

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

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

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

Summer Office Hours: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (Monday-Friday)

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament: Job 38:4–18

[The Lord said to Job:] "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

"Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?

"Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,

that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

It is changed like clay under the seal,

and its features stand out like a garment.

From the wicked their light is withheld,

and their uplifted arm is broken.

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea,

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you,

or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?

Declare, if you know all this."

Epistle: Romans 10:5–17

Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith

that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22–33

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

August 9, 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

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 – 66 Wed – 51

8:00 am – 159 **Total: 389**

10:30 am – 113

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
Liturgist	Ps. Matt Thompson	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
Preacher	Ps. Matt Thompson	Ps. Matt Thompson	Ps. Matt Thompson
Musicians	Diane Bleke	Diane Bleke	Praise Team
Altar Guild	Bernita Krenzke	Barb Hentz	Barb Star
Elders	Ryan Schneider	Dan Eifert	Jerad Luedtke
Greeters	Carole Schmeda Elaine Schmeda	Duane & Sharon Peterson Bruce & Mary Bojko	Tom & Denise Showen
Live Stream	N/A	Scheuer	N/A
Radio	N/A	Chuck Laabs	N/A
Ushering Team	Dan Maynard	Joel Tesch	Jerad Luedtke

Altar Flowers: Sponsored by Aaron & Allison DeWitt in celebration of their wedding on July 8th

Radio Broadcast: Sponsored by Duke & Debbie Maynard in congratulations to Luke Boldt & Rieley Mueller on their wedding on July 15th

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 or YouTube

DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book

Setting 1, pg. 151

Greeting	
Hymn of Invocation	834
5pm: Confession & Absolution	151
8am: Holy Baptism	
+ Jonathan Matthias Wawrzyn	
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +	
5pm: Kyrie	152
5pm: This is the Feast	155
Job 38:4-18	
Romans 10:5-17	
Alleluia and Verse	156
Matthew 14:22-33	
Hymn of the Day	578
Sermon	
5pm: Nicene Creed	158
Prayer of the Church	
Offering	
Offertory	159
+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +	
Distribution Hymns	
+ 523, 849, 571	
Thank the Lord	164
Post-Communion Collect	166
Benediction	166
Closing Hymn	544
Announcements	

Sermon Outline:

How Beautiful the Feet of Those Who Bring Good News

by Matthew E. Thompson, Pastor
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
9 August, A.D. 2026
Job 38.4-18; Rom 10.15-17; Mt 14.22-33

What does Paul teach about righteousness?

Paul sets two paths before us:

- _____: *"Do this. Climb higher. Try harder."*
- _____: *"Christ has come down. Christ has risen. Christ is near."* Righteousness is not achieved by ascent but received through Christ's descent.

How does God meet His people in weakness?

Job

Peter

Christ does not wait for us to reach Him—He reaches us.

Where does faith come from?

Paul says, *"Faith comes from _____."* Faith is not manufactured by effort or emotion. Faith is created and sustained by the _____ preached, heard, believed, and near.

Why are the feet of Gospel-bearers 'beautiful'?

Because they carry _____. They bring the _____ that raises the dead and creates faith. Beauty is defined by the Gospel they bear.

How does God deliver His salvation?

He places His Gospel on human _____. He puts His promises into human _____. He locates His salvation in _____, in _____, in _____ and _____.

What does this mean for the Church?

Key Takeaway

Christ brings righteousness down to us. The Word is near—preached, heard, believed. In **Baptism**, God joins us to Christ's death and resurrection. In **Confession and Absolution**, Christ's forgiveness is spoken directly into our ears. In **the Lord's Supper**, Christ gives His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins, so that faith may cling not to itself but to the promise placed upon the tongue.

Luther: *"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace—so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times."*

Such faith walks with beautiful feet, because it clings to and carries Christ Himself.

