

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026
10:30 am

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Growing a Christian community where each is valued, accepted, and loved.

106 Maple St., Reading, OH 45215 • 513-821-0987 • stpaulreading.org

24th Sunday after Pentecost: November 8, 2026

Prelude

Gathering

Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen.

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

Please kneel or sit as you are able. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

Entrance Hymn #351 (green hymnal)

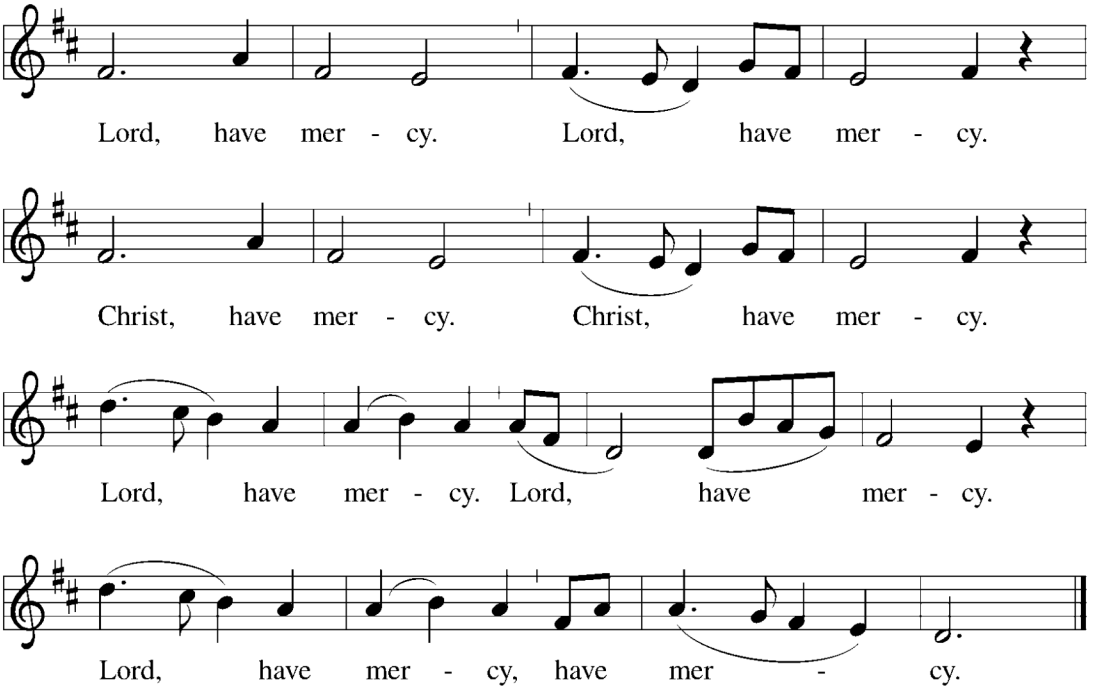
"Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie **Schubert *Deutsche Messe***



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Word

Blessing of the Lector

P: Let us pray.

God Almighty, we ask your blessing upon Kathy as she reads to us the scriptures. May the words of her mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

