

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

# Weekly Announcements

May 17, 2026



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

splco.org

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Mother – Daughter – Friend Banquet

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet. Also, Candi Strong of Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection offers us a heart-felt thank you for the 29 pounds of hard candy that we collected for them. It was perfect timing! They were completely out of hard candy. The Lord is good.

† Sisters in Service (formerly known as Ladies Aid)



**LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE**

### Life Thoughts in the Church Year

“Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts!” (Psalm 68:4). What a wonderful picture of Christ, God-in-the-flesh, who entered the desert wilderness of this world to bring light into the darkness and life to the dead! In a world that fosters a culture of death, Jesus came to give us eternal life. In Him, grace and peace rain down in abundance (Psalm 68:9). What hope this brings to those who are suffering, facing an unexpected pregnancy, or have lost their mooring in life! Christ brings forgiveness and restoration. Although we endure fiery trials (1 Peter 4:12), and the devil prowls like a roaring lion, seeking to devour (1 Peter 5:8-9), yet by the power of God’s Word, we resist him, firm in the faith. We are blessed as we follow Jesus, who suffered once for all on the cross, accomplishing the work that the Father gave Him to do (John 17:4). Risen, ascended, and glorified, Jesus restores, confirms, strengthens, and establishes us in the true faith (1 Peter 5:10).

### Children’s Christmas Market

This event will again be held in December for the students of St. Paul’s. If you are a crafter, or can just help in any way, please contact Tammy Horton (262-607-1111) or Sue Lindemann (262-567-8985). We all have God-given talents and this is a great way to share with the students at our school. Thank you and God’s blessings.

## YOUNG ADULT INFORMATION

### St. Paul’s Young Adults (SPLCO YA)

We provide opportunities at St. Paul’s for young adults (18 - 30) to be together in community and build one another up.

#### Upcoming SPLCO YA Events

- 05/17 | Reformation Tap Society | 4pm @ Brewfinity
- Summer Book Series: Spirituality of the Cross by Gene Veith (6:30pm @ SPLCO)
  - 05/26 - Chapter 2
  - 06/18 - Chapter 3
  - 07/09 - Chapter 4
  - 07/23 - Chapter 5
  - 08/18 - Chapter 6



**Voters' Meeting  
May 17, 2026  
Noon in the Sanctuary**

**AGENDA**

**St. Paul's Mission:**

*"Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ"*

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Devotion
3. Approval of Agenda & Minutes from Previous Voters' Meeting
4. Old Business
5. New Business
  - a. Presentation of the Slate of Candidates for Approval
  - b. Presentation of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget & Treasurer's Report
  - c. Motion to Call a St. Paul's Lutheran School Teacher
6. Reports
  - a. Board of Elders Report
    - i. Pastor's Parish Report
    - ii. Mission Outreach Committees
      1. Lord's Cupboard
  - b. Board of Education Report
  - c. Board of Operations Report
7. Adjournment – Next Regularly Scheduled Voters' Meeting – February 7, 2027
8. Closing Prayer



YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# Retirement Party

HONORING

## Margie Hertneky

**Sunday, June 7 at Noon**

**Please bring a favorite dish to pass  
as part of our potluck meal.**

A card basket will be available and those who wish may  
include a monetary gift as a token of appreciation.

Cards may also be dropped off in the office

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
210 E. Pleasant street  
Oconomowoc WI



## Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: *Christ's Disciples in God's World*

May 17-24, 2026

### ***Christ's Disciples in God's World***

God's beloved will have enemies, they will be scattered, they will experience loss, death, betrayal; nevertheless, they will be glad, they will exult and be jubilant. (See Ps 68.1-10; 1 Pet 4.12-19, 5.6-11) This is to say that God's beloved, His disciples, will be "in the world." In response to our sometimes fiery trials, it has always been tempting for Christians to retreat, but the Way of Christ is to see through this with the eyes of faith. Indeed, even as the Baptized live in the world, they are glorified because —through faith—they are in Christ (See Jn 17.1-11) and participants in His death and resurrection.