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

Weekly Announcements

August 9, 2026



St. Paul's

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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

Holy Baptism

During the 8:00 am Worship Service, we welcome **Jonathan Matthias** into St. Paul's church family. He is the son of Matthew & Leah **Wawrzyn**. His sponsors are Alec & Delaney Heffern. We will keep Jonathan in our prayers.

Flash photography is not allowed during a baptism which takes place during the worship service. The pastor may reenact the baptism after the service for picture-taking opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Tornado aid for Menasha

The devastation to Menasha and its surrounding areas, after the recent tornadoes, leaves the people there in desperate need for the very basic supplies. Lord's Cupboard is collecting these supplies to be delivered there after the weekend of August 15th. Items should be placed at each of the two public entrances to our building starting the weekend of August 8th. See the donation list below. Any questions contact Deb Prange, 414-418-4953. Thank you in advance on behalf of the residents of these communities.

- Hydration: Bottled water and sports drinks
- Child Care: Baby formula, baby wipes, and diapers in all sizes
- Clean-up Supplies: Heavy-duty work gloves, large trash bags, tarps, and rakes
- Personal Care: Unopened toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and deodorant
- Pet Care: Dog and cat food, along with pet supplies

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Small Group Bible Study - *Daniel*

Are you interested in an in-depth, personal, small group Bible study? All are welcome to join a 9-week small group Bible study of the book of Daniel, starting after Labor Day. We will use the CPH LifeLight series, which consists of short, daily lessons that class members do on their own, followed by a weekly group session on Tuesday evenings. If interested, please contact Neil Anderson at neil.anderson@splco.org or the church at office 262-567-5001. Group size will be limited to eight; if more sign up, a second group will be created.

School Supplies & Garden Abundance for our Lord's Cupboard Guests

We would like to help the families that come to Lord's Cupboard and have school supplies available for their kids. We are requesting monetary donations and/or gift cards (\$10-\$25 increments) to Dollar Tree, Target or Walmart. If you prefer to purchase the actual supplies, please drop them off by Monday, August 31st. A list of items to purchase is on the Lord's Cupboard bulletin board across from the elevator outside of the Fellowship Hall which is also where the purchased school supplies can be put. You can make a monetary donation to Lord's Cupboard online <https://splco.org> Scroll down to "Lord's Cupboard" or put a check or purchased gift cards also in an envelope marked Lord's Cupboard and put it in the offering plate or drop it off to the church office.

Also, donations of your surplus garden vegetables will be welcomed by our LC guests when they are ready! Please drop off any of your extra vegetables in the kitchen for our distribution days and mark them for the Lord's Cupboard. Upcoming dates: 8/17, 8/31, 9/14 and 9/21. Thank you for your prayers for the families that we serve and for our dedicated volunteers.

Attention Parents!

We are excited to announce plans to form a baby/toddler group to meet during Sunday Adult Bible Study. We will be hosting an informational meeting to discuss our ideas and logistics. We will meet in the 4K classroom on Sunday, August 16th, at 9:15am. Parents of young children (3 years and under), please join us to share your ideas and learn more about our vision for this group. If you have questions or are unable to attend the meeting but want to share your ideas, please contact Delaney Heffern at 414-813-0888 or Colette Greve at 414-217-6143.

YOUTH & 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

- Summer Book Series: Spirituality of the Cross by Gene Veith (6:30pm @ SPLCO)
08/18 - Chapter 6 - "Conclusion: Worshiping God" (137-143)



St. Paul's

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DATE: September 22, 2026
TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 PM
LOCATION: 210 E. Pleasant St.,
Oconomowoc, WI

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:
Parents, Grandparents, Guardians,
Students & Church Families

PRESENTED BY: April DeValkaenaere,
Fortress Forensic
Investigations



**REGISTER TODAY USING THE QR CODE
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Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: *How Beautiful the Feet of Those Who Bring Good News*

August 9–16, 2026

How Beautiful the Feet of Those Who Bring Good News

Job 38 reveals the Lord who speaks from the whirlwind, reminding Job that the God who laid earth's foundations, set limits for the sea, and walks in the depths is the One who holds His people. His answer is not explanation but presence.