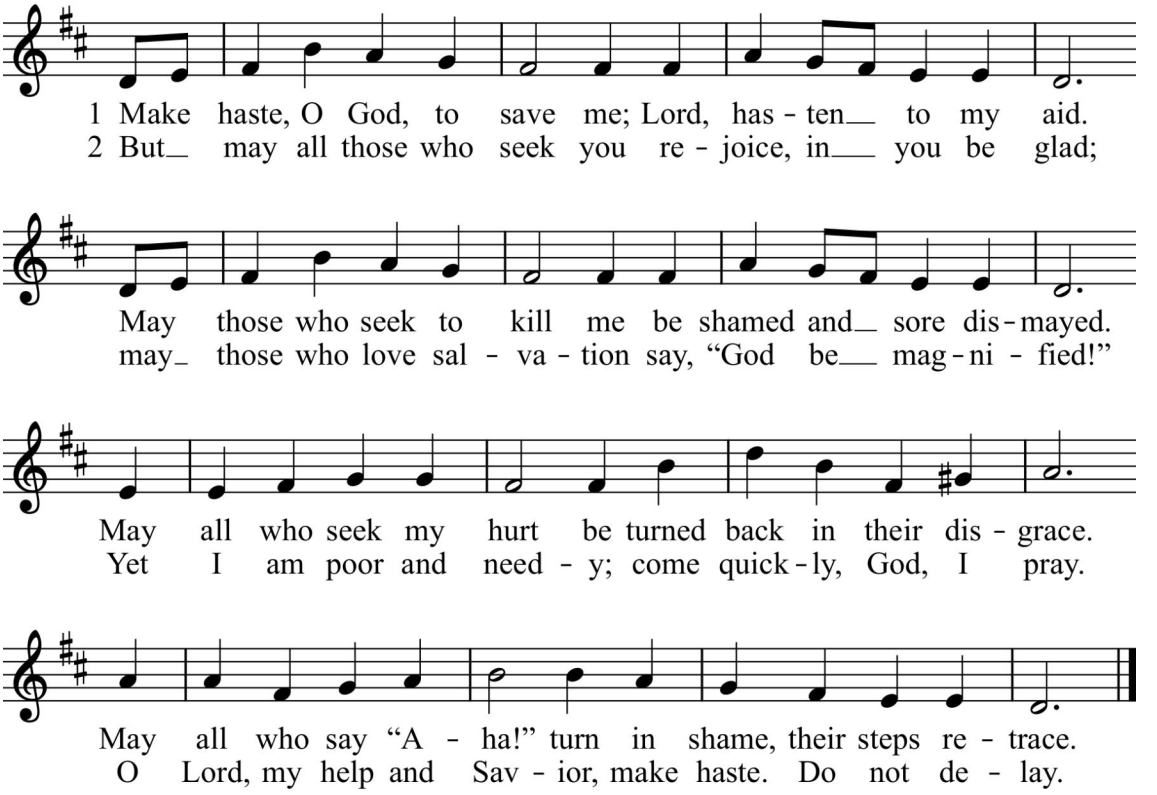
18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why do you want the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: "Make Haste, O God, to Save Me" (Ps. 70)



Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those
who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no
hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,
through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we
declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left
until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have
died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's
call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and
the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will
be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air,
and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one
another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation: Hymn #713 (blue hymnal)

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this.
Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took
their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil
with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became
drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the

bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Silence for reflection and meditation.

Hymn of the Day #25 (green hymnal)

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Please stand as you are able.

The Apostles' Creed

A: Let us confess our common faith with all Christians throughout time and place, using the words of the Apostles' 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

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

After each petition:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

After the last petition:

A: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

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

Invitation to Offering

A: Jesus says, "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." *(Mt. 25:13)* Let us keep watch by giving our offering so that our hearts and minds are ready for Christ to come.

Offertory: Hymn #409 (green hymnal)

