

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

*Gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL 33764*

**Sunday, October 12, 2025
Lectionary 28, Year C**



Introduction

It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

Welcome

2026 Stewardship Campaign - Be Thou My Vision A time of sharing and reflection

Confession and Forgiveness

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
**we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.
Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

Hymn: I Come with Joy ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Prayer of the Day

Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

A reading from the Second Book of Kings.

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

^{15a, b, c} Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

The Word of the Lord.

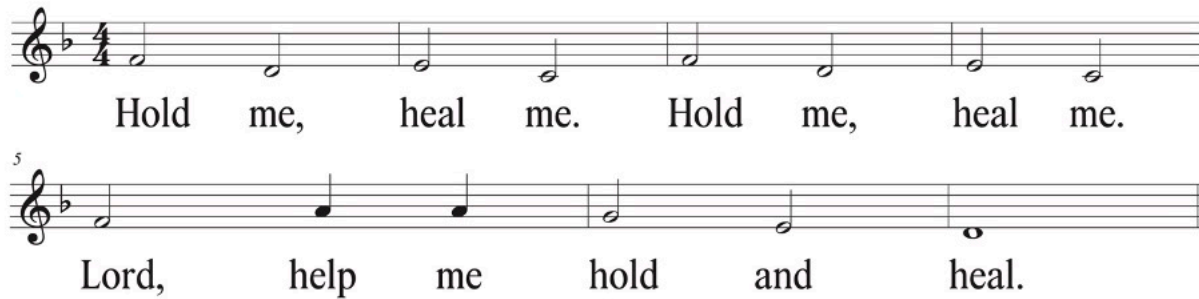
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27:1,4-10,13-4

Hold Me, Heal Me

Mary Magdalene's Song

Anne M. Harman



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Reader: ¹ The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

**ALL: ⁴ One thing I asked of the Lord;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.**

**⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.**

Reader: ⁶ Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

ALL: ⁷ Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
 be gracious to me and answer me!
 ⁸ “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”
 Your face, Lord, do I seek.
 ⁹ Do not hide your face from me.

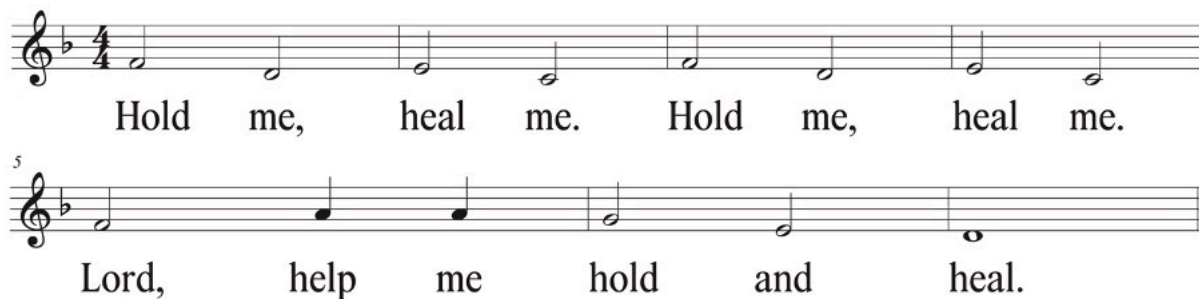
Reader: Do not turn your servant away in anger,
 you who have been my help.
 Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,
 O God of my salvation!
 ¹⁰ If my father and mother forsake me,
 the Lord will take me up.

ALL: ¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
 in the land of the living.
 ¹⁴ Wait for the Lord;
 be strong, and let your heart take courage;
 wait for the Lord!

Hold Me, Heal Me

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Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine?" ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon: Pr. Anne Harman

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

Please stand

Beloved of God, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of 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. We give you thanks and praise for the healing and wholeness you offer through baptism and Eucharist. Grant that through the gift of faith and fellowship we may always be a place of welcome, a community of compassion and healing for each other and the world.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: And so I ask:

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**ALL: 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.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: 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**

Pastor: 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?

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

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

ALL: 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, bring healing and wholeness, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people 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.