Romans 10 announces that same divine initiative. The righteousness of the law demands ascent, but the righteousness of faith declares that Christ has already descended and risen. The Word is near—preached, heard, believed. Faith comes not from striving but from hearing the Word of Christ.

In Matthew 14, Jesus comes to His disciples in the storm. Peter sinks, yet Christ grasps him. The wind howls, yet Christ speaks peace. Salvation does not come from human strength but from the One who steps into our fear.

The God who questions Job, who hears the psalmist's cry, who brings His Word near, and who reaches into the waves has not abandoned His people. As Luther says, *"Where the Word is, there is also Baptism, the Sacrament, and absolution—everything that calls us to Christ and gives Him to us."* The Lord draws near through these gifts and anchors His people in the Gospel.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

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: Such faith walks with beautiful feet, because it clings to and carries Christ himself.

Verse: Romans 10:9 If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Psalm: Psalm 18:1-16 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule LSB, p. 304

Catechism: *Sacrament of Holy Baptism—What does such baptizing with water indicate? Where is this written?*

<i>What does such baptizing with water indicate?</i> It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.	3rd Grade +
<i>Where is this written?</i> St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. <i>Romans 6:4</i>	1st grade + Kindergarten + 2nd grade +

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: *How Beautiful the Feet of Those Who Bring Good News*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
Sun.	Jehoiachin’s New Clothes: 2 Kings 24-25	Psalm 110, 66, 23	Mt 14.22-33
Mon.	Daniel in the Lions’ Den: Daniel 6	Psalm 62, 72, 8	2 Tm 3.1-4:22
Tue.	Daniel Sees Heaven: Daniel 7	Psalm 13, 36, 5	Ti 1.1-16
Wed.	A New Temple: Ezra 3, 7	Psalm 96, 132, 134	Ti 2.1-15
Thur.	A New Wall: Nehemiah: 1-2, 4	Psalm 116, 26, 130	Ti 3.1-15
Fri.	Esther and the King: Esther 2-5	Psalm 85, 25, 40	Phm 1-25
Sat.	Sunday’s Gospel Reading: Matthew 15.21-28	Psalm 61, 138, 98	Heb 1.1-14

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

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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 – Andy Helwig; George Menden; Jim Abel; Roger Fisher; Art Schuck; John Wickersham; Joyce Anderson; 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; Karen Meyer–cancer; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell–cancer treatment

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer: Dave Hansen–lung cancer; Birdy–5 year-old with neuroblastoma; Gina–brain cancer; Paige (Bill Merten's daughter); Dan (Bill Merten's brother); Sandi Oechsner (Tricia Burlage's mom)–stage 4 lung cancer; Lisa (nee Rhodee) Liarakis–breast 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: Scott Kleist; Connie Roth–stroke; Priti–spinal surgery; Consuelo W. (friend of Bill & Kathy Granzin); Laurie–mental and physical health issues; Dean Wilcox (Tina Gartzke's brother); Dorothy–Alzheimer's; 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; the family of Carol Lenz—who passed away; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

Baptism: Jonathan Matthias Wawrzyn—August 9th

Wedding: Rieley Mueller & Luke Boldt—August 15th

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week: *Thy Strong Word*

LSB 578

Looking forward to the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

Hymns: 901, 683 (720, 510, 726) 941

***The Mercy that Gathers Reaches Farther Than We Imagine* (Pastor Matthew Thompson)**

Isaiah 56 announces the Lord's intention to gather—to bring near those once far off. The God who keeps justice and righteousness extends His covenant mercy beyond Israel, drawing foreigners to His holy mountain and making His house a place of prayer for all peoples. The Lord's promise is expansive, not narrow; His salvation creates a people by grace, not pedigree.

Romans 11 reveals how that promise unfolds. Israel's stumbling is not final, nor is the Gentiles' inclusion accidental. Paul insists that the same God who chose Israel from the beginning still works through their story—using their rejection to bring mercy to the nations and using mercy to the nations to stir Israel again toward life. All are shut up under disobedience so that God may have mercy on all. Salvation rests not on human faithfulness but on God's relentless, surprising grace.

