

*Twenty-first Sunday after
Pentecost
October 17, 2021*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Prelude

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C: Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb
 who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 3 Sing with all the peo-ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,
 glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: We pray in your name.

C: AMEN!

First Reading: Isaiah 53:4-12

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. ¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm--Psalm 91:9-16

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴**I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:1-10

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness;³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people.⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you";⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he

suffered;⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.
The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

***Gospel Acclamation**



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

***Gospel: Mark 10:35-45**

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?”³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

The Rev. Edward Voosen

Sermon Song

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

#810

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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 the People

(Please respond: Your mercy is great.)

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please stay in your worshiping space and show one another a sign of peace through hand signals, bowing, or other non-contact ways.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

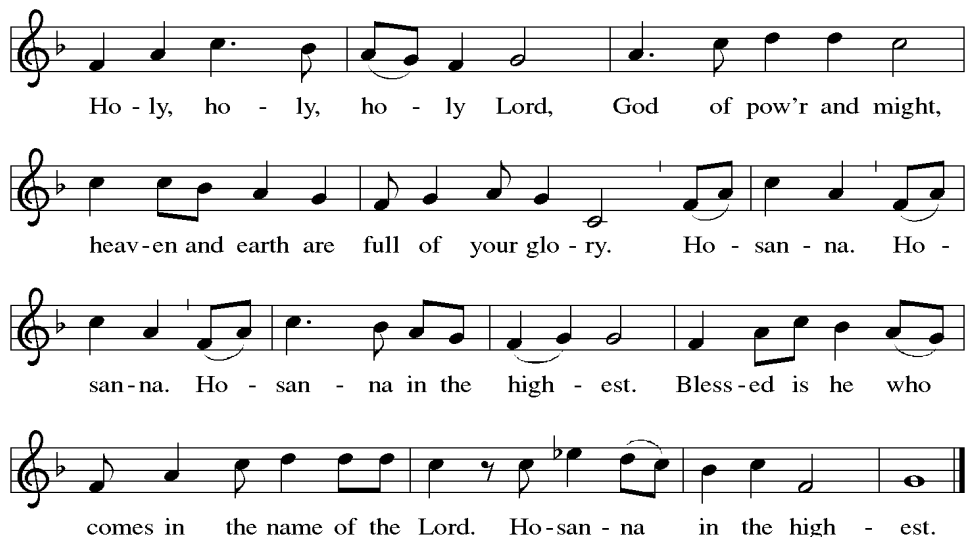
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

A PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Most merciful Lord, since many cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come.

In this wilderness, teach us to be your people and bring us all again to your table so that we may commune together with you. Shape us through this experience to better embody being your people for the sake of the world. Renew and restore us O Christ, for you live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior 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

The body and blood of Christ, given for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Benediction

C: AMEN

Sending Song **“On Our Way Rejoicing”** **#537**

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Devotional

GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 17, 2021

LECTIONARY 29

Choosing to Serve

In the moments before today's gospel reading continues the narrative, Jesus has just told his disciples, for the third time and in some detail, that he will be handed over to the religious leaders and the Roman authorities, and that he will be put to death (Mark 10:32-34).

Shortly thereafter, James and John decided it was the perfect time to ask Jesus for a reward. Did Jesus sigh when he saw them approach, wondering what these Sons of Thunder were up to now? In response to their bold request he doesn't tell them "no," but instead asks something of them. Do they really believe they can follow him on the path he has chosen, to live—and die—like him?

The brothers were confident they could. As astounding as their response may sound to us, are we really any different? Just as small children asserting their autonomy insist, "Lemme do it! I can do it," how often do we too take an I-can-do-it-all-without-your-help approach to our lives? God shows us that we absolutely cannot do everything on our own. Yet God does not just step in and take over. God fully respects our free will, regardless of how wise or unwise our choices might be.

Jesus shows the disciples that his way, God's way, doesn't look like other ways. As followers of Jesus our work is not to seek positions of power and prestige. God is above everything and everyone. Instead, the greatest ones are those who serve. Being a servant, putting others first, is how someone becomes great. Jesus came to serve, not to be served.

Jesus demonstrates the way of Christian living and honors us with the hope that we will follow his example. That we too will choose to serve rather than be served, and in doing so, glorify God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Pastor: Jonathan Westerlund
Minister of Music: Jane E. Clark
Office Manager: Roberta Reynolds
Church: (413) 525-6084

Pastor Jonathan: (860) 398-4376 Pastor Email: PrJonWStPaul@gmail.com
Church Email: stpaul@stpaualelong.org Church Website: www.stpaualelong.org

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pat Gray & family on the passing of her niece, Angie, Barbara Anderson, Don Cheetham, Johannes DeVries, Florence Fay, Ruth Hunter, Dorothy Kowaleski, Jim McKnight, Lorraine Stevens, Tom Sutherland, Eugene Walz.

Please join us in congratulating Pastor Voosen on his 50th Anniversary of Ordination. There will be an outdoor reception following service.

Adult Class will meet on Sundays at 8:30 am. Please join us in the lounge!

Zoom Book Club will meet Monday, November 8 at 7 pm. Participants will receive a link to join the group a few days before the meeting. Please email Nancy Janes with any questions at nfjanes@gmail.com.

Devotional Booklets are outside to the right of the front door of the church in the white mailbox. Please contact the church office if you are unable to pick one up.

The Worship Service will be indoors and livestreamed this Sunday at 9:30 am. Please use the link below for the livestream service:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaualelong/>

You may also watch the recorded service on YouTube using the link below:

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkegkaMRg9zh6CLwZL4JM-w/featured>

- Please contact the church office at stpaul@stpaualelong.org if you are able to volunteer for any openings in the Worship Schedule.