

20th Sunday after Pentecost — October 11, 2026

Prelude *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* *arr. by John Carter*

Tune "Holy Manna" in Public Domain by William Moore, 1825

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Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

WOV Pg. 10

Leader: The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

People: Amen

Leader: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Compassionate God,

All: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen

L: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

People: Amen

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW 461

Text by Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993c. 1991 by GIA Publications, Inc.

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Apostolic Greeting

WOV Pg. 28

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

P: And also, with you

Gloria

WOV Pg. 29

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and

Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people on earth.

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you

P: And also, with you

L: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. Therefore, strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled, will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation." Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

P: Thanks be to God!

Psalm

The Lord's My Shepherd

ELW778

Text in Public Domain from The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650

Tune "Brother James' Air" in Public Domain by James L. MacBeth Bain, 1860-1925;

arr. by Gordon Jacob, 1895-1984 Arrangement c. by Oxford University Press

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Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you. Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

P: Thanks be to God!

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

WOV Pg. 31

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P: Glory to you, O Lord

Holy Gospel according to Matthew in the 22nd Chapter.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again, he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

P: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

ELW 523

Text by Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, Misa popular salvadoreña; trans. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music by Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955 Text and Music c. 1988, 1996 by GIA Publications, Inc. PRINTED AND STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-744242. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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**



Prayers of the People:

L: To our heavenly host, who invites us to the eternal feast, we lift our intercessions,
Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer**

AM: For the entire expanse of the baptized Body of Christ, that they may hear God's
invitation clearly, and respond decisively, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer**

AM: For those who are not bound to Christ in faith, but are still part of God's good
creation, that they, too, may sense a call to set aside divisions and gather in fellowship
and mutual respect, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer**

AM: For all who care for our natural world, that their efforts may be honored and their
labors effective, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer**

AM For any needs you now raise to the Lord.....Lord in your mercy,
People: Hear our prayer

L: For God's love to shape all other needs in our lives, Lord in your mercy,
People: Hear our prayer. Amen

Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

P: And also, with you

Please share a sign of God's peace.

The offering is received



Anthem

Shelter of Hope

Weary Land and Wayfaring Stranger arr: Joseph M. Martin

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Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land. Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm. Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land. Oh Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm. I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger. I'm passing through this world of woe; and when I walked the path of sorrows, I know I never walk alone. The road is long, my load is heavy. I traveled far away from God. I'm going home where I am welcome. I'm going back no more to roam. Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land. Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm. I'm going there to see the Savior. I'm going there to be reborn. I'm going there to hide in Jesus. He is a shelter in the time of storm. A shelter in the time of storm. A shelter in the time of storm.

Offertory Hymn

WOV Pg. 35

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving –

L: The Lord be with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: And also with you.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Proper Preface is spoken

L: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of

everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Institution

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

Agnus Dei

WOV Pg. 39

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion is distributed.

Communion Music

Come, Let Us Eat

arr. by J. Wayne Kerr

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Post Communion Prayer

Benediction

WOV Pg. 41

L: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

P: Amen

Closing Hymn

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

ELW 873

Text in Public Domain by Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt.
Tune "Marion" in Public Domain by Arthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916

Dismissal**WOV Pg. 41**

AM: Assisting Minister: Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord and your neighbors.

P: Thanks be to God**Postlude****Now We Join in Celebration****arr. by Edwin T. Childs**

Tune "Schmücke Dich" in Public Domain by Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

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Thank you for coming. May God's peace be yours today.