During the singing of the hymn of the day all are sprinkled with the waters as a sign of, and recommitment to our baptism.

Hymn of the Day: Come to the Water of Life – ACS 955

1 All who are thirst - y for mer - cy, all who are thirst - y for
 2 All who are thirst - y for heal - ing, all who are thirst - y for
 3 All who are thirst - y for beau - ty, all who are thirst - y for
 4 All who are thirst - y for jus - tice, all who are thirst - y for

love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,

come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: WATER OF LIFE, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1999 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayers of Intercession

Please respond to each invocation: God of grace, **receive our prayer**

A Sign of Peace and Reconciliation

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

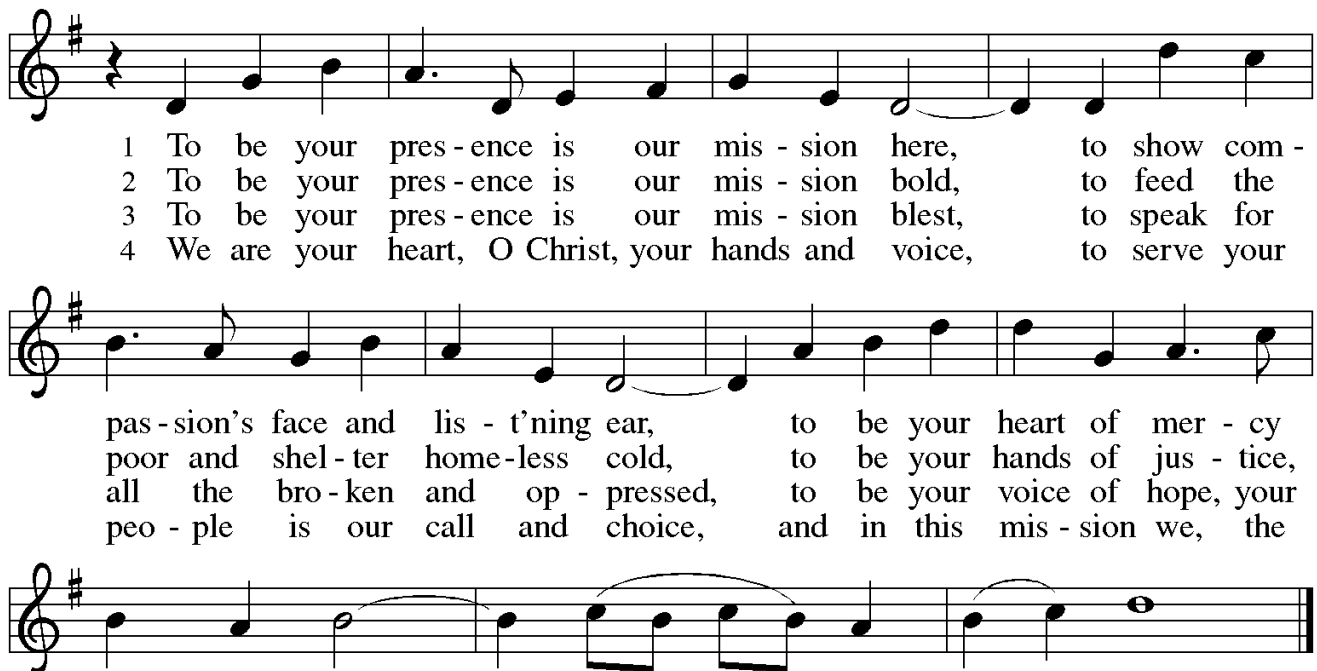
And also with you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Offering

All that we have, physically and spiritually comes from God.
Our offering, of time, talent and treasure is a response to our awareness
that God is the creator of all things and that we are redeemed
through life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Your support of this ministry and the faith life of this community is appreciated.

Hymn: To Be Your Presence – ELW 546



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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Offering Prayer

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.
ALL: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface and Prayer of Thanksgiving

During the Prayer of Thanksgiving single verses of the hymn are sung throughout the prayer replacing the usual responses.

