

BE DOERS OF THE WORD

JAMES 1:22

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 185 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.



Flowers This Week

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of our father and grandfather, Floyd W. Eggar by Teresa, Ed, & Hannah Rohrbaugh.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Please wear a mask while in worship and take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew. Occasionally an usher may seat a guest in the red zone.

Communion Procedure:

- Ushers will direct you to the Chancel step alternating pulpit side (left) then right side by pew. This will allow all communicants to return to their pew by the side aisle.*
- Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host There is no need to hurry.*
- We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).*
- Return to your pew by the side aisle.*

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, Norma Shue, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 29, 2021
Holy Communion 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *In the Bulb There is a Flower “Hymn of Promise”* Brenda Portman

Stand turning towards the font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray. 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.

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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

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

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.

Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful (WOV 767)

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun.
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



Refrain

God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

O God, we thank you for your Son who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow his commands; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sit

READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

(back cover)

PSALM

Psalm 15

Spoken responsively by half verse.

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?*

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

² Whoever leads a blameless life and does | what is right,*

who speaks the truth | from his heart,

³ there is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil | to his friend;*

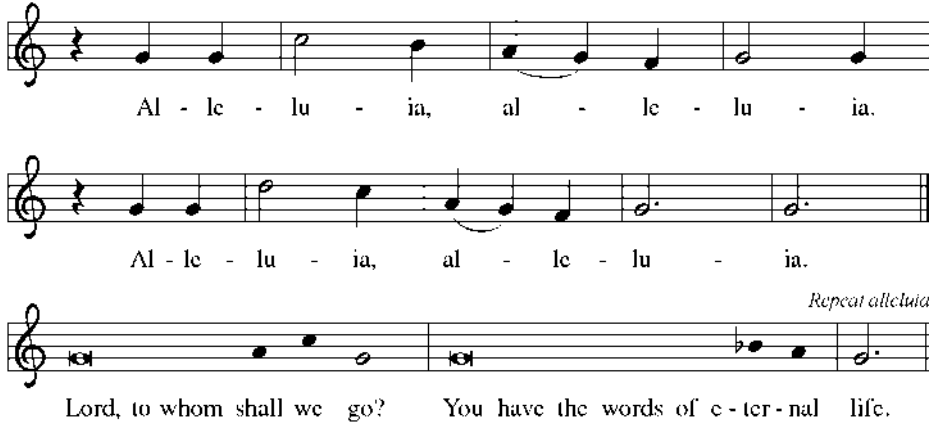
he does not heap contempt up- | on his neighbor.

Continued on next page...

- ⁴ In his sight the wicked | is rejected,*
but he honors those who | fear the LORD.
- ⁵ He has sworn to | do no wrong*
and does not take | back his word.
- ⁶ He does not give his money in | hope of gain,*
nor does he take a bribe a- | gainst the innocent.
- ⁷ Whoever | does these things*
shall never be | overthrown.

Stand

VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 *(back cover)*

The Holy Gospel according to **St. Mark.** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Stan Reep

Stand

APOSTLE'S 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, we pray for the church, make it a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill all pastors, deacons, and leaders with your spirit of generosity and welcome. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, give plants and animals the habitat and resources needed to thrive and flourish. Protect threatened habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for individuals in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them in your ways of justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Bless the work of our Food Pantry and those who work in it. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year. Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Sustain parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor you with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY

As the pastor prepares the altar the people sing.