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Meal

Dialogue and Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.
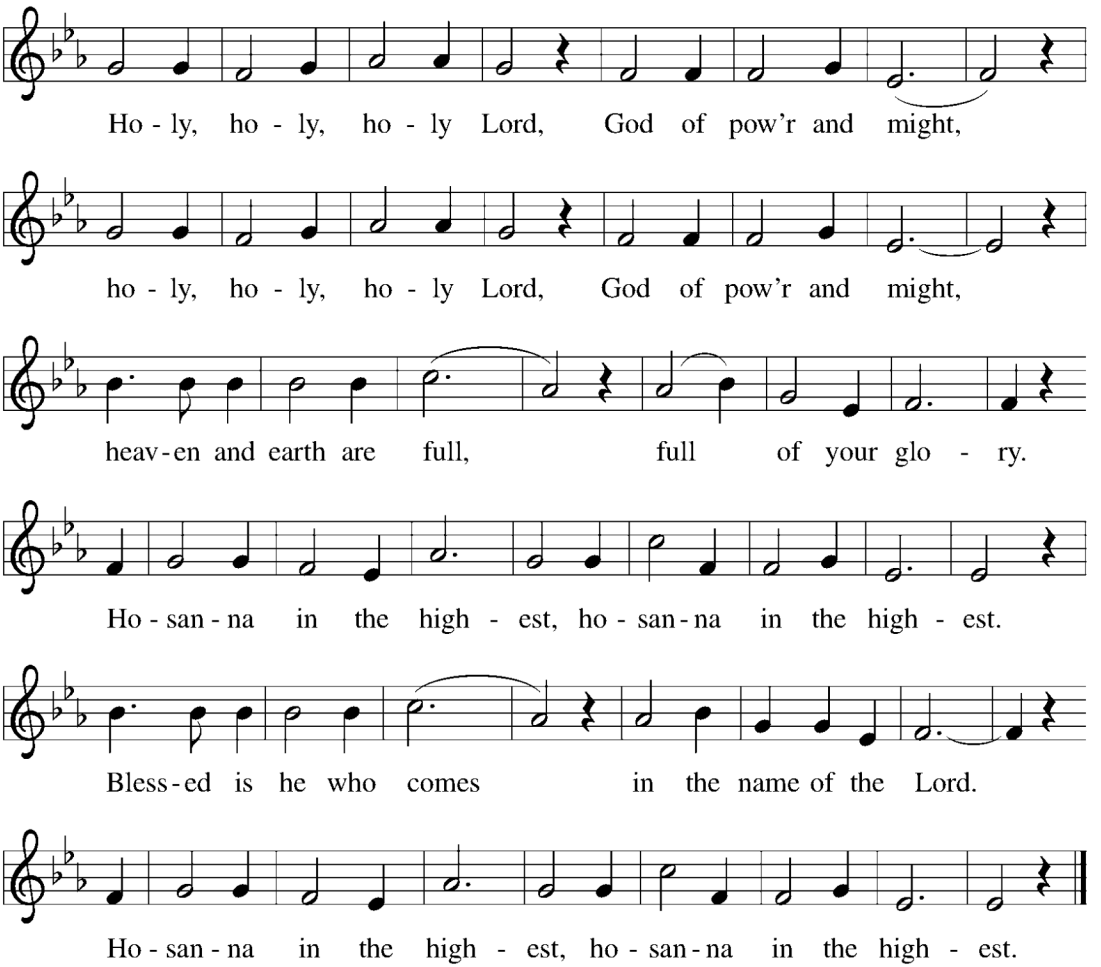
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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 **Schubert *Deutsche Messe***



Thanksgiving at the Table

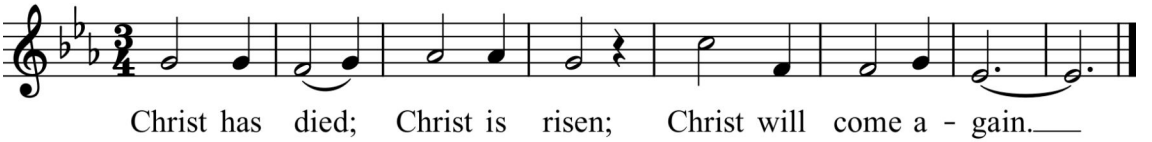
P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our

Wisdom, and our Judge. We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

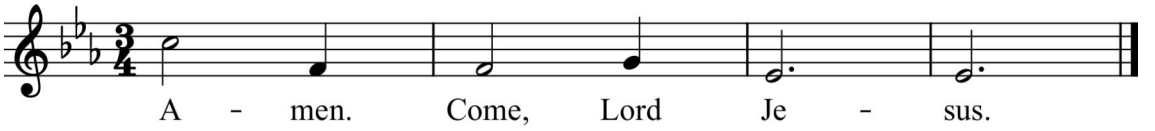
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

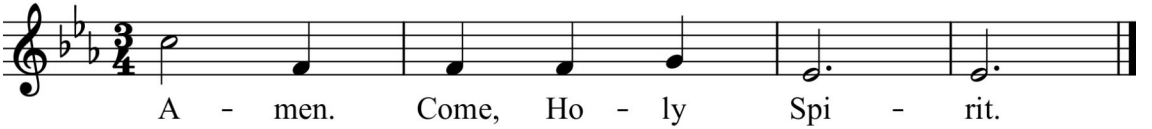
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
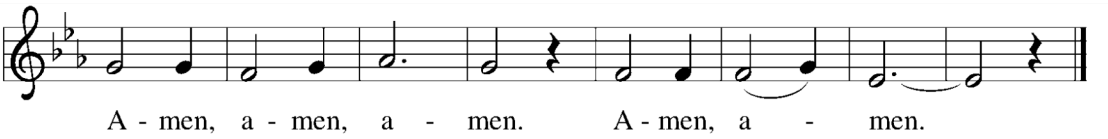


P: Remembering, therefore, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.