We Come to You for Healing, Lord



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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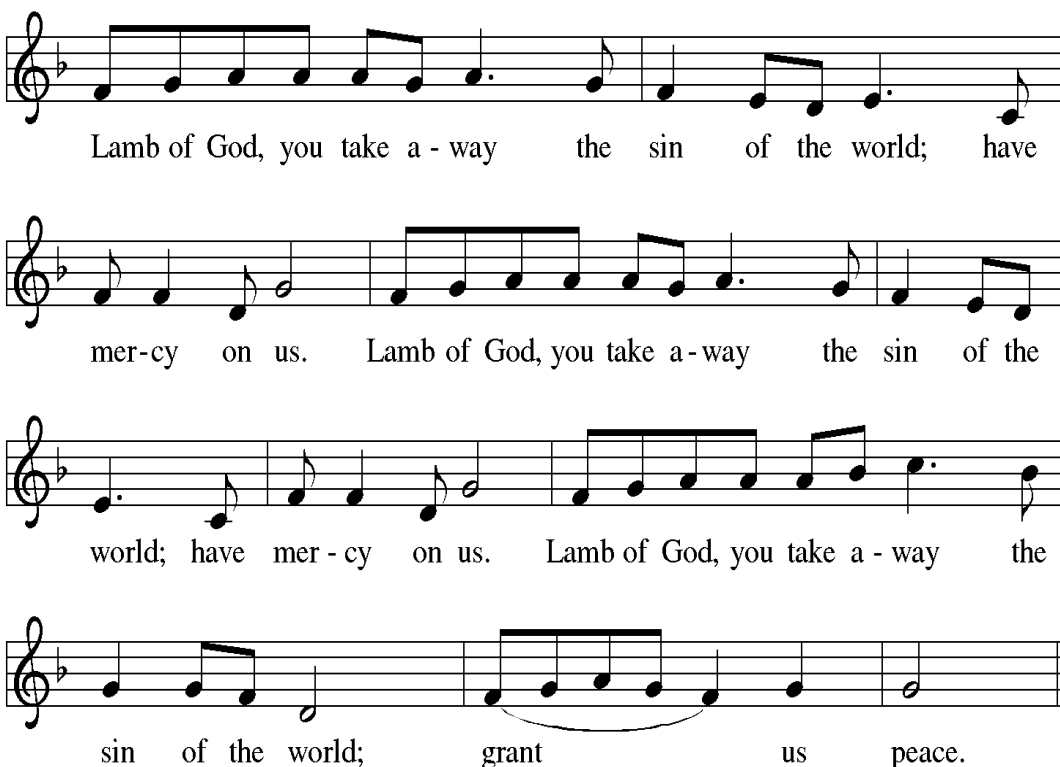
LORD'S PRAYER

**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

We believe that Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus. In this sacrament we are invited to have a personal experience of Christ's presence. This is the Lord's table. All who desire to be in relationship with Christ are welcome to receive.

We receive communion using bread and wine. If you need to receive a gluten free host, please ask the communion minister. For those who prefer to receive grape juice rather than wine you will find white grape juice in the center of the trays as communion is given. If you have a question, please ask the minister as you receive. The bread and wine should be consumed here in the church before you return to your seat. If for some reason, you are unable to consume either the bread or wine please bring what was not consumed to the ushers or the pastor as soon as the service is completed.



The image displays four staves of musical notation for the Agnus Dei hymn. The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have". The second staff contains: "mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the". The third staff contains: "world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the". The fourth staff contains: "sin of the world; grant us peace." The word "grant" is underlined with a horizontal line. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing beamed eighth notes.

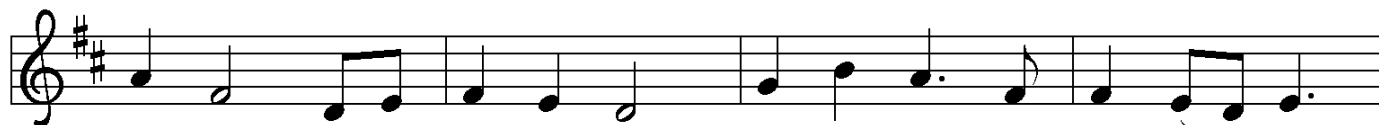
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

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.

