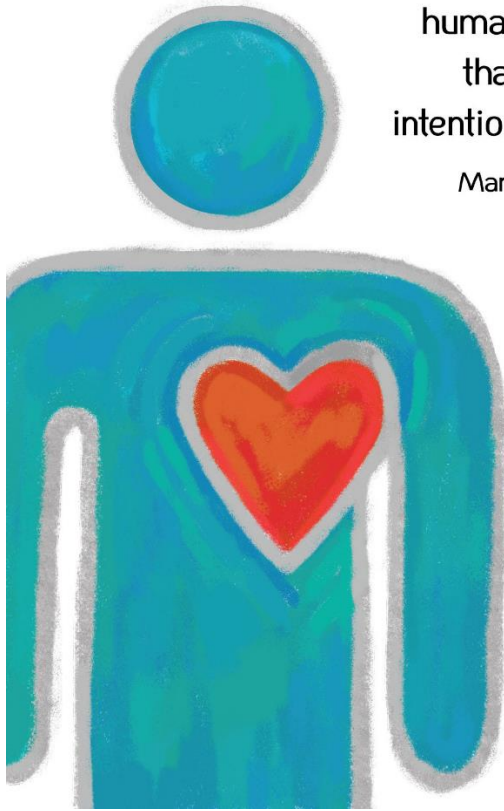


For it is  
from within,  
from the  
human heart,  
that evil  
intentions come...

*Mark 7:21, NRSV*



## **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 1, 2024

9:30 AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Henrik Sonntag, Pastor

120 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA

215-884-3005

# GATHERING

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## THE PRELUDE

*Vater Unser*

Bach

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW (red hymnal) Page 94

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

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, **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.**

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. **Amen. OR**

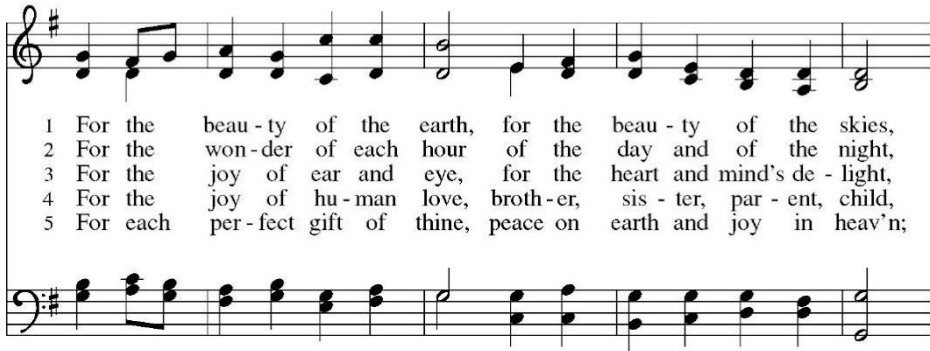
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

