

# A TIME TO FOCUS ON FUTURE GLORY

All Saints' Sunday

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

November 5, 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

Lord, it isn't easy for me as I await the day I die or the Last Day, whichever comes first. I face temptations and persecution and tribulations, as you said I would. Point my mind and heart forward to the day you will take me to be with you. Today lift my spirit and strengthen my resolve with what that day will be like and what it will mean for me for all eternity. In the Lamb of God I 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.



#### HOLY COMMUNION

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

SETTING ONE p.154

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.

### **OPENING HYMN**

## 892 By All Your Saints Still Striving sts. 1, 4, 3



Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt. Tune: Finnish Text and tune: Public domain

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

### CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins

and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

### **ABSOLUTION**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.



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### **GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH**



## The Word

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love 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 Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They called out with a loud voice and said:

Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb.

<sup>11</sup>All the angels stood around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, <sup>12</sup>saying:

Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>13</sup>One of the elders spoke to me and said, "These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?"

And I answered him, "Sir, you know."

continued...

<sup>14</sup>And he said to me:

These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple.

He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

<sup>16</sup>They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again.

The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat,

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd.

He will lead them to springs of living water.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1–3

<sup>1</sup>See the kind of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are! The world does not know us, because it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is. <sup>3</sup>Everyone who has this hope purifies himself just as Jesus is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Revelation 7:15

Alleluia!

They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Matthew 5:1–12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up onto a mountain. When he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>He opened his mouth and began to teach them. He said these things:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn,

because they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the gentle,

because they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, because they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful.

because they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart,

because they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers,

because they will be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, because theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven. In fact, that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### 885 There Is a Higher Throne



Text: Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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### **SERMON** Revelation 7:9-17

### Filled with Praise, Safe and Sound

Stand

### **NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

### **OFFERING**

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:6,7).

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The pastor speaks the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

Stand

## The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we also bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. See p.295 in the hymnal for preparation.

### **PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

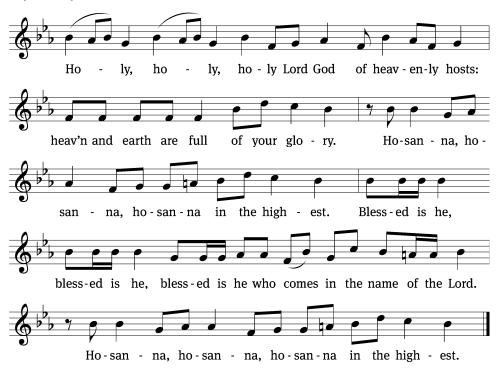


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with 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.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

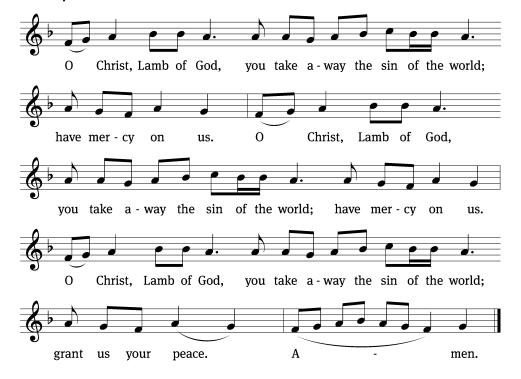
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

### O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



Be seated

### DISTRIBUTION

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17). Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.



5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph-song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

- 6 The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

  Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way.

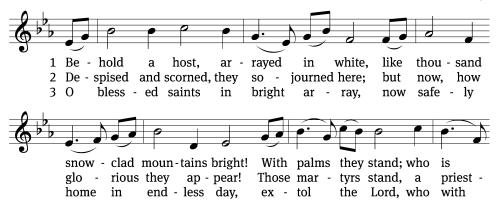
  Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

  Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt. Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text and tune: Public domain

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

### 883 Behold a Host, Arrayed in White



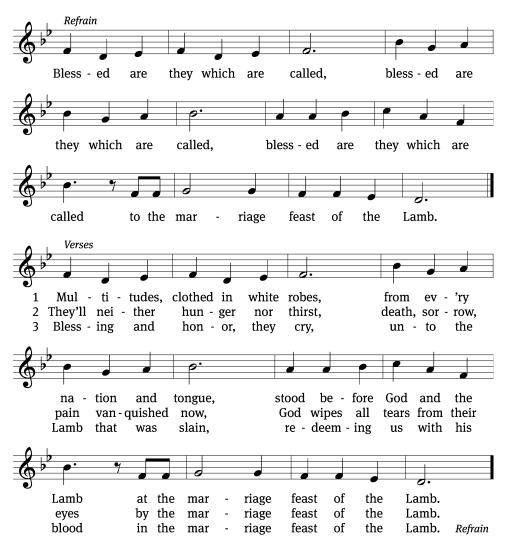
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Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Hans Brorson, 1694–1764 Tune: Norwegian, 17th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

(This hymn was in the CW Supplement 2008, but it may be new to the congregation. Join as comfortable.)



