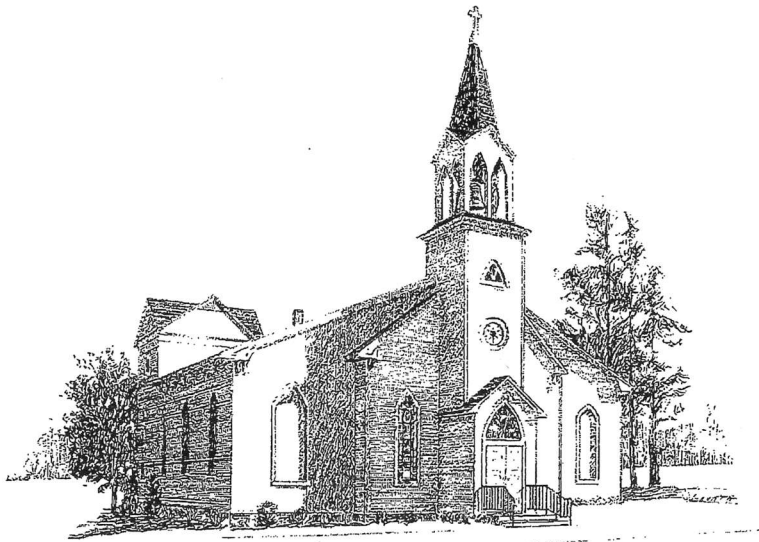




**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026**

Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
12095 Blades Road, PO Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625
Phone: 410-364-5147 – Email: info@stpaulscordova.org
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Pastor Robert Lehman-Minister of Word and Sacrament
Cell: 443-684-9974--Email: pastorlehman@msn.com

Julie Hawley-Organist and Choir Director
Cell: 412-600-6326 – Email: julie.hawley1487@gmail.com

Meredith Lewis-Secretary
Cell: 443-496-0903 – Email: info@stpaulscordova.org

Information Line
410-929-3227

Vertrau Auf Gott! [Trust in God]
Services are being live-streamed and recorded.

The Holy Eucharist

Announcements & Prelude

A Hymn in Procession – “*All Are Welcome*”

Hymnal #641

The Invocation

Celebrant In the Name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.**

Celebrant

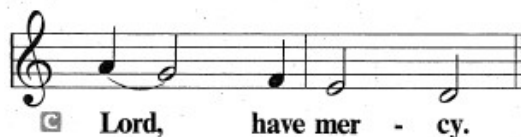
Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

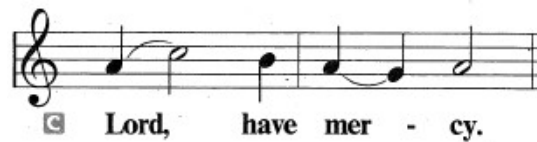
The Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie Eleison – “*Lord, have mercy*”

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*Response:* **And also with you.**)

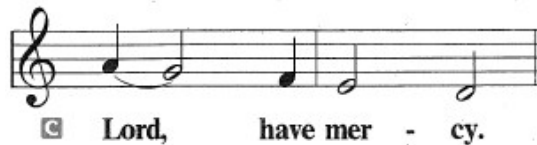
Celebrant In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
People



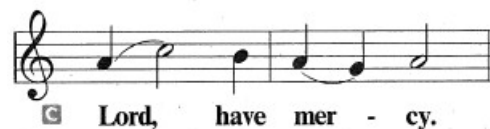
Celebrant For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
People



Celebrant For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
People



Celebrant For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
People



Celebrant Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.
People



The Cantic – *This is the Feast*

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
 whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
 and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
 and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God
 and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.** *Celebrant* Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.
Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy,
that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord. **Amen.**

A Reading of Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed.⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant—⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67 Read responsively.

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

2 **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

4 **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**6 The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

7 May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

A Reading of Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

The Alleluia and Verse

The Celebrant and People

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

A Reading of the Gospel according to Matthew 15:{10-20} 21-28

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth

proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Robert Lehman

A Hymn – “Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

Hymnal #651, vs 1-5

The Apostles’ Creed

The Officiant and People together

**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

After each petition, (Merciful God) the congregation responds: Receive our prayer.

The Sharing of Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be with you always.
People And also with you.

