

Continue
in my
word

JOHN 8:31



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

www.stpaulsyork.org

www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

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 186 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Postlude It is our tradition to remain seated for the postlude. If you need to leave we ask that you do so reverently. This tradition developed as a result of our livestream. We want anyone viewing to be able to listen to the postlude without unnecessary distraction. Thank you.

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

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

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The 10:30AM liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Currently, we are working to secure volunteer staff for the Nursery. Carrie Oberholtzer is coordinating a schedule. Please contact the church office to volunteer.

Reformation Sunday, October 30, 2022

Holy Communion 8:00 & 10:30 AM

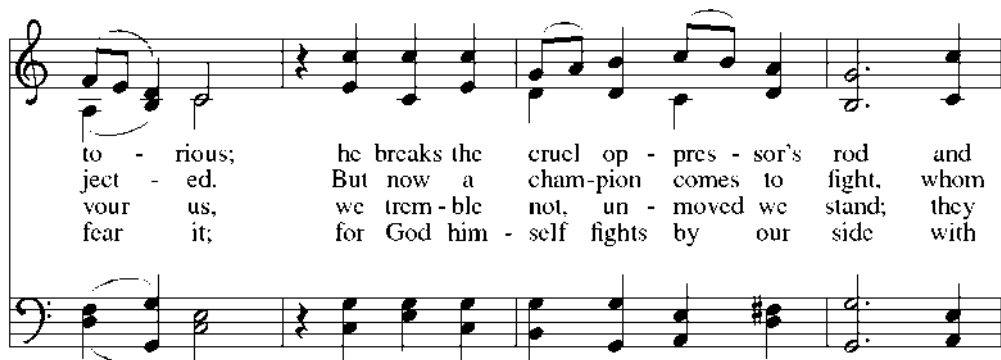
Musical setting 9 from Evangelical Lutheran Worship

TEMPLE TALK *"A Month of Reformation"* Steve Schedin

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* Barbara Harbach

ENTRANCE HYMN *A Mighty Fortress is Our God (ELW 504)*
Stanza 1 & 4, unison Stanza 2 & 3, harmony

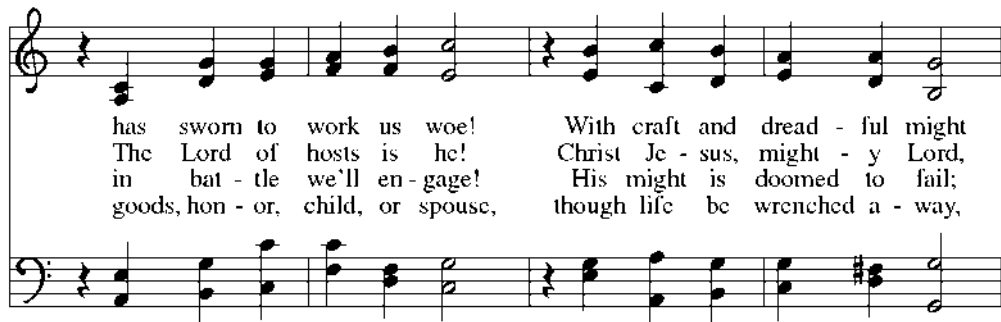
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who




to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem-ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg-ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

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

Let us pray. . . Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34 *(back cover)*

PSALMODY

Psalm 46

Sung Cantor / **CONGREGATION**

Hal H. Hopson

REFRAIN

© 1988 Hope Publishing Company

¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present | help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,*
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,*
and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.

REFRAIN

⁵There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁶God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown;*
God shall help her at the | break of day.

⁷The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken,*
God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.

REFRAIN

⁹Come now and look upon the works | of the LORD,*
what awesome things he has | done on earth.

¹⁰It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world,*
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹¹“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

REFRAIN

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

(back cover)

Stand

VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

(back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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

CHANCEL CHOIR

Weary of All Trumpeting

Hugo Distler, Richard Proulx

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;

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. *A brief silence.*

God of mercy, write your law of love on the hearts of your people, make us steadfast in our witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers. Reform our relationship with the environment so that we faithfully care for all of your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring wise leadership and comfort for those in distress. Make wars to cease and peace to enter every land. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger. Provide shelter for those without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis (*especially Jim Yanick, Maria Laczkoskie, Vera Lipp, Mary Buler, Kim Krebs, Bob Gerhart, Marcie Walker, Bonnie Schmidt, Jim Young, Alan & Valerie McIntosh, Anna Mae & Orven Cook, Gary Bilbie, Erin Bastian, Harry Harman, Katie Guyer, Amy Hollis, Heidi Glaudel, Kristine Gross, Rachel Barnes, Courtney Snell*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless all who are preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Open their hearts to your Holy Spirit, teach them your word, and give them courage to proclaim their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, especially Martin Luther and all reformers. Renew and reform us as we strive to continue in your word. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people share signs of peace.

