



The birds
of the air
make nests
in its shade

MARK 4:32

Introduction

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2931 www.osluth.org
Pastor Randy Schroeder

Purdue Lutheran Ministry
330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2398 www.plm.org
Pastor Kristin Rice

June 16, 2024, 10:00 A.M.

All are welcome here
All people of faith, All people of doubt
All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression
All people who seek a compassionate community

All are welcome here
Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray
Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks
Welcome to serve God and neighbors

All are welcome here
All are redeemed by a gracious God



The Gathering

Prelude Music

Build Us Up, Lord (arranged by Anne Krentz, 2007 Augsburg Fortress)

For the Beauty of the Earth (arranged by Chris Rice, 2001 Word Music)

Call to Worship (inspired by Mark 4:26-32, written by Katherine Hawker for the Union Church UCC of Tekonsha. Posted on Liturgy Outside. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>)

PR Called to be branches in Christ's body,
C **we yearn to be connected to the vine.**

PR Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to God's creatures,
C **we search for places to plant the seeds of faith.**

PR Called to be growing with God in the midst of this world's painful questions,
C **we seek God's nurturing presence.**

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

PR Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C **Amen.**

PR Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

PR God, our provider,

C **help us.**

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

PR Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 524: *What Is This Place*

1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a

earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,

win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive

when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

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 Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933
 Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, b. 1906
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Greeting

PR 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.

Hymn of Praise


Refrain




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



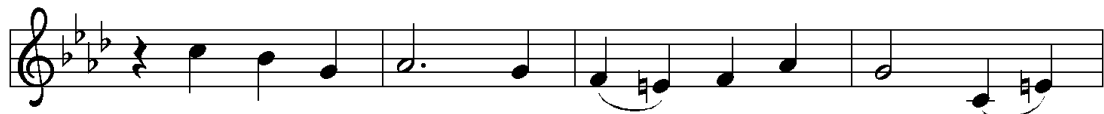
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

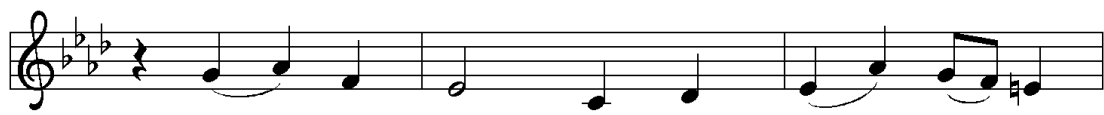


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to




Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

PR O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

The Word

L A reading from the book of Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 (Read responsively by whole verse)

¹It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High,

²**to declare your steadfast love in the morning
and your faithfulness by night,**

³ to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.

⁴ **For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

¹² The righteous flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³ **They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.**

¹⁴ In old age they still produce fruit;
they are always green and full of sap,

¹⁵ **showing that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.**

L A reading from the book of 2 Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

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

Welcome with meekness the im-^lplanted word* that has the power to^l save your souls.

PR The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the fourth chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

PR The Gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

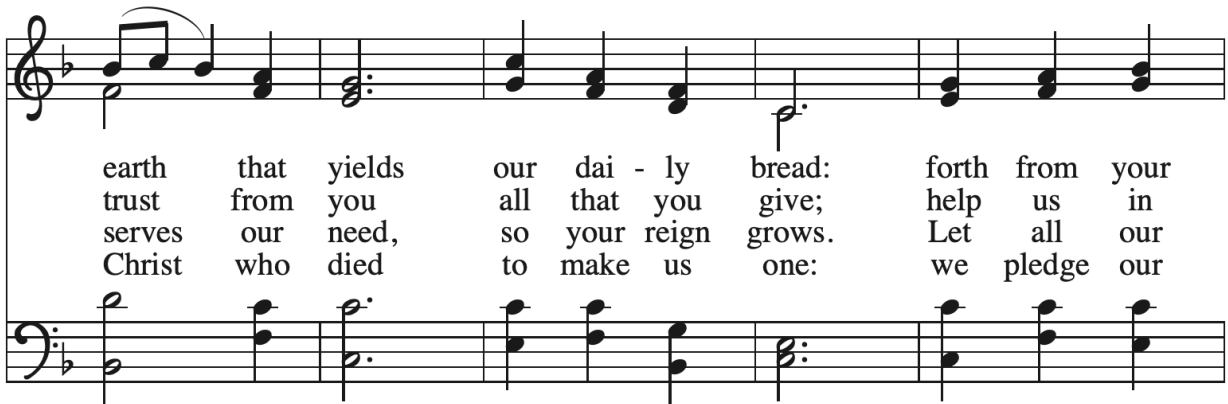
Pastor Randy Schroeder

Stand

Hymn of the Day, ACS, hymn 1063: *God of the Fertile Fields*



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused, your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

