

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Lutheran Social
Services of Illinois

Register today!
www.nisynod.org/youth

Trunk or Treat. Games.
Worship. Food.
Two Locations.
\$25 per congregation

10 AM TO 5 PM
OCTOBER 26, 2024

St. Paul Sterling and
Our Savior's Rockford

Let the little children come to me ...
it is to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs.

Mark 10:14, NRSV



Sunday, October 6, 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

This month we will also be supporting the harvest of food for those in need through the Buddy Bag Program, a free meal program that provides food to school kids on the weekends, when school lunch is not available. Our Children's offering for the month of October will be given to the program. The Tri-Church Confirmation Class helps to pack these several times during the school year.

1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081

815-625-3069

Church email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net

www.stpaulsterling.com

Prelude

"What God Ordains Is Good Indeed"

Robert J. Powell

Welcome/Announcements

GATHER

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

All: Amen.

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.

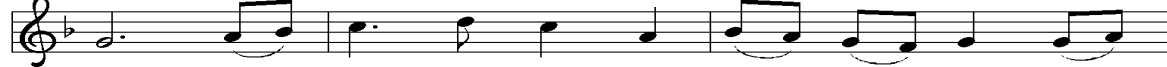
Gathering Hymn

“All Are Welcome”

ELW# 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



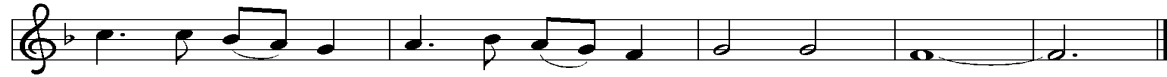
hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together:

All: Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has

committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 8

R: O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

All: you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

R: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

All: what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

R: Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

All: You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

R: all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

All: the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

R: O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: Mark 10:2-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 10th chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little

child will never enter it.”¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

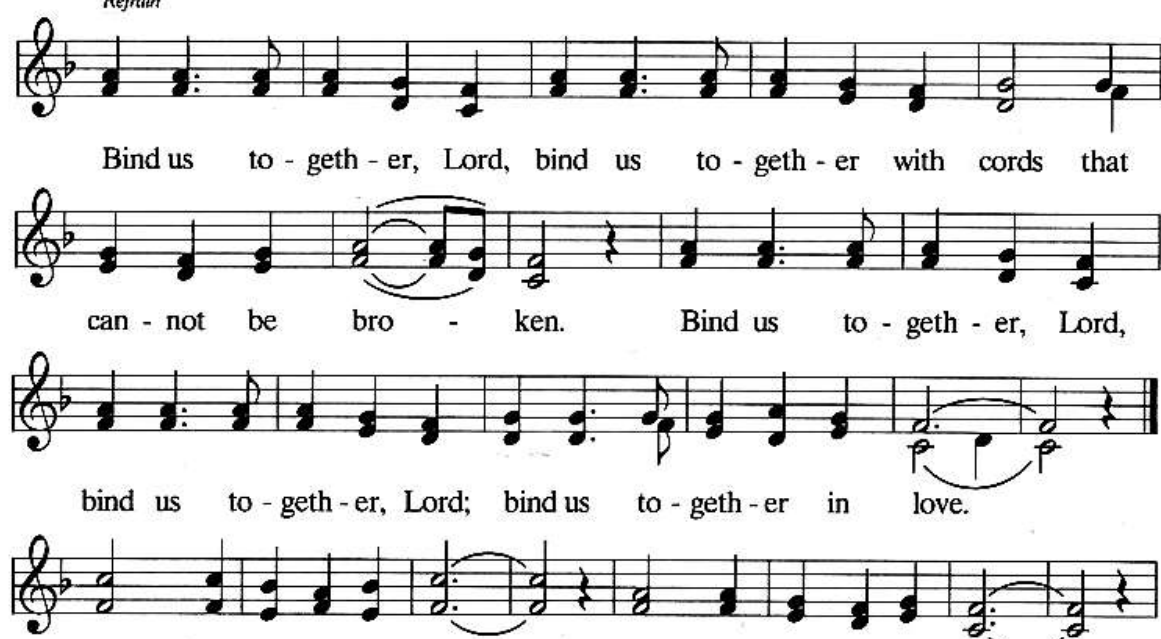
Children’s Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“Bind Us, Together, Lord”


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

Pet Blessing**

P: Blessed are you, Lord God, who made every living thing with which the water teems, and every winged bird, the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, and called it all “good.”