### ***Order Meditation and Prayer***

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Apostles' Creed**

**Christ-Centered Theme:** Christ glorifies His beloved who live in His world.

**Verse:** John 14:2-3 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

**Psalm:** Psalm 68:1-10 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule LSB, p. 304



## **Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul's**

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### **Daily Themes for Prayer**

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

### **In Our Prayers this Week**

**Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS** – Ronna Pagenkopf–injured shoulder; George Menden; Roger Fisher; Art Schuck; John Wickersham; Joyce Anderson; Carol Lenz–hospice; Tammy Frazier–cancer; Ian McMillan; Joanne Kullman; Carol Fellin–cancer care; Jim Braatz; Ruth Polcha; Nancy Wolter; Don Meyer–cancer; Ann Duggan; Jim Duggan; Sally Eubanks; Dick Allen; Truman Seifert–acute myeloid leukemia; Carolyn Nagel–lung cancer; Don Schmitt; Karen Meyer–cancer; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell–cancer treatment

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS** – **Those with cancer:** Ralph (Judy Braatz's brother)–bladder cancer; Lisa (nee Rhodee) Liarokis–breast cancer; Layla Pelnar–thyroid cancer; Bob Duchow (Dorothy's son); Sue Malone (Dan & Brenda Maynard's friend)–brain cancer; Janice Mulvaney Krueger–lung cancer; Della–Diana Radtke's sister; Dana; Curt Duchow (Dorothy's son)–mantle cell lymphoma; Rhonda–breast cancer; JoyAnn; Dan Faltersack–COPD; Jeff–stage four colon cancer; Missy (Sheila Ram's niece)–breast cancer; Dawn–lung cancer; Jim (Jackie Meyer's dad)

**Other:** Consuelo W. (friend of Bill & Kathy Granzin); Laurie–mental and physical health issues; Tink (Kelly Edwards father-in-law)–recovering from triple bypass surgery; Donna–health issues; Linda (Jamie

Stache's cousin)—broken leg; Kelly—health issues; Dennis & Sue Duffy (Erin Eberhardt's parents)—health issues; Gary Barborich; Dean Wilcox (Tina Gartzke's brother); Mark—heart attack; Beth Dowhen; Dorothy—Alzheimer's; Patricia Eberhardt (Chad's mom); Paul; Bob; George; Paul; Doug—CCL; Scott Kleist (Jim & Ann Duggan's son)—MS; Paul Fellin

**Those serving in the military-deployed:** Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Greu; Madelynn Matthews—Air Force; Trevor Thiel—Alaska (Fort JBER); Joe; Sam Duggan; Justin Michener; Zach Howard; Theresa; Phil Preston; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke; Jacob; Brian; Randy; Kyle; Jake; Jeff; Matt; Brad; Ben; Mike & Rob

**Those serving God as missionaries:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and family; Daniel & Marie Lowitz (Dominican Republic); Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer; Rev. Ted Krey, Deaconess, Tirzah Krey in the Dominican Republic; all seminary students in the Dominican Republic, and all other pastors and missionaries in Latin America

**Those in need:** Our Shut-Ins; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

**Anniversary:** George & Maggie Urban – 42<sup>nd</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>

**Public Reception of New Members:** Jim & Jill Simaras  
Zander Simaras

**Thanksgiving:** Jim Abel—successful surgery

***Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism***  
***Hymn of the Week: Christ Is the World's Redeemer***

**LSB 539**

**Looking forward to the Day of Pentecost**

**May 24, 2026**

**Hymns: 913, 497 (650, 496, 501) 503**

***Pentecost (Pastor Schockman)***

The Lord took *"some of the Spirit"* that was on Moses *"and put it on the seventy elders"* of Israel (Num. 11:25), and they *"prophesied in the camp"* (Num. 11:26). In the same way, our risen Lord Jesus poured out His Holy Spirit at the Feast of Pentecost — the 50th day and the "Eighth Sunday" of Easter. When *"a sound like a mighty rushing wind"* and *"tongues as of fire appeared"* and rested on each of the 12 apostles, *"they were all filled with the Holy Spirit"* and proclaimed *"the mighty works of God"* (Acts 2:2–4, 11). The Lord Jesus grants this same Spirit to His Church on earth to proclaim Him glorified on the cross and risen victorious from the grave for us sinners. From His open heart, our crucified and risen Lord pours out His Holy Spirit in *"rivers of living water"* (John 7:38) and invites everyone who thirsts to come to Him and drink freely (John 7:37). Through this life-giving work of the Holy Spirit, we hear our pastors *"telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God"* (Acts 2:11), and *"everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (Acts 2:21).



