

Commemoration of John Chrysostom

September 13, 2026



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155 Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net

Website: 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 190 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Offerings Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org or use the QR Code provided.

An AED/Defibrillator unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

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

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

Parents, please accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.



Lutheran Church in York, PA - St.
Paul's Lutheran...
stpaulsyork.org

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in loving memory of husband George and loving memory of son, Michael Kemper, by loving wife and mother, Ann Kemper

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
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Commemoration of John Chrysostom

September 13, 2026

Holy Communion 9:30 AM

Musical Setting 3 Evangelical Lutheran Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Called for Service”

PRELUDE

Voices Raised to You

Jacob Weber

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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

Voices Raised to You (ELW 845)

1 Voic - es raised to you we of - fer; tune them, God, for
 2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise you; earth and sky your
 3 Christ, the song of love in - car - nate, touch - ing earth with
 4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, kin - dle faith with -
 5 How can an - y praise we of - fer mea - sure all the

songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
 works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts you lend us,
 heav - en's grace, for your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
 in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;
 thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—

for your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
 we re - turn to you to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!
 for your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!
 through our hands your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!
 gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!
 Al - le - lu - ia! God, cre - a - tor, source of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, re - deem - er, Lord of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, help - er, breath of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!

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

God of grace and might, we praise you for your servant John Chrysostom, to whom you gave gifts to make the good news known by his eloquence and his courage. Raise up, we pray, in every country, heralds and evangelists of your kingdom, so that the world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Sit

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 62:1-7

back cover

PSALM

Psalm 48

sung unaccompanied cantor/**congregation**

¹ Great is the LORD, and highly | to be praised;*

in the city of our God is his | holy hill.

² Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the | hill of Zion,*

the very center of the world and the city of | the great king.

³ God is in her citadels;*

he is known to be | her sure refuge.

⁴ Behold, the kings of the | earth assembled*

and marched for- | ward together.

⁵ They looked and | were astounded;*

they retreated and | fled in terror.

⁶ Trembling | seized them there;*

they writhed like a woman in childbirth,

like ships of the sea when the | east wind shatters them.

⁷ As we have heard, so have we seen,

in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city | of our God;*

God has established | her forever.

⁸ We have waited in silence on your lovingkind- | ness, O God,*

in the midst | of your temple.

⁹ Your praise, like your name, O God, reaches | to the world's end;*

your right hand is | full of justice.

¹⁰ Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,*

because | of your judgments.

¹¹ Make the circuit of Zion; walk | round about her;*

count the number | of her towers.

¹² Consider well her bulwarks; exam- | ine her strongholds;*

that you may tell those | who come after.

¹³ This God is our God forev- | er and ever;*

he shall be our guide for- | evermore.

SECOND LESSON Romans 10:11-17

back cover

Stand

ALLELUIA



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.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

(back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Stanley Reep

HYMN OF THE DAY

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken (ELW 647)



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a
of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,
mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,

formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
 and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a
 show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
 I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain

found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they
 plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id

va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
 joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

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 is kept.

Heavenly Father, move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders (*like John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we remember today*) to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember (*name/s, and*) all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly

grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray trusting in your mercy through your Son, 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.

Sit

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Beautiful Savior

Joseph A. Seuss

Gwen Lehr, piano

Stand

OFFERTORY



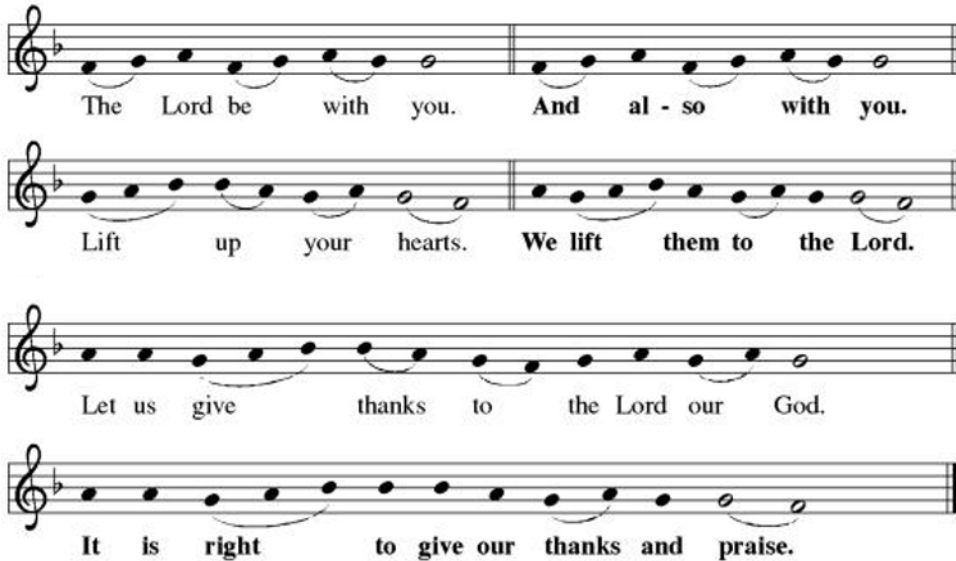
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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

