



**Please join a conversation about
Tri-Church WELCA - Your Thoughts
and Input are VERY IMPORTANT**

WHAT IS WELCA?

IT'S AN EASY WAY TO SAY WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

QUITE A MOUTHFUL, WE KNOW. WELCA IS A COMMUNITY OF WOMEN CALLED TO GROW IN FAITH, AFFIRM THEIR GIFTS, AND ENGAGE IN MINISTRY AND ACTION.

WELCA INCLUDES LUTHERAN WOMEN WHO GATHER IN MORE THAN 4,500 LOCATIONS IN THE U.S. AND THE CARIBBEAN, FOR SERVICE, BIBLE STUDY, ADVOCACY, FELLOWSHIP AND MORE!

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU IN WOMEN OF THE ELCA.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

ALL WOMEN OF TRI-CHURCH ARE INVITED TO AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT STARTING A LOCAL UNIT OF THE WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (WELCA).

THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER IN OUR CALLINGS.

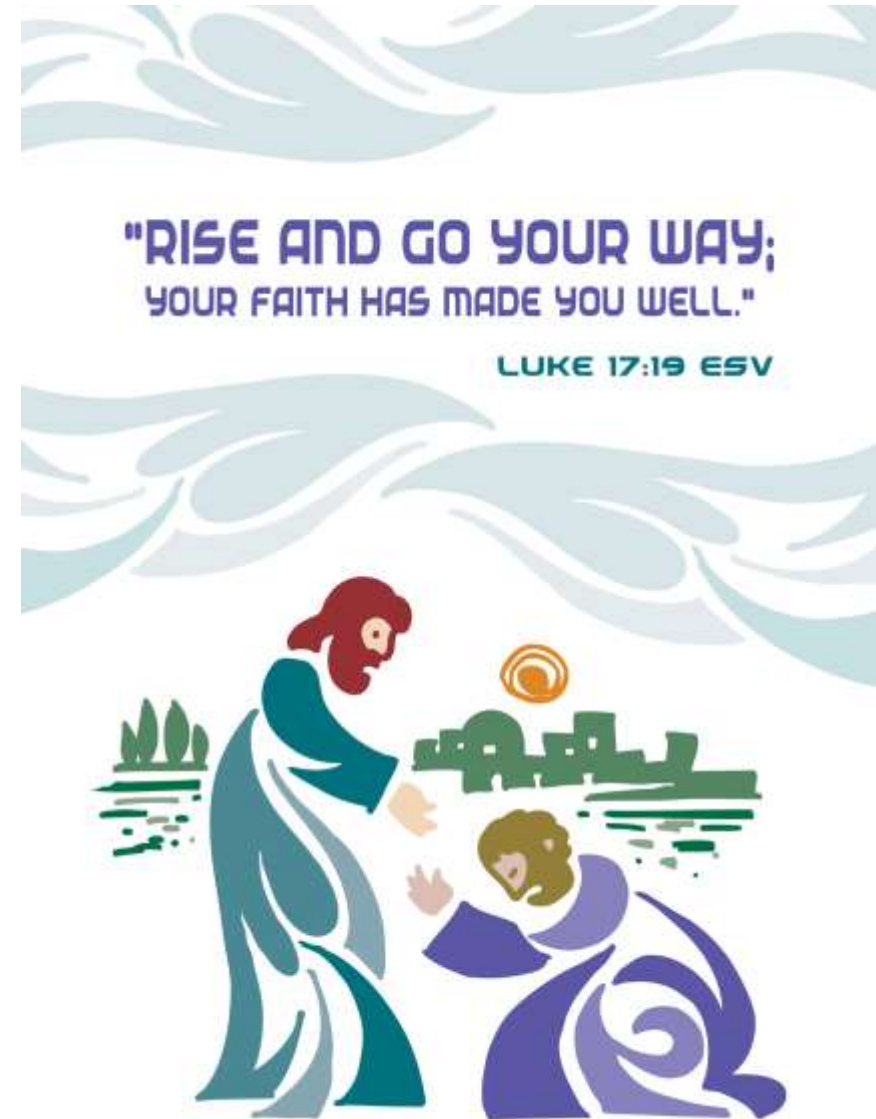
WE WILL DISCUSS OUR INTERESTS IN BIBLE STUDIES, SERVICE PROJECTS, AND FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES.

PLEASE BRING YOUR IDEAS AND APPETITE - HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES WILL BE PROVIDED.

