



## **OF RESOLUTE PATIENCE**

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

# **ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI**

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*October 8, 2023*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

## **PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP**

God, your patience with us is beyond comprehension. Over and over again we disappoint you and can reject you and your Word just like the Israelites did throughout their history with the prophets. Nurture our faith through the power of your Spirit that we can see the times you send your Word to us and so we can receive your Son with joy and appreciation. In the name of the One who embodied your resolute patience, we pray. Amen.

## **FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids' Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

## **THANK OFFERING**

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



# SETTING THREE

p.188

*The Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

## CHOIR

*Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near*

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

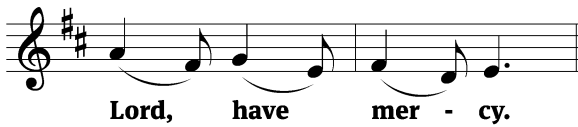
## DECLARATION OF GRACE

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

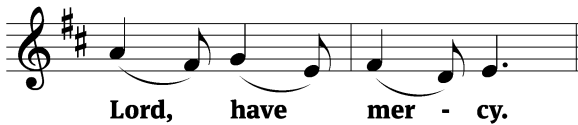
**Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



*Tune: © 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889*

## GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

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

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to



*Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman*

*Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889*

## *The Word*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

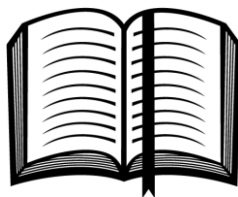
## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*



## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 5:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my loved one a song about my loved one's vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile ridge.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the best vines.

He built a tower in the middle of it.

He also cut a winepress into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,  
but it produced only sour grapes.

<sup>3</sup>So now, you residents of Jerusalem and you men of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more could have been done for my vineyard  
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of sweet grapes,  
why did it produce sour grapes?

<sup>5</sup>Now, let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become a pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed.

So briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it.

<sup>7</sup>Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,  
and the men of Judah are the planting that was pleasing to him.

He expected justice, but instead there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# HYMN

## 631 Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening



1 Speak, O Sav - ior, I am lis - t'ning, as a ser - vant  
 2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you and to lis - ten  
 3 Lord, your words are wa - ters liv - ing where I quench my  
 4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; let your words in



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or  
 to your voice; let me ev - er love and fear you,  
 thirst - y needs. Lord, your words are bread life - giv - ing;  
 me take root. May your Spir - it e'er be near me



to your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, that each day, my whole life  
 let your Word still be my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,  
 on your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, your words will be my  
 that I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing your



through, I may serve and fol - low you. Let your Word e'er  
 Lord, flee in ter - ror at your Word; but to all who  
 light thro' death's cold and drear - y night; yes, they are my  
 praise, from my heart glad an - thems raise, till my high - est



be my plea - sure and my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.  
 feel sin's bur - den you give peace and words of par - don.  
 sword pre - vail - ing and my cup of joy un - fail - ing.  
 praise is giv - en in the end - less joy of heav - en.

*Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638–1683; (sts. 1, 4); tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (sts. 2–3); tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.  
 Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667  
 Text and tune: Public domain*

## SECOND READING

*Philippians 3:12–21*

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. <sup>16</sup>Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

<sup>17</sup>Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. <sup>18</sup>To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Ephesians 2:10*

**Alleluia!**

**For we are God's handiwork,  
created in Christ Jesus to do good works.**

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 21:33–43*

<sup>33</sup>"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. He leased it out to

some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. <sup>34</sup>When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup>Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. <sup>38</sup>But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance!' <sup>39</sup>They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?"

<sup>41</sup>They told him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due."

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

<sup>43</sup>"That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit."

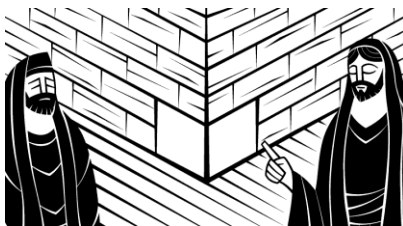
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Children who are in grade four and younger may come forward and sit on the front step for the children's devotion. Older children, parents, or other family members may come forward to encourage the younger children's participation.*



## HYMN OF THE DAY

705 *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep,
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands—'tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.  
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.  
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.  
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870  
Text and tune: Public domain*

## SERMON

*Matthew 21:33-43*

### Bring Forth Fruit for Your Lord

*Stand*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **OFFERING**

*"I know, my God, that you test the heart, and you take pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things. Now with joy I see your people, who are present here to bring the offering freely to you" (1 Chronicles 29:17).*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Almighty God, heaven and earth are full of your glory. All the stars, the sun and moon, all energies and forces, the sea and clouds are messengers of your wonder and might. For your creation, we praise you, O Father. We pray for your Church and your people. Grant us ministers and teachers who are led by your Spirit and earnestly hold forth your Word of Life.

**Save us from all false prophets and deceitful guides that we, being knit together in love, may with one mind strive for the truth of your Word.**

Guard and defend our homes, that parents may be kept in the bonds of love and rule their children well, nourishing them in truth and righteousness. Bestow your favor on all useful labor in industry and agriculture, education and science, and the professions and the arts.