The ministers prepare the altar for Holy Communion.

OFFERTORY *The Earth Adorned in Verdant Robe (ACS 1068)*

During the singing of the hymn the people bring their Time and Ability forms and Commitment cards forward placing them in the offering basket.



1 The earth a - dorned in ver - dant robe sends prais - es
2 From out the wood, the birds now sing and each its
3 O God, a - mid these joys of life, cre - a - tion's



up - ward surg - ing, while soft winds breathe on fra - grant
song now rais - es, to join with all the u - ni -
glo - ry beam - ing, grant us the grace to keep your



flow'rs from win - ter now e - merg - ing. The sun - shine
verse in voic - ing thank - ful prais - es. With hope and
word and live in love re - deem - ing. All flesh is



bright gives warmth and light to bud - ding blos - soms ten -
joy their songs em - ploy a rap - turous ex - ul - ta -
grass, the flow - ers fade, and time is fleet - ing ev -



der, pro - claim - ing sum - mer splen - dor.
tion in praise of God's cre - a - tion.
er; God's word re - mains for - ev - er.

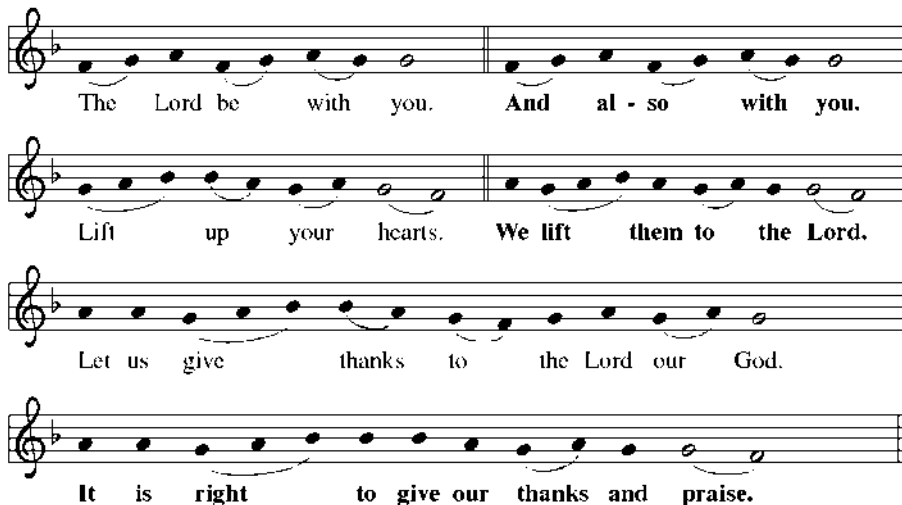
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Stand

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

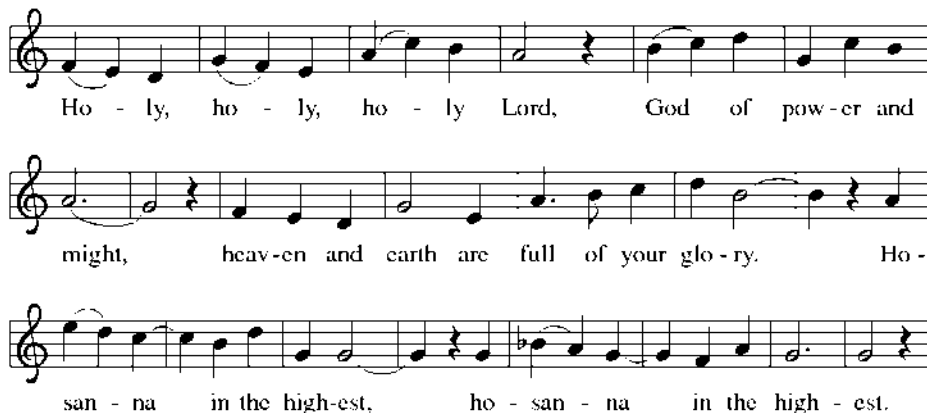
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