Happenings Around the Church

Tuesdays

New Tai Chi class 10-11:30am \$12

CT Yankee Chorale Rehearsals – 7-8:30 pm

Bible Study

Tuesday via Zoom 6:00 pm

In person Bible Study Wednesdays

10:00 am

Wednesdays

Members Tai Chi 11:00 am

Quilting Group 1:00 pm

Event	Date	Time
NW Hills Exchange Club Meeting	Mon. 10/12	8:00 am
Church Council Meeting	Mon. 10/12	6:30 pm
Toastmaster's Meeting	Wed. 10/14	7:00 pm
Hilltop Advisory Meeting (zoom)	Thurs. 10/15	4:45 pm
Worship & Music (zoom)	Thurs. 10/15	6:00 pm
IT Committee (zoom)	Thurs. 10/15	7:00 pm
St. Paul's Fall Dinner (tix \$17A/\$10C)	Fri. 10/16	5:15 pm
Last Concert of the Season	Sat. 10/24	5:30-7pm
St. Paul's Women Apple Cook/Bake Off	Mon. 10/26	7:00 pm
St. Paul's Holiday Fair	Sat. 11/7	9am-3pm

Offerings Summary:

Needed Weekly	\$6,290
Received	\$5,419
Shortfall	-\$ 871
YTD	-\$88,740

- Those interested in becoming official members please fill out a form found on the table in the narthex.
- Stewardship/Commitment forms for 2027 are available in the narthex. Next Sunday is Stewardship Sunday.



We're off to a great start but we could still use extra volunteers to fill in and give some relief to other workers. See Kathy or Lisa if you can give a few hours.

What a great way to get involved with your church and a community event. We will give any student a certificate for "community service hours" if needed for school.

We thank you in advance for your support and participation in our first Pumpkin Patch at St. Paul's.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
837 Charles St., Torrington, CT



Fabulous Fall Dinner!

Friday, October 16, 2026

 Fellowship - 5:15
 Dinner - 6:00

\$17.00 Adults
Kids 5-10 **\$10.00**

Food, Fellowship, Fun
PRIZES

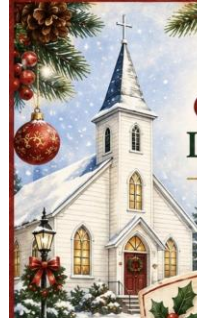



					
Roasted Pork	Veggies	Potatoes	Salad	Bread	Dessert

We hope to see you there!

Tickets available on Sundays after church or at the Church Office
call 860-482-3555

St. Paul's LUTHERAN CHURCH
837 Charles Street
Torrington, Connecticut



Holiday FALL FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH
9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

 HANDMADE CRAFTS	 ARTISAN MARKET	 SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH
 BAKE SALE	 THEME BASKETS	 PRIZES GALORE!

For more information, CALL 860-482-3555

ALL ARE WELCOME!



TRUNK OR TREAT
OCTOBER 31ST
2:00 TO 4:00 P.M.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street
Torrington, Connecticut

WE'LL BE SERVING:

 A CAULDRON OF SPOOKY MAC AND CHEESE	 MUMMIFIED HOT DOGS	 FRESH VEGGIE SKELETON AND DIP	 FRITO PIE	 CHIPS AND MORE!
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Purchase a pumpkin at the door to decorate
at our family friendly celebration!

DONATIONS ARE REQUESTED!
Families are asked to bring one or more of the following items:

 Candy	 Ready-to-eat raw veggies	 Individual bags of assorted chips
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Your donations help make this event a treat for everyone in our community!

Warm Neighbors Brighter Tomorrows



WINTER COAT DRIVE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH **FISH** of Torrington, Connecticut

OCTOBER 5 - NOVEMBER 9

COAT DRIVE COLLECTION ONLY IS BEING HELD AT:
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
837 Charles Street, Torrington, Connecticut

Coats and jackets of all kinds are being collected for all ages — infant through seniors.



Infants ♥ Children ♥ Teens ♥ Adults ♥ Seniors

Please leave donations in the gray covered bin outside the church doors.

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF:
Monday – Friday
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
OR
On Sundays before church service.

All donations must be clean and in good repair.
No missing buttons. No broken zippers.

Watch for more details as to where and when the coat drive giveaway will take place!

Available for sale in the Narthex after worship



Cards for restaurants, department stores, discount stores and outlet stores, electronics, entertainment, fast food, gas and auto, grocery, home improvement, sporting goods and even universal prepaid cards! Don't see one on the list that's available – just ask.

If you are thinking “ahead of the holidays”, put your list together and see the people at the gift card table. You not only save yourself time going shopping but the church also gets a % of your sales.

SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL:

Sunday, Oct. 25th United Congregational Church of Torrington has invited anyone from the congregation to attend their 50th Anniversary reception at 3:00 pm - Please RSVP: 860-482-8685

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a list of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below. If you would like to add or subtract for this list, please write name(s) on the Prayer of Concerns form in the Narthex located on the stand-up desk to the right of the exit doors or email the office. Thank you!

Joe Abbott	Charlotte Madia	Justin Wade & Family	Kyle W.
Casaundra Abeling	Audrey Marquard	The Videtto Family	Rowan
Roberta Alteri	Abigail Marine	Eveyln Walters	Stefan Nikola J
Ben, Sheryl & Nic Ahrens	Eric Marine	Sue Watkins	Janet E.
Michelle Ahrens	Richard Marine	James Weber	Wendy Fedor
Coni Aparo	Janis Martin	Diane Wright	Laurie Otis
Charlie Blakeslee	Gil & Marilyn Martin	Bruce Yauney	John Fleming
Kathy Ann Campbell	Michael Meyers	Clayton Young	Ethan Troy Danner
Angelo & Nicole Capasso	Brigitte Mueller	Clarence & Priscilla	Fred Rakyta & family
Vinni Carey	Bob Murphy	Ed	Ryan English
Bridget Deemer	Barbara Nalette	Jaiden	Mae Johnson
Emma Cortina	Karen Ness	Steve	Jackie Fleming
Emily Decker	Tom O'Brien	Lou W.	Kiley Lombardo
Irene Douglas	Karen Pagano	Todd	Christine & Fran Gaffney
Judy Elliott	Maria Payne	Robert K.	Patricia & Richard Sawitzke
Diane Engle	Melissa Pilbin	Hagbard	Shannon Hilton
Jan Eucalitto	Lisa & Dennis Polzun	Peanut	Deb & Jon Sterling
Weston Faith	Ed & Susan Regner	Diane L.	David Little
Amy Falls	Baerbel Roehl	Sandie Harper	Carol Vrlík
Bruce & Liz Falls	Charlotte	Pam Ewing	Terry
Rosemarie Foth	Vincent Scarrozzo	Michelle	Ruth Ann Stone
Steven Fosbrook	Jean Schlapfer	Marci	Joyce Young & family
Bob Frantz	Sarah Seelye	Diane Tanner	The family & friends of
John Lewis	Lucille Videtto	Baby Olive Pressler	Cecile Scheidel
Danise Hall	Paul Smith	Carol DeLeppo	The family of Howard
Marge Kiernan	Marilyn Killingbeck	Tom Sterling Sr.	Kreidwise
Renate Higgins	Sigrid Smitley	Margaret Miller	Shaelynn Holmgren
Rusty Judd	Patricia Switzer	Patrick Friday	Bob Hauser
Kathleen Hilton	Lori Sola	Shay Cronin	The Marold family
Helenna Hauser	George Gray	Leigh Martin	Lori Sola
Gloria Thibault	Roger Jensen	Linda Martin	Vera Hatfield
Ed & Anne Grening	Rich Zarcone	Shirley Moore	Sharon Okraska

OUR NURSING HOME MEMBERS

Francine Ahrens	Mae Fay
Dee Gammon	Betty Hilton
Walter Joray	Midge Rosenbeck

OUR MILITARY FRIENDS

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and King of Peace and King of Peace, watch over our sons and daughters in the service of their Country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers. Keep them close to you and help them live the commandments. Lord, Jesus give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. Be with them when they are in danger; strengthen them when they face hardship. Above All Lord, grant that when their service is finished that they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. Amen.

Tyler Quinn
Eric Beuis
Dominic Boscarino
Ethan & his Marine Unit

Major Zachary Fulton
Brandan Holbrook
Jonathan Connell
Tom Gregg, Fr.
Eric Bremer
Peter Hutchinson

Ben Speaker
Noah Braatz
Christian Braatz
Aiden Avenia
Sydney Craig & her Army unit

