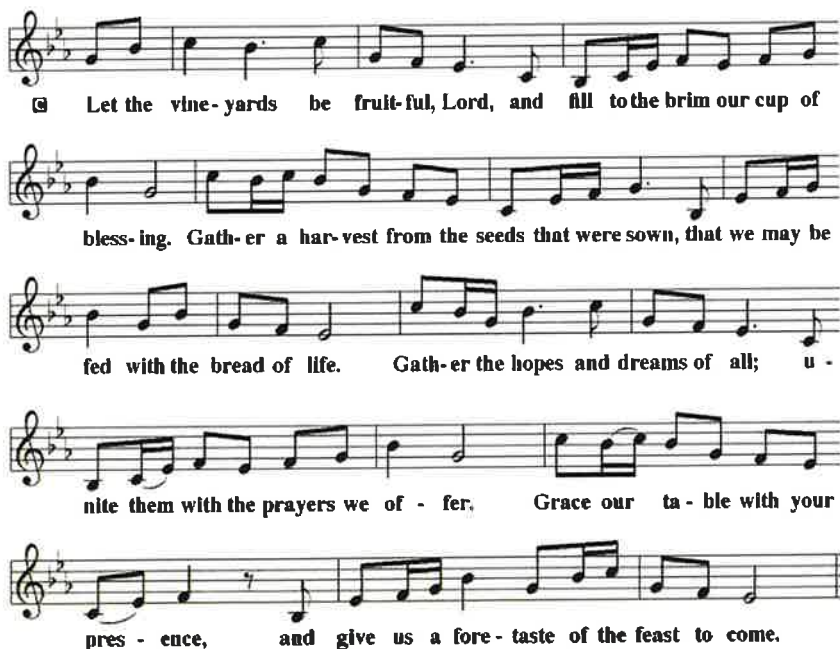
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

P The Peace of The Lord Be with You.

C And Also with You.

Sharing of The Peace & Chancel Choir Anthem

The Offering



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 dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P Let Us Pray

P Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love, Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The musical score is written on eight staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The second staff also has a repeat sign. The third staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The fourth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The fifth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The sixth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The seventh staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The eighth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure.

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

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

Heav'n 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.

The Words of Institution

The Communion



C 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.

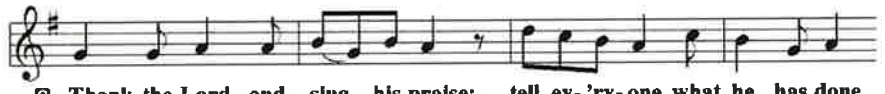


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

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 ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice 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.



A-men, A-men, A - - - men.

The Closing Hymn

+ “Onward Christian Soldiers” #509



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,
 2 Like a might - y ar - my moves the church of God;
 3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, king - doms rise and wane;
 4 On - ward, then, you faith - ful, join our hap - py throng;



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.
 let us bold - ly fol - low where the saints have trod.
 but the church of Je - sus con - stant will re - main;
 blend with ours your voic - es in the tri - umph song.



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, leads a - gainst the foe;
 We are not di - vid - ed; all one bod - y we;
 gates of hell can nev - er 'gainst the church pre - vail.
 Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or un - to Christ the king.



for - ward in - to bat - tle, see, his ban - ners go!
 one in hope and doc - trine, one in char - i - ty.
 We have Christ's own prom - ise, and that can - not fail.
 We through count - less a - ges with the an - gels sing:



Refrain
 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.

P/C Go In Peace! Serve The Lord! / **Thanks Be To God!**

Postlude Jared Hall

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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.

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We Remember in Our Prayers...

Kevin Boatright, Ronnie & Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Florence Brown, Tom Brown, Jean Camp, Kim Conway, Alice Ann Duggar, David Fennell, Miriam Fulton, Frances Graff, Louise Grotheer, Gene Henry, Don Kennedy, Dianne Martin, Sydney Oetgen, Al Schunemann, Kay Sellman, Isabelle Sherouse, Charlie Smith, Debbie Sonnenschmidt, Barbara & Tim Tyson, Melissa Waller, Michelle Ward, Joe Whitaker and Alan Wyatt.

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Current Budgetary Needs Each Sunday From 2025 Offerings
\$8,200.00

Received From Current Offerings Last Week:
\$1,893.00

Worship Statistics Last Week:
10:00 AM - 66 Facebook Broadcast - 109

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Our Worship Leaders & Staff...

Senior Pastor... The Rev. Peter J. Hartmann
Director of Music & CFO ... Donald R. Martin, Jr.
Senior Organist & Choir Accompanist ... Jared Hall
Organ Curator ... James Freeman - Callahan, Florida
Office Administrator ... Fran Snipes
"The Epistle" ... Betsy Martin
Facebook Live Broadcasting... Lisa B. Martin
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 Lector Today

Vishanya Forbes-Jones

Altar Guild

Lisa Gnann, Alison Gaudry & Candy Green

Liturgical Service Cantors

Emma Levy & Carol Stemsrud

Communion Assistants

Lisa Neville & Gloria Brown

Narthex Greeters

JoNell Henry

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"Sharknado"

The Musical...

Coming Oct 4th & 5th
Saturday Evening 7 pm

With A Luncheon

Sunday the 5th

Lunch 11AM

Musical 12 Noon



Operation Christmas Child The Power of a Simple Gift

Churches in more than 100 countries distribute gift-filled shoeboxes to boys and girls during outreach events that focus on Jesus Christ, God's Greatest Gift.

**Time To start Planning Now!
Operation Christmas Child Begins
NEXT WEEK!!!**

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**OUR ANNUAL COAT DRIVE HAS BEGUN!!!
Gently Used or New Coats Are
Being Collected to be Delivered to Our
Neighboring Shelters for the Fall & Winter!!!
Place All Donations in the Narthex....**