

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, October 18, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

Screen

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

"Our God"

Screen

Verse

Water You turned into wine; opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like You; None like You

Verse

Into the darkness You shine. Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You; None like You

Chorus

Our God is greater, Our God is stronger. God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer; awesome in power our God, our God

Verse

Into the darkness You shine. Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You; None like You

Chorus

Our God is greater, Our God is stronger. God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer; awesome in power our God, our God

Bridge

And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us, then what could stand against
And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us, then what could stand against,
what could stand against

Chorus

Our God is greater, Our God is stronger. God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer; awesome in power our God, our God

Words and music by: Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman

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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.

Gloria (Glory in the Highest):

Screen

[C:] Glo - ry in the high - est, Glo - ry be to God,
 Glo - ry in the high - est, And peace to all the earth.

[L:] Sha-per of the U - ni - verse thanks and praise we sing
 Je - sus Christ the Lamb of God you wash our sins a - way
 Ho - ly Spi-rit, source of life, bur-ning wild and free

[C:] Sha-per of the U - ni - verse thanks and praise we sing
 Je - sus Christ the Lamb of God you wash our sins a - way
 Ho - ly Spi rit, source of life, bur - ning wild and free

[L:] Lo - ving fa - ther, ca - ring mo - ther____
 At your ta - ble all are wel come____
 You are God the three - in - one____

[C:] Lo - ving fa - ther, ca - ring mo - ther____
 At your ta - ble all are wel come____
 You are God the three - in - one____

[L:] Hold us in your____ wings____
 Hear us as we____ pray____
 such a my - ste - ry____

[C:] Hold us in your____ wings____
 Hear us as we____ pray____
 such a my - ste - ry____

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Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Sovereign God,

C: raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

WORD

Screen

First Reading – Isaiah 45:1-7

A: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

A: ¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,

whose right hand I have grasped

to subdue nations before him

and to strip kings of their robes,

to open doors before him—

and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you

and level the mountains;

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze

and cut through the bars of iron;

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness

and riches hidden in secret places,

so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,

the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob

and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name;

I give you a title, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other;

besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun

and from the west, that there is no one besides me;

I am the Lord, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,

I make weal and create woe;

I the Lord do all these things.

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

Psalm – Psalm 96:1-13

Screen

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

A: Sing to the Lord a new song;

sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**C: Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

A: Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

**C: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

A: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

**C: Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

A: Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

**C: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

A: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

**C: Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the
peoples with equity."**

A: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is
therein.

**C: Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord,
for you come to judge the earth.**

A: You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Screen

A: A reading from the book of 1 Thessalonians.

A: ¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in

every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

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

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW #174 or Screen



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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Gospel – Matthew 22:15-22

Screen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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: "Take My Life, That I May Be" Screen or ELW #583

Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas | Last time



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875-1955
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
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Apostles' Creed

Screen or ELW pg. 105

P: Together let us confess our faith in God using the words of the Apostles' 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: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

A: Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering especially DeAnna Wilson, Eva Cowley, Deb Liebzeit, Judy Hallquist,

Joyce Snyder, Jim Marshall, Angel & Brent, Ron Reglin, Aiden, Esther Hicks, Brenda Nailor, Larry Moats, and those we name aloud or in our hearts...*brief silence*... . Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Loving God, send your Holy Spirit to guide the ministry we share with Immanuel. Inspire us towards unity, friendship, and service in Your Holy name. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

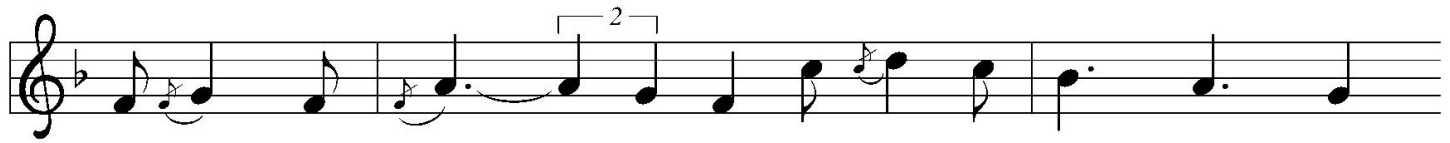
Offering

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.