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Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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PR **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

A We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.
(*A brief silence.*) Nourish your faithful people through gifts of word and worship. Guide
the church in listening to and interpreting your message of grace for this time and place
in history. In your wisdom, lead us in expanding the reach of your love. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Nature sings your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. Sustain the holy
rhythms of creation: days and seasons, hibernation and activity, phases of the moon and
tides of the sea. Let these patterns assure us of your constancy. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A You raise the lowly and humble those in high regard. Raise up all who are victims of
marginalization, discrimination, and hate. As we anticipate Juneteenth, banish white
supremacy and bigotry from the hearts of your people and remove the inclination toward
anger and violence. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Tend to all who journey by faith and who wait with patience for the fulfillment of your
healing promises especially John and Jeanette, Danny D., Zarema, Zera, and their family
in Crimea, Zach, Lynn, Lawrence, Nathan and Haley, Jeanette, Sheila, Suzanne, Jean,
and Megan. Grant perseverance to people doing physical and occupational therapy,
people living with mobility concerns, and people facing chronic pain. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A As you have loved us, so let us love one another. Empower fathers, stepfathers,
grandfathers, adoptive fathers, and chosen fathers to embody this gift of love for their
children. Where these relationships are strained or broken, bring your comfort and
peace. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A May your Spirit surround us as we discern our way forward as OSLC. Help us to listen, notice, and connect to your Spirit's leadership. You have called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we may go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A With gratitude, we remember the Emanuel Nine martyrs and all the saints who are now at home with you. Plant seeds of their wisdom and witness in our hearts, that we grow in faith until we join them in your heavenly dwelling. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

PR Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
C **Amen.**

Peace

PR The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

The Meal

As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, please read the following:

For today's distribution of Holy Communion, after the Invitation to the Table, the presiding pastor will invite the worship assistants (lector, assisting minister, usher) to commune behind the altar. The presiding pastor will then commune those worshipping online and those in the sanctuary who wish to commune in their pews. Then the presiding pastor will commune those who wish to come up to the altar while the Lamb of God is played.

Offering

Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and the "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (Ted Heise is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option. His email address is theise@panix.com)



Stand

Offering Prayer

A Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
C **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

