

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
of Stillwater, Minnesota**

**June 15, 2025  
The Holy Trinity**



---

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are grateful to God you are here.  
We pray that you will feel the Spirit and warm welcome of this faith community.

“O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God’s love and hope to our neighbors.

Many of our worship materials are taken from the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW). **Page numbers** are located in the front half of the book, and **hymn numbers** are located in the back half of the book.

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

**Gathering**

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



**Prelude**

**Confession & Forgiveness**

ELW Page 94

**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**

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Word**

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

**First Reading**

Proverbs 8:1 -4, 22-31

Pew Bible: New Testament Pages 590-591

*In the Bible, wisdom is portrayed in terms sometimes human and sometimes divine. Often, wisdom is personified as feminine. In this passage, Woman Wisdom is depicted not only as the first creation of God, but also as God's helper, rejoicing in God's creation, especially in human beings.*

*At the conclusion:*

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**



**Psalm 8**

*"Lord, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name"*



1 LORD, our Lord, your glo - rious name all your  
 2 In - fant voic - es chant your praise, tell - ing  
 3 Moon and stars in shin - ing height night - ly  
 4 Who are we that we should share in your

won - drous works pro - claim; in the heavens with  
 of your glo - rious ways; weak - est means work  
 tell their Mak - er's might; when I view the  
 love and ten - der care— raised to an ex -

ra - diant signs ev - er - more your glo - ry shines.  
 out your will, might - y en - e - mies to still.  
 heavens a - far, then I know how small we are.  
 alt - ed height, crowned with hon - or in your sight!

5 With dominion crowned, we stand  
 o'er the creatures of your hand;  
 all to us subjection yield,  
 in the sea and air and field.

6 LORD, our Lord, your glorious name  
 all your wondrous works proclaim,  
 yours the name of matchless worth,  
 excellent in all the earth.

Words: *Psalter*, 1912, alt., P.D.

Music (GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT 7.7.7.7): J. Freylinghausen's *Gesangbuch*, 1704, P.D.

**Second Reading**

Romans 5:1-5

Pew Bible: New Testament Page 155

*Paul describes the life of faith with reference to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Even now, we have peace with God through Jesus, and our hope for the future is grounded in the love of God that we experience through Christ's Holy Spirit.*

*At the conclusion:*

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Children's and Outreach Message**

Jenny Brelje

**Gospel Acclamation***"Alleluia! Lord And Savior"*

ELW Page 205

**Gospel Reading**

John 16:12-15

Pew Bible: New Testament Page 110

*Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be made known through the coming Spirit who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.*

*The gospel is introduced:*

The holy gospel according to John.

**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***"Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"*

ELW Hymn 412

**Nicene Creed**

ELW Page 104

**Prayers of Intercession**

ELW Page 105

**Peace**

ELW Page 106

**Announcements**

## **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 Prayer**

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

ELW Pages 206-208

### **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**

*"Lamb of God"*

ELW Page 208

### **Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

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

### **Blessing**

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**

*"Blessed Assurance"*

ELW Hym 638

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

### **Beyond the Known Limit**

Telescopes provide a whole new way to see the cosmos, and over the centuries since their invention, we have expanded our understanding of the known universe. For example, we keep increasing our estimate of just how many galaxies are out there. In another hundred years, that number will no doubt be even greater. Will we ever find a fixed boundary?

We might view love as we do the universe. We might experience a limit to love today, but as we embrace the truth that God is love, we continually discover another truth: there is no limit to love. Jesus says all is contained in the two great commandments—love God, and love neighbor as self.

On Pentecost, the church was given the profound gift of love by the Holy Spirit, flowing and very much alive. The church is encouraged to dive deep into that love, to experiment with and experience the reality of love, as shown to us by the God who created us.

One practical way to know God's love is to acknowledge there is so much more to learn about it. We allow for the possibility of infinity in how God expresses love, whether for the person we see in the mirror or for the person who angers us the most.

The Trinity is often shown in ancient art as the Holy Triune gathered around a table in deep and honest conversation. This conversation began way before the beginning, continues in the present, and lives forevermore. The ancient art often offers the viewer a space in the holy circle for one more person. That "one more" is each one of us.

When Jesus says, "I have many things to say to you" (John 16:12), we give thanks that at the holy table, the triune God invites us to sit together and then gifts us with all the time in the universe for each one of us to listen to the loving words God has to say.

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

### **Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015**

#### **Tuesday, June 17, 2025**

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

### **Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931**

#### **Saturday, June 21, 2025**

Onesimos (oh-NESS-ee-mus neh-SEEB) was born into the Oromo people of Ethiopia. He was captured by slave traders and taken from his homeland to Eritrea, where he was bought, freed, and educated by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into Oromo and returned to his homeland to preach the gospel. His tombstone includes a verse from Jeremiah 22:29, "O land, land, land, hear the word of the Lord!"