DIALOGUE *Sung by Pastor and congregation*



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

The preface appropriate to the day is said.

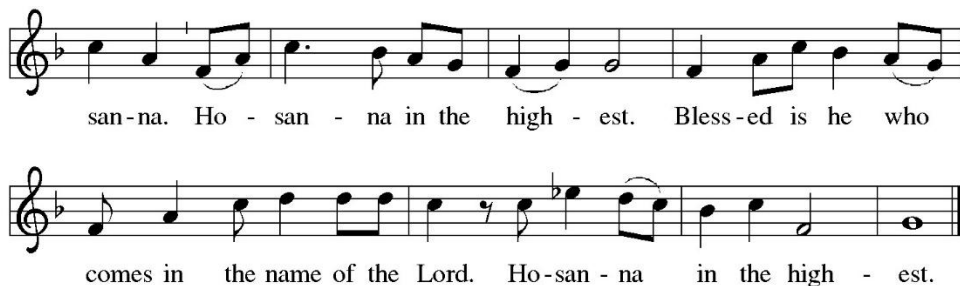
It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church 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'r and might,

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



THANKSGIVING

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.

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.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor 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 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.

FRACTION RITE

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

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.

Sit

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. We receive communion by common loaf and pouring chalice.

Procedure for receiving Communion:

1. Come to communion using the center aisle.
2. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.
3. Take your place along the chancel step.
4. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.
5. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.
6. Return to your pew using the side aisle

COMMUNION SOLOS

*Come, Thou Almighty King
Jesus Loves Me*

Felice De Giardini Jordyn Lehr, piano
William B. Bradbury Gwen Lehr, piano

COMMUNION HYMN

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (ELW 488)



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and
3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur -
4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
glad - ly greet him. There he stands al - read - y knock - ing;
pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less
dear - est trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing,



there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un -
quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing, o - pen wide the fast - closed
though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of
joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing; hum - bly now, I bow be -



bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n - ly,
por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, and leave your
heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious
fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let



high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

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

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (ELW 659)



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

POSTLUDE

Ye Servants of God

Robert A. Hobby

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This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open Tues–Thurs 8:00 AM—3:30 PM, Friday 8-11:30 AM

Sunday, September 13 9:00 AM Fellowship – Good Shepherd Rm 9:00 AM Chancel choir rehearsal – Music RM 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Live Stream 10:45 AM Faith Formation – for all 10:45 AM Confirmation Class – Lower level Rm. 004 12 noon Youth Group -Youth Rm- Upper level 1:00 PM Victor Fields concert rehearsal 6:30 PM AA Meeting-Community Rm Monday, September 14 7:00 PM Finance Committee - ZOOM Tuesday, September 15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:30 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM CREATE – Preschool-Gr 6 6:00 PM NO Bible Study - Christ Hall	Wednesday, September 16 10:30 AM NO Bible Study – Christ Hall 6:00 PM Mpuguso Mtg – Christ Hall Thursday, September 17 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Sunday, September 20 9:00 AM Fellowship – Good Shepherd Rm 9:00 AM Chancel choir rehearsal – Music RM 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist – Live Stream 10:45 AM Faith Formation – for all 10:45 AM Confirmation Class – Lower level classroom 1:00 PM Victor Fields concert rehearsal 6:30 PM AA Meeting-Community Rm
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Serving the Lord with Gladness									
DATE	TIME	Asst Min	Crucifer	Comm Asst	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Bread Bakers
9/13	9:30 AM	Patty Snyder	Tom Gibson	Rev. William Snyder	Rev. William Snyder	Sandy Dickensheets, Dan & Kathy Garber	Team 1E: Jeff Riese, John Monk, Alex Bastian, Claudia Deitrich	Ann Anstadt, Jill Striebig	Norma Shue
9/20	9:30 AM	Harold Sargeant	Lois Ann Schroeder	Rev. George Fitch	Janet Fitch	Scott & Nicki Herdson	Team 1L: Dave Kopp, Scott Donaldson, Darren Smith, Kass Keleta	Larry & Janet Moore	Janet Fitch

The 9:30 AM Sunday Worship time followed by Education (Sunday school) at 10:45 AM will extend through the end to the calendar year.