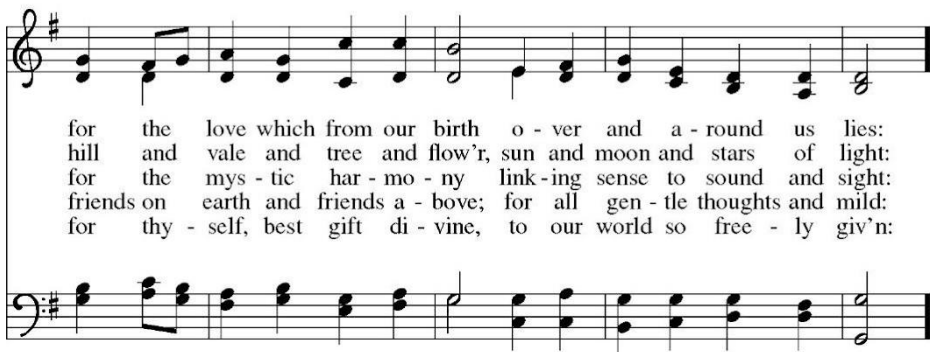
No. 879 For the Beauty of the Earth

*Dix*

# For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*



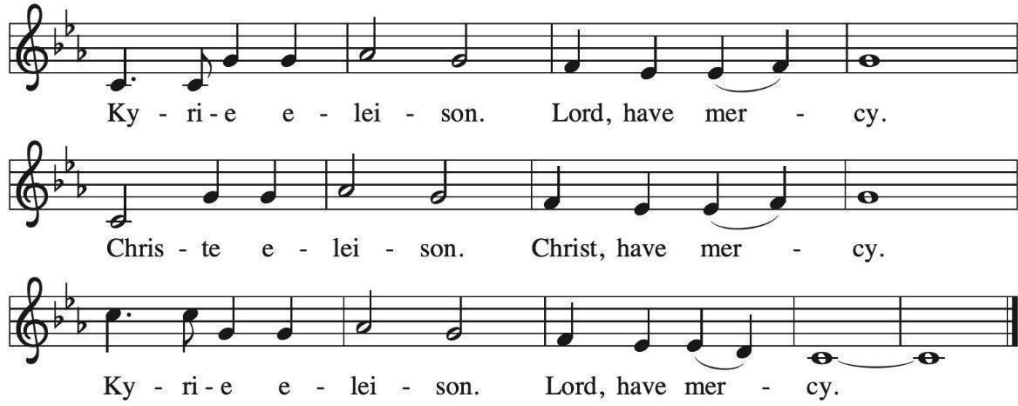
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, C5, then descending to B4, A4, G4, F#4, and ending on a whole note G4. The second staff has a similar melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, C5, then descending to B4, A4, G4, F#4, and ending on a whole note G4. The third staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, C5, then descending to B4, A4, G4, F#4, and ending on a whole note G4. The lyrics are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

---

### THE FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

"The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

# THE PSALM

Psalm 15

*The antiphon is introduced by the choir, then is sung by all. The assembly sings the verses in **bold print**.*



LORD, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?

Psalm 15:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress  
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<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,  
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those  
who | fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their  
word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes  
a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown. **R**

## THE SECOND READING

James 1:17-27

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.



<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



*Repeat alleluia*

Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the Seventh Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their

hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Henrik Sonntag

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 992 Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky

*Laurel*

# Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky

1 Now that the day - light fills the sky,  
2 Would guard our hearts and tongues from strife;  
3 "All praise to you, cre - a - tor Lord!

we lift our hearts to God on high,  
from an - ger's din would shield our life;  
All praise to you, e - ter - nal Word!

that God, in all we do or say,  
from e - vil to sights would turn our eyes,  
All praise to you, O Spir - it wise!"

would keep us free from harm to - day;  
and close our ears to van - i - ties.  
We sing as day - light fills the skies.

Text: Latin hymn, 7th or 8th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: LAUREL, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Music © Lutheran Church Press and Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Please kneel or sit for the prayers:* This week's response is: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts especially all those on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**  
*All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you."*

*Please be seated*

# MEAL

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## OFFERING

*We Sing the Beauty of the Earth*

arr. Nancy Grundahl

The Summer Choir

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY No. 692 We Are an Offering

*Offering*

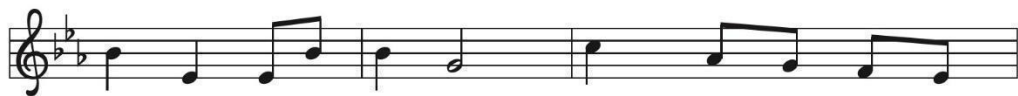
The musical score is written on six staves of music in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and includes triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) on several staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER Concludes with...**Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ACS (purple) Page 36

THE SANCTUS ACS (purple) Page 36



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

ACS (purple) Page 39

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.

*Please be seated.*

## THE COMMUNION

“Be Known to Us”

ACS (purple) Page 40



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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

*Please stand as you are able.*

THE COMMUNION BLESSING Concludes with... **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace

ELW (red) Page 113

Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Concludes with **Amen**.

## SENDING

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THE BLESSING

ELW (red) Page 114

THE SENDING HYMN

No. 534 Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

*Ellers*

## Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise  
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;  
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;  
for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light;  
our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,  
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;  
then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.  
that in this house have called up - on your name.  
your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.  
call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

*Please be seated for the announcements.*

## PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

Sending: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## THE POSTLUDE

Fugue

*Lubeck*