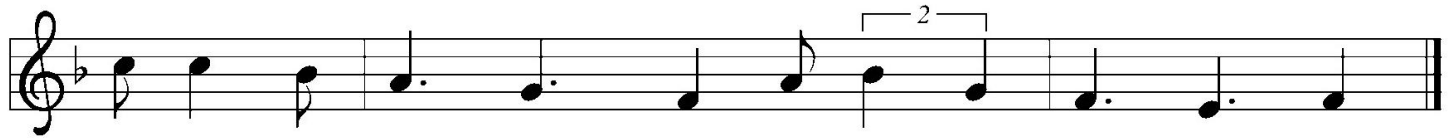
Their offering for October will support the Goodfellows of Lee County.

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

Offering Song: "To God Our Thanks We Give" Screen or ELW #682



Re - a - mo le - bo - ga, re - a - mo le - bo - ga,
To God our thanks we give, to God our thanks we give,



re - a - mo le - bo - ga mo - di - mo wa ro - na.
to God our thanks we give, our thanks to God we give.

Please rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Screen

A: Let us pray. God of creation,

C: you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

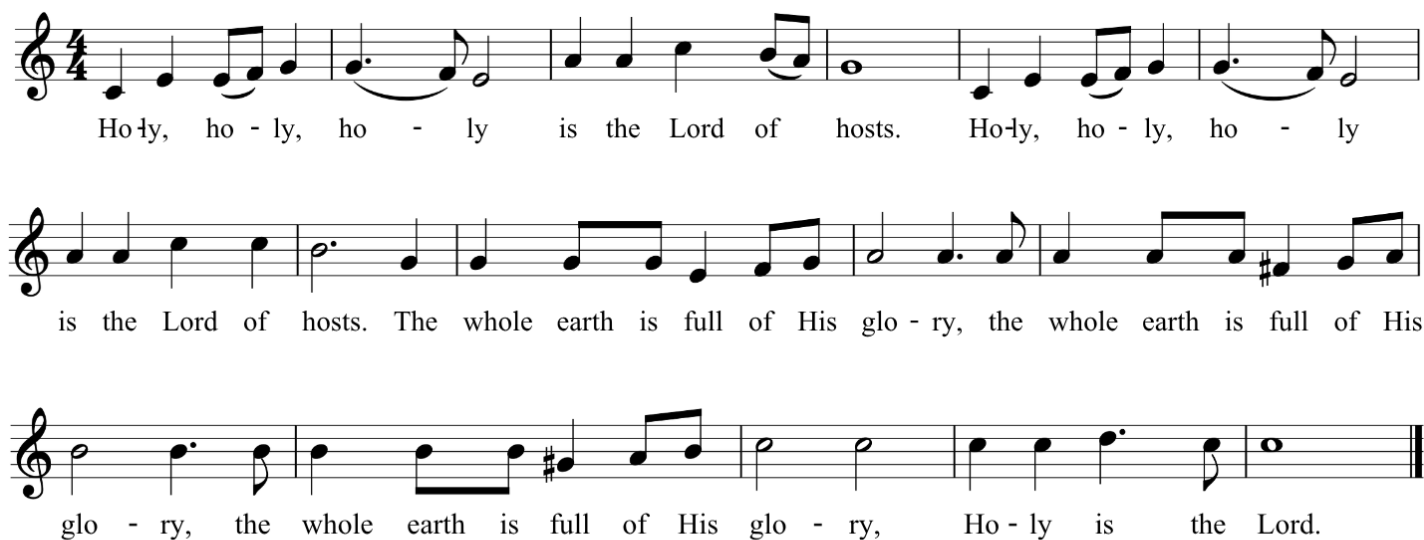
P: Lift up your hearts.

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, 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 in their unending hymn:



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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

Screen

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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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 Hymns: "Lamb of God, Come Take Away"

Screen



1 Lamb of God, come take a - way the sin of all the
 2 Lamb of God who'd give your soul to see a bro - ken
 3 Lamb of God, ris - en Lord, ⁊ heal us with your
 4 Lamb of God, Ho - ly One, ⁊ bring us peace when



world to - day: have mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up -
 world made whole: have mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up -
 liv - ing word: have mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up -
 day is done: have mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up -



on us, mer - cy up - on us, and give us your peace.
 on us, mer - cy up - on us, and give us your peace.
 on us, mer - cy up - on us, and give us your peace.
 on us, mer - cy up - on us, and give us your peace.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

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“Let Peace Reign”

Screen

Verse 1

Let peace reign in your heart. Throw your hate down and smash it apart.
At the end of your rope is where Jesus will start. Let peace reign in your heart,
Let peace reign in your heart.