P: Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.



P: Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

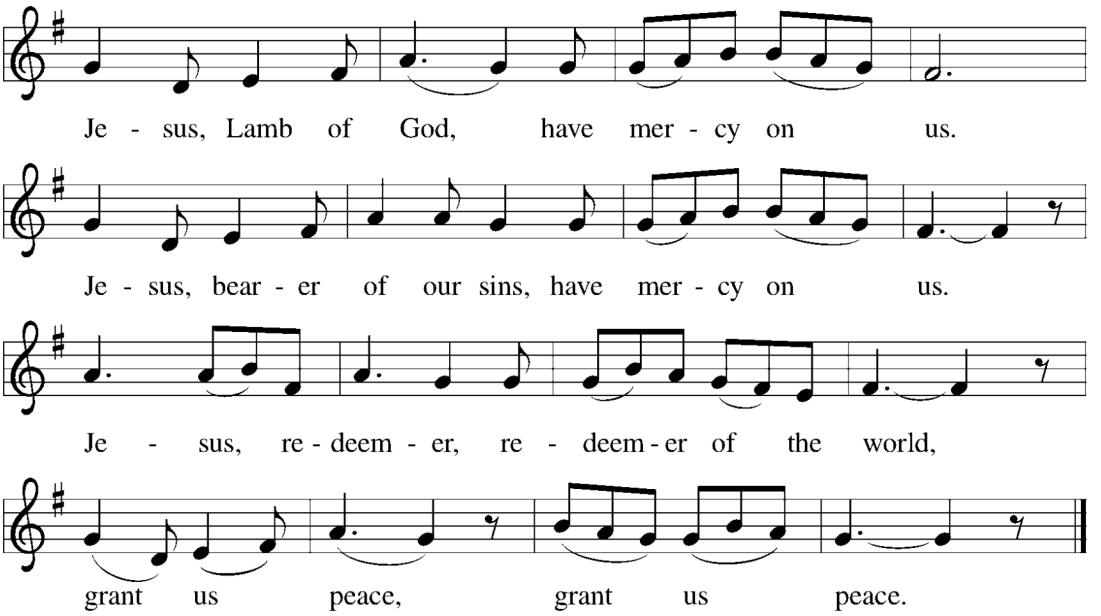
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

Please be seated.

Agnus Dei **Schubert *Deutsche Messe***



Communion

P: The Body of Christ, broken for you.
The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

Those who wish to commune at the altar rail may either bring forward their individual Communion kit, or receive the wafer and wine/grape juice by intinction (dipping) from the Communion Ministers, when they are directed forward by the usher. Those who wish to commune in their seat with their individual Communion kit may remain seated. Children may come forward with their family for a blessing.

Communion Hymn #194 (maroon hymnal)

"When Peace like a River" (It Is Well with My Soul)

Table Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending

Announcements for God's Mission in the World

Please stand as you are able.

Blessing

P: The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn #31 (green hymnal)

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Emily Beckering, Pastor
Kris Keith, Music Director
Kate Wollenburg, Organist
David Hill, Assisting Minister
Kathy Hirt, Reader
Chet Laine, Livestreamer

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Nov. 8: 24 Pentecost

9 am Adult Bible Study
10 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
After worship: Evangelism Committee

Tuesday, Nov. 10

1:30 pm Bible Study

Sunday, Nov. 15: 25 Pentecost

9 am Adult Bible Study
10 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, Nov. 16

7 pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 17

1:30 pm Bible Study

Saturday, Nov. 21

9 am Co:Lab meeting

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