4 Servant, saint, martyr at rest, sanctified, ransomed, restored, thund'rously sing a new song of the marriage feast of the Lamb. (v. 5, next page...) Worthy are you, Lamb of God,
 to receive glory and praise.
 Alleluia and amen
 for the marriage feast of the Lamb! (Refrain)

Text: Larry L. Fleming, 1936–2003, alt.
Tune: Larry L. Fleming, 1936–2003
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Stand

### **THANKSGIVING**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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**



Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676

Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993

Text: Public domain

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## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **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.

#### **SNOW REMOVAL HELP**

It is time to start thinking about snow again! We have a dedicated, but small group of gentlemen who keep our sidewalks clear of snow in the winter. These volunteers provide a great service and savings to the congregation. It would be very helpful to them if we could get three to five more volunteers. We have a schedule of two volunteers per day. If it happens to snow on your day, you remove the snow. The more volunteers we have, they have less days on the schedule. If you live near town and are retired or have a profession such that you are able to help out with this, please contact Dan Arndt. (608) 269-1200.

### ST. PAUL'S APPAREL ORDERS!

Our webstore with Games People Play is live and ready for orders for St. Paul's apparel. There are some new items to purchase for church and school. School parents, there's a school field trip section for field trip apparel for your students. **Please order by November 16** so we can have these items by Christmas. Thanks! https://gppsports.chipply.com/stpaulbangor23

#### **THANK YOU**

The 5-8 Graders would like to thank you for your generous donations to the rummage sale. The sale was a great success. We sold a lot of items and then the rest was donated to various organizations. Our total money raised so far was \$1,800. We will keep doing fundraising events throughout the school year. Please watch out for our next fundraising opportunity. Thank you for your support.

### **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT**

St. Paul's Ladies Aid will host an Advent by Candlelight, by women for women, for ladies of the congregation, female family members and friends on Sunday, December 3, at 2:00 pm in the church basement. The theme for the event is "The King Shall Come." There is no charge for the event. This is a wonderful afternoon of Word, music, and fellowship to help prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holidays get into full swing. Refreshments will be served. To help the committee plan, please sign up on the bulletin board in the entryway with your name(s) and number attending in your group.

### **PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS - CHRISTMAS EVE**

Any 4K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade public school students in the congregation are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve evening services at St. Paul's. Children's services are at 4:30 and 6:00 pm that evening. Copies of the service for memorization will be placed in the narthex (on the shelf under the worship bulletins). A practice schedule will also be placed there after it is set. If your child is participating, please coordinate rides during the school day with the Bangor school office. If transportation is needed, please contact Pastor Groth.

#### **LUTHER FRUIT AND MORE SALE**

The annual Luther Music Fundraiser is underway. See the order form in the narthex or order online at: lutherk12.revtrak.net/fruit-sale/#/list. Abbie Urbanek will be set up in the church basement to take orders for the next few weeks (except Nov. 5).

#### WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

The 2024 WELS International Youth Rally will be June 25-28 at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. The theme for the rally is *From the Mountaintops!* Cliché for a rally in Colorado? Maybe. But it's so much more than the Rockies. Think about all of the mountaintops named in the Bible. What did God proclaim from mountaintops to his Old Testament people? What did Jesus preach to his disciples from mountaintops? We can't wait to learn from the mountaintops of Scripture: Here is your God! The rally is open to teens finishing up eighth grade through graduating high school seniors. If you're interested in attending the rally, please contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com.



HERE IS YOUR GOD!

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

St. Paul's Thanksgiving worship service will once again be the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving at 7:00 pm. The service will include communion.

#### **OCTOBER VOTERS' MEETING MINUTES**

Copies of the October voters' meeting minutes can be found in the narthex.

#### LIVE NATIVITY SETUP

Setup for the Live Nativity at Riverside Park will continue on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Rotary provides lunch. Many hands make light work! Please come for any amount of time you can spare. Questions? Call George Italiano (608-317-0271)

#### LIVE NATIVITY SIGNUP

Start a new family tradition of sharing the good news of Christ's birth by volunteering down at Riverside Park. Many people are needed to staff the diorama each of the following evenings: November 24, 25, 26, and December 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 25. Pick a night or two and come down for any amount of time you can spare. (Friday/Saturdays 5-10pm...Sundays 5-9pm) Sign up using one of the following ways: 1) Under the event on the Live Nativity Riverside- Diorama Facebook page; 2) Text/call Maria Johnson



608-397-4810 or email johnson.maria@live.com; 3) Scan the QR code to get to the signup link.

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

2023 Weekly Budget: \$11,203.00 Budget to Date: \$492,932.00 Received Last Week: \$7,738.43 Rec'd to Date: \$349,412.51

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 109 Live Stream Peak: 18 10:00 am: 58 Total: 198

Sunday Bible Study: 39 Sunday School: 8 Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 34

## **CALENDAR**

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 6:30 pm	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion PACE Meeting
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 3:30 pm 7:30 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class Luther High CoD Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship

### **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presiding Minister Accompanist Pastor Brock Groth Harriet Langrehr

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