



## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 25, 2024**

**Worship 11:00 A.M.**

Minister: Rev. Diana Edis

Musician: Larissa Goruk

Videographer: George Edis

Reader: Carol Hadland

*In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples step away. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

### **Weekly Prayer Petitions**

**Local:** Seafarers Mission here in Prince Rupert and around the world

**Synod Parishes** Christ the King Lutheran, Surrey; those serving full communion parishes

**ACC:** The clergy and people of the Diocese of Saskatoon

**ELCIC:** Bishop Kathy Martin, the people and rostered ministers of the BC Synod

### **Discipleship Opportunities**

1. The Pastor will be Public at Javadotcup, Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30AM

2. Join us next Sunday, at 6 PM as we gather for our monthly game night and potluck!

\* All Hymns and liturgical text reprinted under **One License**: # A-731124 and **Augsburg Fortress**: # SB157842

\* Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF # SB157842.

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### *Announcements*

#### *Confession and Forgiveness*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn*

*Lead On, O King Eternal!*

ELW # 805



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home,  
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,  
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917  
Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

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

**And also with you.**

*Kyrie*

Pg. 184

*Refrain*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the  
2 That we may live out your im -  
3 For peace in our hearts, for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;  
passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;  
peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;  
cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

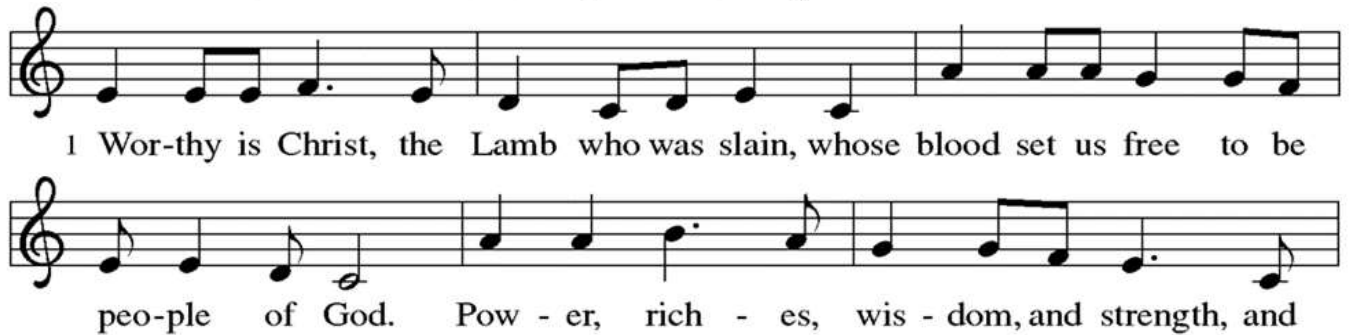
for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,  
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,



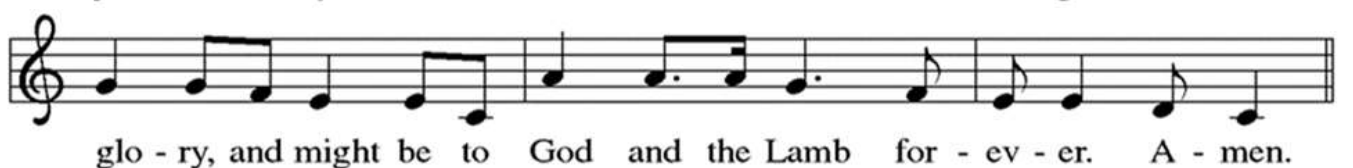
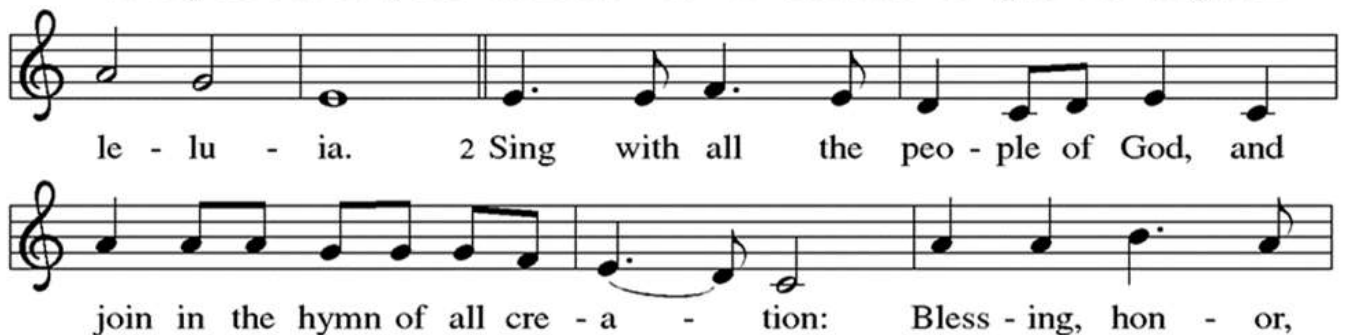
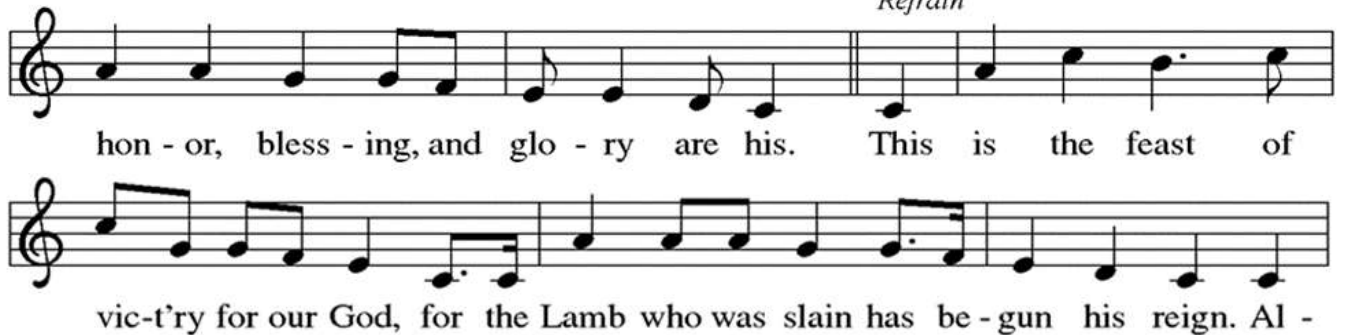
## Hymn of Praise

