



St. Paul Lutheran Church
ROOTED AND GROWING

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church!
We are glad you're here and pray you experience God's presence in worship today. For those visiting, please fill out a visitor card located in the pews and place it in the offering plate or hand to a worship leader.
Blessings to you and we hope you join us again.

December 14, 2025 8:15 am

Large print bulletins are
available at the Host Station.

An * indicates to please stand if you are able

Bold print indicates congregational responses

PRELUDE

"Canticle of the Turning"

arr. by Mark Hayes

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

We worship in the name in the which we baptize, in the name of the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of faithfulness, you are true to your Word. You break into our lives in surprising and unexpected ways. Bring joy and gladness to our lives empowering us to speak with confidence and truth of your power and presence. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Lord our God, **we confess our sin. Too often fear overwhelms us, turning us from trusting in your grace. We fail to be generous with what you have first given us. We lack faith in your promises and doubt your presence in our lives. Reassure us, challenge us and teach us to have confidence in your Word. Amen.**

Forgiveness declared

***GATHERING HYMN #242 “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” Verses 1 and 4**

***APOSTOLIC 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.**

***ADVENT HYMN OF PRAISE AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH–Sing V. 3 twice**



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



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he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: look with favor on your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son as our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146:5-10

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,

⁶ **who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;

⁸ **the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.**

⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ **The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #264 “Prepare the Royal Highway”**

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

***GOSPEL**

Luke 1:39-55

The reading is found on page 76-77 in the New Testament of the pew Bibles.

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Deacon Emily Myallis

SERMON

Rev. Robert J. Myallis

***HYMN OF THE DAY #723 “Canticle of the Turning”**

***THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

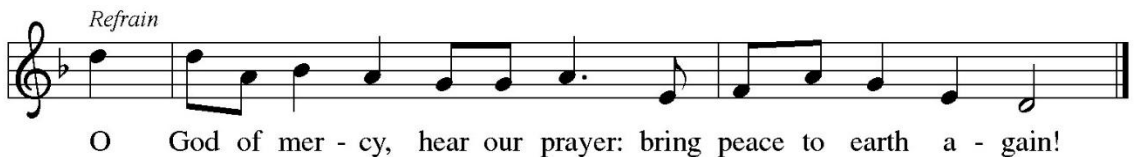
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The word “catholic” in the creed means universal or world-wide. If you have any questions, the pastoral staff are happy to discuss.*

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these or similar words:

... In hope we pray



***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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*OFFERING SONG

#695, V. 3, – Tune: FOREST GREEN

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.
O God, who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,
teach us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.**

*OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,

You are faithful to your promises. We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

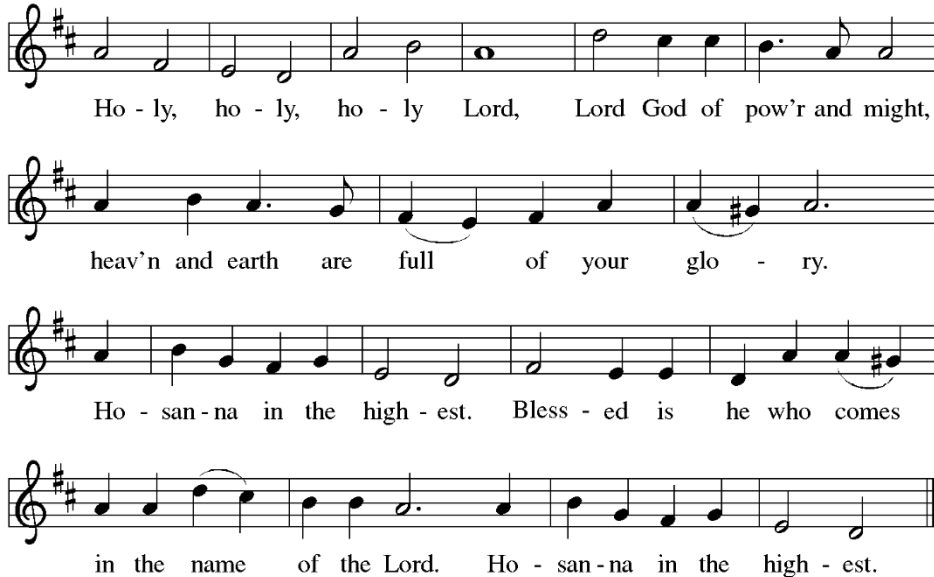
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed... ...Do this in remembrance of me.