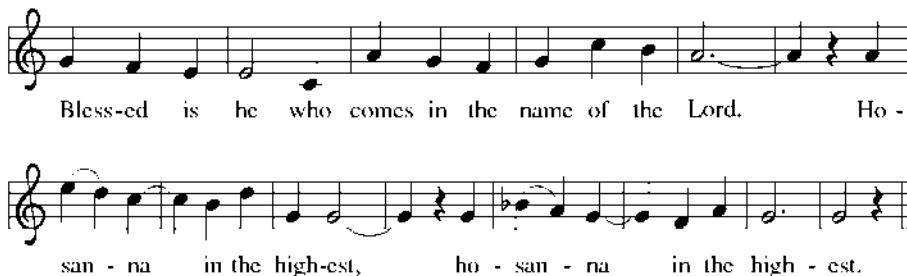
SANCTUS



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.



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 *A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Our Communion is “open” to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

Communion Procedure:

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle (about 10 adults per side).*
- 2. Communion glasses are placed on credence tables at the front pews (left and right side).*
- 3. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.*
- 4. Take your place along the chancel step. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.*
- 5. Extend your hands to receive the communion host.*
- 6. Consume the communion host.*
- 7. Hold the communion glass with both hands at chest height so that the communion assistant can easily pour the wine into the glass.*
- 8. Consume the wine before you leave the chancel edge.*
- 9. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.*
- 10. Return to your pew using the side aisle.*

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; and we pray that in your mercy you would 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 ***O Living Bread of Heaven (ELW 542) Next page***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

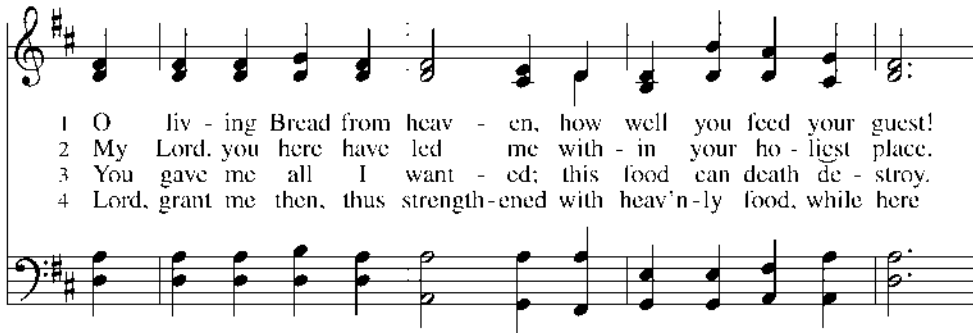
Sit

POSTLUDE

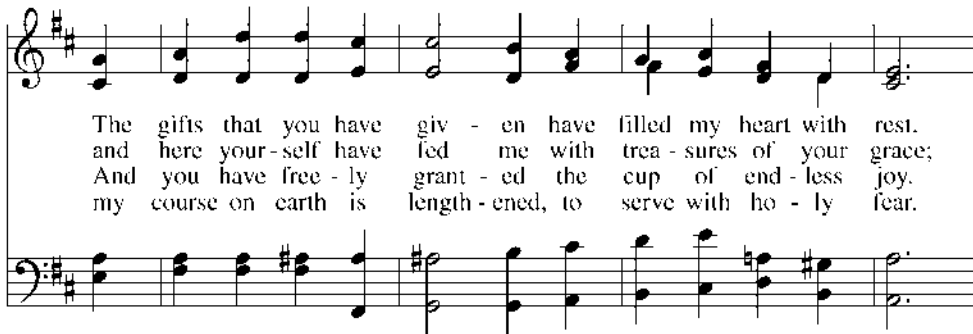
Toccata and Fugue in D minor

J. S. Bach

O Living Bread from Heaven



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
2 My Lord, you here have led me with - in your ho - liest place.
3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
and here your-self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve with ho - ly fear.



Oh, won - drous food of bless - ing, oh, cup that heals our woes!
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown.
And when you call my spir - it to leave this world be - low,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, with prais - es o - ver - flows!
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
I en - ter, through your mer - it, where joys un - min - gled flow.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

*Wearing a mask while in worship is optional, recommended or required based on the CDC guidelines. Green/Optional, Yellow/Recommended, Red/Required. **The instruction will be posted on the entry doors. Please be sure to bring a mask in the event of required/recommended masking. Disposable masks are available at the entrance to the church nave.***

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.



Sunday, November 6, 2022, at Noon

Join us for lunch with an African themed menu.

We will be receiving donations to support Phase #4 (the roof) for our sister congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

Please sign up so that we can plan accordingly.

