

Sunday, August 24, 2025 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 10:15 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 August Children's offering will go to towards the shipping of the LWR School Kits that have been collected.

Pastor Mark Luepke, Part-time Interim pastormark@stpaulsterling.com 1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081 815-625-3069

Church email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net www.stpaulsterling.com

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" Myrin/Redman

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God

All: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of \pm Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn "Morning Has Broken"

ELW #556



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: O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 58:9b-14

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 103:1-8

R: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

All: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits

R: who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

All: who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

R: who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

All: O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

R: You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

All: LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 13th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the

Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

"Bent Out of Shape"

Hymn of the Day "Beautiful Things"



Text: Michael Gungor, b. 1980, and Lisa Gungor, b. 1982 Music: Michael Gungor and Lisa Gungor

Text and music © 2009 worshiptogether.com Songs, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com

Apostles Creed

P: Trusting in Christ's life, death, and resurrection, let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed:

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: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

P: O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

All: Amen.

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

"This is My Father's World"

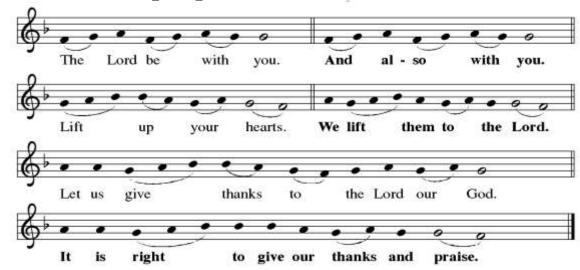
Babcock/Sheppard

Offering Prayer

P: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

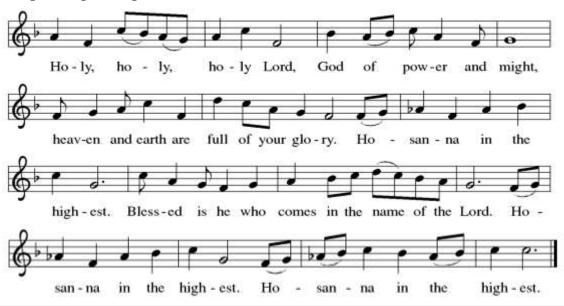
All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy"



The Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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

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.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,

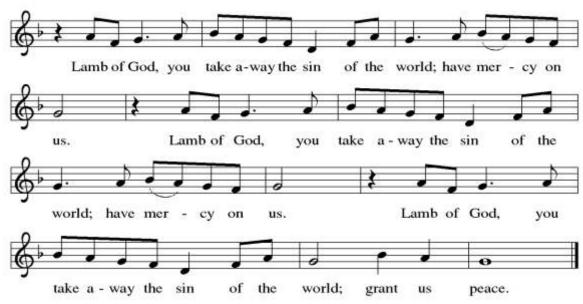
Invitation to Communion

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Communion

Communion Music

"Lamb of God"



"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" Crosby/Doane

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.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

All: Amen

Blessing

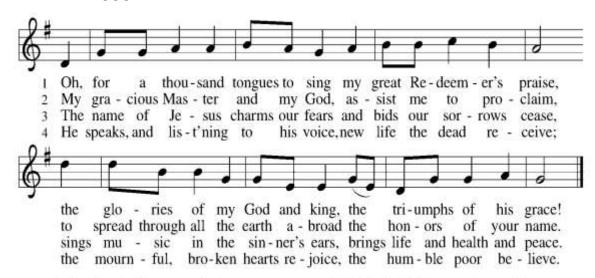
P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

"Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

ELW #886



- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race! Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: Azmon, Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"In the Sweet By and By"
Bennett/Webster

Coffee Fellowship will be served following worship hosted by David Carrillo. All are welcome!

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Judi Huseth, Sandy Julifs, Mike, Lori Dewey, Dylan Wescott, Ken & Sharon Mager, Phyllis Jacobson, JoAnn Garcia, Betty Steinke, Larry Wahler, and Lila Edeus.

Worship Assistants:

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Stacey Avelar

Acolytes – Avelar family

Greeters - Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Ushers - Dan Dir, Ruben Garcia

Reader - Greg Zeigler

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Communion Assistant – Janie Billings

Altar Guild - Debbie O'Brien, Diane Yoeckel

Musicians:

Maureen Marrandino Julie Woessner

Next Week – August 31 Worship Assistants

Presider - Pastor Janet Wold

Opener/Head Usher/Closer - David Carrillo

Acolytes – Arians family

Greeters – Nancy Eilers, Bev Graunke

Ushers – Keith Peugh, Nancy Beck

Reader – Keith Peugh

Sound – Bradyn Arians

Communion Assistants – Nancy Eilers, Nancy Beck

Altar Guild - Debbie O'Brien, Diane Yoeckel

Coffee Fellowship – Volunteer Needed

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