Pg 187

Refrain



Refrain





Let us pray together our Prayer of the Day

**Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Our first reading is from Joshua, beginning at the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter 24:1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

The word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God**

We read Psalm 34: 15-22 responsively:

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and God's ears are open to their cry.

**The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the Lord delivers them from every one.

**God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.**

Evil will bring death to the wicked

and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,**

**and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

Our second reading is from Ephesians beginning at the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter

6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation*

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The holy gospel according to John, beginning at the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

6:56-69

[Jesus said,] "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

Rev. Diana Edis

*Hymn of the Day*

*Blessed Assurance*

ELW# 638



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



*Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

Join with me and with the whole church in the confession of our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed. We confess:



**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 power of 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 Intercession*

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Hearing the words "Merciful God," God's people may reply, "receive our prayer."

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized toward faithful speech and bold witness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCIC advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, as our country and the country to our south navigate another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. We pray now, either aloud or silently, for all those in our hearts and on our minds...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.  
**Amen.**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Offerings may be mailed to the church, placed in our mailbox, sent by e-transfer to [offering2stpauls@citywest.ca](mailto:offering2stpauls@citywest.ca), or given at CanadaHelps to St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert.*

Let us pray,

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**

*We enter a time of communion. All people are invited to receive God's meal. If you wish to receive, this meal is for you. If you would like to learn about communion please speak with the pastor after worship. Those at home may prepare bread and wine or juice for your worship space. When you receive the elements and eat and drink you may respond, "Amen." We have bread or gluten-free wafers, wine or juice; please let your server know which options are needed.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 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

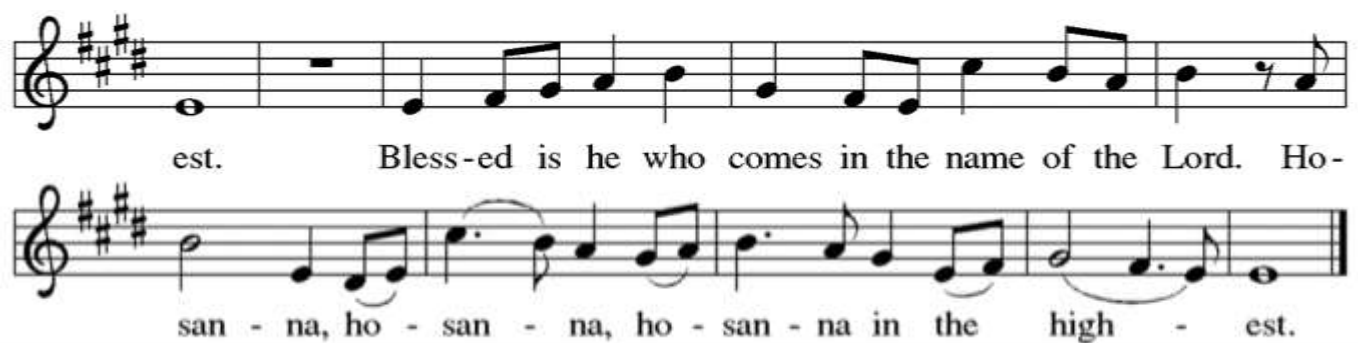
*Holy, holy, holy*

pg 190

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

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

If the Holy Spirit calls you to this feast of bread and wine or juice, I invite you to receive that which has been prepared. Whether you are distant or present, all of us are gathered together around the table of Christ and we are united, made whole in the body of our Lord. Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Everyone is welcome.



*Hymns during communion:*

*Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup*

No. 522

*Refrain*

Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the goodness of God.  
Bread of life, cup of love, we rejoice in your presence.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;  
in my God I glory forever: listen and rejoice! *Refrain*
- 2 Look upon the Lord, be radiant, never turn away.  
God will save in ev'ry affliction, hear us when we pray. *Refrain*
- 3 Angels fold their wings around us, guard through good and ill.  
Those who seek the Lord will lack nothing; taste, and have your fill. *Refrain*
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and worship, bless the holy name.  
Rise to tell God's greatness forever, wondrous deeds proclaim! *Refrain*

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34  
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

*Hymns during communion:*

*Change My Heart Oh God*

No. 801

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.  
You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Text © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour strengthen you to eternal life.

## Amen

### *Prayer after communion*

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

**Amen.**

### *Blessing*

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### *Sending Hymn*

### *You Are the Way*

ELW # 758

The musical score for 'You Are the Way' is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The music is a simple, homophonic setting with a clear melody and harmonic support.

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**