



**“...so that  
they may be  
one...”**

**John 17:11**

**Sunday, May 21, 2023  
9:00 a.m.**

## 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

9:00 a.m. In-person worship with Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. In-person Sunday School – September – May  
10:00 a.m. In-person Teen Time – September – May

### 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.

### 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 children's offering for the month of May will support the United Way's Let's Feed Our Children. The free summer lunch program kicks off the first week of June at St Paul. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of giving and helping to feed our world.

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Pastor Makayla Dahleen  
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[www.stpaulsterling.com](http://www.stpaulsterling.com)

## Prelude

*"God Is Here!"*

Aaron David Miller

*When the prelude music begins, we invite you into a time of silent reflection to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

## Welcome/Announcements

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**All: Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!**

## GATHERING

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**All: 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.

**All: Amen.**

## Gathering Song "This is the Feast"

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Greeting

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

All: And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

All: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ lived and suffered with us on earth and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### First reading: Acts 1:6-14

A reading from the first chapter of Acts:

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a

cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel: John 17:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the seventeenth chapter,

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me

in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

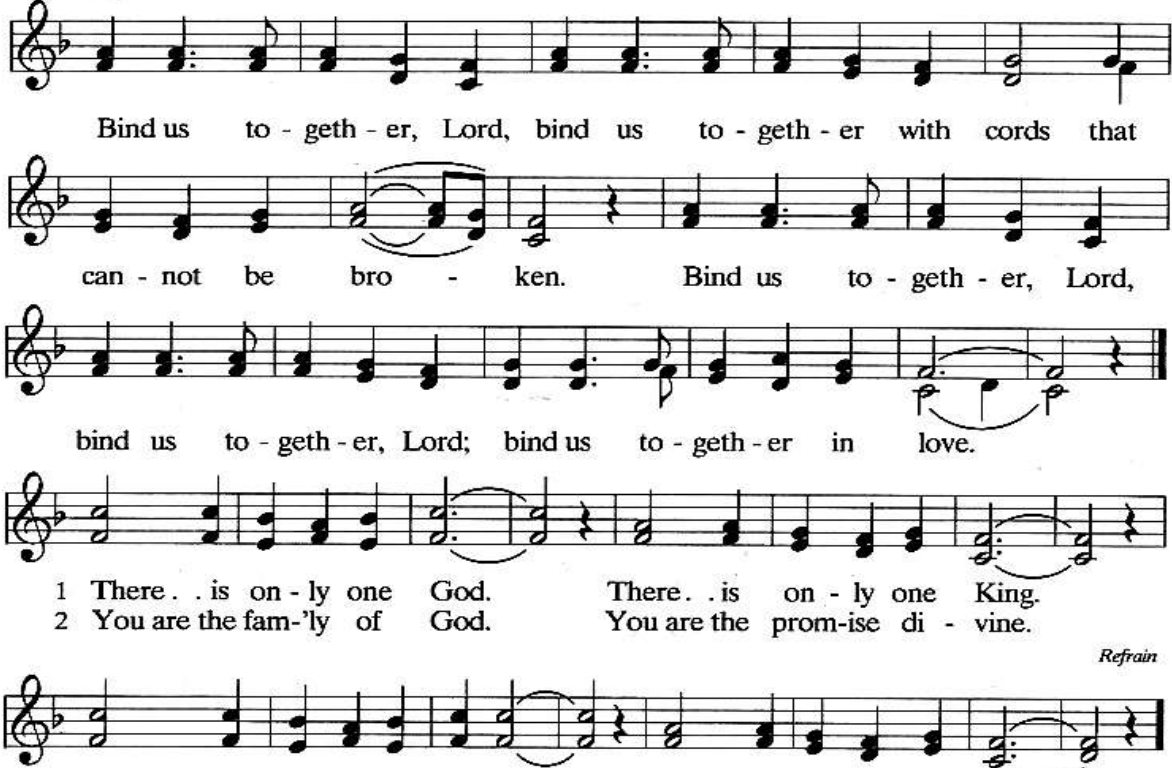
### Children’s Message

### Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

### “Bind Us Together”

*Refrain*



Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that  
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,  
bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

1 There . . is on - ly one God.      There . . is on - ly one King.  
2 You are the fam - ly of God.      You are the prom - ise di - vine.

*Refrain*

There . . is on - ly one Bod - y;      that . . is why we can sing:  
You are God's cho - sen de - sire,      you are the glo - rious new wine.

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946  
Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946  
© 1977 Thankyou Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere) Integrity's Hosanna! Music

## Prayers

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Each petition ends with these words:*

P: Living Lord,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

## Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also with you!**

P: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace in whatever way you are comfortable.

## MEAL


### Offering

“Holy Ground”

Mark Hayes

### Offering Response

“Create In Me a Clean Heart”



