

September 26, 2021 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements ~ Jan Lapenta

Prelude ~ *“My Jesus, I Love Thee”* ~ Karen Danke

Call to Worship ~ *responsive*

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd and provider.

People: He is our loving Father.

Leader: The Lord is the treasure that we seek most of all.

People: And the Lord is the bread of heaven and the living water that fills and empowers us. Amen.

*\*you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

*\*Hymn #14 ~ “For the Beauty of the Earth” (verses 1,4,5)*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison*

Jesus, we seek to follow you in all that we do. Yet too often we have placed other things in the way of you and your call for our lives. We have gone astray and led others astray as well. Forgive us Lord. Fill us with your love and Spirit and give us the boldness to remove all that is distracting us from you. Amen.

(A time of silent, personal prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #743 ~ *“O God, You Are My God”*

*O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.*

*O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.*

*I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.*

*And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.*

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus ~ *“I Love This Family”* (arr. C. Bowes)

*I love this family of God, so closely knitted into one,*

*They've taken me into their midst and I'm so glad to be a part of this great family.*

Offering Prayer

## Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Psalm 19:7-14

Special Music ~ “*God With Us*” (J. Raney)

Christian Scripture ~ Mark 9:38-50

Message ~ “Cut It Out!”

\*Hymn #188 ~ “*Jesus Loves Me!*”

Community at Prayer

Prayer Preparation ~ “*Meet Me Here*”

*Meet me here. Find me in my wanderings.*

*Meet me here. Deep within my soul.*

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 #836 ~ “*Abide With Me*”

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response #616 ~ “*Our God Is an Awesome God*”

*Our God is an awesome God who reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love; our God is an awesome God!*

Postlude

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#504305417

A donation to the Board of Deacons Hunger Ministries has been given by  
Karen Whitmore in memory of her grandma, Edna M. Harper

Highlights from the September 21 Council meeting...

- The 2022 Stewardship Campaign will begin October 21
- The lease to rent Genesis Hall to Grace Bible Chapel was reviewed
- Livonia Community Theatre will hold a concert in the sanctuary on December 12

**From Faith Formation...**“Thanks to all who participated in making sandwiches and packing lunches for the homeless in the greater Detroit area on Sunday, September 19th! We were able to send out over 100 lunches that included water, two sandwiches (ham and cheese or pbj), banana, crackers, and homemade cookies! All can participate in this project even now by praying for those in our community that go hungry and/or homeless. Peace.”

**From the Board of Deacons...**“Do you have someone or something to celebrate? You can share your joy with your St. Paul’s family, help feed the hungry, and honor the person or object of your celebration with a tribute gift to the Board of Deacons Hunger Ministries. Tribute gifts may also be in memory of someone or something, or your donation can simply be a gift to the Hunger Ministries. An acknowledgement will be placed in the bulletin and e-Branch. No set amount is required, and acknowledgements will go in the bulletin as soon as possible after checks are received. Donations may not be made far in advance for future dates. To donate, please:

- **Make your check payable to: St. Paul’s Board of Deacons**
- In the Memo line, write: Hunger Ministries
- Enclose a note with: Donor(s) Name(s) and the dedication. (Dedication examples: In honor of the first responders. In honor of our grandchildren. In memory of my parents, \_\_\_\_\_).

Send the donation with your check and note to St. Paul’s, drop it in the secure mailbox outside the entrance, or bring it to the church during office hours. The Board of Deacons appreciates the congregation’s generous spirit. Let’s feed each other spiritually, and the hungry, literally. May the peace of Christ be with us all.”

**From Pam Phillips...** “Can you help greet shoppers? The dress room is open and doing great. Shoppers are only one to three at a time and by appointment only. I would make appointments to meet your schedule. Just need a couple of hours whenever you can. Let me know if you can help. Thank you! Pam - 734-634-2445 - [pamphillip@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamphillip@sbcglobal.net). Also, we need long dry cleaner bags.”

**From Gary Earnley...** “Life Remodeled is asking for volunteers for it’s annual ‘cleanup the neighborhood.’ This year it will be afternoon 1-5PM shifts from October 4-10. Please contact me at 734.464.7865 if interested in any of these days.”

