

Sunday August 3, 2025
St. Paul Lutheran Church

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Message

Sunday only

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

"Making Their Way" ACS #979



1 Mak - ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have
2 Mak - ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble
3 Mak - ing our way sea - son by sea - son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,
on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,
till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship, of - fer - ing thanks,
learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u - nit - ed in love,
car - ing for strang - er as for friend, till in the joy of long - ing ful - filled,



the great - est with the least have come to share this feast.
they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.
to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626

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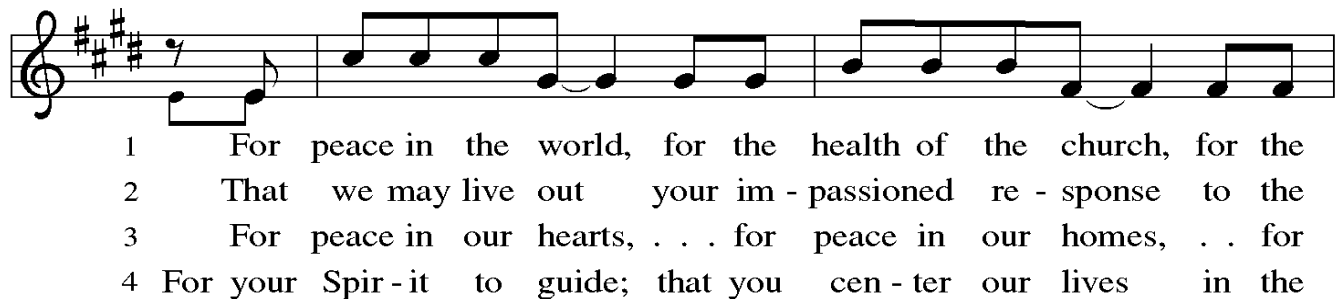
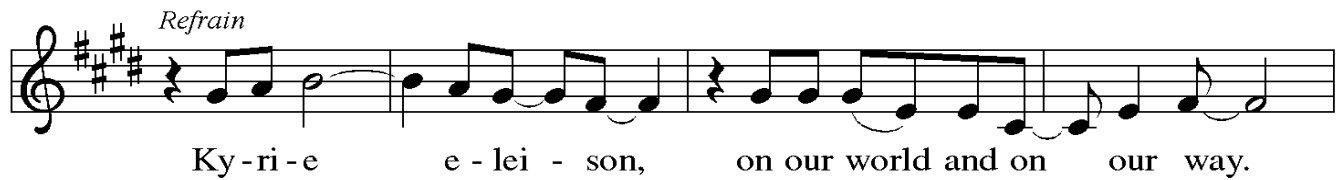
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Greeting

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.

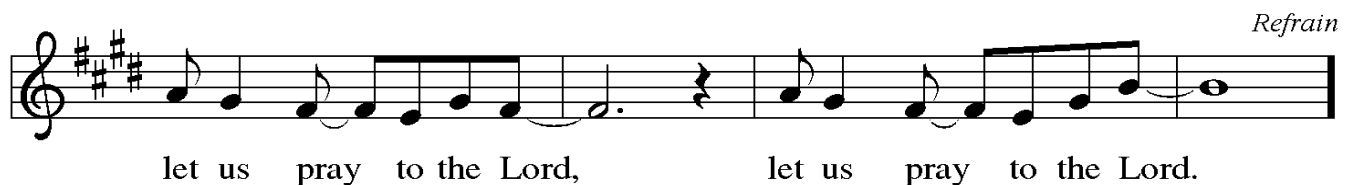
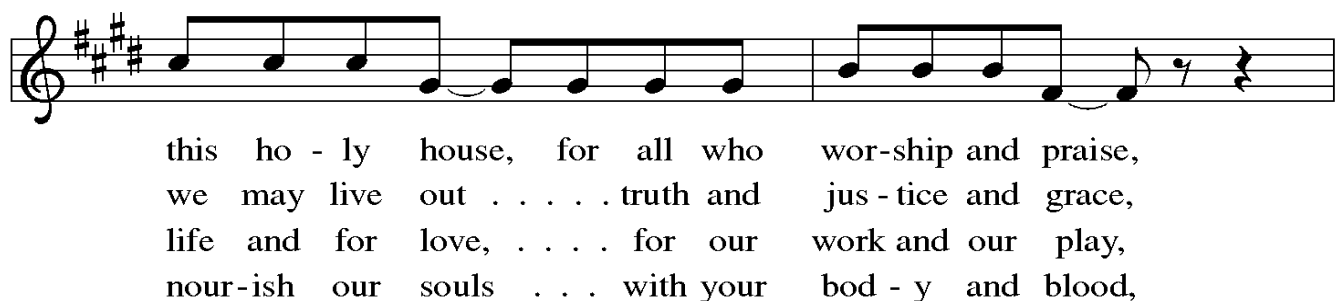
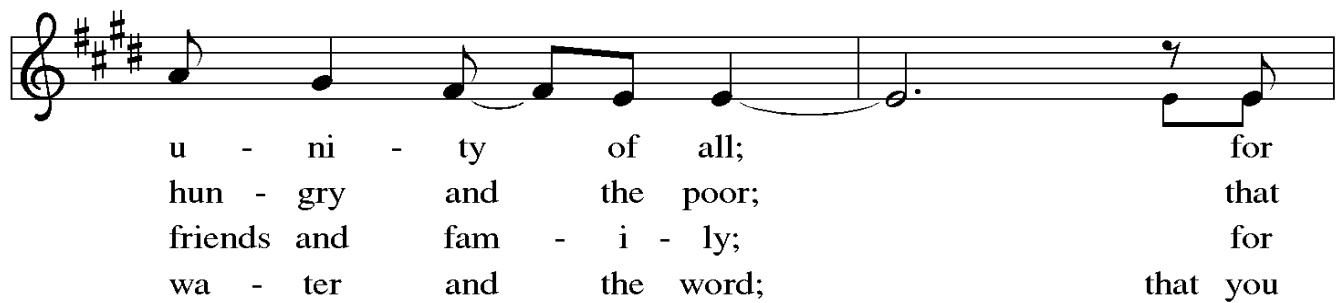
Kyrie:



2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Benevolent God,

C: you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

WORD

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

A: A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

A: ²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

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

A: Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

**C: you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

A: My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

**C: I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

A: Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

**C: the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

A: One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

**C: for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

A: in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

**C: For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

A: Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

**C: Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

A: A reading from the book of Colossians.

A: ¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation:



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

The Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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.

Prayers of Intercession

P: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

A: Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear especially for Larry Clayton, Barb Strom, Deb Liebrecht, Rachel McIntyre, Melissa Feit, Sonja Magnifici, Chase Flynn, Tim Stiens, and those we name aloud or in our hearts... *brief silence....* Give strength to those who give care and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints, especially Ethel Steder, who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

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

We Share the Peace of the Lord

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 & 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.*

The Children's Offering is received during worship and during Sunday school.

The August offering will support Lutheran World Relief School Kits.

We thank the children and youth for their help collecting the children's offering today

Offering Song: "Goodness is stronger Than Evil" ELW #721 sing twice



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is



ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is



ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931

Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

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Please rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. Creator God,

C: in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Holy Communion

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,...and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which He was betrayed,...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: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

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."*

And 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, eating at Jesus' table.

Communion Song: "Lamb of God"

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

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Song: "Break Now the Bread of Life" ELW #515

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

A: Let us pray. Mothering God,

C: you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: "In Christ There is No East or West" ELW #650

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

St. Paul Contact Information

Church Office contact information ~ email: 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

Pastor Riley Reed-Windau (406) 240-2145 pastorreedwindau@gmail.com

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Leading Worship

Musician: Kathy Sheridan

Presider: Pastor Riley

Preacher: Somar Bryson

Worship Assistant: Glen Hughes

Announcements

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

August 9 (Saturday): Lester Hallquist

August 10: Patti Larsen

Today's Altar flowers were given by Peg & Larry Miller in honor of grandchildren Magdalana Daniels and Amelia Daniels and to the Glory of God.

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, August 3:	Worship Service 10:45 am
Monday, August 4:	Prayer Team 10:00 am Property Committee 6:00 pm Book Study Group 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 5:	Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am at ILC Out & About meeting at Culver's 11:30 am
Wednesday, August 6:	St. Paul Ministries 10:00 am
Thursday, August 7:	Chair Yoga 11:00 am Book Study Group 11:00 am Mary's Circle meeting at River's Edge 12:30 pm
Friday, August 8:	Liberty Court 1:30 pm
Saturday, August 9:	Worship 5:30 pm at St. Paul
Sunday, August 10:	Worship Service 10:45 am

Out and About will meet at Culver's (1317 N Galena Ave, Dixon, IL) on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome!!! For more information or to arrange for a ride, call or text Beverley Eykamp at 815-677-8545.

We hope you will join us!



St. Paul / Immanuel will cooperate to serve the community by working at Dixon Habitat for Humanity on

Saturday, September 6th We start at 8 am and will plan to work until early afternoon. Lunch will be provided by us. We

need volunteers to provide a picnic type lunch, plus a small group that work on the house throughout the week. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area.

Contact Bob Gingras for any questions at 815-288-5262 or segragingras70@comcast.net

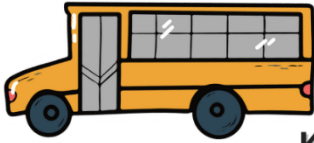


LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

The St Paul children and youth are collecting school supplies to make school kits for LWR. Pick up a shopping list in the gathering area to see which items are needed. Items may be dropped off at St Paul anytime before September 8. lwr.org/kits

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 17 at 10:45 AM worship.



Kids & teachers/staff - bring your backpacks, computers, tablets, lunchbox, anything you use at school that you want blessed.



You're invited to WELCA Coffee
Wednesday August 13th at 9:00 am
We will enjoy a tasty breakfast treat, friendly conversation and of course COFFEE.
All are welcome!

Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA
36th Annual Convention, September 20, 2025

Theme: "Rescue, Redeem, Restore"

First Lutheran Church

225 South 3rd Street, Rockford

Registration forms are available in the Gathering Area.

Registration is due August 20th.



Mary Circle of Immanuel Lutheran Church would like to invite the ladies of St. Paul to join them for their summer lunch outing **August 7, 2025, 12:30 pm ***, at the River's Edge. Please contact Kathy Schutz at 815-677-8643 by noon on the 6th if you plan on attending. *please note the time change

