



Sunday, May 2, 2021
10:00 a.m.
Radio Station: 98.7FM

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

It is a joy to gather together for worship!

St. Paul Purpose Statement

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00am Tri-Church Online Worship Service on our website

or call toll-free 1-888-975-5536 anytime

10:00am In-person worship with Holy Communion;

Tune Car radio to 98.7FM to join us from Parking lot.

11am Virtual Sunday School (through May 30)

Communion

We celebrate Jesus' presence each week in Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Supper and Jesus invites us: whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, or just considering Christianity; if you are an infant or elderly; if your family has been in the United States for generations, or has only recently arrived; if you are LGBTQIA+ or straight; if you live with disabilities, chronic illness, or are able-bodied and currently healthy; if you are home-blessed or homeless; ... YOU are welcome at God's meal of grace at St. Paul.

During the Pandemic: Pick up your bulletin as well as individual communion wafer/cup. If you are in need of a gluten free wafer, please let the usher know. Also, please take care when opening the package. Be sure that you only open the top clear tab for the wafer. The bottom tab contains the juice. For the gluten free options, the wafer is the bottom tab and the juice is the top tab.

Accessibility

Handicap parking, entrance, wheelchair, and restrooms are available. Sound amplifiers and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Children's Offering

The April and May Children's offering will go to Let's Feed Our Children, a free lunch program during the summer for children who receive free and reduced lunch at school. Kids can fill the Easter egg in their Sunday School packet and drop off their offering to the church office by May 31.

1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081

815-625-3069

Pastor Makayla Dahleen

Pastor Email: pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com

Pastor Phone: 815-780-9401

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Good Shepherd Sunday with LSSI emphasis

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

“Now the Feast & Celebration”

Refrain

Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us

to be one great people of God. Refrain

2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. Refrain

3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. Refrain

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, heal us, protect us, and we shall be made whole. Make us one with you, in your reign on earth as it is in heaven. **C: Amen.**

Children's Message

WORD

Psalm 23

R: ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

C: ²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

R: ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

C: ⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

R: ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

A reading from 1st John.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Greetings & Testimony from Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

Gospel: John 10:11-18

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Sermon-Mark Stutrud

President & CEO of LSSI

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord, Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:

you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.
- 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.
And with all of the family you saved by your love,
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with these words:

P: God who brings new life,

All: Hear our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always!

C: And also with you!

P: Enjoy it and share it!

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy are you,
God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C: 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to taste and see that the Lord is Good!
Eat, Drink and be satisfied.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Worship Assistants:

Pam Machan – Head Usher

Diane Yoeckel – Usher

Carolyn Duncan – Usher

Carolyn Duncan – Reader

Joe Machan – Sound

Musicians:

Live:

Michael Rivera

Recorded:

Julie McCord

Kerensa Pink

Gerad VonHolten

Dawn Zeigler

Mixing:

Gabe Zeigler

Gerad VonHolten

Next week's assistants – May 9

Ann Beswick– Head Usher

Donna Kendall – Usher

John Renner – Usher

Ann Beswick– Reader

Gerad VonHolten – Sound

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Lester Kroeger, Michael Harting, Joe Machan, Harold Julifs, Marcia Fields, Lucille Beyer, Cliff Miller, Viola Koster, Ruben Garcia, Pam Sorrenson, Bill Duncan, Ethel Warner, and Lori Dewey.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Pastor Makayla's grandmother, Virginia Dittmann, by the congregation of St. Paul.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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