In Matthew 15, that grace takes flesh. A Canaanite woman cries out for help, and though the disciples resist and Jesus tests, she clings to Him in faith. Her plea is answered. The Lord who came first to Israel extends His healing to one outside the covenant, revealing that His mission breaks boundaries and His mercy reaches those who have no claim except need.

The God who gathers outcasts, who weaves Israel and the nations into one story of mercy, and who answers the cry of a foreign woman is the same Lord who draws near to His people today. Christ gives Himself through His Word and Sacraments so that "we may receive grace upon grace." In these gifts, He makes us His own and brings us into the fellowship of His mercy.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Dear Friends of St. Paul's Lutheran School,

We invite you to become a sponsor of the **St. Paul's Lutheran School Fall Fundraising Gala** and help us reach our goal of raising \$50,000 to strengthen Christ-centered education for our students.

This year's gala will benefit the **Fred Boldt Fund-a-Family Scholarship Program**, providing tuition assistance to families who desire a Christ-centered education for their children, but need financial support to make it possible. Your sponsorship is an investment in the lives of students and helps ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive at St. Paul's Lutheran School.

This year's gala theme, Rooted in Christ, is inspired by Colossians 2:6-7:

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

At St. Paul's Lutheran School, we believe education is about far more than preparing students for the next grade level. We are preparing young people for lives of faith, service, leadership, and purpose. In every classroom, students are challenged to pursue academic excellence, while discovering their God-given gifts in a caring, Christ-centered community.

For generations, St. Paul's has partnered with families who desire an education grounded in biblical truth. Our students learn to think critically, serve compassionately, lead confidently, and live faithfully, knowing their identity is firmly rooted in Jesus Christ.

Your support makes this possible. By investing in the Fred Boldt Fund-a-Family Scholarship Program, you are opening the doors of a Christ-centered education to students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend St. Paul's. Together, we can continue equipping young people with a strong academic foundation, unwavering faith, and a heart for serving others.

We hope you will prayerfully consider becoming a sponsor of this year's gala. Thank you for investing in the mission and ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran School. Together, we will continue helping children grow deeply rooted in Christ and prepared to serve Him wherever He leads.

With gratitude,

The St. Paul's Lutheran School Gala Committee

Jennifer Adams
Stacey Balistreri
Jill George
Jill Jaeger
Mel Haerberlein
Codi Peschek
Megan Shanks





ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

2026 FALL FUNDRAISING GALA

Sponsorship Commitment

ROOTED IN CHRIST

"Rooted and built up in Him..."
- Colossians 2:6-7

Supporting Christ-centered education and the Fred Boldt Fund-a-Family Scholarship Program.

Tax Exempt ID: 008-0000364352-05

Level	Amount	Select
Mighty Oak	\$10,000 and higher	☐ Amount _____
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WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY August 11	Board of Operations' Meeting Praise Team Rehearsal	Room 201 Church	5:30 pm 6:30 pm
WEDNESDAY August 12	Summer Lakeside Worship	Backyard	6:30 pm
FRIDAY August 14	New Member Sponsor Committee Meeting Rieley Mueller/Luke Boldt Rehearsal	Room 201 Church	1:00 pm 4:30pm
SATURDAY August 15	Women of Joy Rieley Mueller/Luke Boldt Wedding Divine Worship	Whelan's Church Church	8:00 am 2:00 pm 5:00 pm
SUNDAY August 16	Divine Worship Baby/Toddler Group Meeting Coffee Fellowship Hour Summer Sunday School Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship	Church Room 14 Fellowship Hall Meet in F.H. Fellowship Hall Church	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am