St. Paul's Food Pantry Needs: Peanut Butter, Cereal, plastic and paper shopping bags. Monetary donations can be placed in a special envelope marked "Pantry". Contact Teresa Rohrbaugh to volunteer for Tuesday distribution days. Contact Patty Snyder to volunteer for Thursday delivery days or Sunday stocking days or contact the church office. Thank you to all who help!

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 62:1-7

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn
and her salvation like a burning torch.
² The nations shall see your vindication
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of
the LORD
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her
and your land Married,
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.
⁶ Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.
You who remind the LORD,
take no rest,
⁷ and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

SECOND LESSON Romans 10:11-17

¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are

they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" ¹⁶ But not all have obeyed the good news, for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" ¹⁷ So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

.HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Paul's collects clothing for **Union Lutheran Church's Clothing Ministry** and your help is requested. Union collects 'gently used' clothing (and shoes) for its clothing closet and offers it **free of charge** to needy families in the York City community. A bin has been placed in the Good Shepherd room to collect any clothing you would like to donate. These donations will surely be a blessing to our neighbors. Union's volunteers are very appreciative of our cooperation and our help. If you have large donations you may take them directly to Union Lutheran Church. Simply call them to arrange a time.

Calling all crocheters and knitters. Last November we gave out over 200 scarves to our pantry shoppers. It's time to start making scarves again for November 2026. The only suggestion is that scarves are about 4 ½ - 5 feet long and about 6 inches wide. When you finish a few scarves, put them in the pantry shopping cart in the Good Shepherd Room with your name on the bag. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who provided the amazing scarves. Let's see if we can surpass last year's number!



This year the Blessing of the Scarves will be held on Sunday, November 8, prior to the distribution on November 10.

The Unitarian Church on S. George St. supplies our pantry with fresh vegetables. They are asking for help in their garden. If you can donate some of your time to help please contact Steve Converse at 717-577-6696.

Confirmation Ministry: With the extended 9:30 AM worship time through year's end the Christian Education Committee, in consultation with the parents of confirmation students, class will now meet on Sunday morning from 10:45-11:45 AM. The class will be held on the Lower level in Room 004.

Sunday School for Children: The children will gather for class following the 9:30 AM liturgy on the Lower level in Room 005. This space should accommodate our larger class size. Children may proceed directly following worship. Snacks will be available in the Lower level outside rooms 004 and 005 (but not 007!).

Concert, Sunday, September 27 Victor Fields, organ 3:00pm

Come and hear St. Paul's organist present a recital of music for organ and instruments with Mabel Tang, violin, Jeffrey Phelps, cello featuring selections by Bach, Dupré, Franck and The King of Instruments, A Parade of Music and Verse for Organ and Narrator by William Albright featuring actor Jay Poff.

Music & Create begins September 15, 6:00 PM

Age 3 through grade 6

Welcome back to Music and Create! We are looking forward to this opportunity for our families with young children to engage in music, art, and Bible stories while also having the opportunity to connect with other families. The program is designed for children ages 3 through grade 6. We divide the children into two age groups, age 3 through grade 1 and grade 2 through grade 6.

Do you love to sing? Our CHANCEL choir needs you!

We are looking for joyful voices to help lead worship this year. No prior experience is required—just a willing heart. Tenors and Basses especially needed!!

If you would like to lend your voice for a Sunday or two, or more, a sign-up sheet to designate when you can help is available on the stand in the Good Shepherd room.

REHEARSALS begin September 10

- Rehearsals: Thursdays at 7:30-8:30 PM and Sunday at 9:00 AM prior to worship
- Contact: Victor Fields, vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net or see him at church

Called for Service, Peace, Instruction & Renewal the theme for the 2026/27 stewardship emphasis highlights four aspects of our baptismal life.

Stewardship Emphasis – Next week we observe the Commemoration of Dag Hammarskjöld, peace keeper. The readings are Micah 4:1-5, Psalm 85, Ephesians 2:13-18 and John 15:9-12. In preparation for next Sunday you may wish to read these Bible passages. Note that there will not be Bible study on Tuesday, Sept. 15 or Wednesday, Sept. 16 as Pastor Reep is attending the Bishop's Convocation.

