

Christmas PROGRAM

ST. JOHN'S AND ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Nov.
9

Practice @St. John's 10:30am
For our first practice, we will meet at St. John's. We will hand out scripts, pick parts, and pick out costumes.

Nov.
16

Practice @St. Paul 10:30am
We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Nov.
23

Practice @St. John's 10:30am
We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Dec.
7

Practice @St. Paul 10:30am
We will review and do a full run through of the program.

Dec.
14

Christmas Program @St. John's
We will meet at St. John's early before service. Costumes will be passed out and we will do a quick run through/sound check.

Dec.
21

Christmas Program @St. Paul
We will meet at St. Paul early before service. Costumes will be passed out and we will do a quick run through/sound check.

Now he is God not of the dead,
but of the living ...

Luke 20:38, NRSV



**Sunday, November 9, 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 will 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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Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord's day. Our God is the God of the living.

Prelude

Holy Forever"

arr. Tomlin

Welcome/Announcements

GREETING

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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

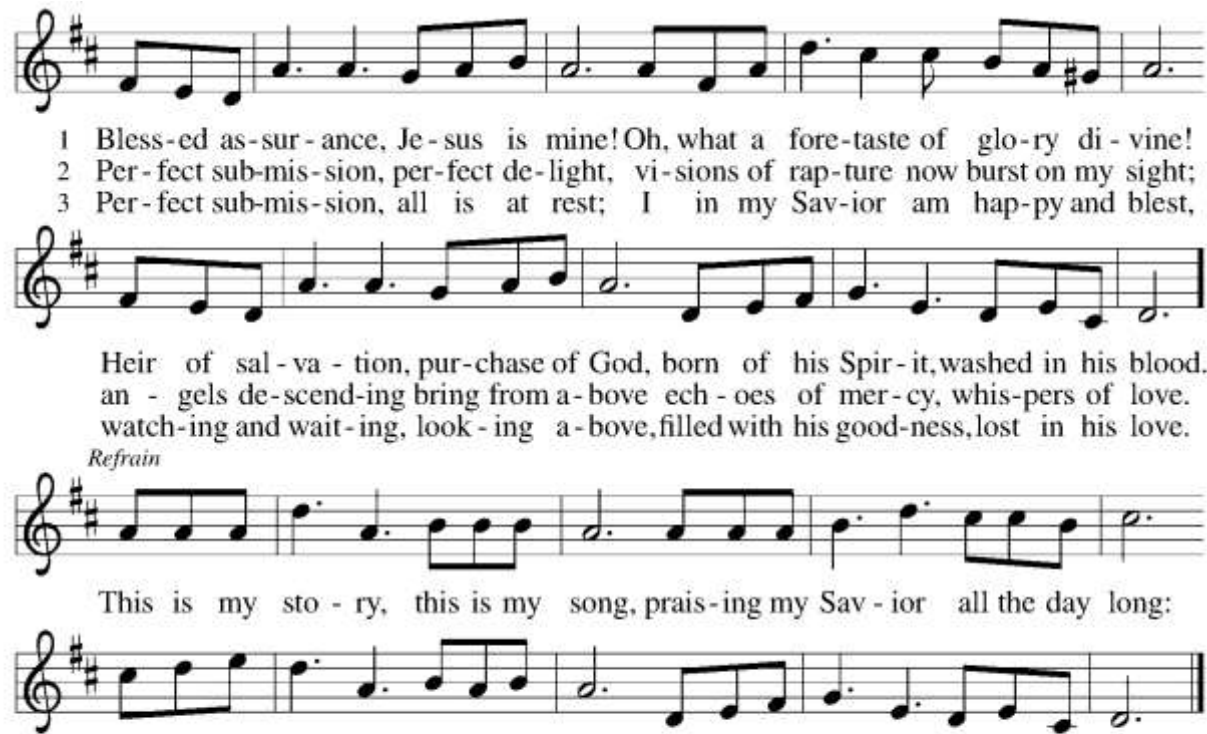
All: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, ☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn
“Blessed Assurance”
ELW # 638



1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

Prayer of the Day
P: Let us pray together:
All: O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a
²³ “O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! ²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth; ²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, ^{27a} whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,
All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?
¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.
¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

R: Word of God, Word of Life,
All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Gospel: Luke 20 :27-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 20th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon

“God of the Living”

Hymn of the Day

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

ELW # 619; vs. 1-4, 7-8



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
7 He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; he lives, and
8 He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
I shall con - quer death; he lives my man - sion
Sav - ior, still the same; what joy this bl - est a -

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul’s com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.
to pre - pare; he lives to bring me safe - ly there.
sur - an - ce gives: I know that my Re - dee - mer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–1799, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Miller/Jackson

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.

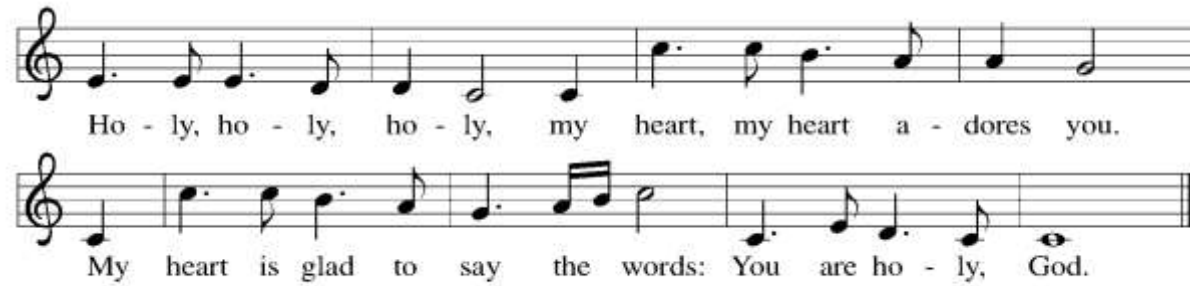
All: Amen.

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”



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: 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”



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

“Take Our Bread”

Wise

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

“Before You, Lord We Bow”

ELW #893

1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine
3 Earth, hear your mak - er's voice; your great re - deem - er own; be -
4 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may then ev - 'ry land from

rules the world be - low with bound-less pow'r and love. Our thanks we
forth in wis - dom's light, and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry
lieve, o - bey, re - joice, and wor - ship God a - lone. Cast down your
all its rend - ing tombs send forth a glo - rious band, a count - less

bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.
pride, your sin de - plore, and bow be - fore the Cru - ci - fied.
throng, with joy to sing to heav'n's high king sal - va - tion's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt.
Music: DARWALL’S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Vajda

Coffee Fellowship will be served this morning following worship in the Fellowship Hall hosted by Dawn Waite, Dianne Miller and Debbie O’Brien. All are welcome!

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: the Woodworth family, Michelle Klinger, Pastor Bree, Matt Friel, Sandy Julifs, Mike, Lori Dewey, Dylan Wescott, Phyllis Jacobson, and Betty Steinke

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 Larry Wahler. Larry passed away on November 2.

May God’s presence bring you comfort and peace.

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

Musicians:

Maureen Marrandino

Julie Woessner DeJonge

Next Week – November 16

Worship Assistants

Opener/Head Usher – Dan Bartel

Closer – Gabby Law

Acolytes – Bartel family

Greeters – Bob & Judy Bartel

Ushers – Bill & Carolyn Duncan

Reader – Bill Duncan

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Communion Assistant – Bill Duncan

Altar Guild – Janie Billings, Susan Kuehl

Coffee Fellowship – *Volunteer Needed*