The Liturgy of the Altar

The Offertory Hymn “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

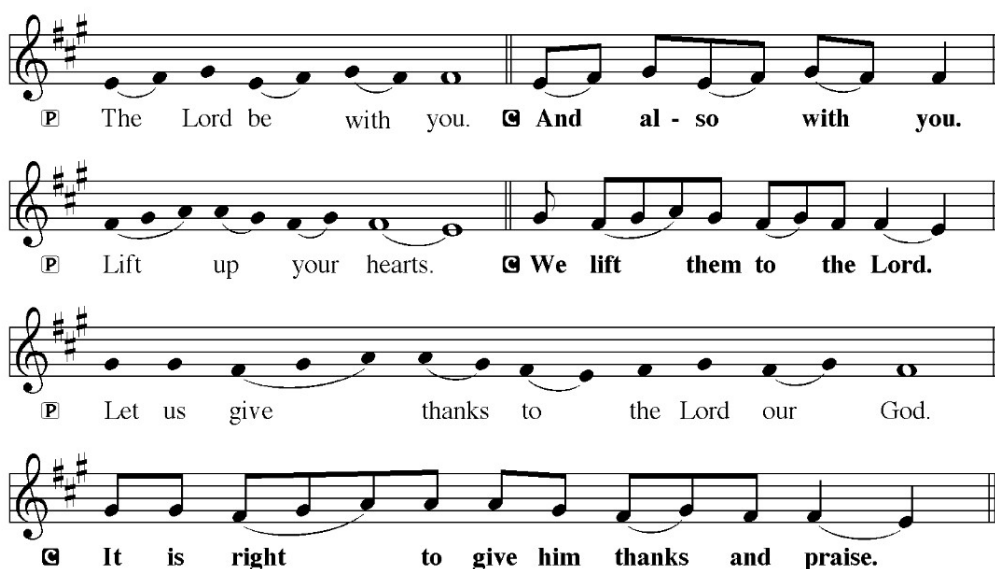
Hymnal #759

The Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

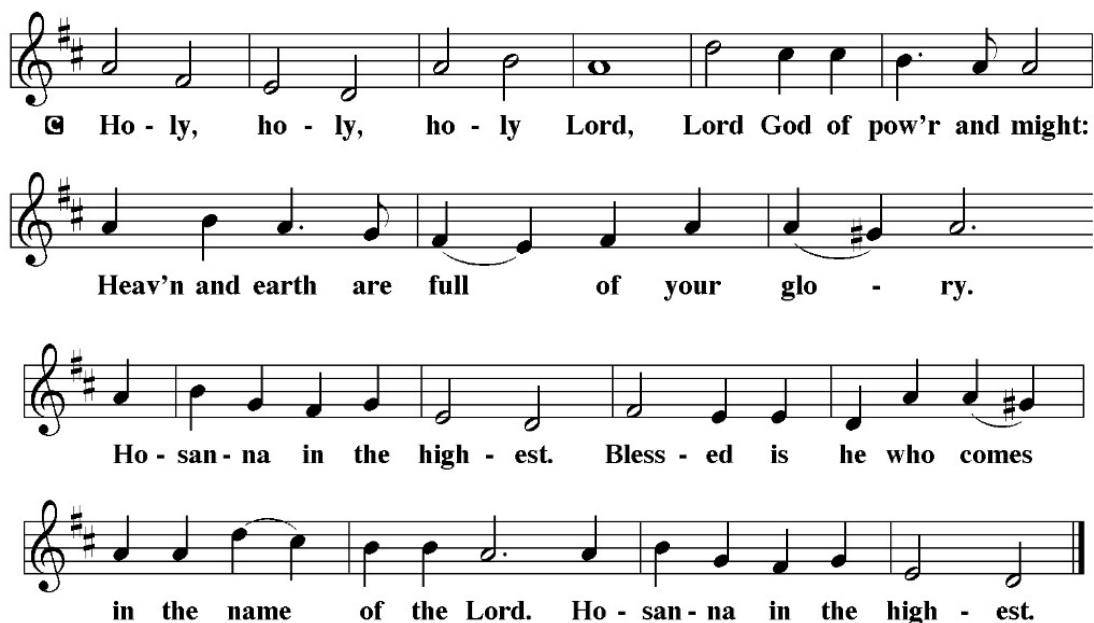
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

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 angels and archangels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Celebrant and People together



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are the most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 in the forgiveness of sin. Do this for 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.

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Celebrant and People together

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.

The Agnus Dei – “Lamb of God”



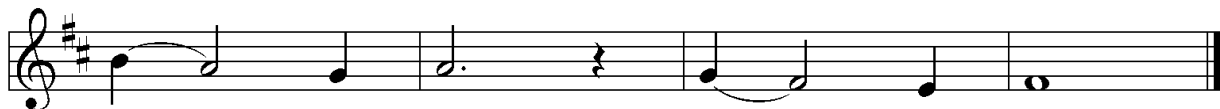
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

Invitation to Holy Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his Supper.

People **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you. But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The Distribution of Holy Communion

In the Evangelical-Lutheran tradition, we invite all baptized persons to receive Holy Communion at the altar. We believe that in the Blessed Sacrament we receive the true Body and precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Please come forward as directed by the usher and return by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward, the Celebrant will bring Holy Communion to you.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant May the true body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life. **Amen.**
Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People together

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, and of the **†** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Final Hymn – “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Hymnal #886

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving this Week

Ushers & Tellers: Dottie and Lee Moore

Lector : Bobbie Leaverton, Communion Assistant and Acolyte: Joshua Lewis

Serving Next Week

Ushers & Tellers: Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth

Lector : Joshua Lewis, Communion Assistant : Tom Roesel, and Acolyte: Ella Barletta



Our Sunday School Students Need You!

As we head towards the fall and the new Sunday school year, we are seeking a new Sunday School Director and a new church council member to take on the role of Worship, Music and Education liaison. Please consider helping with this important ministry and if you are willing to volunteer, please see a member of our church council.

<https://a.co/01YahVFJ>

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 6

10 am Service at the Talbot Ag Center

God's Work, Our Hands

Sunday, September 13

Kayaking and Service

4 pm

Roesel's Home

Sunday, September 27

Dedication of the Playground

Re-dedication of the Stained Glass Windows