

St. Paul Lutheran Church
of Stillwater, Minnesota
June 7, 2026
2nd Sunday after Pentecost



Our Vision

**Love and serve God by walking with, caring for,
and learning from our members, friends, and neighbors.**

Our Values

Welcome. Generosity. Faithfulness.

Your presence at worship is important to God and to us! Whether you are a first-time visitor, frequent participant, neighbor, member, or friend, please take a moment as you prepare for worship to share some information on the "Welcome to Worship" card included with your bulletin. Place it in the offering plate at the time the offering is received.

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord's day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God's mercy for the world.

The assembly **speaks** or **sings** the bold responses.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
source of hope in every nation,
rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

Amen.

(Continued on the next page.) 1

God of all mercy,
**we have sinned against you,
our neighbors, and your creation.
Within ourselves and our communities,
our desire to do what is good
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.
We lament the evil that holds us captive.
We repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us
for lives of compassion and courage
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

All-merciful, Almighty God
forgive you all your sins
through the grace of + Jesus Christ,
and by the Spirit's power
strengthen you in doing what is good.

Amen.

Gathering Song

"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord"

Open the eyes of my heart Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You.

I want to see You.

**To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.**

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

I want to see You.

Greeting

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

And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Pew Bible: Old Testament Page 838-839

Hosea 5:15-6:6

Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God's face. The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words or meaningless deeds.

At the conclusion:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Canticle: Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me"

**The spirit of the Lord is upon me.
Because God has anointed me.
To preach good news to the poor.
God has sent me to proclaim.
Release to the captives.
And recovery of sight to the blind.
To set at liberty those who are oppressed.
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.**

Second Reading

Pew Bible: New Testament Page 155

Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God's promises will be fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what otherwise does not exist.

At the conclusion:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's and Outreach Message

Jenny Brelje, CYF Director

Gospel Acclamation

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Jesus demonstrates God's mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

The gospel is introduced:

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Nathan Baker-Trinity

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

ELW hymn 614

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

Prayers of Intercession

After each prayer:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

At the conclusion:

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All are invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Our offering is a collection of money for the church's mission, including the care of those in need, as a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all God's gifts. Your offering and "Welcome to Worship" card may be placed in the offering plate. The QR code on the right may be used if you wish to give electronically.



Offering Anthem

Mark Zempel, soloist

"Lord, I Hope this Day is Good"

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,
for waves of grain and harvesters,
fruitful vines and winepresses,
for our labor and our rest,
for the gifts of your hand in this land.
Transform us and what we offer
into the banquet of your compassion,
serving your love without limits
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . .

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Continued on the next page.) 6

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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
 In the night in which he was betrayed . . .

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks . . .

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and
 ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**



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

We celebrate at an open communion table. All who hear our Lord's invitation are welcome to participate. Receive the bread first with an open hand and eat immediately, followed by the juice (white) or wine (red). Gluten-free bread is available at the front end of the center aisle. Please indicate to an usher if you need to receive communion from your pew. Children who have received age-appropriate instruction are welcome to commune. If you prefer instead to receive a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your shoulders.

*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.

Communion Song

"For Those Tears I Died"

**You said You'd come,
And share all my sorrows.
You said You'd be there,
For all my tomorrows.
I came so close,
To sending You away.
But just like You promised,
You came here to stay.
I just had to pray.**

**And Jesus said come to the water.
Stand by My side.
I know you are thirsty.
You won't be denied.
I felt ev'ry teardrop.
When in darkness you cried,
And I strove to remind you.
That for those tears I died.**

**Your goodness so great,
I can't understand,
And dear Lord I know,
That all this was planned.
I know You're here now,
And always will be.
Your love loosed my chains,
And in You I'm free.
But Jesus why me?**

**Jesus I give You,
My heart and my soul.
I know that without God,
I'd never be whole.
Savior You opened,
All the right doors,
And I thank You and praise You,
From earth's humble shores.
Take me I'm Yours.**

Prayer After Communion

We thank you, God of heaven and earth,
that you fill our deepest need
with the very gift of Jesus Christ,
broken and poured out for us.
Pour us out into a broken world.
Channel our common life
toward the common good,
following the way our Savior leads us
now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Charge and Blessing

Go out into the world in peace;
have courage;
hold on to what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak, and help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.



Sending Song

"Put Your Hand in the Hand"

***Put your hand in the hand of the man,
Who stilled the water.***

***Put your hand in the hand of the man,
Who calmed the sea.***

Take a look at yourself,

And you can look at others diff'rently.

Put your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee.

Every time I look into the Holy Book I wanna tremble,

When I read about the part,

Where a carpenter cleared the temple.