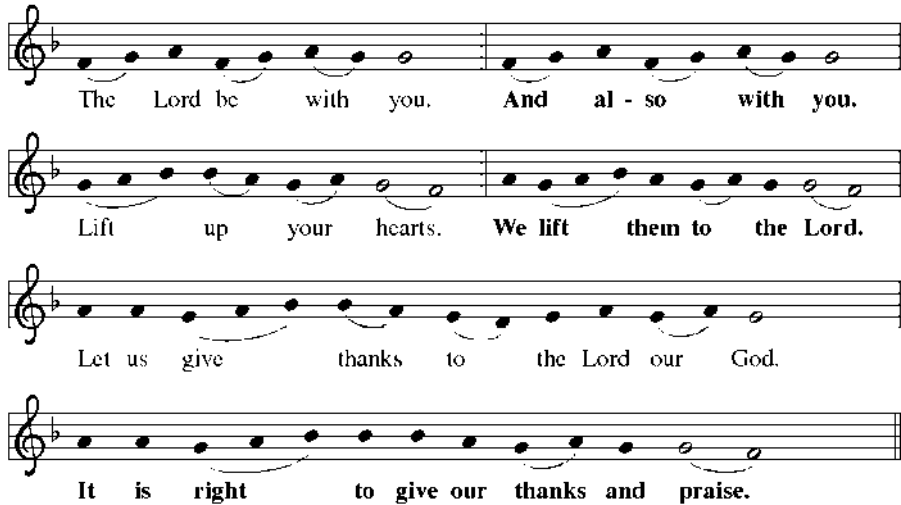
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

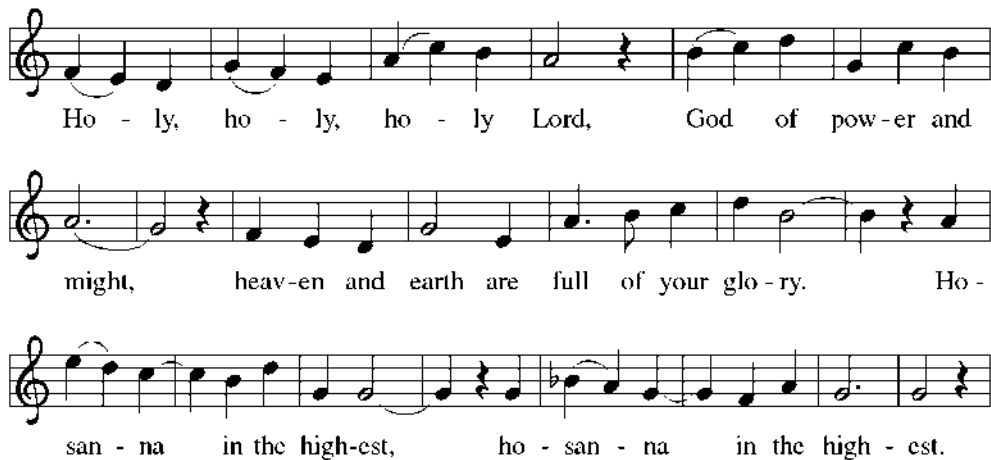
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:

SANCTUS

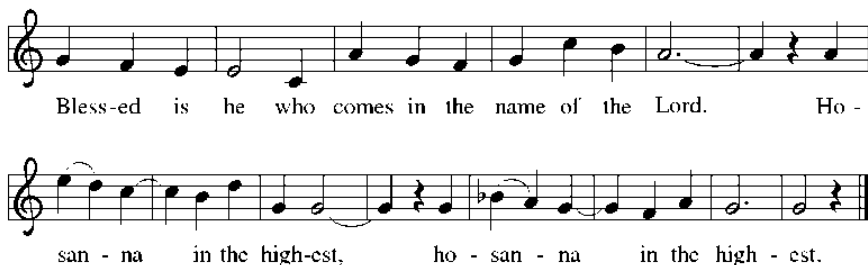


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

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

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

Continued on next page...



THANKSGIVING

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

FRACTION RITE *The bread is broken. A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI



Sit *The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.*

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. 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

Almighty God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. **Amen**

HYMN

Let Justice Flow like Streams (WOV 763)



- 1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure,
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed,
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

POSTLUDE

Glory to God, We Give You Thanks

J. Wayne Kerr

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St. Paul's Food Pantry – Volunteer Opportunity on Sunday & Tuesday Mornings

For those wishing to help, but unable to participate on Tuesday mornings due to jobs or school during the week, there is a new volunteer opportunity. Twice a month volunteers work between Sunday services at 9:00 AM to stock the shelves. We still are in need of additional helpers on Tuesday mornings. Contact Patty Snyder if you are willing to help in this ministry.