Donations will be received during the month of November.

News and Updates October 30, 2022

Pastor William Snyder leads today's session "On Being a Christian" at 9:15 AM in Christ Hall.

All Saints Sunday, November 6, 10:30 AM, Remembrance of the Dearly Departed

God's Global Barnyard will return after a three year pause under the leadership of our 3rd - 6th grades Sunday school class. We can all look forward to the class's Temple Talk on Nov. 13th and the kick-off on Nov. 20th.

Hospitality greeters are needed. Please contact the church office if you are willing to serve at upcoming events.

Our new webpage is mobile and live. Please sign on to: www.stpaulsyork.org and check it out

SERRV International Sale—The Social Ministry Committee will be having their SERRV gift sale of global handmade items on November 13th & 14th. SERRV is a non-profit organization that fights global poverty by supporting 8,000+ low-income artisans and farmers. All profits made by St. Paul's will be donated to Lutheran World Relief.

Annual Meeting – Christ the King Sunday November 20, Combined Liturgy **9:15 AM** Meeting and Dinner to follow

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



Food Pantry—Fall

Items needed: Beans, corn, juice, jelly, macaroni, Rice (1 or 2 lb bags), dehydrated potatoes, powdered milk, canned tuna, tomato sauce and soup. We also need paper grocery bags with handles and plastic bags.

Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore.. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Mon—Thurs

Sunday, October 30

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Tuesday, November 1

9:30 AM Pantry
10—10:30 AM Pastor & Preschool - Nave
6:00 PM CREATE—Art, Crafts and Music for
Children age 3 through grade 6

Wednesday, November 2

No Parking on Springettsbury 8am-12noon

10—10:30 AM Pastor & Preschool - Nave

10:30 AM Scripture Study—Christ Hall

Thursday, November 3

6:30 PM Handbells—Christ Hall
7:30 PM Chancel Choir—Music Rm

Sunday, November 6—Daylight Savings Ends

All Saints Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist—Handbell Choir
12 noon Raise the Roof Luncheon—
Christ Hall
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm



Flowers This Week

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in loving memory of Ivy Jo Jacobs by her family Carl, Peggy, Leah, Aaron and Pearl; and in memory of Pat Mummert in remembrance of her birthday by Jim Mummert

Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Communion Assistants	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Set-up & Altar Clean-up	Acolyte
10/30	8:00 AM	Jennifer Ports	Denise Rider	Lois Ann Schroeder		Kathie & Tom Ruth	Ken Hinkle,	Norma & Ron Riese	
10/30	10:30 AM	Janet Fitch	Tom Gibson	Jessica Ericson	William Snyder	Scott & Nicki Herdson, Frank & Earline Jones	Dave Kopp, Dan Mays, Sandy Dickensheets, *Steve Heistand	Pat Rudacille & Jerry Briggs	Paula & Drew Herdson

The windows were opened letting the cool fall air permeate the room. The crisp autumn air stirred the imagination of those working late in the painting studio. Students were painting later into the evening now that the semester's mid-term critiques were past and the December due date for submitting paintings was circled on the large wall calendar by the door. It was on a night like this when art students worked beyond fatigue pushing the creative process further and longer. These were the nights when crazy ideas, practical jokes, and humorous antic dote materialized. These were the nights when hunger would set in and someone would make a snack run. Luanne, Nadine and Victor all ventured out to the neighborhood pizza joint.

Luanne arrived back to the studio first. Hers really was a quick snack run. When she returned to her easel, a slip of paper was taped to her oversized canvas. Scrolled with fluid cursive penmanship it stated "*After revelation explanation becomes superfluous.*" Luanne looked puzzled. A series of questions followed. The questions were asked to figure out who posted the piece of notebook paper on her painting. Whose hand writing matched the fluid pattern? Who among her peers knew of revelation? Who could spell superfluous? Of course no one saw any one near her easel. No one would remember any visitors. The note appeared seemingly out of the blue! Perhaps it was carried in on the crisp fall night air.

When Nadine and Victor returned to continue working on their paintings they also found messages at their work stations. Minuscule paper mats strategically placed on areas of their canvases with the message "*If the entire picture was painted like this.*" They too were inquisitive about what had been posted and by whom.

Posting notes, making statements, pointing out things for clarification and debate have been around long before my art school classmates' crazy ideas, practical jokes, and humorous antic dotes during late nights in the art studio.