See those buyers and the sellers,

Were no diff'rent fellas,

Than what you and I profess to be.

And it causes me shame to know that man

Is not what he should be.

Hey my mama taught me how to pray,

Before I reached the age of seven.

When I'm down on my knees hey I'm close to heaven.

My daddy lived his life with two kids and a wife,

And you've got to do what you've got to do.

But he showed me enough of what it takes,

To see you through.

This is what he used to tell me.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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DAILY PRAYER For the Jewish People



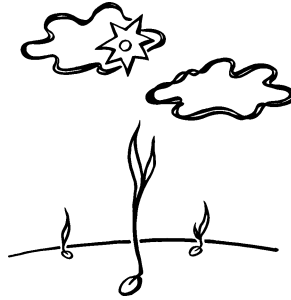
Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. May the people you called and elected as your own receive the just fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CATECHISM CONNECTION Set Free



In our gospel reading, many individuals find themselves lost in different ways. Matthew, the tax collector, is captive to a corrupt monetary system. The Pharisees, the religious leaders, are captive to their own power and self-righteousness. A little girl is captive to death. And an older woman is captive to a chronic health condition. Jesus stands with all of them, regardless of the sin and brokenness that afflicts them. Martin Luther's proclamation in the Second Article of the Creed in the Small Catechism aptly describes them all: "He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death."

LIFE ON EARTH God's Visitation



In another example of the Bible using nature as a way to depict the love of God, Hosea's promise, that "on the third day" the Lord will raise us up, likens God's mercy to the morning dawn and the spring rains. Without the dawn, the earth will die; without the rain, the crops will not thrive. We pray for God to visit us, like dawn, like rain.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, died 1866 Sunday, June 7, 2026

Noah Seattle led a coalition of tribes, and convinced them to live peacefully with encroaching white settlers. When he became a Roman Catholic, he held morning and evening prayer with his tribe. The city of Seattle is named for him.

Columba, died 597; Aidan, died 651; Bede, died 735; renewers of the church Tuesday, June 9, 2026

These three monks from the British Isles helped keep the light of learning alive during the Middle Ages. Columba founded three monasteries off the coast of Scotland. Aidan was a pastor who led people to works of charity. The Venerable Bede was a Bible translator, historian, and hymnwriter.

Barnabas, Apostle Thursday, June 11, 2026

Barnabas was not numbered among the twelve apostles, but the book of Acts gives him that title. After Paul was converted to Christianity, Barnabas welcomed him to Jerusalem, and later the two traveled together on missionary journeys.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

To Be Well

The fourteenth-century mystic Julian of Norwich is famous for writing about a vision of Jesus assuring her that “all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.”

Jesus, in today’s reading, is deeply concerned with the matter of wellness. He uses a metaphor of illness and wellness to defend his decision to keep fellowship with those whom society has rejected, despised, or cast out. Just a few verses later, Jesus performs two intertwined acts of healing, saying to one of the individuals, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well” (Matthew 9:22).

Wellness, for Jesus, is a holistic endeavor. Physical health is one part of the equation, but so are spiritual wholeness, mental and emotional well-being, financial stability, and health in relationships and society. Jesus does not limit his work to any one of these areas. Consistently in the gospels, Jesus is concerned with all aspects of life. He recognizes and works to dismantle all kinds of barriers to full, whole, peaceful living.

Too often, our contemporary society exploits the idea of wellness to sell us a product, to market an unattainable lifestyle, or to guilt us into a particular set of behaviors. Jesus, however, is not trying to sell us something. Jesus invokes wellness as a way of assuring us that he cares deeply about our whole being, and that every part of us is worthy of God’s care and keeping. Jesus desires that we be at peace in our bodies, minds, spirits, and relationships.

When our world and our lives are difficult and painful, we can turn again and again to scripture, which witnesses to Jesus’ deep compassion, empathy, and care for us. He is a living sign of God’s power to comfort and heal. He is our living sign and symbol of resurrection and restoration. He is the embodiment of our divine assurance that all manner of things will, one day, be well, and whole, and at peace.

Church Staff

Sr. Pastor	Rev. Nathan Baker-Trinity
Visitation Pastor	Rev. Laurel Halvorson Bernard
Director of Music	Andy Peterson
Casual Worship Leader	Karen Hillmann
Office Coordinator	Kristin Nelson
CYF & Outreach Director	Jenny Brelje
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Audio-Video Engineer	Tim Schingen

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Vice President	Pam Seekel
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CYF	Sabrina Bell Kristie Mack
Evangelism & Membership	(Open Seat)
Fellowship	Janine Siverson
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Seniors	Jenny Powell
Worship	Jennifer Braun

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