

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12, 2021

9:00 a.m.

The Reverend Pamela M. Illick, Pastor

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www.StPaulsEnola.com

Building Disciples ~ Growing in Faith ~ Serving in Christ's Name

Welcome to all – especially visitors!!!

It is no accident that you are here today!

You are an answer to our prayer. We have been praying for you,
and believe that God has brought you here because God wants to touch your life.

We welcome you in the name of the Risen Lord!

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

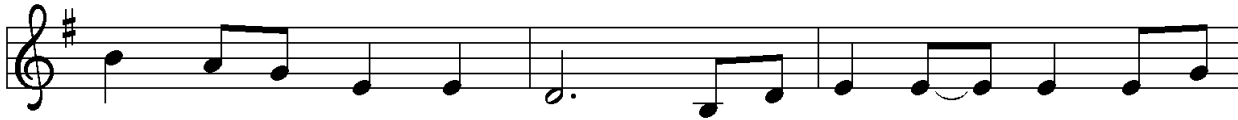
GATHERING SONG #723 “Canticle of the Turning”

(Mia’s favorite hymn)

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

(refrain next page)



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



Wipe a-way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-9

¹I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

²**for the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave
came upon me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**

⁵Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.

⁶**The Lord watches over the innocent;
I was brought low, and God saved me.**

⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul.
for the Lord has dealt well with you.

⁸**For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

⁹I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (spoken)

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I

am?”²⁸ And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.”²⁹ He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.”³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Pamela Illick

HYMN OF THE DAY #732 “Borning Cry”

Borning Cry



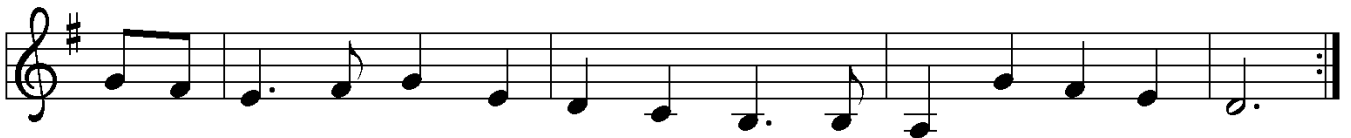
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some - one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
Amen.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and we come before God with Mia Bella Miller and McKenna Elizabeth Stitzel as *they* make affirmation of their baptism into Christ.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

The leader addresses those making affirmation of their baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

Profession of Faith

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

Affirmation

Mia and McKenna, you have made profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support *Mia and McKenna* and pray for them in *their* life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Mia Bella Miller:

Confirmation Verse: *Joshua 1:9* – “Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Stir up in Mia the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

McKenna Elizabeth Stitzel:

Confirmation Verse: *John 13:34* – [Jesus said] I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Stir up in McKenna the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Mia and McKenna, we rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

THE PRAYERS

A: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Silent prayer may follow.

A: Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture Mia and McKenna and all your beloved children as we grow together in faith and serve you with open hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked and who have no voice. We pray for all who suffer in body, mind and spirit especially *Levi, Clyde, Zelda, Jim, Anne, Claris, Katie, Kaylin, Mason, Jean, Jerry, Nicole, Arla, Paul, Victoria, Kathy, Angelia, Pat, Mary, Gilbert, Art, Ann, Dee, Kim, Gerald and JoAnn, Kody, Holly, Beth, Mandy, Jordan, Leif, Linda, Teresa, Earl, Miriam, Marge and Gerry, Tim, those who suffer from Covid*, and those whom we name in our hearts.... Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace especially Bob, Victoria, and Helen. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

Pastor and Assisting Minister receive the offering and elements for communion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of abundance,

**C: you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.**

Accept the gifts you have first given us.

Unite them with the offering of our lives

to nourish the world you love so dearly;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth.