BIBLE STUDIES

Life Application Bible Study

Sunday: 9:15 am – Fellowship Hall

The Book of Romans

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:15 am - Gym

The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am

Women of Joy

Saturday (1st & 3rd) - 8:00 am

Whelan's

Journeymen

Saturday (2nd & 4th) - 7:30 am

Maxim's

NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Readings	Is 56.1, 6-8	Rom 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32	Mt 15.21-28
Altar Guild	Jackie Smith	Pam Kroupa	Karen Gotthardt
Elders	Pat Smith	Arno Kirchenwitz	Tom Showen
Greeters	Larry & Bonnie Vasatko	Jim & Jody Arndt Matt Wawrzyn	Anne Fait
Live-Stream	N/A	Edwards	N/A
Radio	N/A	Chuck Muecke	N/A
Ushering Team	Gary Flanagan	Dan Friedrich	Tom Showen

AUGUST 16, 2026

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Pastor: Matthew E. Thompson

Theme: *The Mercy That Gathers Reaches Farther Than We Imagine*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 1, pg. 151

10:30am Worship

Special Order

5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 55:16-18, 22, 1, 4-5, 17, 16

As for me, I will call upon God, and He shall / hear my voice.*
He has redeemed my / soul in peace.
Cast your burden / on the Lord,*
and He shall sus- / tain you.
Give ear to my / prayer, O God,*
and do not hide Yourself from my suppli- / cation.
My heart is severely pained with- / in me,*
and the terrors of death have fallen up- / on me.
Fearfulness and trembling have come up- / on me,*
and horror has over- / whelmed me.
I will pray, and / cry aloud,*
and the Lord shall / save me.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 143:8

“Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.”

7 READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, as You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity, mercifully grant unto us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

TLH 1, LSB 901
Benjamin Schmolk



1. Open now Thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!

2. Lord, my God, I come before Thee, Come Thou
also unto me;
Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a
heaven on earth must be,
To my heart, oh, enter Thou,
Let it be Thy temple now!

3. Here Thy praise is gladly chanted, Here Thy
seed is duly sown;
Let my soul, where it is planted,
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be
Fruitful unto life in me.

4. Thou my faith increase and quicken, Let me
keep Thy gift divine,
Howsoe'er temptations thicken;
May Thy Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in my strife.



Around the Word Devotions + August 9-15, 2026

“The Worship of God Wrought by the Spirit”

1 BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died
and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the
dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at
the right hand of God, the Father
Almighty. From thence He will come to
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
Christian church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.

3 PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. I thank You, my
heavenly Father, through Jesus
Christ, Your dear Son, that You
have kept me this night from all
harm and danger; and I pray that
You would keep me this day also
from sin and every evil, that all my
doings and life may please You.
For into Your hands I commend
myself, my body and soul, and all
things. Let Your holy angel be with
me, that the evil foe may have no
power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my
heavenly Father, through Jesus
Christ, Your dear Son, that You
have graciously kept me this day;
and I pray that You would forgive
me all my sins where I have done
wrong, and graciously keep me this
night. For into Your hands, I
commend myself, my body and
soul, and all things. Let Your holy
angel be with me, that the evil foe
may have no power over me. Amen.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of August 9-15, 2026

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Worship of God Wrought by the Spirit

To worship God is to come into His presence and receive the gifts that He bestows. The response to those gifts is to acknowledge where they have come from, thank Him for what He gives, sing His Word back to Him, and pray. Man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord (Deuteronomy 8:3) so we find our life in the hearing of God's Word. Worship should be the pinnacle of our days and weeks because we are receiving the gifts that give life. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving and receive all that the Lord loves to give.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:41-48 Wrath and Mercy

In 70 AD, the Roman general Titus would lay siege to the city of Jerusalem for five months, eventually capturing the city and razing the Temple to the ground. Tens of thousands of the inhabitants would perish. Forty years earlier, upon seeing Jerusalem from the heights of the Mount of Olives, Jesus would weep for it because he saw the destruction that will come upon it, a destruction which comes because they refused repentance - "because you did not know the time of your visitation". The wrath of God is real, but so is His mercy in the gospel. You have been visited by Jesus in the preaching of His word which forgives sins. Repent and believe the gospel that you would live eternally. *Lord, I believe! Have mercy on me! Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:73-80 Faithful Afflictions

