

Sunday, November 2, 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 November and December children's offering with be for the God's Global Barnyard through the ELCA Good Gifts. A gift to God's Global Barnyard will be used where needed most to support livestock, agriculture and other sustainable-development projects, which help farmers and families with the resources they need to thrive.

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

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All Saints Sunday

Prelude

"No More Night" arr. Kurt Kaiser

Welcome/Announcements

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.

P: As the worshiping community of St. Paul,

All: We gather over time and space as a part of the Body of Christ.

P: We gather in body and in spirit as a community of faith.

All: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses

P: of those who have come before us. We remember those who have died.

All: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses

P: of loved ones now resting in Christ. People who were simultaneously saints and sinners and completely swept up in God's abounding love.

All: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses

P: of family, strangers, and friends.

All: Amen.

Remembering the Saints & Dedication of Memorial Gifts

You are invited to come up and light a candle to remember a loved one as the names of the saints in our community are read.

Gathering Hymn

"Death Be Never Last"



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: DEATH BE NEVER LAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1993 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together:

All: Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared

for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 149

R: Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

All: Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.

R: Let them praise their maker's name with dancing; let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

All: For the LORD takes pleasure in the people and adorns the poor with victory.

R: Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds.

All: Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand,

R: to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

All: to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron,

R: to inflict on them the judgment decreed; this is glory for all God's faithful ones. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you

may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 6:2-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰ Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you."

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

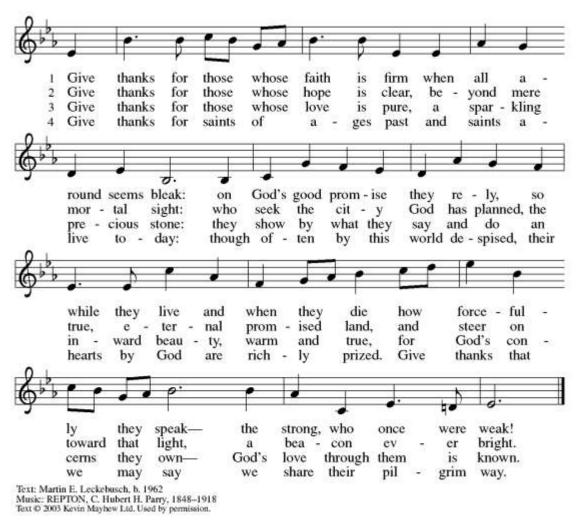
Children's Message

Sermon

"Singing With the Saints"

Hymn of the Day "Give Thanks for Saints"

ELW # 428



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: Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; 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

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" stg. Robert A. Hobby

Offering Prayer

P: God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your

gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

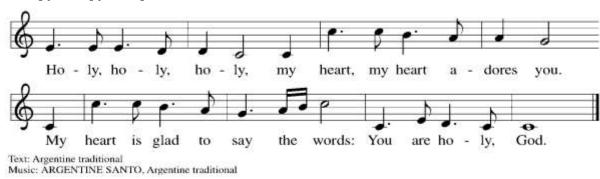
All: Amen.

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:

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;

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

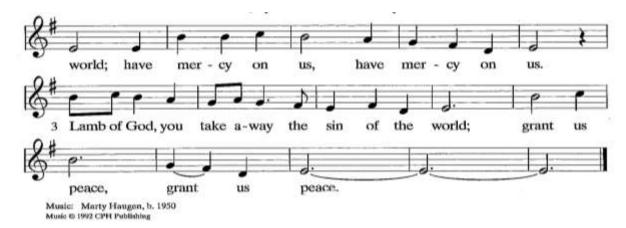
P: There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

Communion

Communion Music

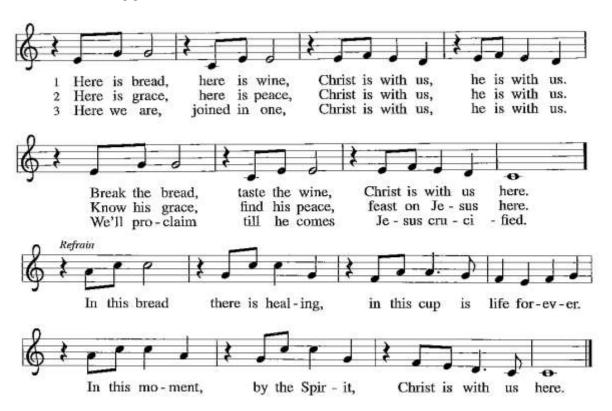
"Lamb of God"





"Here Is Bread"

ELW #483



"Shall We Gather at the River"

ELW #423



gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

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.

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

All: Amen

Blessing

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you + and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song "For All the Saints"

ELW #422



Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from The English Hymnal outsied the USA© Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice" stg. Ronald Busarow

Coffee Fellowship will be served this morning following worship in the Fellowship Hall hosted by David Carrillo. All are welcome!

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

Placing our confidence in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of our loved ones, we extend our sympathy to the following members of our congregation at the loss of their family members.

To the JoAnn Garcia family, upon the death of her brother Raymond Graftaas'

To the family and friends of Dennis Wiedman; To the family and friends of Sawyer DeFaux May God's presence bring you comfort and peace.

Worship Assistants:

Opener/Head Usher – Chrissy Zollinger

Closer – Gabby Law

Acolytes – Altar Guild

Greeters – John Renner, Susan Kuehl

Ushers – Tim Zollinger, Nancy Beck

Reader – Tim Zollinger

Sound - Volunteer Needed

Communion Assistant – Nancy Beck

Altar Guild - Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Musicians:

Julie Woessner DeJonge Dawn Zeigler

Next Week - November 9 Worship Assistants

Opener/Head Usher – Stacey Avelar

Closer – Nancy Eilers

Acolytes – Arians family

Greeters – Nancy Eilers, Donna Kendall

Ushers – Diane Yoeckel, Mel Johnson

Reader – Bev Julien

Sound – Bradyn Arians

Communion Assistant – Nancy Eilers

Altar Guild – Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Coffee Fellowship – Dawn Waite, Dianne Miller, Debbie O'Brien