

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holstein, IA

August 23, 2026

9:00 a.m.

13th Sunday after Pentecost Blessing of Backpacks

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From worship we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

Amen.

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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Baptism Hymn

Baptized and Set Free

#453

st. 1-3; st. 4 following baptism

Service of Holy Baptism for Hayes Ogren

pg. 227

WORD

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. ² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
- ³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
- ⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- ⁵ They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- ⁶ The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
**you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**
- ⁸ You will make good your purpose for me;
**O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

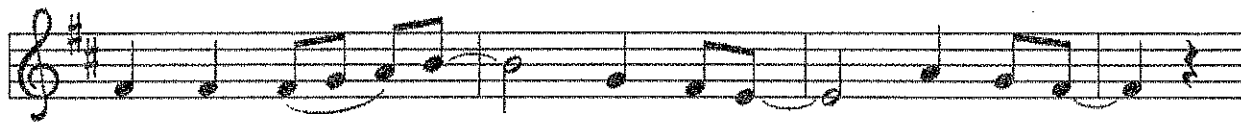
⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

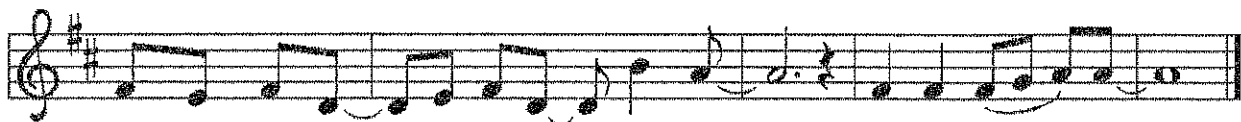
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message and Blessing of the Backpacks

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Lynn Egesdal

Hymn of the Day ***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less***

#597

RESPONSE

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer the gifts of our hearts. Help us to share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Sung prayer response -

Refrain — All Fine

Mer - cy, we a - bide in you. Stir in us, we pray.

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.**

SENDING

Blessing

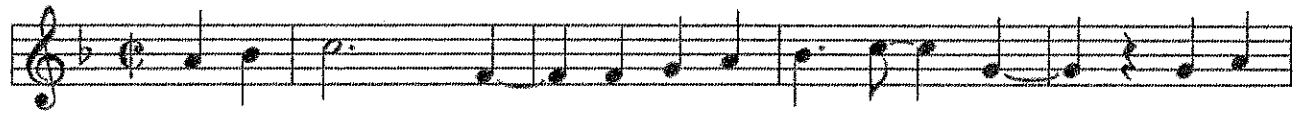
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

Closing Song

MADE FOR LOVE

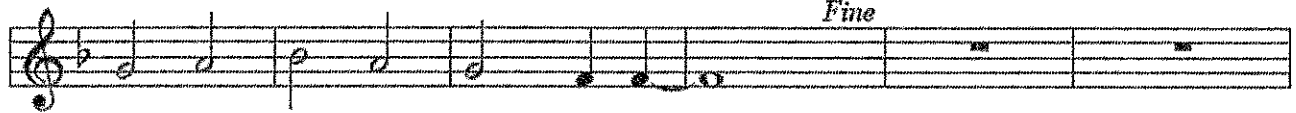
Hans Peterson
Larry Olson
Mary Olson



We've been mold - ed by the Cre - a - tor's hand. Here in



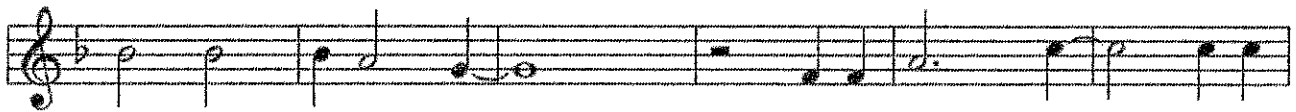
Je - sus we have grace to stand. Moving by the



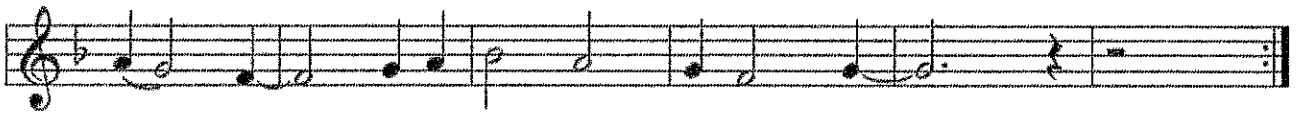
Spir - it, we are made for love.



Sun and star - light, spark - ling wa - ters, morn - ing
In the wa - ter's ho - ly bless - ing, Spir - it
Live out jus - tice, treas - ure kind - ness, jour - ney



birds that ser - e - nade, in the i - 'mage of the
com - ing like a dove, we're a wit - ness to the
hum - bly ev - 'ry - day. We are called here in - to



Mak - er we are won - der - ful - ly made.
won - der; we are loved and so we love.
ser - vice, a for - giv - ing,, lov - ing way.

Dismissal

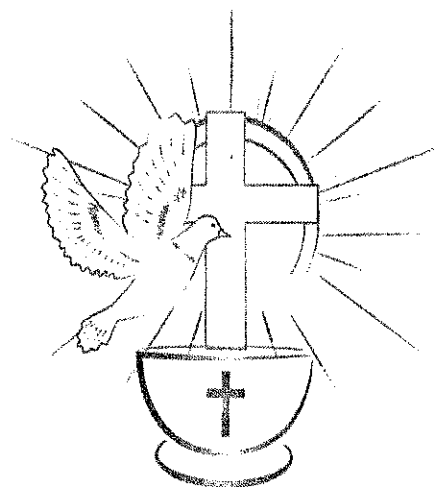
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*Welcome family, friends, and sponsors
as we celebrate the baptism of
Hayes Michael Ogren,
son of Garrett & Abbi Ogren*

Sponsors: Wade & Rachel Sulsberger



Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
Guest Preacher:	Deacon Lynn Egesdal
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Adam Bisenius
Deacons:	Mitch Trost and John Walsh
Greeters:	Dean & Cleo Breyfogle
Acolytes:	Mason Christiansen and Kelby Butcher
Sound & Video:	Kelby & Joy Wulf
Coffee Hosts:	Colleen & Larry Garland Bonnie & Dave Stevenson

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, August 23 ~ Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 AM	Worship with Baptism Blessing of the Backpacks
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship
12:30 PM	Private FH / Kitchen Rental

MONDAY, August 24 ~ First Day of School

SUNDAY, August 30 ~ Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 AM	Worship with Baptism
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship

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