A Partnership Between Local Churches & LifePath Thrift Stores

Please remember to donate your no longer needed items to LifePath Thrift Stores. The stores then return a portion of the value of these items in the form of gift cards to our church to help those directly in our care. Donate at three locations: 2414 Eastern Boulevard, 283 West Market Street, and in the South York Plaza. Give them the name and address of our church. Donors are still able to take advantage of the tax-deduction with every gift to LifePath Thrift Stores.



Thank you Dinner – Today the Ushers will hand out reservation cards for the Congregation “Thank You” dinner to be held Wednesday, October 7 at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a menu for adults and one for children. Please complete a reservation card and place it in the offering basin at the time of offering.

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407

Isaiah 62:1-7 Romans 10:11-17

Luke 24:44-53

The Joke Book was a major source of entertainment. It chronicled stories of the young boy Marvin and his many different adventures all illustrated in graphic novel style. My brother had the entire book committed to memory. He would share stories any time there was an audience, to anyone who would listen.

“One day Marvin went to the lake. While he was there he fell in. He called for help. A man passing by stopped and helped him. The man asked Marvin, ‘how did you come to fall in the lake?’ Marvin replied, ‘I didn’t come to fall in the lake, I came to fish!’”

John Chrysostom didn’t come to be expelled from the cathedral from which he carried out his duties as Bishop. He came to preach. He was banned from the cathedral and banished from the city because of his denunciation of corruption in the court. The powerful people turned against him.

His story begins in Antioch, the place where Paul and Barnabus took the message of the gospel, the place where the term “Christian” was coined for followers of Christ, people of the way, disciples of the risen Lord. It was there in the fourth century that a young boy, whose father was an army general and whose mother a Christian woman, began to study law. He was a brilliant student. In his later teen years, he became acquainted with a biblical scholar and by age 18, he turned from studying law and was baptized on Easter 368. As time passed, he became a deacon and then a priest and along the way to being consecrated bishop, he became an excellent preacher of the scripture and approached the biblical text in a practical manner making the message easier for the listener to hear. *“And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”*

The secular leaders would gladly have pushed him into the lake because of his sermons. It’s funny how the same qualities that endeared him to one group infuriated others. His sermons were on themes that could be read in current publications or while scrolling social media in 2026. His top five themes: Social justice, Opposition to slavery, Equality of women, Sanctity of the home, Instance of the role of laypeople in worship.

When others were preaching in an allegorical style that was all the rage, John was preaching practical, applicable, sermons that were as easy to remember as why Marvin *“came to fall in the lake!”* As bishop, he lived a simple life. Honesty and charity were the things for which he was known beyond of course the eloquence of his sermons.

On this day when we commemorate John Chrysostome, Bishop of Constantinople, and we begin our stewardship emphasis, it challenges us to think beyond ourselves and to grasp something of the other. We are called to take the message of hope and salvation to the world. Starting from Jerusalem and radiating outward we are to proclaim the power of God, the one who raised Jesus from the dead, the one who gives hope to the forsaken and

desolate and to remind God, day and night, of his promises to those who love him. Promises that restore justice, end slavery, bring about equity, establish sanctity, and promote participation in the assembly.

In a sermon by St. John Chrysostom, we hear of his call to faithful living. *“The waters have risen and severe storms are upon us, but we do not fear drowning, for we stand firmly upon a rock. Let the sea rage. It cannot break the rock. Let the waves rise, they can not sink Jesus’ boat. What are we to fear? Death? Life to me means Christ, and death is gain. Exile? The earth and its fullness belong to the Lord. The confiscation of our goods? We brought nothing into this world, and we shall surely take nothing from it. I have only contempt for the world’s threats; I find blessings laughable. I have no fear of poverty, no desire for wealth. I am not afraid of death nor do I long to live, except for your good. I concentrate therefore on the present situation, and I urge you, my friends, to have confidence.*

Do you not hear the Lord saying, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst?” Will he be absent, then, when so many people united in love are gathered together: I have his promise; I am surely not going to rely on my own strength! I have what he has written; that is my staff, my security, my peaceful harbor. Let the world be in upheaval. I hold to his promise and read his message; that is my protecting wall and garrison. What message? Know that I am with you always, until the end of the world!”

The sacred scriptures were a major source of comfort. They chronicled the story of the Lord, Jesus Christ, his suffering death and resurrection. The illustrations were limited but the narrative so powerfully graphic, Jesus’ suffering and dying on a cross, that it was emblazoned on the mind, heart and lips of John Chrysostom so much so that he committed it to memory. He shared the story often anytime anyone would listen. And that, like my brother telling Marvin jokes, is what we are to do, tell the story of God’s love often to anyone who will listen. Amen.