



Jerusalem the golden,

*Jerusalem the golden,
with milk and honey blest -
the sight of it refreshes
the weary and oppressed.*

*I know not, oh, I know not
what joys await us there,
what radiancy of glory,
what bliss beyond compare.*



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026

Welcome to St. Paul's! We are glad you are with us today. May God bless you with His grace and peace as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus. If you have questions, a prayer request or would like to speak with Pastor Free, please fill out the blue connection card in the pew folder and drop it in the offering basket or scan the QR code and contact us online. May **God bless your day!**



TODAY'S SERVICE – Morning Prayer

Blue CW 207

You may follow along in the Blue Hymnal on page 207 or on the screen in front.

♪ In the Cross of Christ I Glory Blue CW 529

Stand

O Lord, open my lips,

♪ and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God;

♪ O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Jesus Christ is Lord of all:

♪ praise and thanks to God!

♪ O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord Blue CW 208

Be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

¹⁵O LORD, you understand.

Remember me and care for me.

Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.

You are slow to anger.

Do not take me away.

Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.

¹⁶Your words came to me, and I devoured them.

Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O LORD God of Armies.

¹⁷I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them.

I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.

You filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending?

Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?

Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says.

If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me.

If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman.

They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.

They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD.

²¹I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♪ **Jesus, I my cross have taken** Blue CW 694

Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

¹⁸For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed. ²⁰For creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in the hope ²¹that even creation itself will be set free from slavery to corruption, in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

²²For we know that all of creation is groaning with birth pains right up to the present time.

²³And not only creation, but also we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we eagerly await our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. ²⁴Indeed, it was for this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for something we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patient endurance.

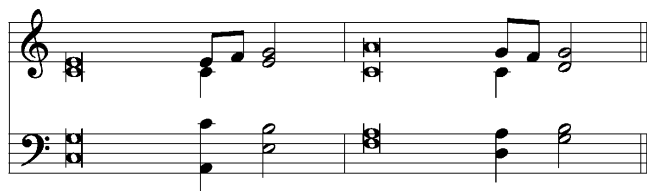
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♪ **Psalm 31E Surely It Is God Who Saves Me**

Refrain





In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Be my rock of / refuge,
a strong fortress to / save me.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
save me in your un- / failing love.
How abundant are the / good things
that you have stored up for those who / fear you.
Be strong and / take heart,
all you who hope / in the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Gospel *Matthew 16:21–26*

²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.”

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

♪ **Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers** (*Favorite Hymn*) Blue CW 493

Sermon

Stand

♪ We Praise You, O God

Blue CW 210

Be seated

Offering

To Our Guests: If you choose to give, offerings may be given to the **General Ministry of St. Paul's** or designated for the **ECM Little Sprouts Expansion Fund**. Gifts may also be given by QR code, text (844-489-3585) or there are envelopes in back of church.



Stand

♪ Lord, Have Mercy

Blue CW 213

Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.

♪ Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

♪ Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

♪ Amen.

♪ Jerusalem the Golden *(Favorite Hymn)*

Blue CW 890



Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship

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