Verse 2

Let love reign in your heart. Throw your fear down and smash it apart.
At the end of your rope is where Jesus will start. Let love reign in your heart,
Let love reign in your heart.

Verse 3

Let Christ reign in your heart. Throw your pride down and smash it apart.
At the end of your rope is where Jesus will start. Let Christ reign in your heart,
Let Christ reign in your heart.

Verse 4

Let peace reign in your heart. Throw your hate down and smash it apart.
At the end of your rope is where Jesus will start. Let peace reign in your heart,
Let peace reign in your heart. Let peace reign in your heart.

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“Eat This Bread”

Screen or ELW #472

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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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.**

Prayer after Communion

Screen

A: Let us pray. Sustaining God,

C: with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **C: Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: "The Trees of the Field" Sing Twice Screen

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (indicated by two sharps), and 2/2 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff at various points. The score consists of eight lines of music.

Chord symbols: Em, D, G, C, G, D, B⁷, Em, B⁷, Em/B, B/A, Em, D⁷, G, C, G, D, G, C, G, D, B, Am/C, C[#]dim, B/D[#], Em.

Lyrics:

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
 and the moun-tains and the hills will break forth be - fore you.
 There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field
 will clap, will clap their hands.
 And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
 The trees of the field will clap their hands.
 The trees of the field will clap their hands,
 while you go out with joy.

Text: Steffi Geiser Rubin
 Music: Stuart Dauermann
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Dismissal A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Leading Worship**President:** Pastor Anthony **Preacher:** Pastor Riley**Musicians:** Gerad VonHoltzen & the Praise Band **Worship Assistant:** Patti Larsen

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St. Paul Announcements

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

This week's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Nealy Memorial fund.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

TODAY Sunday, 10/18: Sunday School / Youth Group 9:30 am – 10:30 am
 Worship Service 10:45 am Praise Band worship assistant: Patti Larsen
 Donut pick up 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
 Joint Confirmation class 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm at Immanuel

Monday, 10/19: Prayer Team 10:30 am
 Joint Book Study 5:00 pm at Immanuel

Tuesday, 10/20: Joint Staff Meeting 8:00 am at Immanuel
 Line Dancing 9:00 am

Wednesday, 10/21: Heritage Square Worship 10:30 am

Thursday, 10/22: Chair Yoga 11:00 am
 Joint Book Study 11:00 am at Immanuel
 Epistle items due

Saturday, 10/24: Worship 5:30 pm at St. Paul worship assistant: Lester Hallquist

Sunday, 10/25: Faith Lab Group 9:30 am – 10:30 am
 Worship Service 10:45 am worship assistant: Sherry McCarter
 Lunch provided for Trunk or Treat volunteers after Worship
 Trunk or Treat 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
 Reformation Sunday **PLEASE WEAR RED**

Today's worship is
 livestreamed on
 Facebook and archived
 on YouTube.
 If ever you miss a
 service, you can join us
 online!

Sign up in the Gathering Area to provide a trunk or volunteer

St. Paul and Immanuel sent 113 quilts, 28 personal care kits, 60 school kits, and 50 baby care kits to LWR! Thank you to everyone for your help by supplying items and giving your time and muscle to these worthy missions of the ELCA. We were able to donate 12 quilts to the Young Mother's Program at the Lee County Health Department and have money left to pay for the cleaning of our machines and perhaps be able to



St. Paul & Immanuel
 Lutheran Churches
 Dixon, IL.
**Two Churches,
 One Mission**

donate money to help with shipping of all the items. Thank you! A special thanks goes to Patty and Dan Hallquist and John Strom for driving our 33 boxes to Rockford. What a great shared mission for our churches!

All Saints Day is November 1st. If there is someone you would like to add to the list please contact the Pastors or call the Church Office by October 28th.