Food Pantry—September

Items needed: Pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, canned or boxed potatoes, stuffing mix, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles. Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

This Week at St. Paul's August 29-September 5
Church office open 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Mon—Thurs

Sunday, August 29

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Outside
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed.
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Monday, August 30

7:00 PM ZOOM Boy Scout Meeting
7:00 PM Worship & Arts—Good Shepherd Rm

Tuesday, August 31

9:30 AM Pantry

Sunday, September 5

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed.
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

In our prayers we remember...

Helen Missising, Nancy O'Connor, Brian Hoover, Luna Lambert, Richard Griffin, Jerry Briggs, Tina Llorente, Rick Lloyd, The Hawkins Family, Deirdre McManama, Nancy Smith, Jim Gilbert, Roland Craig, Julie Stephan, Elaine Mummert, Orven Cook, Martha Spillman, Ron Stiffler, Ann DeMille, Terry Kaczor, Barbara Ruppert, Chuck Oelsner, Morgan Lanzalotti, Courtney Snell, Jessica Arnold, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey.

Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE	TIME	Prayers	Lector	Ushers	AV Team	Outside Set-up Crew	Altar Set-up Communion Both	Altar Clean-up Communion 10:30AM
8/29	Early Outside	Tristan Ericson	Lois Ann Schroeder	Sheridan Palmer Jeff Riese		Needed	Ann & Axel Ulrich	
	Late	George Fitch	Peggy LeCates	Kem Vaught Carol Woodbury	TBA			Sandy Dicken-sheets Tonya Cave

If you would like to join our Choir, Handbell Choir, or Children's Choirs please contact Victor Fields, Leah McComas, and Cody Messersmith for information.

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	orreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children's Music Director	Cody Messersmith	cmessersmith.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Coming up and out from the underground, it takes me a minuet to get oriented. Even when paying attention to all of the signs, when I move from the subway, up the escalator or stairs, when I arrive at my anticipated destination I always need some time to get oriented. I often seek out landmarks. Directional street signs are a God send. The ability to orient one's self, I admit, has gotten easier with the help of apps helping you "find your way." But my old fashioned, first learned patterns, which are almost instinctive by now, are still the ones upon which I rely. It's not that I don't trust technology; it's just that old patterns that have proven the test of time and that are trust worthy are hard to break. Orientation is critical for moving ahead in the right direction.

Orientation is a theme this week. The preschool staff members are in the building getting things ready for parent orientation. Things like student drop off and pick up, emergency evacuation, The Sunday school teachers met on Tuesday evening for orientation so they know the rooms in which they will meet, where their supplies are located, basic plan for the length of lessons, crafts, activities, safety. Earlier this month in my neighborhood school bus drivers were receiving orientation. Parents are currently receiving invitations for "back to school night" as a way to provide orientation. Most of us will need some orientation with the reconfiguration of our worship space. Things have been repositioned to make way for a returning handbell choir, instrumentalists, and vocal ensembles. Orientation is critical for our AV team as the altar and position of worship leaders has changed. They will need to position the camera in new ways to capture all of the liturgical action. Our communion procedure this morning, coming to receive the sacrament alternating left side, right side, pew by pew as we come to the chancel step will most likely give cause for a minute or two for orientation. This orientation will help us when the chalice is returned to the worshipping assembly.