**Bless their growth and advancement that your people may prosper.**

We pray for all who may be ill in body, mind, or spirit; for all who may be in danger; for all who may be in anxiety or perplexity; for all who may be suffering disappointment or defeat.

**Be present with them in their afflictions, show them the way out of all their troubles, and save them for your mercy's sake.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

Heavenly Father, you did not spare your own Son but freely gave him up for us all. Mercifully grant these and all other acceptable petitions that you read in our hearts in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## HYMN

## 811 My Faith Looks Up to Thee



- 1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
- 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
- 4 When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my  
my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's  
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

*Stand*

## **PRAYER**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## CLOSING HYMN

## 862 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; curb those who  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would seek to o - ver - throw your  
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your Chris - ten - dom that  
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son and to de - stroy what he has done.  
 we may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
 strife and lead us out of death to life.

*Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546*

*Tune: Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug*

*Text and tune: Public domain*



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING TODAY

Our next quarterly voters' meeting is today at 11:15 am in the church basement.

## MIDWEEK STUDY – THE BOOK OF REVELATION

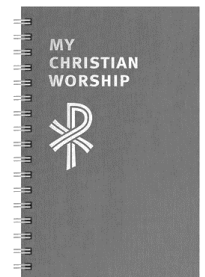
Our first midweek Bible study this fall is on one of the most interesting books of Scripture: Revelation. Chapter by chapter the author cuts a pathway through each vision and prophecy of Revelation until he reaches the clearing where we behold a new heaven and a new earth. The 12 Lessons include: The Purpose, Outline and Interpretation of the Book; The Letters to the Seven Churches; God's Rule of the World; The Seven Seals; God's Judgment of the World; The Church Secure and Glorified; The Devil and His Helpers Appear; The Seven Bowls of Wrath; The Downfall of the Devil's Allies; The Millennium; The New Heaven and the New Earth; and Review. Join us as we continue to dive into the imagery and meaning of Christ our Savior in the book of Revelation.

## TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT HELP

PACE is looking for a few volunteers to represent our church and school at the Bangor Library's "Trunk or Treat." The event will include greeting and helping the children pick a special treat from our St. Paul's "trunk." "Trunk or Treat" is on October 31st, from 4-6pm in the Library's parking lot. PACE members will help set up the event and supply all the goodies. If anyone would like to support the event, we would welcome your help. If interested, please feel free to reach out to Krista Pfaff at 608-386-2444. Thank you for your support!

## NEW WORSHIP RESOURCE FROM NPH

*My Christian Worship* is a note-taking journal for Christians to use during worship services and throughout the week, enhances and facilitates a more mindful participative worship experience, a more personal connection to the hymnal, and suggestions for using the hymnal beyond Sunday for personal devotional use throughout the week. Features include: Seven tips to help you get the most out of time spent in God's Word and enrich your worship experience; Lists of passages in God's Word that provide guidance, comfort, encouragement, and strength in a variety of situations; Helpful prayers for you to use throughout the service and the following week; Ability to organize and take notes during the service helps you retain key information from the sermon; Listing of helpful Christian Worship:



Hymnal resources for your personal devotional use throughout the week, including: Daily Devotions, Daily Lectionary, Personal Prayers, Questions to Prepare for Communion, and Christian Worship: Psalter. For more info and to order, please visit [online.nph.net/my-christian-worship.html](http://online.nph.net/my-christian-worship.html).

### **LIVE NATIVITY PROP REPAIR NIGHTS**

Prop repair nights for the Live Nativity are Mondays and Wednesdays in October from 6:30-9pm at the Rotary Building (27 Market St. - entrance at center of the building.) Oct. 9,11,16,18,23,25 are all the dates we will be needing help. Come lend a hand for whatever time you are available on those dates. Thank you so much for your willingness to help! Questions? Call George Italiano (608-317-0271).

### **LWMS FALL RALLY**

The LWMS Fall Rally will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2023, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Tomah, WI. Registration will begin at 12:30 with the program starting at 1:00 pm. The guest speaker for the fall rally is Pastor Dennis Kleist, one of the directors of Costa Maya Ministries. A light luncheon will be served following the business meeting.

### **FALL SCRAP-N-CRAFT**

Registration for this year's fall Scrap-N-Craft event can be found printed in the narthex. The event is at Mt. Calvary Grace School (1614 Park, La Crosse) on Saturday, October 14, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm.

### **OFFERING SUMMARY** (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2023 Weekly Budget: \$11,203.00	Budget to Date: \$448,120.00
Received Last Week: \$6,576.46	Rec'd to Date: \$318,883.63

### **LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE**

8:00 am: 112    Live Stream Peak: 15    10:00 am: 92    Total: 219  
Sunday Bible Study: 40    Sunday School: 10    Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 38

# CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am	Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	3:30 pm	Public School Catechism Class
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brock Groth
Accompanist	Harriet Langrehr

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