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

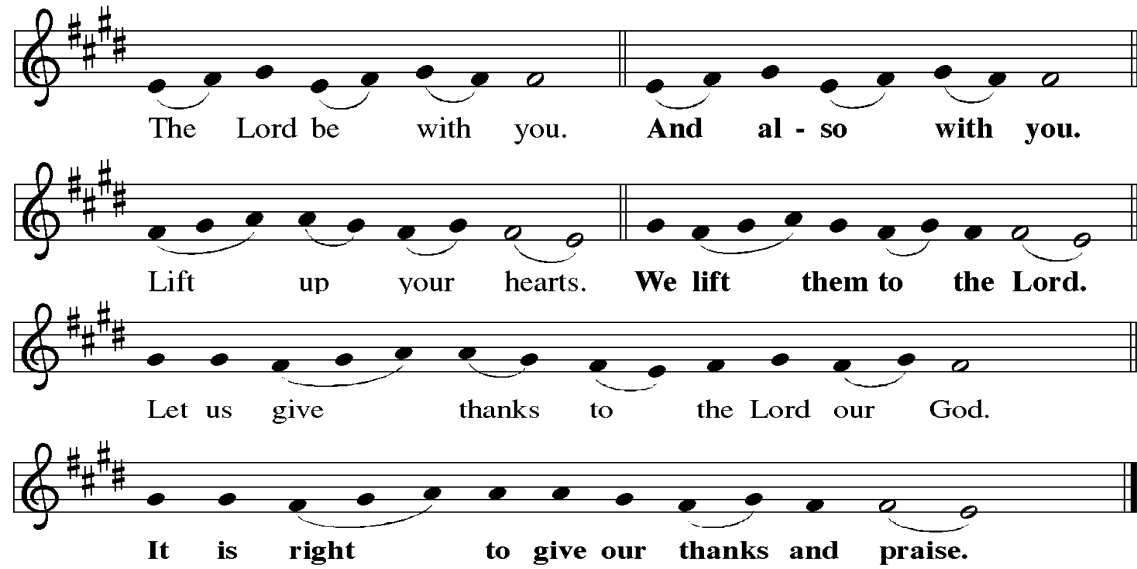
### Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray,

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

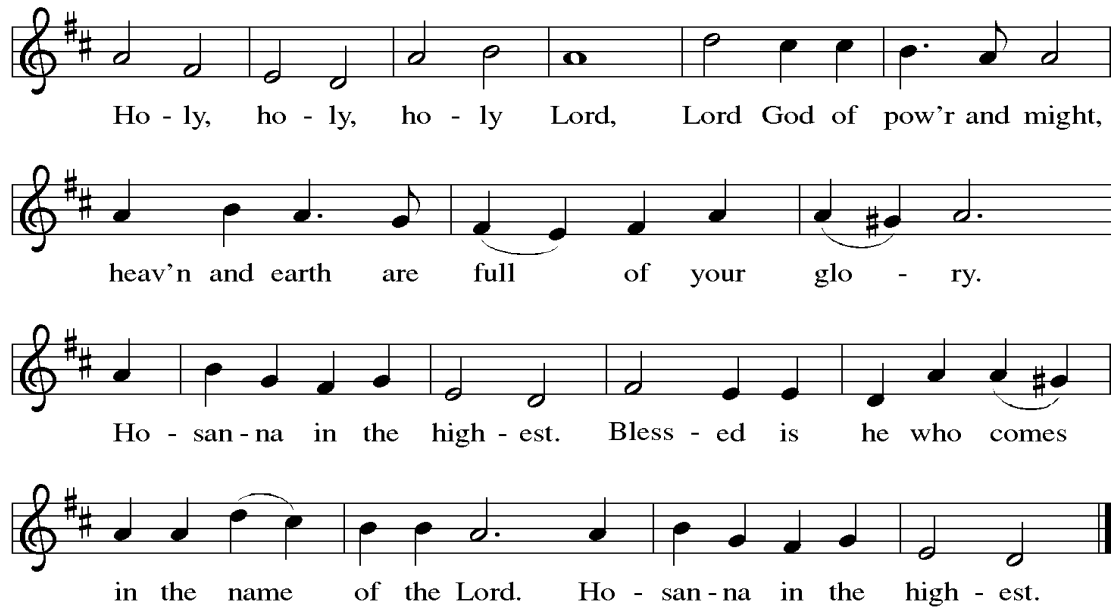
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Preface

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

...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

### Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

### Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

### Communion

### Communion Music

## “Lamb of God”

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

*Refrain*  
sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me  
in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958  
Music: Twila Paris  
Text and music © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

## “Resurrection”

David Cherwien

### Prayer after Communion

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s Grace.

**All: Amen**

Let us pray.

P: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus’ name.

**All: Amen.**

### Blessing

P: The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**All: Amen**

## Sending Song

### “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”

ELW #364

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear.

Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.

For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.

e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there.”

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Death’s fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.  
Even the battle with sin is won.”  
*Refrain*
- 5 Christ has arisen to set us free.  
Alleluia, to him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.  
*Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922  
Music: MFURAHINI, HALELUYA, Tanzanian traditional  
Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress  
Tr. © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## **Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. Share the Good news!

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

*“We Are One in the Spirit”*

Peter Scholtes

**We Remember in Prayer;** those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Harold Muntean, Sandy Julifs, Pam Sorrenson, Jim Brotheridge, Lila Edeus, Lori Dewey, Harold Julifs, John Ukena, and Berta Beyer.

**Placing our confidence** in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of our loved ones, we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Ian Whitmore. Ian passed away on Saturday, May 13. His great-grandparents are Bill & Carolyn Duncan. His service will be held Tuesday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m. at McDonald Funeral Home in Rock Falls.

We also extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Stephanie Heflin. Stephanie passed away this past week.

*May God’s presence bring you comfort and peace.*

**Coffee Fellowship** is hosted by the Cox family; please join them for refreshments in the social hall after the worship service.

## **Worship Assistants:**

Opener – Greg Zeigler

Head Usher – Greg Zeigler

Acolytes – *Volunteer Needed*

Greeters – Donna Kendall, Dan Dir

Ushers – Mel & Kathy Johnson

Reader – Marilyn Geiger

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Closer – Greg Zeigler

## **Musicians:**

Jacob Dahleen

Julie Woessner

Dawn Zeigler

## **Next week’s Assistants – May 28**

Opener – Jen Pillars

Head Usher – Jen Pillars

Acolytes – *Volunteer Needed*

Greeters – Diane Yoeckel, Nancy Beck

Ushers – Janie Billings, Karen Wright

Reader – Jim Gorman

Sound – Jim Gorman

Closer – Jim Gorman

Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer Needed*

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