There is a curious phrase in this text where we pray, "and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me." Affliction coming from our Lord? Now that sounds a little off-putting. But at closer examination we realize that nothing could be closer to the truth. Our Lord afflicts us, but not as a tyrant or as a heartless child burning ants with a magnifying glass. No, according to His faithfulness our Lord afflicts us, as a loving Father chastises His children in order to draw them back to Him. We pray to our loving Father, Who has made and fashioned us and Who gives us understanding to learn His commandments and delight in His Word. So that in His mercy we may live and that we may love His law. *Merciful Father, may we meditate and delight in Your precepts alone. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 One Spirit, Many Gifts

Our Lord gives gifts. Some of His gifts are for the benefit of our individual souls, while other gifts are for the benefit of our neighbor. When we are talking about spiritual gifts and spiritual service, these are all for the good of our neighbor. We dare not glory in the gift apart from the Giver as if the gift is inherently ours and we are therefore better than the next. If that be the case, then we are misusing the gifts given to us and we are not only sinning against God, but against our neighbor as well. Delight in the gifts and service that the Lord has given to you, whatever they may be. But delight in them knowing that your Lord has given those gifts to you so that He can serve your neighbor through them. Give thanks to the one Spirit who gives all gifts as He wills, and delight in the service to your neighbor. *Holy Spirit, grant me Your gifts that I may serve my neighbor. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 7:1-7 The Temple of the Lord

The Israelites had come to misuse the Temple. They would run to the Temple (literally and metaphorically) in order to excuse their sin, their false belief, and their mistreatment of others. It was a sort of "Get out of jail free" card which they tried to play every time they sinned. The gifts given at the Temple were no longer seen as forgiveness, but as permission. But the Lord is no fool! The Gospel does not negate the Law and render it void. The Gospel renders the sinner justified and forgiven and then upholds the Law as good and righteous and holy. We dare not test the Lord by using the Gospel as an excuse to transgress the Law. This will not end well. Instead, may we joyfully delight in the Law of God and then run to the Gospel when we fall short; trusting in forgiveness, not permission. *Gracious God, may we delight in Your Word, both Law and Gospel. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:16-24 Justified by Jesus' Deeds

The natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him. That's why neither John nor Jesus was accepted in their day. But those who saw Jesus' mighty works and still rejected Him in unbelief will face greater judgment. God forbid that of us! Instead, let us who have heard the Word of the Lord and received His Sacraments remain steadfast, both in repentance over our sin and in faith in Christ Who has truly justified us by deeds: His sinless life, His all-atoning death, and His glorious resurrection. *Almighty God, deliver us from the day of judgment for Jesus' sake alone. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 3:7-15 "Hardness of Heart"

"No man is an island unto himself" wrote the poet and Anglican priest John Donne. We are made for others. The man who is an island, separated from others and alone has no one to serve in Christian love, but also has no one to serve him, to support him, to encourage him. He is alone and that is exactly where the Devil wants us to be. The preacher of Hebrews teaches his congregation (and us) to "exhort one another daily, while it is called 'today' lest any of you be hardened..." (vs. 13). This is what your congregation is for. Look out for one another, pray for one another, encourage one another. Alone you are weak, together with your congregation, the body of Christ, you are strong in the Lord. *Lord, thank You for my family in Christ. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 143 Hear My Prayer, O Lord

This Psalm is Christ's own prayer through the mouth of His saints, shaped by three key verbs. God will hear you when you call upon His name, for He is your true Father and you are His true child, who can ask Him with all boldness and confidence. He will answer you quickly, for He has taught you to pray in this way, knowing that every petition is written in Jesus' shed blood. And He will deliver you from every evil of body and soul and grant you a blessed end, for Jesus' sake. Confident in the good news of God's once-for-all judgment on His Son and resting in His Divine clemency, let us conclude the week with the opening petitions of the Litany: *O Lord, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, hear us. Amen.*

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