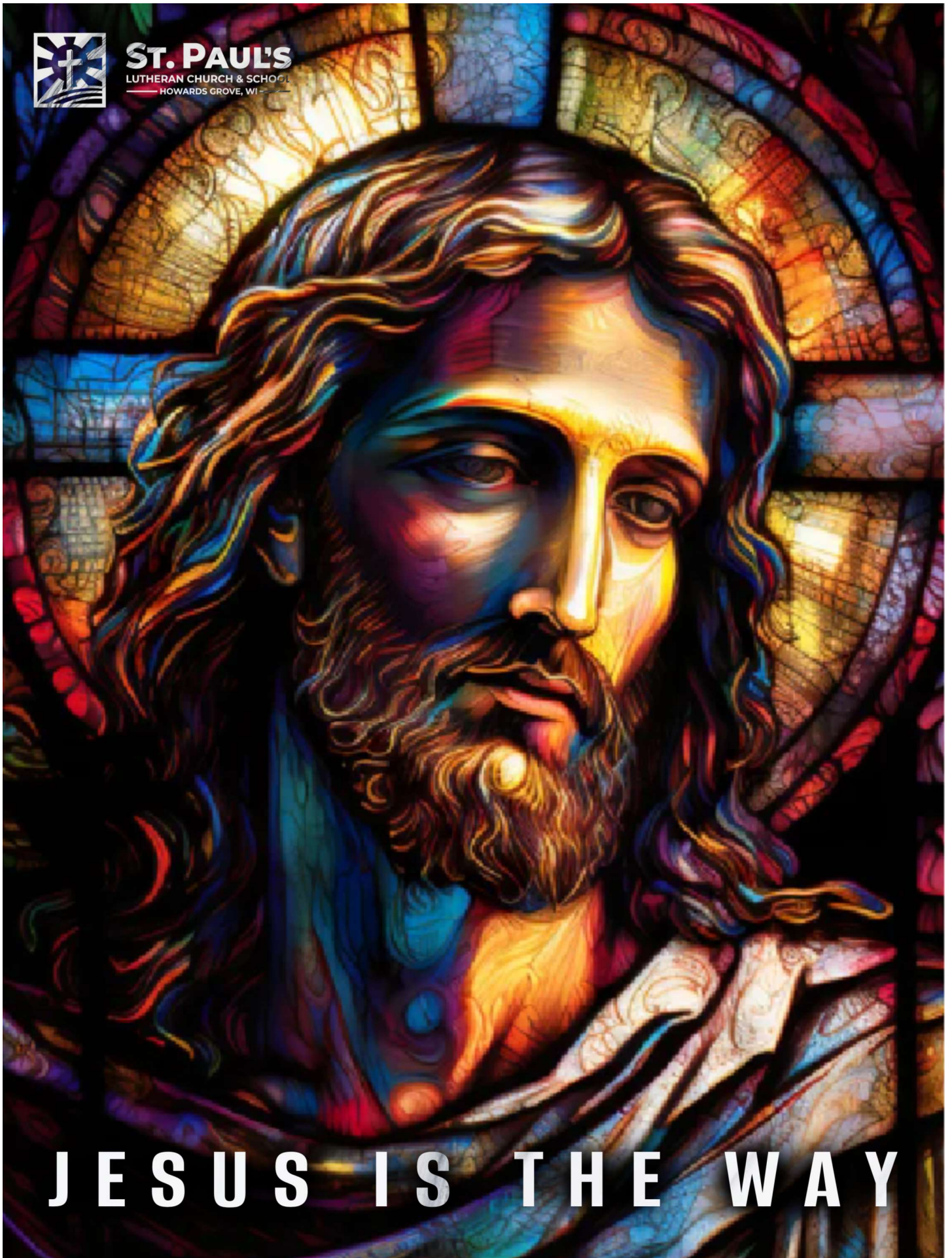




ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
HOWARDS GROVE, WI



JESUS IS THE WAY



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Welcome to St. Paul's!

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!



We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!



COMMUNION

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (4K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

Worship Focus: According to some estimates there are over 4,000 religions in the world. That is a lot of options! Are all of them viable? Will they lead to eternal life? How can anyone know? Today, the God of all gives us the answer. There is only one path to life and one route to the Lord. Jesus is the Way.

