Sunday, August 31, 2025 12th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion * stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – Reflection

Douglas E. Wagner

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

P - 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.

C - Amen.

P- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P- Most Merciful God,

C- we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

*GATHERING SONG – All Are Welcome (ELW 641)

All Are Welcome



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain

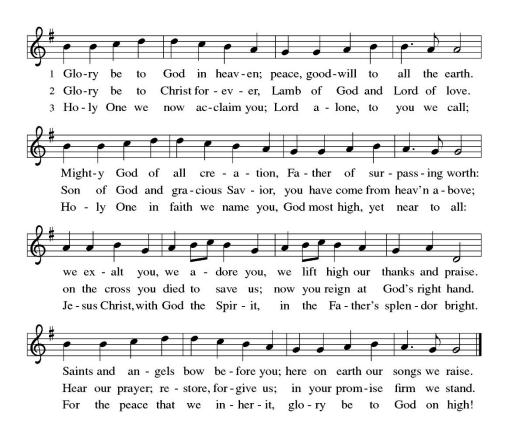
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

*GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



¹Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

²Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

³Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P- O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7a

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

- ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great,
- ^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
- R The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 112 (please read responsively)

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD and have great delight in | God's commandments!
- ² Their descendants will be mighty | in the land; the generation of the upright | will be blessed.
- ³ Wealth and riches will be | in their house, and their righteousness will | last forever.
- ⁴ Light shines in the darkness | for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.
- ⁵ It is good for them to be gener- ous in lending and to manage their af- fairs with justice.
- ⁶ For they will nev- | er be shaken;

the righteous will be kept in everlast- ing remembrance.

- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.
- ⁸ Their heart is established and | will not shrink, until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever; they will hold up their | head with honor.
- ¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine away; the desires of the wick-| ed will perish.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

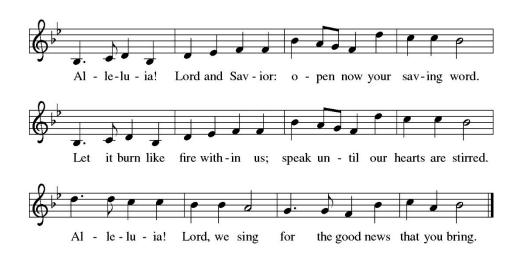
¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

R - The Word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

P - The holy gospel according to Luke.

C- Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host,

⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

*HYMN OF THE DAY – As We Gather At Your Table (ELW 522)

As We Gather at Your Table



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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- 1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.
- 2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.
- 3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

*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 OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

- P Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. *A brief silence*.
- P For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations (*leaders may be named*), we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor/Labour Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us (*specific ministries may be named*). Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

C - Amen.

*PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P- The peace of Christ be with you always.

C- And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

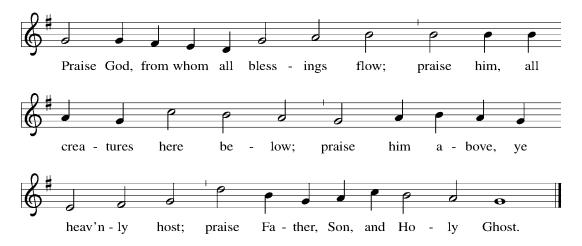
The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*OFFERING PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead one of the following or a similar prayer.

Let us pray.

P- Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P- The Lord be with you.

C- And also with you.

P- Lift up your hearts.

C- We lift them to the Lord.

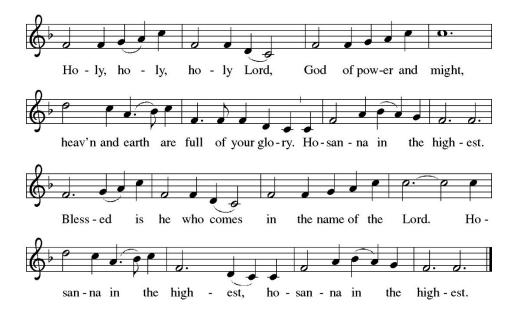
P- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*PREFACE

P- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P- 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

*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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

P- Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

*COMMUNION SONG



¹O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

²O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

³O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

P- The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond

Amen.

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

*TABLE BLESSING

The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C- Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

P - We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C - Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P - Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick*, *homebound*, *and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C- Amen.

*BLESSING

P- Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C- Amen.

*SENDING SONG – Sent Forth By God's Blessing (ELW 547)

Sent Forth by God's Blessing



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Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended.
Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

*DISMISSAL

P- Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C- Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Let All Things Now Living (Ash Grove) setting by Lloyd Larson

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Members with a change of address or visitors should complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors should also include the name and address of their home church so your home church can be notified that you received communion.

Prayer Requests – Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may give names to the person leading service prior to start of service.

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want a pastoral visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

Saturday, September 6 at the 5:00 p.m. service we will have Special Music from Dave Hartranft during the service and then a concert after the service at the Pavilion. Please bring a chair and a friend to enjoy this exciting function. There will be fellowship, food and a variety of music.

The Fall Worship schedule will begin on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Sunday School will be at 9:15 a.m. The Worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. Council has made the decision to discontinue the 8:00 a.m. service. The Saturday Spoken service will continue to be on the first Saturday of every month at 5:00 p.m.

The One Rock One Community Music Festival is fast approaching on Saturday, September 13 and volunteers are needed! More information about the event can be found on the flyer on the bulletin board. If you would like to volunteer, you can register online: www.onerockonecommunity.org. If you are unable to help, you can still visit the event between 11 am – 6 pm at the Stop 'N Rock off of Route 895 in Rock, PA.

The next Faithful Fellowship will be held after the service on Sunday, September 14, 2025. Please join on attending and enjoying conversation, coffee and goodies.

Attendance August 24, 2025 – 25 in person, 239 online views, 3 shares as of August 30, 2025.

The 2025 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$3,166.75.

"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

Today: 9 am Worship Service

Saturday: 5 pm – Workship Service

After Service – Concert at the Pavilion

Next Sunday: 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 119: 65-72; 2 Chronicles 12:1-12; Hebrews 13:7-21

Tues: Psalm 119: 65-72; Isaiah 2:12-17; Titus 1:1-9 Wed: Psalm 119:65-72; Isaiah 57:14-21; Luke 14:15-24 Thu: Psalm 1; Genesis 39:1-23; Philippians 2:25-30 Fri: Psalm 1; Deuteronomy 7:12-26; Colossians 4:7-17 Psalm 1; Deuteronomy 29:2-20; Matthew 10:34-42

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Sat:

Greeter: Wendy Welsh Acolyte: Sadie Tokarick Lector: **Elizabeth Thomas** Usher: **Troy Hollenbach**

Counting Team: Wendy Welsh, Troy Hollenbach

Communion Assistant: Wendy Welsh

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Church Telephone: 570-754-7350

www.SummerHillLutheran.org - Church's website Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

Student Loan Committee email:

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Email: preachymarie@gmail.com	
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music	484-794-7902
Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com	
Church Secretary	570-754-7350
Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com	
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton	570-345-1279
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton	570-754-7350
Eva Waldman, Treasurer	570-754-7350



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Arlene Moyer, Stephen Curtis, John & Betty Strauch, John Strauch, Jr., Greg Phillips, Jerry Heffleger, Harry Russell, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Tonia

McKague, Robert & Joyce Zeledonis and Earl & Grace Paxson, Shirley Baker. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