The crisp autumn air was infiltrating Wittenberg when Dr. Martin Luther posted his 95 points for discussion on the Castle Church door in 1517. What had been blowing around the region were ideas perpetuated by Rome that took advantage of God's people. Luther spent many a long night working beyond fatigue pushing the theological envelope where the church had deposited the revelation of priests as entrepreneurs, selling indulgences to spring the souls of the dearly departed from the horror and uncertainty of purgatory.

An indulgence was an officially sanctioned piece of paper declaring a particular benefit to the purchaser. In Luther's time the church sold them as a way to bring solace to the sinner and to bring money into the church's treasury. On the surface it appeared to be a win for both. With the purchase of an indulgence you could have the certainty of mind that you or your departed loved one was securely safe on heaven's side. "*When the coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs,*" went the jingle and sales pitch of the 16th century. Clergy were given a revised job description, sales and marketing mattered. It mattered more than just about anything else at that time to Pope Leo. The Pope needed money to pay for his sumptuous life style at the Vatican and for the construction of what we know as St. Peter's Basilica, the cathedral in Rome.

Luther's posting of 95 points for debate, theological reflection and clarification caused quite a stir. That wasn't necessarily his objective. Luther wanted some honest to goodness conversation about the things that mattered in the daily lives of the people with whom he lived and worked and worshiped. Little did Luther know that the revelation in Rome, that the church could extract large sums from the local parishioners, didn't need any explanation and certainly not from one of its own professors and priests? Luther stood in the way of the church moving in a direction that, at least from Luther's theological perspective, was moving away from what was revealed in the pages of sacred scripture; what ran contrary to what he read from the prophets, the gospels and especially from the letters of St. Paul.

And so, not unlike Luanne, Nadine and Victor enquiring around the art building, pressing classmates as to the author of the masking taped note and the tiny mats attached to their paintings, the Pope in Rome began to enquire about the author of the points posted on the Castle Church door on All Hollow's Eve. The Pope wanted to find the one responsible for critiquing the selling of indulgences. He wanted to find the one responsible for constricting the cash flow!

The rest, you might say is history. And like the masking taped note placed on Luanne's easel "*After revelation explanation becomes superfluous,*" after revelation on the part of Dr. Martin Luther, and all of those who grasp the theological tenants of God's grace made known through Christ Jesus, revelation bore reformation. And reformation bore change.

Clergy would marry. Mass would be celebrated in the language of the people. The chalice on the altar would be returned to the communicants. The sacramental life of the community would center on Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Justification was not earned through works of merit or purchased through the sale of an indulgence but was bestowed as gift to be received (God's grace). The laity was every bit as important to the life of the church as were the clergy. And the list ballooned. But it didn't balloon randomly, it ballooned as more and more people searched the scriptures and discovered the good news of God's love made known through Christ Jesus. God's Son, Christ Jesus, sets you free. Through him you are forgiven. In him you have life now and for eternity.

This Reformation Sunday morning the crisp autumn air blows across south central Pennsylvania. We gather as God's people. Again we hear of God's great love shown us through his Son. It was through such love that Luther and other great reformers of the church were moved into action bringing about change. It is God's love that continues to reform the life of the church and the lives of all of her members. As children of the reformation, people who identify with posting notes, and having honest conversations, and struggling with the issues of everyday life, reformation asks us; what needs to change for the sake of the Gospel of Christ Jesus? What needs to change in my life for the sake of the Gospel? What needs to change in the life of our congregation for the sake of the Gospel? These questions are asked in the great tradition of our reformation heritage. They are posed to engage us in scripture and theology, to get us to enquire more deeply about the depth of God's grace (unconditional love freely given), to observe the importance of the law, to reflect on the relationship God has established with us and to ultimately move us to faithful living, action, action bringing about change for the sake of God's gracious love.

The crisp autumn air stirs our imagination. Willing to work together, pushing beyond fatigue, the creative process spawns ideas, ideas given the gospel that seem at times to be crazy, impractical, and to some even humorous. But then "*after revelation explanation becomes superfluous.*" Amen.



Cost is \$12.00 per plant.
They will be RED in
color.

List plant(s) as shown below
(please print clearly)

Number of plants _____ in Honor of:

Number of plants _____ in Loving Memory of:

Number of plants _____ Dedicated to the Glory of God

Your Name:

Plants may be picked up anytime after the
10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 25th.

Total # of Plants _____ @ \$12.00 each = \$ _____

Checks made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The completed order form with payment attached may be placed
in the offering plate or returned to the church office.

Orders due by Sunday, November 27th

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 46**SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28**

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness

of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”