Just because the school year is ending, doesn't mean Sunday School is over. We are keeping Sunday School going during the summer! The kids will be meeting as one big group.

Dates- June 7<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup>

Who- 4k (potty-trained) through 6<sup>th</sup> grade

When- Sunday mornings starting with the Adult Bible study until 10:15 am

Please sign up for Summer Sunday school through the QR code or email [amber.butler@splco.org](mailto:amber.butler@splco.org)



## REFORMATION TAP SOCIETY

Theology and conversation with a bit of hops.



\*ADULTS 18 AND OLDER

**May 17, 2026**

*Ask the Pastor*

Presenter: Panel of Pastors

5:00-7:00 pm

@ BrewFinity

N58 W39800 Industrial Rd., Suite D

Oconomowoc WI 53066

[www.brewfinitbrewing.com](http://www.brewfinitbrewing.com)

**First time guests  
get a free  
beer or soda on us!**

## Third Grade Loves to Read!

Third grade is a thrilling year as students begin to think more critically about the world around them, and continue to discover the unique gifts and talents that God has given them to use as they serve Him. In third grade, many discover the gift of reading and their unique interests in reading, whether that be science fiction, history, or realistic fiction. One book we read daily is the Bible. Each morning, we begin with devotion, which a child leads, and the class looks up the scripture verse, highlights it, and we read it together.

Beginning in third grade, students may participate in the Million Word Challenge. Students log their books into the computer, and it tracks the number of words they read. Along the way, they earn prizes and enjoy reading a variety of books.

We have a wonderful school library run by our volunteer librarian, Mrs. Peschek. We visit the library each week and check out two books. We also enjoy independent reading time in our cozy library with lots of seating and little nooks to read in.

Finally, our amazing PTO offers us two bookfairs each year where we purchase books for personal reading and to add to our classroom library. We praise God for the many ways we are able to enjoy reading!

In Christ,  
Mrs. Benes & Third Grade

“Lead me to Christ the Rock”  
Psalm 61:2b.



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY May 18	Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal	Parking Lot	5:30 pm
WEDNESDAY May 20	W.O.W.: Lutheran Basics	Room 219	6:30 pm
THURSDAY May 21	Church Choir Praise Team Rehearsal	Balcony Church	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
FRIDAY May 24	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>		
SATURDAY May 23	Journeyman Divine Worship	Maxim's Church	7:30 am 5:00 pm
SUNDAY May 24	Divine Worship Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship	Church Fellowship Hall Church	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am

### BIBLE STUDIES

#### Life Application Bible Study

Sunday: 9:15 am – Fellowship Hall  
262-567-5001

#### Sunday School

Sunday: 9:15 am - Gym  
May 17, 2026

#### **A Living Truth**

**Bible Truth:** Jesus rose from the dead.  
Matthew 28:1-15

#### Women of Joy

Saturday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) - 8:00 am  
Whelan's

#### Journeyman

Saturday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) - 7:30 am  
Maxim's

## NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
<b>Readings</b>	Num 11.24-30	Acts 2.1-21	Jn 7.37-39
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jackie Smith	Megan Miller	Karen Gotthardt
<b>Elders</b>	Arno Kirchenwitz	Chuck Laabs	Neil Anderson
<b>Greeters</b>	Margie Hertneky Char Binney	Chris & Pam Kroupa Dona Thurow Judy Mueller	Al Mueller
<b>Live-Stream</b>	N/A	Hertneky	N/A
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
<b>Ushering Team</b>	Dan Friedrich	Gary Flanagan	Jerad Luedtke

**MAY 24, 2026**

**THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

**Pastor:** Jason A. Schockman

**5pm & 8am Worship**

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg. 184

**10:30am Worship**

Special Order

## ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music  
Jill George, Principal

Rev. Jason Schockman, Associate Pastor  
Christine Flores, ECC Director

Office Hours: 7:00 am – 3:30 pm (Monday-Friday)