You rescued your covenant people,

led them on all their journeys,

and taught them by the prophets.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him

may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was handed over,
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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink 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 in this meal,
and make us one in this community of faith
and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God,
Author of life,
Word made flesh,
Power of the Most High,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Brought together by the Holy Spirit from all the spaces we are right
now, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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: All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

DISTRIBUTION

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve us in eternal life.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

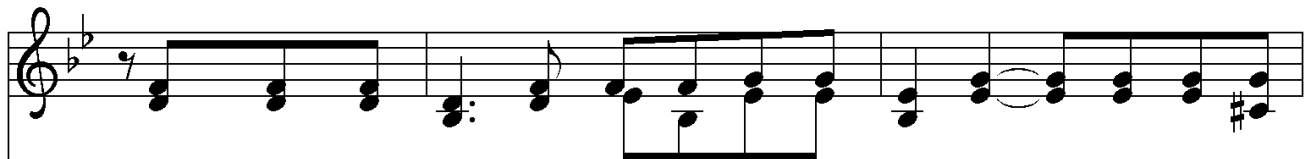
A: Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN #856 “How Great Thou Art”

(McKenna’s favorite hymn)

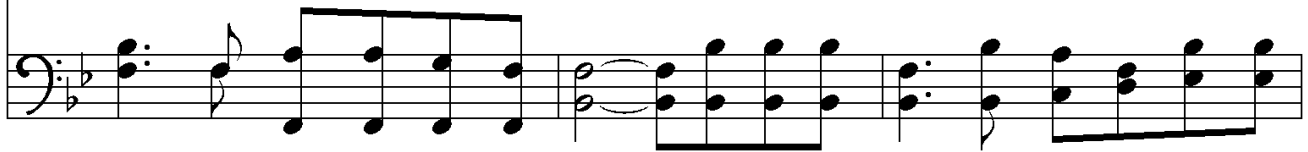
How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



(refrain next page)

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou
 art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to
 thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNITY TIME

BLESSING

P: People of God,
 you are Christ's body,
 bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
 bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Large print bulletins are available – please see an usher.

Bulletins are presented to the glory of God.

Congratulations! Today we celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) of Mia Bella Miller and McKenna Elizabeth Stitzel. We congratulate them on their commitment to study the Catechism and to hear God’s Word. We welcome them as partners in mission at St. Paul’s.

Thank you to those assisting with worship today: Mary Jane McMillan, Assisting Minister; Vicki Barnhart, Lector; Stew Trout and Steve Hoffmaster, Ushers

Pianist: Debra Reeder

Assisting in September/October:

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Usher	Usher
Sept. 19	Denise Casella	Steve Hoffmaster	Vicki Barnhart	Mike Stoner
Sept. 26	Nick Cekovich	Ann Gilbert	Stew Trout	Steve Hoffmaster
Oct. 3	Denise Casella	Wendy Cekovich	Darrell McMillan	Tim Morgan
Oct. 10	Mason Miller	Denise Casella	Drew Kugler	Mike Peck

Hydration Station: Please help yourself to water, located where you pick up your bulletin.

New Hope Needs – Please help in our effort to fulfill New Hope Enola’s current shortages. Currently, they need **paper towels, tissues, and women’s and men’s personal care items** (deodorant, shampoo, etc.). A collection bin will be out on Sundays.

UPCOMING

Tonight: There will be no *Adult Sunday School* class.

September 14: Church Council Meeting

September 19: St. Paul's will welcome Pastor Jennifer Hope-Tringali who is serving Tree 4 Hope in Guatemala. She will be sharing her ministry experience with the people of Guatemala during our worship service and will be available for conversation and fellowship after worship. Here is the website address to learn more about Tree 4 Hope: tree4hope.org. **One of the needs the school has is for Duct Tape and reusable covid masks for children, youth and adults.** If you are able to contribute there will be a donation box available. Pastor Jennifer will take the items with her on the 19th to be distributed to the students in Guatemala.

The Rev. Pamela M. Illick, Pastor
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