All: Thank you for these animals, for their life that comes from you, and for the love and joy they bring. Please bless these creatures and let our loving care for them be a reflection of your loving nature. We praise you for all your beauty in creation, and especially for this expression of your love. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.

(*adapted from Bob Hostetler’s A Blessing for a Beloved Animal)

P: I invite you to draw the sign of the cross on your animal and as we share the peace with each other, you can meet each other’s pets.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Challenged by God’s Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

Each petition ends with these words:

P: God of grace,

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

“Prayer of St. Francis with Peace Is Flowing Like a River”

Janet Vogt

Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

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.

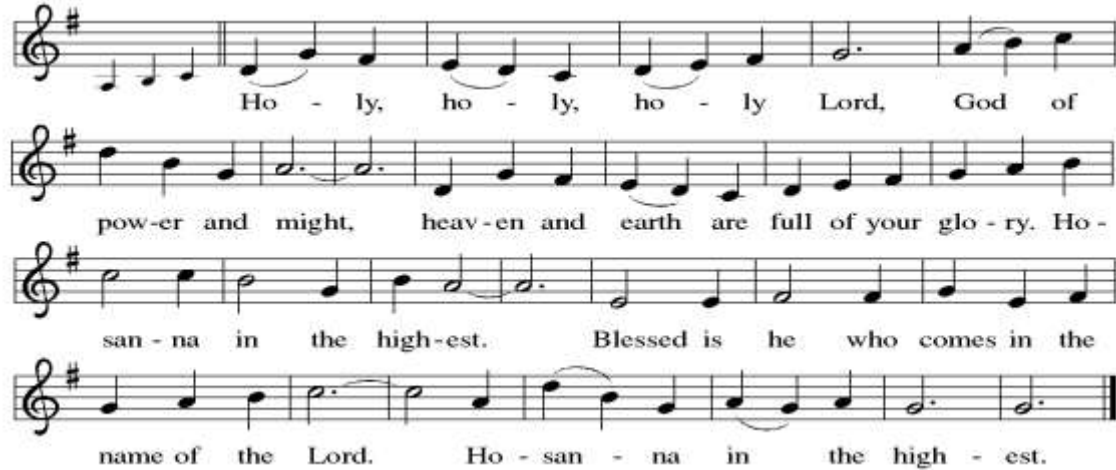
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed 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: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

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.

"At This Time"

Jim Lucas

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

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Blessing

P: God all mighty, God most merciful † bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

“How Majestic Is Your Name”

Sing through twice

O Lord, our Lord, how ma - jes - tic is your
name in all the earth! O Lord, our Lord, how ma -
jes - tic is your name in all the earth! O
Lord, we praise your name. O Lord,
we mag - ni - fy your name, Prince of Peace, might - y
God, O Lord God Al - might - y.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“The Child in Each of Us (Medley)”

Marilyn Ham

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Bev Julien, Phyllis Jacobson, Lee Eilers, JoAnn Garcia, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Sandy Julifs, Lila Edeus, and Berta Beyer.

Worship Assistants:

Presider: Pastor Kathy Burkheimer

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – David Carrillo

Acolytes – *Volunteer Needed*

Greeters – Bob & Judy Bartel

Ushers – Bill & Carolyn Duncan

Reader – Bill Duncan

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Sunday School Teacher:

Susan Bartel

Musicians:

Julie Woessner

Dawn Zeigler

Next week – October 13

Presider: Pastor Mark Luepke

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Mary Ordean

Acolytes – Mary Ordean

Greeters – Susan Kuehl, Bev Graunke

Ushers – John Renner, Dan Dir

Reader – Marilyn Geiger

Sound – Bradyn Arians

Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer needed*

Sunday School Teacher – David Carrillo

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