

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 21, 2025

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**GATHERING**

Prelude

"All the People Said Amen"

Praise Band

Words and music by Maher, Morgan, and Moak streamed by permission CCLI Annual License #1124556

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing LWR School Kits

P: Together we will read the story of the Good Samaritan which is found in Luke 10:25-37. "Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your god with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?' Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'"

*Invite participants to lay hands on the kits, or to hold them as we pray.*

P: God, you have called us to go and do likewise as we reach out to our neighbors around the world. Send forth your Spirit today as we call upon you to bless our work and make it holy.

**C: Jesus, teach us to love our neighbors.**

A: God, we give you thanks for those who have generously shared their resources in order to make these kits possible. Move us by their example to live generous lives.

**C: Jesus, teach us to love our neighbors.**

P: Thank you, God, for the hands that have made and assembled these kits. May each compassionate touch be known to those who receive them as an expression of your love.

**C: Jesus, teach us to love our neighbors.**

A: God, we lift before you the staff and partners of LWR who will distribute these kits around the world. Give them strength and encouragement to do this important work and guide them as they reach our neighbors who are the farthest away.

**C: Jesus, teach us to love our neighbors.**

P: Finally, God, we pray for our neighbors around the world who will receive these kits - neighbors we have never met, neighbors who are far away, neighbors who, like us, long for your grace and mercy. May these kits wrap our neighbors in love and fill them with the hope and peace that is only found in you.

**C: Amen.**

P: Empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus, go and do likewise, continuing to show mercy to neighbors near and far, in the name of the Father, the Son +, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*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 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" ELW #858 or Screen



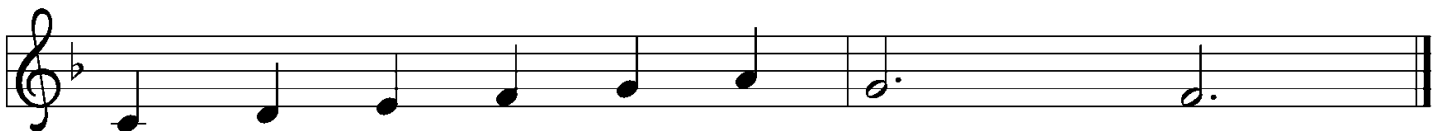
- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
 if with his love he be - friend you.  
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665  
 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.**

## Kyrie

Screen

L: In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,  
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

L: For your people here who have come to give you praise,  
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

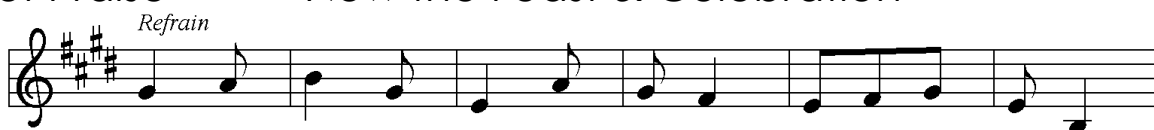
**C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, and defend us, O God.

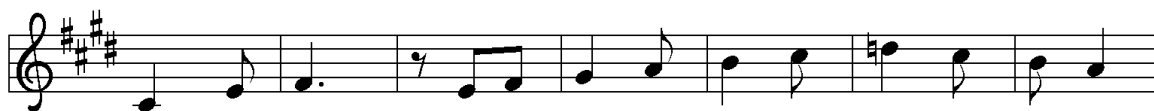
**C: Amen.**

*Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950*

*Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-730141*



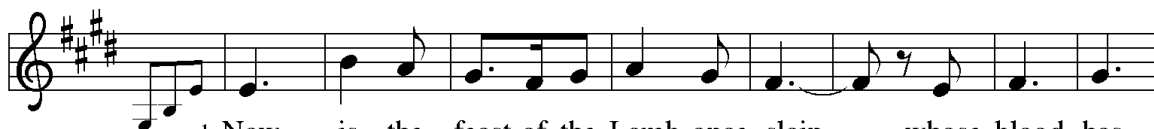
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



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.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. God among us, **C: we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## WORD

### First Reading – Amos 8:4-7

Screen

A: A reading from the book of Amos.

A: <sup>4</sup>Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, <sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat." <sup>7</sup>The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

### Psalm – Psalm 113

Screen

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

A: Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.

**C: Let the name of the Lord be blessed,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

A: From the rising of the sun to its going down  
let the name of the Lord be praised.

**C: The Lord is high above all nations;  
God's glory above the heavens.**

A: Who is like the Lord our God,  
who sits enthroned on high,

**C: but stoops to behold  
the heavens and the earth?**

A: The Lord takes up the weak out of the dust  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

**C: enthroning them with the rulers,  
with the rulers of the people.**

A: The Lord makes the woman of a childless house  
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

## Second Reading – 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Screen

A: A reading from the book of 1 Timothy.