PR The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

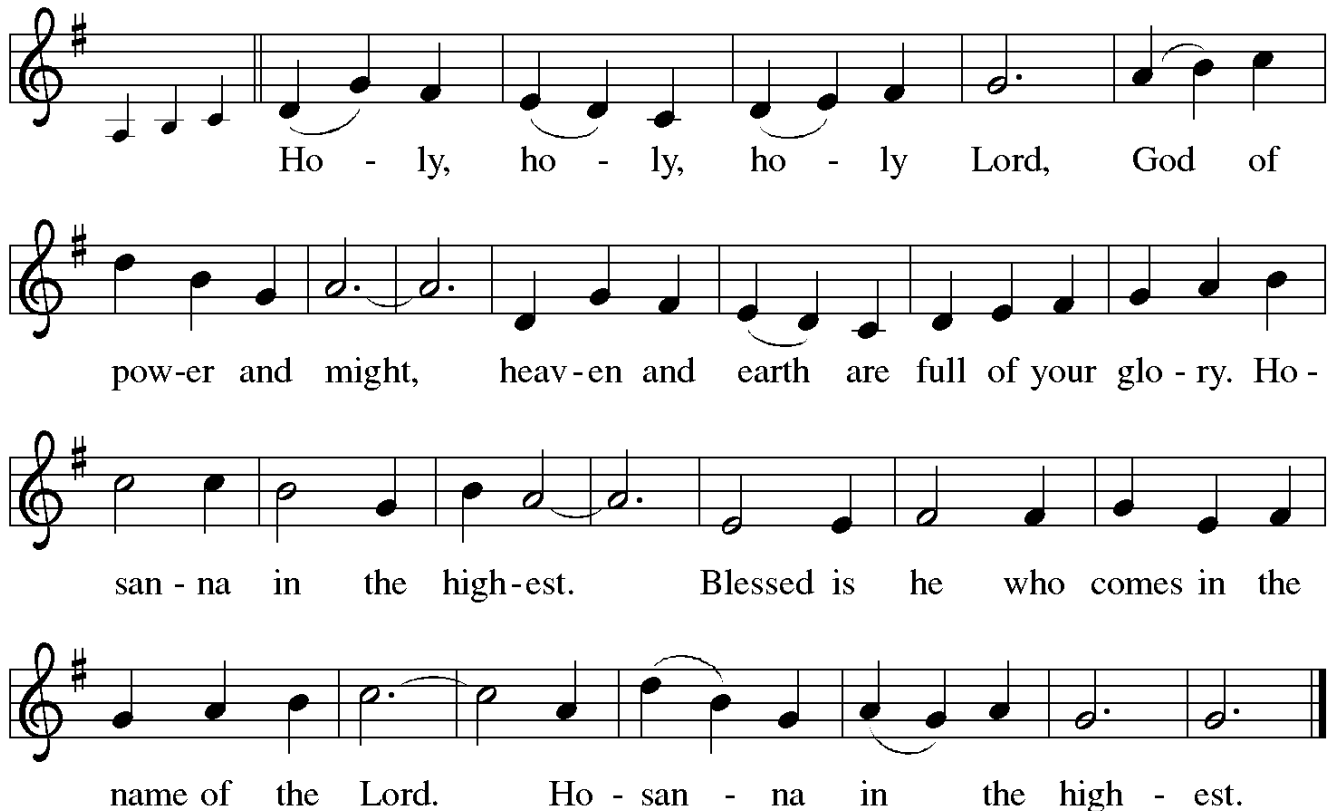
PR Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

PR Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PR 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PR 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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.**

Invitation to Communion

PR The table set by Jesus is open to all, and in resurrection Christ is present in this simple food and festive drink. Jesus welcomes friends and strangers to this feast, where the grace of God's love and goodness meet us wherever we are. Here we are welcomed, affirmed, and celebrated with the gifts of God, for us, the people of God.

Distribution

There are gluten-free wafers and grape juice. Please indicate your need to the server.

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.

Communion Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 465: *As the Grains of Wheat*


Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were




gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

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Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Stand

PR The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and for ever.

C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

C **Amen.**

The Sending

An Invitation

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), Hymn 547: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

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Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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Blessing

PR The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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Worship Assistants Today: Julie Huetteman, Krista Gearhart (Musicians), Mark Hermodson (Cantor), Dick Rahdert (Assisting Minister), Bob Nielsen (Lector), Vera Weiser (Usher), Mike Williams (A-V Specialist), Matt Ohland (Assistant to Mr. Williams)

Pastor Randy is available for pastoral care. Please contact him at: 260-402-4476 or by email: randy@osluth.org

Pastor Kristin is available for campus ministry-related care and support. Please contact her at: 262-758-1235 or by email: pastor@plm.org

We collect toiletries (travel size) to donate to the homeless shelter. The basket for your donations is in the narthex. (Look beneath the buffet.)

Our sanctuary is served by a hearing loop. Wearers of hearing aids should turn their aids to the setting marked T, or T-coil, or Telephone.

Kid's Worship Bags and Family Room: The kids' worship bags have been updated with new items that help children follow along with the worship service, storybook Bibles and fun activities to do. For little ones there are quiet toys, books, and activities in the family in the back of the church for the children to play with during the service. Please feel free to let your children explore.