### The Seventh Sunday of Easter

#### Old Testament: Psalm 68:1-10

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;  
and those who hate him shall flee before him!  
As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away;  
as wax melts before fire,  
so the wicked shall perish before God!  
But the righteous shall be glad;  
they shall exult before God;  
they shall be jubilant with joy!  
Sing to God, sing praises to his name;  
lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;  
his name is the Lord;  
exult before him!  
Father of the fatherless and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.  
God settles the solitary in a home;  
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,  
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.  
O God, when you went out before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,  
the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain,  
before God, the One of Sinai,  
before God, the God of Israel.  
Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad;  
you restored your inheritance as it languished;  
your flock found a dwelling in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

#### Epistle: 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

And "If the righteous is scarcely saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"  
Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will  
entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.  
Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand  
of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,  
casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for  
you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the  
devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone  
to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that  
the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by  
your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you  
have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has  
called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself  
restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him  
be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

#### Holy Gospel: John 17:1-11

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his  
eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come;  
glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you  
have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal  
life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal  
life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus  
Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth,  
having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.  
And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with  
the glory that I had with you before the world existed.  
"I have manifested your name to the people whom  
you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you  
gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now  
they know that everything that you have given me is  
from you. For I have given them the words that you  
gave me, and they have received them and have come  
to know in truth that I came from you; and they have  
believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am  
not praying for the world but for those whom you have  
given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and  
yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no  
longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am  
coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name,  
which you have given me, that they may be one, even as  
we are one."

May 17, 2026



# St. Paul's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

## Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



### Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

262-567-5001

[www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org)

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, School, & Early Childhood Center

- † Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate. † *As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.*

## GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! We're delighted that you've joined us for worship.

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul's, a greeter, elder, or pastor will be happy to help you.

Please fill out an attendance card, located on the pew in front of you, and place it in the offering plate.

We welcome young children to the service. Try sitting closer to the front by a side aisle. The worship service is simulcast downstairs in our Fellowship Hall for your convenience.

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is not a private meal, but a body-and-soul communion with Christ and His body, the Church. In keeping with the Lord's instruction (cf. 1 Corinthians 11.17-34) and with the common historical practice of the church, St. Paul's welcomes only those who are in full confessional agreement to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If you hold a confession differing from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or are not yet confirmed in our confession of faith, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing (Please indicate by folding your hands over your heart.). If you are physically unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion. Those communing should mark this on the attendance card. If you have questions, our pastors will be pleased to speak with you.

### Distribution and Communion Wine

Please place open hands out to receive the Body of Christ and also to indicate whether you are receiving the Blood of Christ from the common cup or the individual cup. The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are dark in color.

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 80      **Total: 388**  
8:00 am – 185  
10:30 am – 123

Scan the QR code and give electronically. This is a safe and easy way to offer your gifts to God.



## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

	5pm	8am	10:30am
<b>Celebrant</b>	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
<b>Preacher</b>	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell	Ps. O'Donnell
<b>Musicians</b>	Allison Mackie	Allison Mackie	Praise Team
<b>Anthem</b>	N/A	Church Choir	N/A
<b>Acolytes</b>	N/A	Caleb Meyer	N/A
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Bernita Krenzke	Barb Hentz Rachelle Eifert	Stacey Balistreri
<b>Elders</b>	Jim Juneau	Rick Zastrow	John Nelson
<b>Greeters</b>	Carole Schmeda Elaine Schmeda	Dutch & Lynda Holland Dave & Bonnie Schlieue	Pam & Wyatt Tanner
<b>Live Stream</b>	N/A	Edwards	N/A
<b>Radio</b>	N/A	Chuck Laabs	N/A
<b>Ushering Team</b>	Dan Maynard	Joel Tesch	Mike Neff

**Altar Flowers:** Sponsored by George & Maggie Urban in praise to God for their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on May 19<sup>th</sup>

