

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 13 & 14, 2025

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**GATHERING**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Message

(Sunday only)

*Please rise in body or spirit*

Confession and Forgiveness

Screen

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

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful and loving God,

**C: we are your stiff-necked people.**

**We trample on the needy.**

**We grumble about your grace to others.**

**We turn away from the poor.**

**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost  
and have been found.**

**Amen.**

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**C: Amen.**

# Gathering Song "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW #807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Public Domain

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also, with you.**

**Refrain**

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,  
 Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

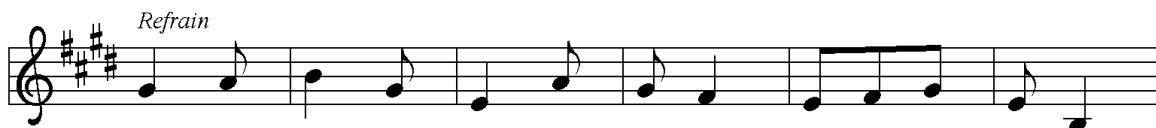
*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

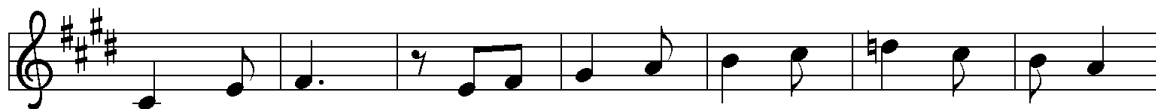
*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.



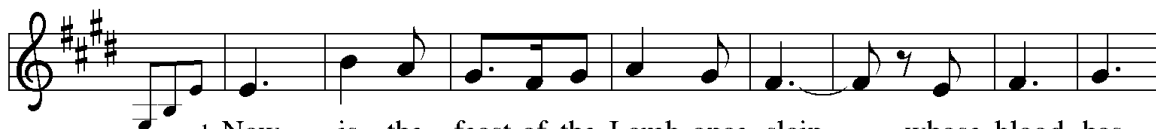
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. O God, **C: overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## WORD

### First Reading – Exodus 3: 7-14

Screen

A: A reading from the book of Exodus.

A: <sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " <sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " <sup>14</sup>And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm – Psalm 51:1-10

Screen

A: We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

A: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**C: Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

A: For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**C: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

A: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**C: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

A: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**C: Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

A: Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Second Reading – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Screen

A: A reading from the book of 1 Timothy.

A: <sup>12</sup>I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

# Gospel Acclamation

Screen

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Gospel – Luke 15:1-10

Screen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

P:<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P: The Gospel of our Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated*

## Sermon

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

### Song of the Day "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us." Screen or ELW 789



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;  
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.  
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847  
Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868  
Public Domain

## Apostle's Creed

Screen or ELW pg 105

P: Let us confess our faith in God using the words of the Apostle's Creed

**C: 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 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

Screen

P: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain especially Eva Cowley, Barb Strom, Deb Liebrecht, Melissa Feit, Sonja Magnifici, Chase Flynn, and those we name aloud or in our hearts... *brief silence*.... Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

**C: Amen.**

*Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office by phone or email.*

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all. **C: And, also with you!**

*Please share a sign of Christ's peace however you feel comfortable.*

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **MEAL**

Offering

*General and special offerings may be placed in the plates by the doors as we enter or depart. In addition to the offering that supports the ministry of St. Paul, the children of St. Paul receive a weekly Children's Offering. Their offering this month will support the Dixon Mini Food Center. We thank the children and youth for their help collecting the children's offering!*

# Offering Song "As the Grains of Wheat" Screen or ELW #465

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen

Music: Marty Haugen

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*Please rise in body or spirit.*

## Offering Prayer

Screen

P: Lord of the harvest,

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

## Holy Communion

Screen

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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:

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Words of Institution

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

## The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## Distribution of Holy Communion


*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you."*

*Each person may respond, "amen".*


*St. Paul Lutheran Church and the ELCA practice "open table" communion. This is Christ's table; Jesus is our host. Everyone is invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion!*

## Communion Songs


Lamb of GodScreen



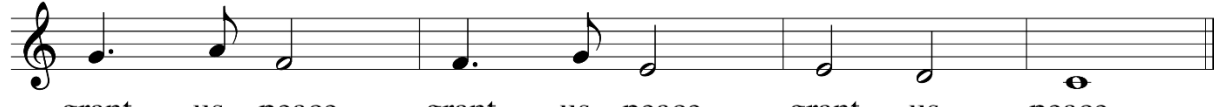
1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;  
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:  
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

# "Around You, O Lord Jesus"

Screen or ELW #468



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still  
 2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;  
 3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.  
 your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.  
 we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my  
 It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your  
 de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"  
 bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.  
 dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite  
 Music: O JESU, ÅN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress  
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*Please rise in body or spirit*

## Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

## Post Communion Prayer

Screen

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

## SENDING

### Blessing

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

**C: Amen.**

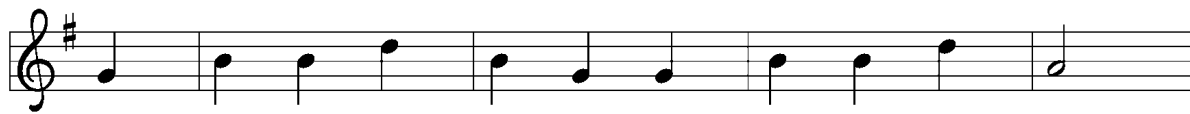
### Sending Song “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” Screen / ELW #834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional  
Public Domain

### Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

## Leading Worship

**Musician:** Kathy Sheridan    **Preacher:** Pastor Anthony    **Presider:** Pastor Riley

**Worship Assistants:** Saturday: Linda Patterson    Sunday: Marian Myers

**Youth Worship Helpers:** Luis, Hannah, & Rafael

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Today's Altar flowers are St. Paul's Seasonal flowers.

## St. Paul Announcements

Church Office contact information ~ email: [office@stpauldixon.org](mailto:office@stpauldixon.org) phone: 815-288-2757

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Pastor Anthony Windau (414) 364-9504 [pastoragwindau@gmail.com](mailto:pastoragwindau@gmail.com)

Pastor Riley Reed-Windau (406) 240-2145 [pastorreedwindau@gmail.com](mailto:pastorreedwindau@gmail.com)

## **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

- Sunday, 9/14: Rally Day/Sunday School Kick Off ~ LWR School Kit Packing 9:30 -10:30 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am (worship assistant: Marian Myers)  
Congregational Meeting right after Worship  
Executive Council meets
- Monday, 9/15: Prayer Team 10:00 am  
Line Dancing 5:00 pm
- Tuesday, 9/16: Line Dancing 9:00 am  
Staff Meeting 9:00 am at St. Paul
- Wednesday, 9/17: Heritage Square Worship 10:30 am  
Praise Band rehearsal 5:00 pm  
Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm
- Thursday, 9/18: Chair Yoga 11:00 am
- Friday, 9/19: Fall Confirmation Retreat
- Saturday, 9/20: Fall Confirmation Retreat  
Worship 5:30 pm at Immanuel  
Quilt Sale at Immanuel 6:30 pm
- Sunday, 9/21: Sunday School begins 9:30 am ~ 10:30 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am ~ Praise Band (worship assistant: Glen Hughes)  
Cider Donut Sale begins  
Quilt Sale 2:00 pm ~ 3:00 pm

## **FALL CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

**Sept. 19-20**

**Fall Rally Day & Sunday School Kick-off:** Sept 14, 9:30 - 10:30 AM:

yummy snacks, LWR school kit packing service project, meet your Sunday school leaders, find your classroom, and stay for 10:45 AM worship. Parents/guardians, scan **here** to register your student(s) for Sunday school and teen youth group on Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30am!



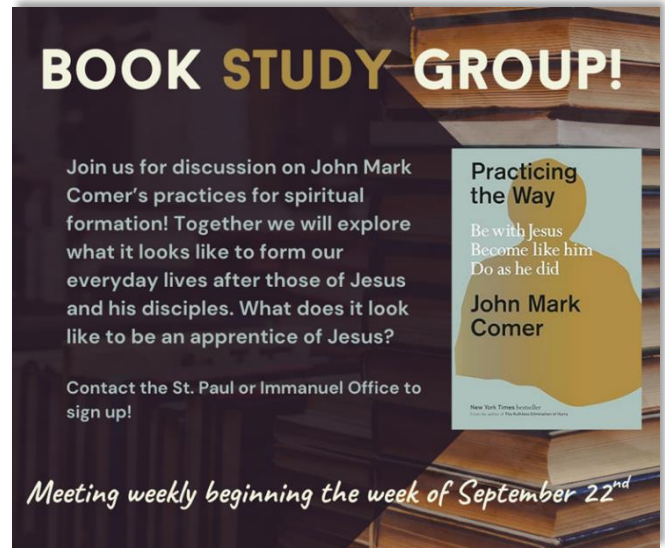


At the Synod's recommendation, a special Task Force was created to suggest immediate action to provide some breathing space and add a cushion to ensure bills are paid. This Task Force has recommended to Council to call a congregational meeting to approve using an additional \$50,000 from the St. Paul Investment Fund to meet our projected deficit for 2025. Council approved this recommendation. **A Congregational Meeting of**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church will take place TODAY Sunday, September 14th immediately following worship.** Please make plans to attend the

Congregational Meeting that day. Your voice is important as we work towards sustainable ministry.

Please address any comments, questions, or concerns to Pr. Anthony, Pr. Riley, or Council.



Youth Cider Donut Fundraiser Order Forms are available in the Gathering Area! Don't miss this delicious way to support St. Paul Youth!