Welcome

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

CW 914

1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on him a - lone we
2 Here may we gain from heav'n the grace which we im -
3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall
build; with his true saints a - lone the courts of
plore, and may that grace, once giv'n, be with us
ring; our voic - es we will raise the Three in
heav'n are filled. On his great love our hopes we
ev - er - more un - til that day when all the
One to sing and thus pro - claim in joy - ful
place of pres - ent grace and joys a - bove.
blest to end - less rest are called a - way.
song, both loud and long, that glo - rious name.

Stand

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have sought my own way instead of relying on Christ alone. So often I have looked to the

foolish ways of man and disregarded the truth of your Word. I have selfishly lived for myself instead of for Christ our Cornerstone and bringer of everlasting life. Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

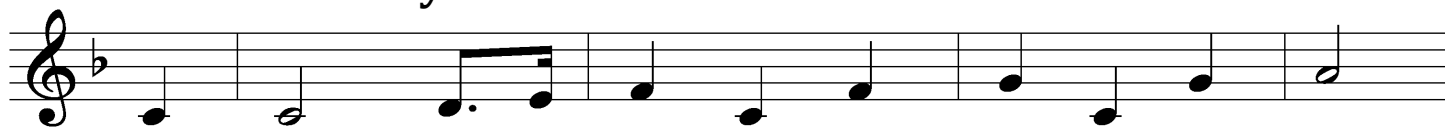
Absolution

Our Heavenly Father sent his only Son, Christ Jesus, to rescue us from our unfaithfulness. We are God's own people and by the power of the Holy Spirit we have become the living stones of God's own spiritual house. Brothers and sisters, your sins are forgiven; be at peace.

Amen.

To God Be the Glory

CW 627



1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,



So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son,



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our joy and our won - der when Je - sus we see.

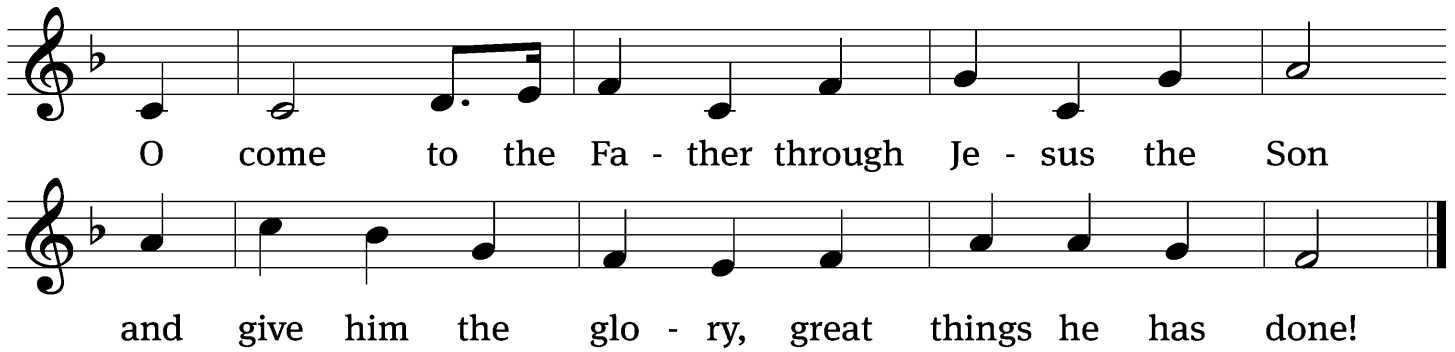
Refrain



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!



THE WORD

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 4:8-12

Salvation is found in no one else than Jesus Christ of Nazareth, crucified and raised from the dead.

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is

"the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone."

¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Duet

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

Refrain: Christ alone; cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love. Through the storm, he is Lord, Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found. Dressed in his righteousness alone; faultless stand before the throne. *Refrain*

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4–10

Only as you come to Jesus, the living Stone, are you built like living stones into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood.

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Soloist: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

ALL: Refrain

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

Soloist: I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

ALL: Refrain

Gospel

John 14:1-11

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through him.

¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.

²My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

CW 809


Refrain



Do not let your hearts be trou-bled; have faith in God and faith in




me. I will go forth to pre-pare a place for you; then I'll come

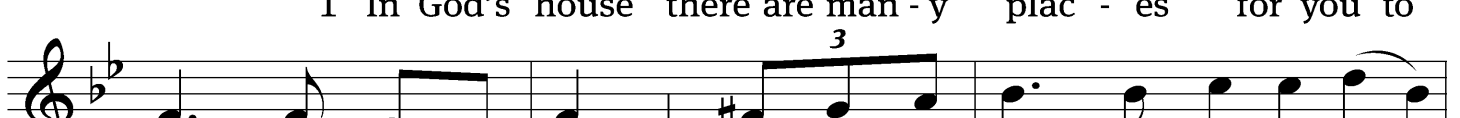


back to take you with me, that where I am, you may al - so be.