Dates OSLC is Closed in 2024:

July 4: Fourth of July

September 2: Labor Day

November 28 and 29: Thanksgiving

December 24 and 25: Christmas

December 31 and January 1 (2025): New Years

Centering Prayer Group

Join us every Monday morning for Centering Prayer online via zoom from 9:00 – 9:30 am. The zoom link will be sent out on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Luncheon Lectio Divina- Praying with Scripture

Join us every Wednesday at noon via zoom for Lectio Divina. The zoom link will be sent on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Pints with Pastor

Pints with a Pastor is returning! We will meet at Nine Irish Brothers (119 Howard Ave., West Lafayette, IN 47906) at **6:30pm on Tuesday, June 18th**. **Please RSVP by Tuesday at noon—by emailing me at randy@osluth.org or giving me a call @ 260-402-4475**, so we know how many tables/much space to reserve.

Church Picnic

All are welcome to join us on June 23rd at Columbian Park at 12:00PM for Park Prayer service and eat lunch at 12:20PM. (We will have a 10AM worship at OSLC and invite people to come after worship.) We will be gathering in the Yellow Shelter #3. In honor of our 65th church anniversary, we will have a special prayer service in recognition of our years of ministry before we eat. Carl Behnke is preparing the main meat dish. We are asking that you please bring a dish to share. There is a signup sheet outside the office to let us know how many in your group plan to attend and what you are bringing, or you can click on the link to use the Signup Genius. [Church Picnic Sign up](#)

Please let us know by June 16th so we can plan accordingly. This event is a great opportunity to invite friends and or neighbors to a fun OSLC activity!

Aviator's Baseball Game Outing

Join us on **July 21st at 3:00 p.m.** for a fun afternoon of fellowship and baseball. We have reserved seating at Loeb Stadium in section 108. Tickets are \$8.00 a piece. OSLC will provide a \$5.00 food voucher with each ticket purchased. Make checks out to OSLC, and in the memo line, write Aviators Baseball. You can place your checks in the offering plate or give them to Erin in the office. **Because the seats are reserved, an RSVP is required.** Please **RSVP (no deadline)** to guarantee a spot with your OSLC family. You can scan the QR code, click this link, [Aviators Baseball Outing](#), or sign up on the sheet outside the office. Please let Missy know if you have any questions at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.



Scan to RSVP

Save the Date!

Prophet's Town State Park Outing

On August 11th, you are invited to join us for a fun afternoon at Prophet's Town State Park. We will caravan from the church after the service. We will begin at the farmhouse and barns for a tour, then find a place to have a picnic lunch and end our time at the aquatic center. The cost to get into the park is \$8 a vehicle. Please pack picnic lunches for your group. OSLC will cover the cost of our group getting into the aquatic center. If you have any questions, please contact Missy at missy@osluth.org or 260-402-4477.

About Our Nave

Against the north wall is the Tree of Life, designed by the late liturgical designer Charles Pohlmann and constructed in 1996 by then-OSLC member Ted Marshall. The processional cross was given to OSLC in memory of Jennie Dana. Many of our paraments were designed and hand-woven by OSLC member Bea Stromberg. The west wall is lined with seven wood carvings depicting the life of Christ commissioned from the late Nigerian carver Lamidi Fakeye. At the center of the nave stands a marble baptismal font, a gift from members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The prints of paintings on the east wall are by nationally known liturgical artist He Qi. The center piece is given by the Church Council in honor of Sam Rasmy for his long-time service as Financial Secretary of OSLC. The Last Supper, by Guatemalan artist Angelina Quic Ixtamer, was purchased by the 2014 Guatemala Mission Team. The OSLC logo was redesigned in 2022 with elements reflecting the unique architecture of the sanctuary, the 2019 addition of the south stained-glass window, our affiliation with the ELCA, and the eternal presence of our Lord and Saviour.

References to the Tree of Life are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It has both literal and symbolic meaning for Christians: it is the literal tree of life in Genesis, and in Revelation it represents everlasting life granted to those who display fruits of the spirit and of righteousness aligned with God's principles.

Our Saviour's Vision, Mission, and Values (October 4, 2018)

Vision *God calls us to be a community of discipleship for all,
making Christ's love real in our daily lives.*

Mission *Grow in faith and Christian calling
Love and serve God and neighbor
Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

Values *Centered in liturgical worship
Outreach to campus and partnership with Purdue Lutheran Ministry
Education and mentoring for all ages
Responsible stewardship of resources
Care, compassion and service in the local and global community*