**Radio Broadcast:** Sponsored by a member in praise to God for blessings received

### ST. PAUL'S MEDIA

- † **Radio:** *LIVE* Sunday at 8am on WTKM (104.9 FM)
- † **YouTube:** *LIVE* Sundays at 8am (stpaulsev.lutheranchurch7279 )
- † **Web:** Anytime at [www.splco.org](http://www.splco.org) or YouTube

## DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book  
Setting 2, pg. 167

- Greeting  
8am: Blessing of the Processional Cross (insert)  
8am: Confession of Faith  
+ Ruby Baneck  
Hymn 544  
Confession & Absolution 167  
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +  
Kyrie 168  
*This Is the Feast* 171  
Salutation & Collect 172  
Psalm 68:1-10  
1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11  
Hymn of the Day 539  
Sermon  
Nicene Creed 174  
8am: Reception of New Members  
+ Jim & Jill Simaras  
+ Zander Simaras  
Prayer of the Church  
Offering  
5pm: Offertory 176  
8am: Offering Anthem (LSB 537)  
+ *Beautiful Savior!* (Lloyd Larson)  
+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +  
Distribution Hymns  
+ 587, 623, 553  
*Thank the Lord* 181  
Post-Communion Collect 183  
8am: Godspeed to Pastor O'Donnell  
Benediction 183  
Closing Hymn 525  
Announcements

## 8am: Blessing of the Processional Cross

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** **Amen.**

### Address

- P** Beloved in the Lord, St. Paul speaks of the importance of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, saying: "When I came to you, brothers, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." By His death on the cross our Lord won salvation for us.

It is fitting that this processional cross be sanctified by the Word of God and prayer for our devotion and as a proclamation of His atoning work for us.

### Versicles

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- G** **who made heaven and earth.**

### Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- G** **And also with you.**

### Collect

- P** Let us pray.  
Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all that He might bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our eyes may ever behold our Savior and His cross, that we may not fear the power of any adversaries but rather rejoice in His victory for us; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

### Blessing of the Cross

- P** The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this processional cross.
- G** **Amen.**

# Sermon Outline:

## *Christ's Disciples in God's World*

by Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 7th Sunday of Easter  
17 May, A.D. 2026  
Ps 68.1-10; 1 Pet 4.12-19, 5.6-11; Jn 17.1-11

### Introduction

Who created the world?

Why did Christ have to enter it?

What's the difference between "mistakes" and "sins"?

How did God resolve our dilemma? (See 1 Jn 4.10)  
How does Baptism correspond to this? (Rom 6.1-10, 10.17, etc.)

### Christ's Disciples in God's World

*"And I am no longer in the world, **but they are in the world**, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one."* (John 17:11, ESV)

*"**I do not ask that you take them out of the world**, but that you keep them from the evil one." *(John 17:15, ESV)**

CCT: Jesus Christ glorifies His beloved who \_\_\_\_\_  
in His world.

Where—and how—does Jesus call us to live?

## **Conclusion: A Word of Encouragement**

- Over \_\_\_\_% of the active congregation at St. Paul's is new since 2020.
- We are a \_\_\_\_\_ congregation now than when the pandemic began.
- We have years of \_\_\_\_ % offering growth.
- The #1 metric of congregation health is the % of the average worship attendance who participate in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Our Sunday adult Bible study is \_\_\_x larger than it was before the pandemic.
- On the meter of congregational health, we have now moved into the "\_\_\_\_\_" range.

Why is the above both a better place to be and a temptation? (See Lk 12.48)

1. June 16, 2008.
2. June 14, 2015.
3. Oct 18, 2020.
4. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 2026/2027?

Who is responsible for our growth?

To what does Christ call us?

# ONE IN CHRIST



## Heart to Heart *Sisters of All Nations*

*For just as the body is one and has many members,  
and all the members of the body, though many, are  
one body, so it is with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).*

**Saturday, May 30, 2026**

**8:30am - 2:00pm**

Trinity Freistadt - Mequon

10729 W. Freistadt Road

Mequon, WI 53097



South Wisconsin  
District

Please RSVP  
by May 23rd

For more information or to RSVP contact:

[hearttoheartchairman@lwml-swd.org](mailto:hearttoheartchairman@lwml-swd.org)

Offering Recipient:  
LCMS Missionary  
Rev. Dr. Tom Park