Verse



1 In God's house there are man - y plac - es for you to




dwell in peace and safe - ty. You know the way to where I'll lead

Refrain




you; if you are lost, I will show the way.

Verse



2 I am the way, the truth, and the life; on - ly through




me can you know what I know. If you knew me, you would

Refrain

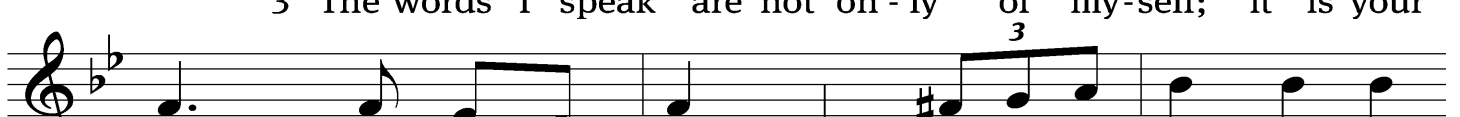


know the Fa - ther; if you see me, you see your God.

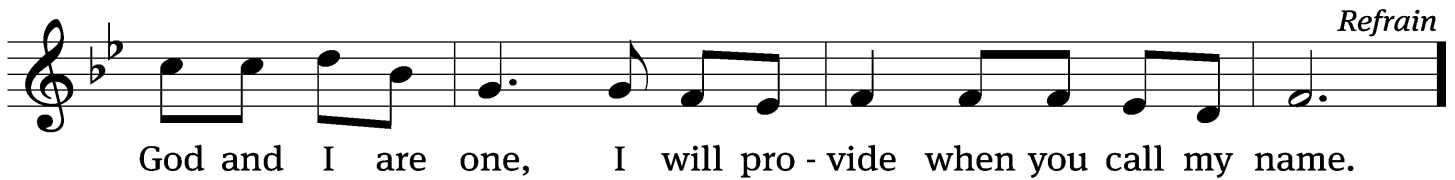
Verse



3 The words I speak are not on - ly of my-self; it is your



God who lives with - in me. If you be - lieve that your



Sermon

1 Peter 2

It's between a Rock and a Hard Place!

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.

Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow

his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life.

Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.

King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.

Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.

Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.

Special intercessions may follow

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

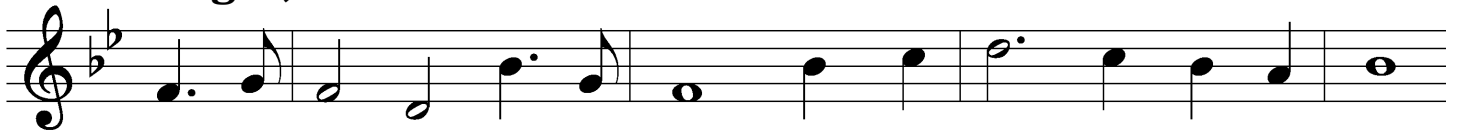
Silent prayer

O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

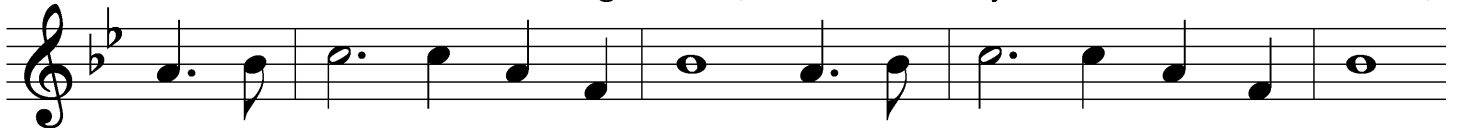
His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

CW 839



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure: cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Please stand

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

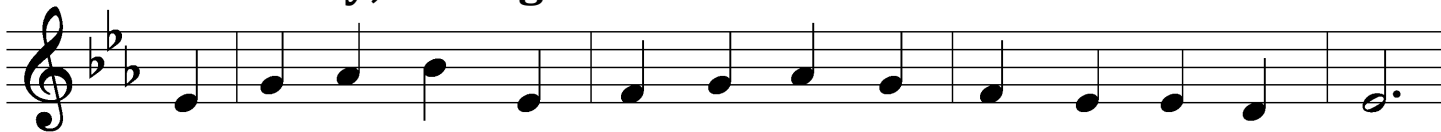
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

You Are the Way; through You Alone

CW 514



- 1 You are the way; thro' you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
- 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb pro-claims your con-qu'ring arm,
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re-vealed his heart and will and mind.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you nor death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

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If you are visiting us today or would like to update your information, please scan the QR code to fill out our form.

SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PIANIST: Kasandra Midthun

MUSICIAN: Eli Midthun

ALTAR GUILD: Dawn Marten, Jean Porter, Konni Harbach.

USHERS: 8:00a.m.- Karl Leverenz, Dan Rehbein, Justin Radue, Steve Schueler, Joe Goedeke.

10:30a.m.-Gary Fields, Jason Yancy, Matt Schueler.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

OFFERINGS: 4/30 & 5/1 - \$19,400 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$16,700). \$3,550 GROWING FORWARD (\$250 INCLUDED IN MATCHING FUNDS). \$25 TO EUGENE RABE MEMORIAL.

ATTENDANCE: 4/30 & 5/1: 8:00 A.M. - 272. 10:30 A.M. - 109. 6:30 P.M. - 38.

In our prayers this week...

1. *Family of Bob Kober, who was called to eternal rest this past week.*

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times
Sunday, May 7	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour
	1:00 p.m. Pre-K & K Open House
Monday, May 8	9:30 a.m. Pastor Circuit Meeting
	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
Wednesday, May 10	8:30 a.m. Mindful Moms Bible Study
	9:00 a.m. Bible Study
	9:30 a.m. Mindful Moms Music & Movement
	4:15 p.m. Public School Catechism
	6:30 p.m. Evangelism
Thursday, May 11	10:30 a.m. School Musical Dress Rehearsal
	12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Luncheon
Sunday, May 14	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour

Grow with Christ

Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- Sunday Bible Study** - Today is a special presentation by Friends Network missionaries Emily and Jesse Rider. During this hour, you will learn about Friends Network, hear encouraging evangelism stories, and learn how you can support the amazing mission work in Southeast Asia. Bible study will take place in the sanctuary.
- Ascension Worship** - Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 18, at 6:30 pm. St. Paul's will host a joint Ascension service with members of Calvary, Sheboygan and St. John's / St. Peter's, Cleveland. The Sunday School children from each congregation will sing an anthem in the service, and members from all three churches will be part of special music for the day.
- LWMS National Convention** will be June 22-25, 2023 in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. The theme for the 60th annual convention is "Peace Like a River." Registration forms are

available online. Information on the mission speakers and workshops will be found on the LWMS website at www.lwms.org For more information, contact Marilyn Toepel.

4. **WELS Youth Night** – Due to scheduling conflicts, the May WELS Youth Night event for 5/13 is canceled. We will continue to host these events in the future. A schedule will be set soon for a Fall, Winter, and Spring event for the 2023-2024 school year. If you have any interest in helping with one of those events in the future, please contact Mike Leahy or Luther Curia.

Call Updates

1. **Pastor Mueller** received a divine call to serve as lead pastor at St. Paul's in North Mankato.
2. **Calling Season** - The Lord has blessed St. Paul's this call season. At a time when staffing has become a challenge across our synod, we were blessed to fill all four of our full-time teaching/administration needs. Staffing additions for 2023-2024 include:
 - Miss Deb Doletzky - 2nd Grade Teacher
 - Mrs. Emily Panzer - 4K Teacher
 - Mr. Michael Wieting - 7th-8th half-time Teacher / Principal
 - Mrs. McLissa Wieting - 3K half-time Teacher / Early Childhood Director

In Other News

1. **The Funeral for Bob Kober** will take place on Tuesday, May 9, at 11:00 am. Visitation beforehand starts at 9:30 am.
2. **Family Dance Party:** The Activities committee is planning another fun Family Dance Party Friday, May 19 from 6:00-8:00 pm. We'll have the gym set up for the occasion, with lights and awesome family-appropriate tunes! Pizza will be served from 6:00-7:00.
SPECTATORS WELCOME!
Cost: freewill offering collection
Register in the member room by May 14 to help the committee plan for the event.
Contact Luther Curia with any questions. luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org or 920.287.8575
3. **St. Paul's Timber Rattlers Game:** Join your St. Paul's family Friday, July 28 for a Timber Rattlers game! There is a limit of 50 people, so get your tickets before they're gone!
Cost: \$55 (covers bus ride, ticket, buffet, and 2 drinks)
Details: Located directly behind home plate with a great view of the field, we will be in the new Diamond Seats section. It features comfortable elevated bar top seats, an all-you-can-eat buffet (BBQ pulled pork, grilled Cher-Make jumbo hot dogs, a build your own burrito bowl bar, creamy mac & cheese, potato chips, and assorted desserts), and two beverages (hard seltzer, beer, water, or soda). Diamond Seats give the convenience of being able to sit back and watch the game or stand up and mingle with friends.
Schedule:

5:15: meet at St. Paul's and head to the game together on bus

6:40: game

Post-game: fireworks at the ballpark, kids can run the bases, return to St. Paul's

Please register using this form by July 14: <https://forms.gle/ka7jDrbkdB2d9QqB7>.

Contact Luther Curia with any questions. 920.287.8575;

luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

4. **Marohn Farewell Dinner:** On June 11, we will have a brat fry to bid farewell to the Marohn family and show our appreciation for their partnership in St. Paul's Ministry. This meal will take place following the second service. Please sign up (online: <https://forms.gle/auaTvJ1acpT7majn6> or in the member room) to help coordinate how much food to prepare. We're also asking people to sign up to bring their favorite side and/or dessert to share.
Cost: freewill offering collection
Please register by Wednesday, June 7.
Contact Luther Curia with any questions. 920.287.8575;
luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
5. **WELS Night at The Brewers is on for 2023!** Save the date and plan to join thousands of WELS members for an evening at the ballpark on Friday, July 7 to watch the Brewers take on the Reds. Tickets are discounted up to 50% and are reserved all together in a block. **NEW FOR 2023** - Each church that purchases a group of 20 or more tickets will enter a drawing to qualify for the opportunity to have a member from their congregation represent WELS Night by throwing out a first pitch prior to the game! Please contact our office to purchase the group tickets so we can qualify for the drawing, to be seated together, and save on service fees. There is a flier with more information on the bulletin board in the commons.
6. **Take a trip to Greece in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul!** The trip is right after Easter next year, from April 1-10, 2024. We will see Athens, Thessalonica, Philippi, Corinth, and a three day Mediterranean cruise that will visit Patmos (where John wrote Revelation), Ephesus, and more. Contact Pastor Mueller for info. [A total of 32 are registered!]
7. **Help Name Some Rooms!** We have two rooms in the new facility we would like to name (other than the generic names on the blueprints). The two rooms are the entryway (also currently called the gathering area) and the new meeting room/multi-purpose room. The reason for naming this is that we can't have *two* commons areas or *three* entryways into the building (narthex, current school entry and new school entry). It's also for clarity for announcements and print materials to let someone know where to meet. Please send your suggestions to secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org. *No last names please!*
8. **Worship Greeters** We are seeking members willing to smile and welcome people before worship services. This is a great opportunity to get to know more of our growing congregation. If interested in more details, please see the sign-up sheet in the member room or speak with Katie Schuenemann.

9. **Millersville Road Repair** and Paving began Monday April 17. They have torn up most of the road coming from both ways to St. Paul's. It has seemed to work best during the week to come and go by way of Millersville Ave. west of St. Paul's and Warbler Rd. heading north from Millersville Ave. The entire project is slated to be finished (weather permitting) by June.
10. **Capital Campaign Update:** The Lord continues to shower St. Paul's with blessings. Since the matching gift was announced in December, an additional \$84,650 has been given or pledged, which has a total impact to the campaign of \$126,975. Work on grant requests has also continued and we were recently notified of a \$50,000 grant that is being gifted to St. Paul's! Additionally, all of the Kohler plumbing products have been received and Neumann plumbing will begin installing them soon. As a reminder, please be sure to indicate "matching gift" with any new gifts or pledges. We have much to be thankful for indeed. With the Lord's continued blessings, these and other on-going activities will help to reduce the potential mortgage from \$3.1M to the planned \$2.6M. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.
11. **Save the Dates!** The building expansion is scheduled for completion on August 4. With that date we have planned a dedication date for the facility in our services on **August 13**. We will also install our new teachers [Deb Doletzky and Emily Panzer] that day. Martin Luther College President Rev. Rich Gurgel will serve as our preacher that day. We are also planning an Open House on **August 19**.
12. **The gym will be unavailable** starting on Sunday, May 7 through Friday, May 12 for the St. Paul's School Musical.