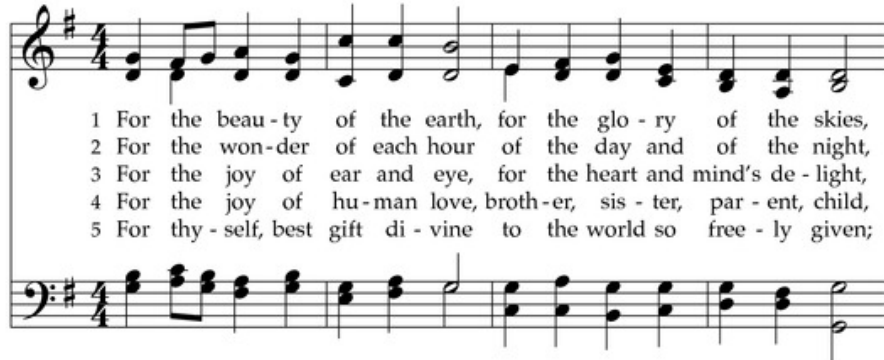
*In Our Thoughts  
& Prayers*

Gail Artinian, Ron Frank, Karen Bright, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton  
Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Nola Bonandrini, 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

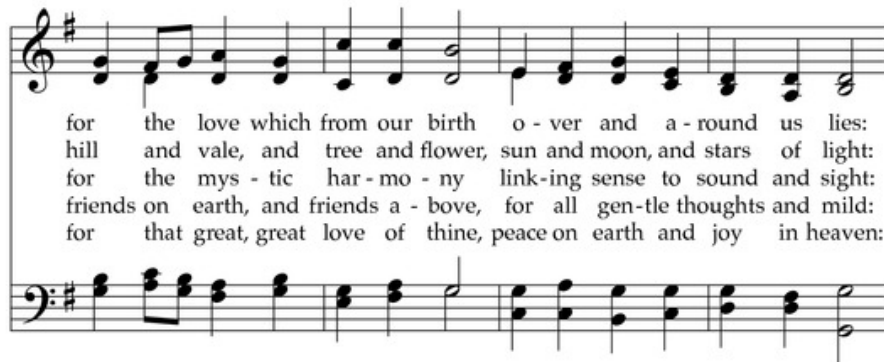
Finley Farquhar ~ granddaughter of Eric; Rosemary Iaquina ~ sister of Cathy DeSautel  
The Dylegowski Family ~ friends of Jan Burgess  
Mark Feely ~ friend of Judy McGregor; Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham  
Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck; Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian  
Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit  
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  
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 the late Tamar and Jim 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.**

## For the Beauty of the Earth 14

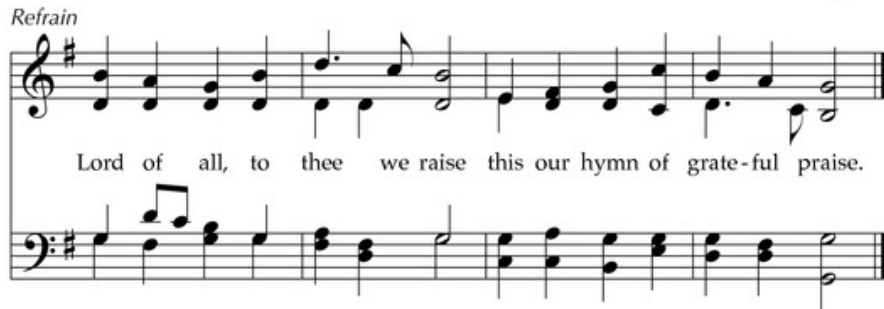


1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,  
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,  
 5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;



for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, 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 that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

*Refrain*



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

# 188 Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.  
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be-long, They are weak, but he is strong.  
 tak - ing chil-dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.

## 836 Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!  
 earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see.  
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

By blending end of day and end of life, the imagery of this well-known Victorian hymn has made it valuable for both evening services and funerals. Although the author wrote his own music for it, the present tune has been firmly associated with this text for over 150 years.