



**Sunday, May 19, 2024**  
**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

### 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. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of giving and helping to feed our local children.

1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081

815-625-3069

Pastor Makayla Dahleen

Pastor Email: [pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com](mailto:pastormakayla@stpaulsterling.com)

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[www.stpaulsterling.com](http://www.stpaulsterling.com)

### Prelude

"Oh Church, Arise"

James Koerts

### Welcome/Announcements

#### GATHER

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

### Confession and Absolution

(adapted from This Far by Faith)

P: God of all mercy and consolation, send your spirit into this place and come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

*(silence for personal reflection)*

P: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: Forgiveness for all our sin comes through our ☩ Lord Jesus Christ. May Christ's mercy strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**All: Amen**

## Gathering Hymn

### “God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind”

ELW #400



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -  
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your  
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from  
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;  
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,  
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,  
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,  
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,  
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;  
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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## 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 together:

**All: Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14

R: A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.<sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up

from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Song

#### “Spirit of the Living God”

The musical score is written on four staves in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me." (first two staves), "Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me." (third staff), and "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me." (fourth staff).

DANIEL IVERSON  
Arr. by Tom Fettke

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### Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21

P: A reading from Acts:

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

<sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

<sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

<sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”

<sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Children’s Message

### Sermon

**Hymn of the Day**  
**“Spirit of Gentleness”**  
 ELW #396

*Refrain*

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness  
 call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,  
 stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,  
 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,  
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,  
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;  
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

*Refrain*

“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
 With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940  
 Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley  
 Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**Apostles’ Creed**

P: Let us profess our faith together through the words of the Apostle’s Creed:

**All: All: 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 power of 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**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Abiding in Christ’s presence we align our spirit with God’s intention for the church, the world, and all who are in need:

*Each petition ends with these words:*

R: Gracious God,  
**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 Spirit, Rain Down”*  
 Carol Tornquist

## Offering Response

### **“Create in Me a Clean Heart”**

ELW #186

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.

## The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**All: 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 God Al-might-y!  
Ear-ly in the morn-ing our song shall rise to thee.  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y!  
God in three per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## 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 Music

#### “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.

“”

Marie Barnett

### Prayer after Communion

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

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us pray

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**All: Amen**

### CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

*From This Far by Faith*

P: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### BENEDICTION

P: Almighty God, Creator, + Savior, and Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### Sending Song

#### “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

*Refrain*  
Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing  
in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the  
spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,  
2 .. All a - round me looked so fine,  
3 .. Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

*Refrain*  
out of his mouth came fire and smoke.  
asked . . . . . my Lord if all was mine.  
chills the bod - y but not the soul.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: PENTECOST, African American spiritual; arr. Melva W. Costen, b. 1933  
Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**Dismissal**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

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

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude**

*“A Dazzling Bouquet”*

Bret Hesla

**We Remember in Prayer;** those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Eric Brown, JoAnn Garcia, Patty Arians, Dorothy Carr, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Bob Cornelsen, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Harold & Sandy Julifs, Lila Edeus, 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 Louis Vickery. Louis passed away on Monday, May 14. Louis is Melissa Arians' grandfather.

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

**Worship Assistants:**

Presider – Pastor Frank Lay

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Dan Bartel

Acolytes – Bartel family

Greeters – Bartel family

Ushers – Nancy Beck, Diane Yoeckel

Reader – Carolyn Duncan

Sound – Bradyn Arians

**Musicians:**

Live: Julie Woessner

Recorded: Julie McCord, Kerensa Pink, Gerad VonHolten, Dawn Zeigler

**Next week – May 26**

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – David Carrillo

Acolytes – *Volunteer Needed*

Greeters – JoAnn & Ruben Garcia

Ushers – Dan Dir, Donna Kendall

Reader – JoAnn Garcia

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer Needed*

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