**WHEN: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14
TIME: 5:30PM
WHERE: STERLING PUBLIC LIBRARY
ROOM: COMMUNITY ROOM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER

**RONDA BORGMANN, IMMANUEL
EMILY TAYLOR, ST. JOHN'S
KAREN WOLFE, ST. JOHN'S
DAWN ZEIGLER, ST. PAUL
CHRISSY ZOLLINGER, ST. PAUL**



**Sunday, October 12, 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

During the month of October, our children's offering at worship is going toward Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) Holiday Hope Chest. LSSI offers children and their families gifts for Christmas through the purchase of gift cards to specific vendors. Thank you for helping young people served by LSSI have gifts for Christmas this year! More information will be coming in regards to purchasing gift cards/gifts on your own.

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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

Hawks/Lowry

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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

All: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Now Thank We All Our God”

ELW # 840



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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: Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all

that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

^{15a, b, c} Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel.”

R: Word of God, Word of Life,

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 111

R: Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

All: Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.

R: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

All: You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

R: You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

All: You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

R: The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

All: They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

R: You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

All: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is

sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 17th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then

he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon
“Healing, Thanks and More”

Hymn of the Day
“Ten Thousand Reasons”

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a single measure of music. The first section is the Refrain, which consists of two lines of music. The first line of the Refrain is: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;". The second line of the Refrain is: "wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name." The Refrain is repeated twice. The second section is the Main Body of the hymn, which consists of three lines of music. The first line of the Main Body is: "1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing; 2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your 3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the". The second line of the Main Body is: "... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my". The third line of the Main Body is: "pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be good-ness, I will keep . . on ... sing - ing— ten thou-sand soul will sing your praise un - end - ing— ten thou-sand". The Main Body is repeated twice. The final section is the Coda, which consists of two lines of music. The first line of the Coda is: "sing - ing when the eve - ning comes. rea - sons for my heart to find. years and then for - ev - er - more!". The second line of the Coda is: "wor - ship your ho - ly name, wor - ship your ho - ly name." The Coda is repeated twice.

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your
end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good-ness, I will keep . . on ... sing - ing— ten thou-sand
soul will sing your praise un - end - ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
rea - sons for my heart to find.
years and then for - ev - er - more!

Coda

wor - ship your ho - ly name,
wor - ship your ho - ly name.

Text: Matt Redman, b. 1974, and Jonas Myrin, b. 1982
Music: Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin
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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: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

P: God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

"God Will Take Care of You"

Martin/Martin

Offering Prayer

P: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

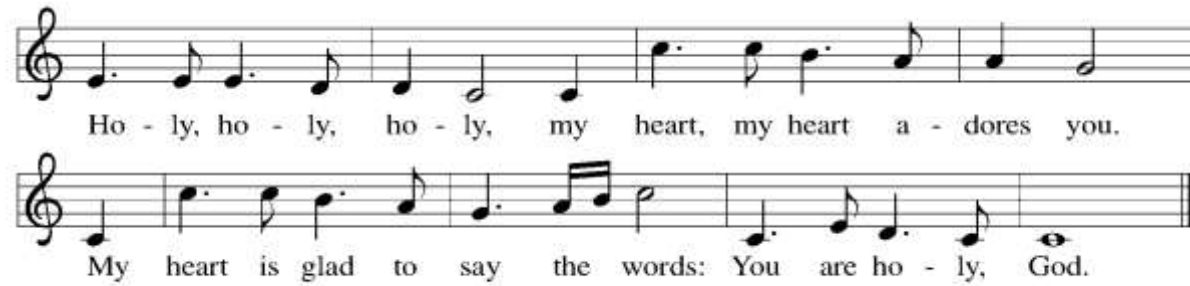
All: Amen.

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”



Text: Argentine traditional
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

The 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 sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

Communion

Communion Music

“Lamb of God”



Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1992 CPH Publishing

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”
Baker

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.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen

Blessing

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

ELW #543

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Fantasia on ‘Salvation’”

arr. David Paxton

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Michelle Klinger, Raymond Graftaas, Matt Friel, Sandy Julifs, Mike, Lori Dewey, Dylan Wescott, Ken & Sharon Mager, Phyllis Jacobson, Betty Steinke, and Larry Wahler.

Coffee Fellowship will be served following worship in the Fellowship Hall hosted by Nancy Eilers. All are welcome.

Worship Assistants:

- Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Mary Ordean
- Acolytes – Ordean family
- Greeters – Ruben & JoAnn Garcia
- Ushers – Donna Kendall, Diane Yoeckel
- Reader – JoAnn Garcia
- Sound – Bradyn Arians
- Communion Assistant – Chad Arians
- Altar Guild – Audrey & Cathy Cox

Musicians:

- Maureen Marrandino
- Julie Woessner

Next Week – October 19

Worship Assistants

- Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Rayce Gale
- Acolytes – Altar Guild
- Greeters – Audrey & Cathy Cox
- Ushers – Dan Dir, Carolyn Duncan
- Reader – Greg Zeigler
- Sound – Greg Zeigler
- Communion Assistant – Greg Zeigler
- Altar Guild – Audrey & Cathy Cox
- Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer Needed*