Hymn: We Come to the Hungry Feast – ELW 479



- 1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
- 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
- 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Hymn: In the Singing – ELW – 466



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Refrain
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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Prayer after Communion

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Announcements:

Blessing

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace.

Open your heart to be God's place of healing welcome!

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Build Us Up, Lord – ELW 670

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our
us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our
ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.
Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us
guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us
world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.
Refrain
Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
Text and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

“Pop-Up” Food Giveaway at St. Paul’s Property – 407 S. Saturn – Every Thursday from 11:00 – 12:45. Please reach out to Sandy Weaver or Mary Pheasant for more information.

Dates to put on your calendar now!

Events to Invite Family and Friends!

October:

- Wednesday, October 8 – 7:15 PM – Taizé Prayer
- Tuesday, October 14 – Drum Circle
- Wednesday, October 15 – Silver Foxes- 1:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 15 – WELCA Bible Study – 11:00 AM
- Saturday, October 18 – 10:00 - Grief Forum – Pet Loss
- Wednesday, October 22 – 7:15 PM – Prayer for Creation
- Wednesday, October 22 – 11:00 AM – Book Club
- Wednesday, October 29 – Grief Forum: Grief 101 and Prayer of Remembrance

November:

- Sunday, November 9 – Lunch and Learn: Stewardship
- Wed, November 12 – Thanksgiving Dinner and Taizé Prayer with St. John’s – 6:00 PM
- Tues, November 18 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 7:00 PM

December:

- Saturday, December 6 – Advent Retreat Day
- Saturday, December 20 – 4:00 PM – Christmas Party – St. Paul’s/St. John’s

WELCA

Women of the ELCA

Bible Study

Wednesday, October 15

11:00 AM - in the conference room

The lesson will be “Money, Stewardship and Generosity”
in the September/October Gather Magazine.

Please bring your copy.

A magazine is not required to attend or participate.

Please bring your bible and an offering.

We will join Silver Foxes for lunch after our meeting.

All women are welcome.



Please reach out to
Phyllis Berlage
for more information.

St. Paul's
Silver Foxes Luncheon



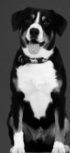
Smokey Bones
2693 Gulf to Bay Blvd
located at Clearwater Mall

Wednesday
October 15- 1:00 PM

Invite a friend. All are welcome.
Please sign up by October 12
A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.



St. Paul's Spirituality Center
an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater

*The program will take place
in the church hall*



Facilitated by Rebecca Bass,
Certified Grief Educator and Spiritual Director
and Pastor Pam Wellons

Grief Forum

Where education and grief support meet

Pet Loss

Saturday, October 18, 2025
10:00 - 11:30 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME



Invites You To



Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, from 1 to 3 p.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
1812 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater

Join us for live music and a yummy lunch of traditional (and lovingly prepared) Oktoberfest foods as we celebrate our members, volunteers, and friends from the community.

LIV-UP helps older adults stay independent longer — and we love bringing people together for conversation, friendship, and food.

Celebrate with us, learn about LIV-UP's services, and see how you can be involved, either as a member or a volunteer!

Call LIV-UP at (727) 378-2186 by Saturday, Oct. 11 to RSVP!

Transportation will be provided for LIV-UP members requiring it.
Brought to you through LIV-UP and the generosity of Grace Lutheran Church and Pinellas Community Foundation.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Gathering at St. John's Episcopal 1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

Phone Number: 727- 446-7718

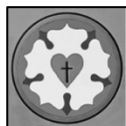
Email: office@stpaulsclearwater.org

Website: <https://www.stpaulsclearwater.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.paulslutheranchurch.clearwater.fl>



To reach Pastor Anne
pastoranneharman@gmail.com



St. Paul's Spirituality Center
an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



From sundaysandseasons.com.

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