The reading from Deuteronomy is about the faithful people of God and the importance of their orientation on the Law of the Lord. Orientation, according to the Biblical text, permits life, entrance to the land, and establishment. The Lord God knows how easy it is to become disoriented, or to orient one's self toward something other than the One who saved and rescued them from the perils of oppression and slavery under Egypt's Pharaoh. "Don't forget" God says. "Don't let these things slip from your mind" or from your life. These commandments are so important for life and living that you want to pass them on to your children and grandchildren. And from this biblical text springs forth catechetical instruction on the Ten Commandments, which often seem while teaching them to teenagers, like they could have been the eleventh plague! But we commit them to memory so that they stick with us and serve as an anchor to faith and life holding us accountable and keeping us within the faith community through a shared orientation. As time passes these Ten Commandments become instinctive as we make choices, live life, spend money, take up causes, and live in relationship.

Psalm 15 is categorized by Walter Brueggemann in his book *The Message of the Psalms* as a Psalm of orientation. The Psalm is on the lips of the faith community and proclaimed by those who indeed orient themselves to the Lord God and the saving acts that brought them safely across the Red Sea waters, who journeyed with them in the wilderness, who delivered the Law, and provided for life in a land flowing with milk and honey. The questions posed in each poetic line are not designed to stump anyone. The answers are known, they have been lived out, manifest through a life of blessing. The Psalm is one of orientation for the communi-

ty. The community abides in the tent of the Lord and dwells on the holy hill because they orient themselves to; walking blamelessly, doing what is right, speaking truth from their heart, not slandering with their tongue, or doing evil things to their friends (this sounds a lot like a summary of the Ten Commandments). The Psalm concludes “Those who do these things shall never be moved;” a permanent relationship with God.

Jesus and the disciples are not left out of the orientation equation this morning. The Pharisees and scribes from Jerusalem took notice that some of the disciples, notice it isn’t all of them just some of them, were eating without first washing their hands. This was problematic for the religious officials from Jerusalem. So they ask Jesus about it. And his response brought into sharp focus that honoring with lips when your heart is in another place, translates as vain worship. Folks are holding on to human teaching but have abandoned the commandment of God. They have lost their orientation. It isn’t what goes into a person that defiles them, but what comes out of them. God’s desire through the law is to provide orientation so that there is life, entrance into the land (a place to be), and establishment (belonging). In Christ Jesus, the one who fulfills the law, he is the one who gives us life, a place to be, and belonging. As the baptized we orient ourselves to Christ and his victory over sin and death. While God’s people Israel remember the Red Sea crossing as God’s saving delivering act providing life, entrance and establishment, in Christ we remember the crossing from death to life, Good Friday to Easter, as God’s saving delivering act providing life, entrance and establishment. This story is the one celebrated each week in our liturgical action. It is our orientation. It is what grounds us. It is an orientation different from the world and what is marketed as life giving, what will get you in with a particular set of persons, or help you belong. Sometimes it takes a while for us to gain or regain Christian orientation after we have been traveling along where evil intentions come at us fast and furious and where they lead us away from Red Sea crossing and Easter resurrection. God provides all that is needed so that our orientation is fixed on God’s saving acts; proving life, entrance, establishment; a permanent relationship with God.

After I have been underground in the metro and I am able to make my way to the surface it always takes me a little while to get my orientation and then I am good to make my way to reach my destination. Preschool parents will receive orientation and by mid-September will easily traverse the next phase of parenting as it relates to preschool. Sunday school teachers will use their orientation as they share with our children the stories of life and salvation from the Old and New Testaments. The school bus driver’s orientation has put them on the right course to collect neighborhood children and deliver them safely to school. Back to school night orientation will calm anxiety for students and parents as they discover the honest desire of teachers wanting students to blossom and flourish. It may take a moment or two for us to gain orientation as we come this morning to receive the Body of Christ alternating left pew, right pew, in a strangely reminiscent pattern before the days of Covid-19. But all of these pale in comparison to the orientation we share in Christ Jesus; delivering us from darkness, despair, things holding us down, as he brings us into his marvelous light making a way for hope filled future. That is the orientation we share in the Law of the Lord. We dwell in Christ because he alone gives life, grants entrance and provides true belonging, an orientation unlike any other. Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Psalm 115

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look

at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."