

September 27, 2020 ~ Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements ~ Robert Seymour, guest

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Call to Worship (from Psalm 78) ~ *responsive*

Leader: Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**All: I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

Leader: That which we have heard and known,
and what our ancestors have told us, we will not hide from their children.

**All: We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the
power of the Lord, and the wonderful works God has done.**

Choral Response #614 ~ *“Great Are You, Lord”*

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love.

Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove you are love.

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.

Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice: great are you, Lord!

Great are you, Lord!

Leader: God set up decrees for Jacob and established a law for Israel,
commanding them to teach it to their children;

**All: that the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**

Leader: so that they might put their trust in God, and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep God's commandments;

**All: and not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
and whose spirit was not faithful to God.**

**you are invited to stand as you are able*

**Hymn #329 ~ “God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength”*

**Psalm Prayer ~ in unison*

God of pilgrims, strengthen our faith, we pray. Guide us through the
uncertainties of our journey, and hold before us the vision of your eternal
kingdom, made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Sharing the Peace ~ The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

Reflection with children

Special Music ~ *“Jesus My Only Hope”* (M. Altrogge) ~ Singers

Prayer for Illumination

Choral Response #455 ~ *“Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken”*

Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand;

listen to the voice that began creation, listen even if you don't understand. (repeat)

Scripture ~ Psalm 78:1-4,12-16; Matthew 21:23-32

Message ~ “Serve the Lip or the Lord”

*Hymn #65 ~ “*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*”

Community at Prayer

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord’s Prayer ~ *in unison*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

*Hymn #275 ~ “*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*”

*Benediction

Postlude ~ “*Here I Am, Lord*”

CCLI #2342595 CVLI #502166520

World Communion Sunday is October 4.

The **Peace and Global Witness Offering** encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God’s mission with those around the corner and around the world, as active peacemakers-at all time in all ways. This offering will be received on October 4.

A **Meeting of the Congregation** is called for Sunday, October 11, in the Google Meet format, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to amend the bylaws to reduce the number of Ruling Elders on the Council from 9 members to 7 members as well as the number of members of the Board of Deacons from 9 members to 7 members. In addition, the Council is seeking funding from the St. Paul’s Foundation in the amount of \$5,013.77 for technical equipment upgrades.

The VIRTUAL CROP Hunger Walk will be Sunday, October 11.

This means walkers from all participating congregations will **NOT** meet together to walk. Instead, you can still be a part of our St. Paul's team and walk by yourself, or with your family, choosing your own distance as well as where you are comfortable - around your living room, around your block, or around your neighborhood!

We are raising funds to help families who are struggling because of hunger. It's been a hard year for everyone, but especially for those who don't have the safety nets and protections surrounding many of us. If you want to join and help families who aren't getting enough healthy food to eat, please donate to and/ or join our team at

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/livoniami/Team/View/131807> . Thanks so much for caring."

Online donations are encouraged because for every group of 5 or more who register from St. Paul's and if St. Paul's raises collectively at least \$250.00 in online donations, a matching gift of \$250.00 will be given! These donations will help people globally through the work of Church World Service and locally right here in our community through the food banks in Livonia, Garden City, Redford, and Farmington.

Walk. Give. Change the world!

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers* 

Janet Frank, Karen Bright, Camilla White, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton, Pam Phillips
Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Nola Bonandrini, Tamar Duthie, Frank & Nancy Saunders
Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Anita Falk, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant
Bruce Phillips, Patricia Hutchison, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff
Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit; Thomas Peeples ~ friend of Jeff Graham
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham
Mark Osborne ~ son of Janet; Sarah & Mason Young ~ cousins of Judy McGregor
Bob Kortenhoeven ~ brother of a friend of Judy McGregor
Diane Calloway & Tony S. ~ cousins of Gail Artinian; MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne
Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne; Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin
Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of Tamar Duthie
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis

Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.

329 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

(Psalm 46)

1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, our
 2 Though hills a - mid the seas be cast, though
 3 Where God a - bides a riv - er flows; that
 4 Since God is in the midst of it, the

ev - er - pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the
 foam - ing wa - ters roar, yea, though the might - y
 cit - y will re - joice. But na - tions fear and
 cit - y walls shall stand, se - cure and safe with

earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid;
 bil - lows shake the moun - tains on the shore.
 king - doms shake be - fore God's thun - dering voice.
 God's sure help, when trou - ble is at hand.

The first two stanzas of this very condensed paraphrase of Psalm 46 were created early in the 20th century, and the last two stanzas were prepared near its end. The text is set to a late 16th-century psalm tune that comes from the first such collection to give tunes names.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

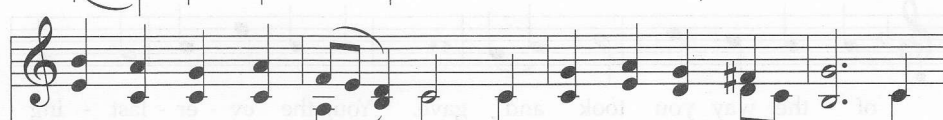
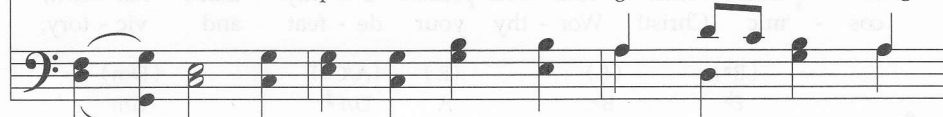
275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



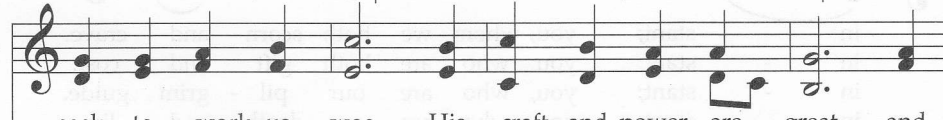
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do - us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

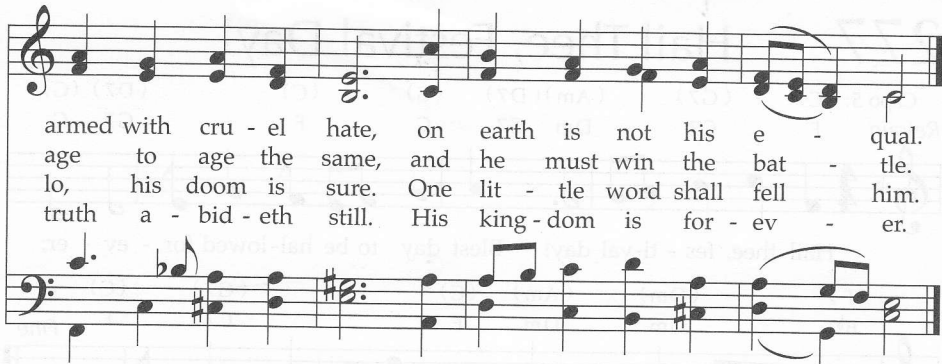


seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's



Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.