For as often as we do this, we proclaim the great mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

***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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians who recognize the Lord's forgiveness and presence in Holy Communion are invited to receive the bread and wine. During the distribution, you are invited to come forward as directed by the ushers. Take a cup from the trays, and kneel or stand at the altar railing to receive the Bread and Wine. The first chalice is wine and the second chalice is grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Those who do not commune may come to the altar for a blessing, indicating so by crossing your arms. As the ministers give the bread and cup to you, they say these words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.***

If you are interested in being baptized or learning more about baptism and Holy Communion please contact the pastoral staff at St. Paul. Those that would like to receive prayer, please remain at the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Come and Fill Our Hearts”

Two systems of musical notation for a hymn. The first system consists of a treble and bass staff in D major (two sharps). The treble staff has a melody with eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.' are written below the first system. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!' are written below the second system.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!

CHORAL ANTHEM

“And the Glory of the Lord”

G. F. Handel

St. Paul Choir

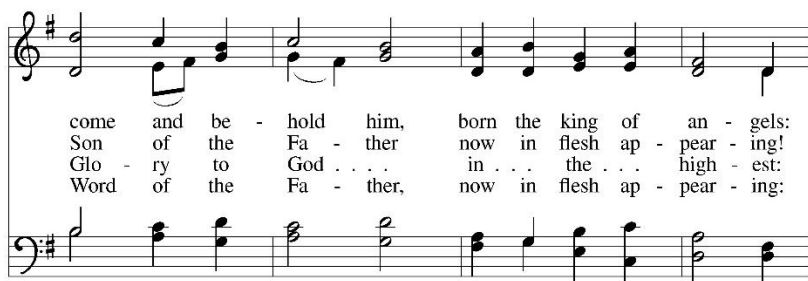
*BLESSING



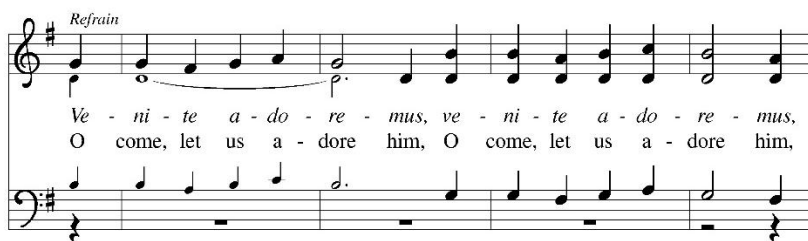
1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

***SENDING**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

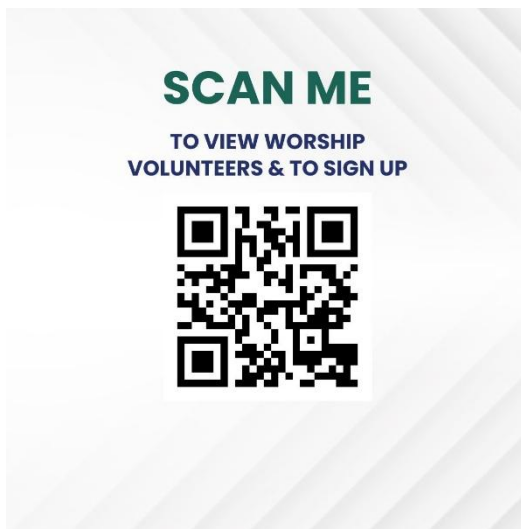
“From Heaven Above”

Wilbur Held

ELW Setting 4, Augsburg Fortress 2018. ELW Hymns and Liturgy text and music. Reprinted by permission under Liturgies license #SAS003161. Song Lyrics reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733017 and CCLI license #2602486.

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GATHERING MUSIC

"The Goodness of Jesus"

St. Paul Praise Band

*Come you weary heart now to Jesus
Come you anxious soul now and see
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears
Rest here in His wondrous peace*

Chorus

*Oh the goodness the goodness of Jesus
Satisfied he is all that I need
May it be come what may that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus*

*Come find what this world cannot offer
Come and find your joy here complete
Taste the living water never thirst again
Rest here in His wondrous peace*

Verse 3

*Come and find your hope now in Jesus
He is all he said he would be
Grace is overflowing from the Saviour's heart
Rest here in His wondrous peace*

WELCOME

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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“Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
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SERMON

Rev. Robert J. Myallis

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creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

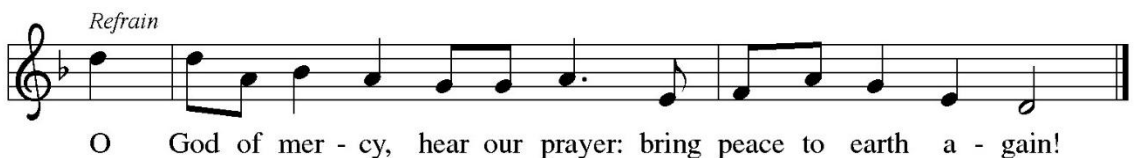
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the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.
O God, who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,
teach us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.**

*OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,

You are faithful to your promises. We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

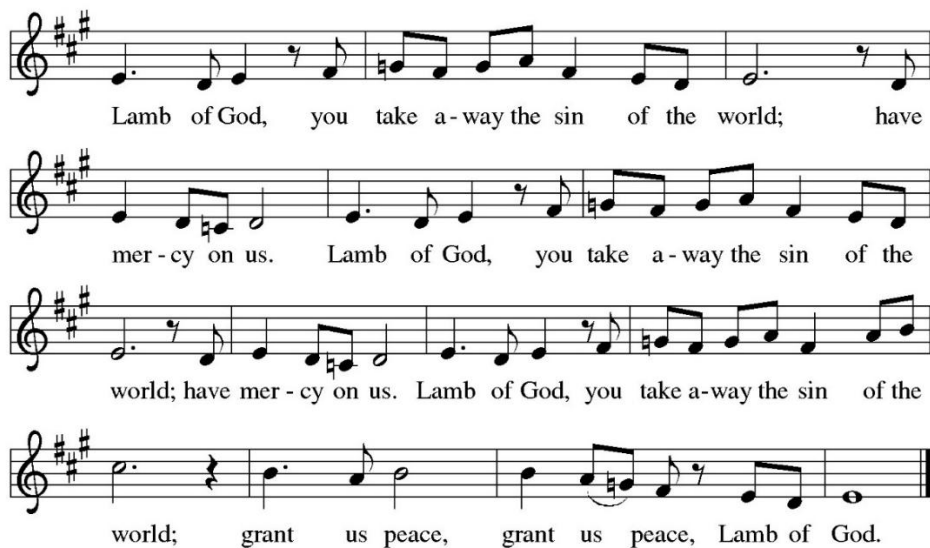
***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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For as often as we do this, we proclaim the great mystery of faith:
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***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.**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION

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COMMUNION MUSIC

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!

*COMMUNION MUSIC

“We Wait in Hope”

1. O come to us O Ho - ly Child, be - stow on us Your
2. In cold and damp, our pres - ence here we wait for You to
3. Con fu - sion lurks with - in our world, the si - ren sounds a -
4. O Prince of Peace, O Lamb of God, from Da - vid's house You
5. We call on You, Em - man - u - el, God with

peace. We long for You this win - ter - time, we wait in hope. Come
come. Our hearts are beat - ing an - xious - ly, we wait in hope. Em -
larm. Our trou - bled hearts are in - se - cure, we wait in hope. O
come. Re - new us and in - spire us, we wait in hope. De -
us. To strength - en us in u - ni - ty, we wait in hope. Our

lead us to Your ban - quet Lord, so we may all re - new. Our
man - u - el, the prom - ised one, come show to us Your face. Our
child to come and save us all from tur - moil and from strife. Your
fend our lives from want and greed, for - give us of our sins. Our
jour - ney leads us to this place, to seek and call Your name. We

lives are long - ing for Your love. Come, O Lord.
hearts are cry - ing out to You. Come, O Lord.
peo - ple seek Your wis - dom now. Come, O Lord.
world is cry - ing out to You. Come, O Lord.
cel - e - brate and wait in hope. Come, O Lord.

***BLESSING**

***SENDING HYMN**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Verse 1

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels
Chorus

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Verse 2

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest
Chorus

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord, the Lord. Bridge

Bridge



His name shall be won - der - ful, coun - se - lor. His name shall be

Ev - er - last - ing Fa - ther. His name shall be Prince of Peace, Might - y God. His

name shall be Em - man - u - el. We'll praise Your name for - ev - er. We'll

praise Your name for - ev - er. We'll praise Your name for - ev - er,

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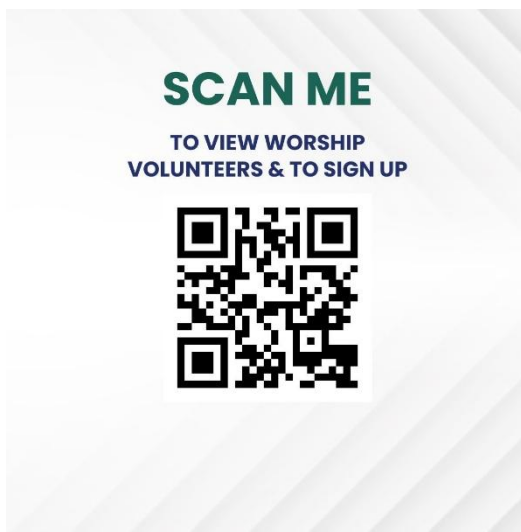
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