A: <sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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 16:1-13

Screen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

P: <sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do,

now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

"Let Justice Roll Like a River"

Screen

*Refrain*

Let justice roll like a river,  
and wash all oppression away.  
Come, O God, and take us,  
move and shake us;  
come now, and make us anew,  
that we might live justly like you.

1 "Take from me your holy feasts,  
all your off'rings and your music.  
Let justice flow like waters,  
and integrity like an everflowing stream." *Refrain*



- 2 How long shall we wait, O God,  
for the day of your mercy to dawn,  
the day we beat our swords into plows,  
when your peace reigns over the earth? *Refrain*
- 3 Hear this, all of you who use the poor  
in your thirst of power and riches:  
the Lord will turn your laughter to tears,  
on the wondrous Day of our God. *Refrain*
- 4 "Even now, return to me,  
let your hearts be broken and humble,  
for I am gracious, gen'rous and kind."  
Come and seek the mercies of God. *Refrain*
- 5 You have been told the way of life,  
the way of justice and peace:  
to act justly, to love gently,  
to walk humbly with God. *Refrain*

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## 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: O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones especially Eva Cowley, Barb Strom, Deb Liebzeit, Sonja Magnifici, Chase Flynn, Lyndon Farm, and those we name aloud or in our hearts... *brief silence....* May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. 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!

## 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 God

# Screen

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:

The first staff of music is written on a five-line staff with a treble clef. It contains a sequence of notes: a dotted quarter note on G4, an eighth note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a dotted quarter note on C5, an eighth note on D5, a quarter note on E5, a quarter note on D5, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a half note on G4.

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

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# Just As I Am, without One Plea

## Screen or ELW #592

- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871  
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868  
*Public Domain*

## 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: Let us pray, 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.**

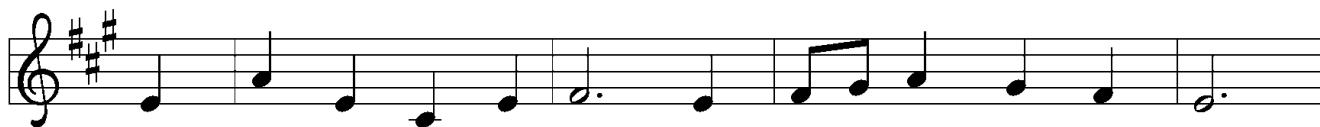
## SENDING

### 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 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" Screen or ELW #669



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## Dismissal

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

## Postlude

Praise Band

## Leading Worship

**Musicians:** Gerad VonHolten & Praise Band    **Preacher:** Pastor Anthony Windau

**Presider:** Pastor Riley Reed- Windau    **Worship Assistant:** Glen Hughes

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

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Today's Altar flowers were given by Char Huff in honor of Keith Huff's birthday.

## 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, 9/21:      Sunday School 9:30 am -10:30 am  
                            Worship Service 10:45 am Praise Band  
                            Quilt Sale at ILC 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Monday, 9/22:      Prayer Team 10:00 am  
                            Line Dancing 5:00 pm  
                            Joint Book Study at ILC 6:00 pm

Tuesday, 9/23:      Line Dancing 9:00 am  
                            Staff Meeting 9:00 am at St. Paul

Wednesday, 9/24: Care Ministry 11:00 am  
                            Epistle Items to the Church Office

Thursday, 9/25:      Joint Book Study at ILC 11:00 am  
                            Chair Yoga 11:00 am

Saturday, 9/27:      Discovery Center Museum Family Trip 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
                            Worship 5:30 pm at St. Paul (worship assistant: Lester Hallquist)

Sunday, 9/28:      Youth Committee 9:15 am  
                            Sunday School 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
                            Worship Service 10:45 am (worship assistant: Sherry McCarter)

## **YOUTH CIDER DONUT FUNDRAISER**



ORDER  
ONLINE  
HERE

Donut orders are available to pick up at St Paul Sunday, October 19 after 10:45am worship. Paid orders due Oct. 5!  
Order forms available in the gathering area, or scan the QR code to order online. Thank you in advance for supporting our youth attending the Youth Quake in February, 2026!



**CLIFF'S**  
**DONUTS**  
@ SELMI'S

Epistle Items due to the church office Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup>



We give thanks to God for the children, youth, and adult helpers who packed 67 school kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR)! Thank you congregation for supporting this project and special offering. In addition to the school supply donations, we are able to pay for shipping for nearly all the school kits that were donated and packed. Thanks be to God!

Joint Book Study

Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ 6 pm / Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> ~ 11 am  
(meeting at ILC)

Pet Blessing October 4<sup>th</sup> at ILC ~ 5:30 pm  
Stuffed Animal Blessing October 5<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul ~ 10:45 am