

5th Sunday of Pentecost
June 28, 2026
9 AM



The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4686 E. Walnut Street
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WELCOME



GATHERING



Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

WELCOME SONG

BECAUSE YOU ARE

I am the work of your hands. Because you breathe, I am.
We are the light that you give. Because of you, we live.

CHORUS

Because you are, so we are, too.
Because you are, we are with you.
One body, one Spirit, one voice, and one heart,
Together in love because you are.

We have been filled with your grace. We have been changed by faith.
So we have been saving light baptized into new life. (*Chorus*)

We are your hands and your feet reaching the least of these.
Try to be servants of God; we have been made for love. (*Chorus twice*)

Because you are. Because you are. Because you are.

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

Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

BAG OF WONDERS

All children are invited.

✠ ✠ ✠ **WORD** ✠ ✠ ✠

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 6:12-23

¹² Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HELELUYAN

(Sing twice)



He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.



He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL

Matthew 10:40-42

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰ "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Bull

Please stand as you are able.

SERMON SONG

IF WE ARE THE BODY

It's crowded in worship today as she slips in trying to fade into the faces.
The girls' teasing laughter is carrying farther than they know,
Farther than they know.

CHORUS:

But if we are the body, why aren't His arms reaching?
Why aren't His hands healing? Why aren't His words teaching?
And if we are the body, why aren't His feet going?
Why is His love not showing them there is a way?

There is a way.

A trav'ler is far away from home. He sheds his coat
And quietly sinks into the back row.
The weight of their judgmental glances tells him that his chances
Are better out on the road. *(chorus)*

Jesus paid much too high a price
for us to pick and choose who should come,
And we are the body of Christ. *(chorus)*

Jesus is the way.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division. Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

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.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

THE CROSS

You've been tryin' hard to bear the weight of all your shame
And if there's a God up there, you're sure He forgot your name.
When your steps are getting heavy, and hope looks all but lost
Just bring it all to the cross.

Who told you grace can't reach the messed up ones like you?
Has the devil made you believe the lies he tells are true?
When you're sure that you're the one who's wandered too far off
It's not too late, just come home to the cross.

CHORUS

Come and see a Savior's love that would die to make you new
Nothing you have ever done, can change what mercy's done for you.
And if you ever wonder if you're worth so great a cost,
Look up and see the cross.

Everybody's got a list at least a mile long
Of every scar and every sin from everywhere that we've gone wrong.
But there's reason for rejoicin', and the reason is because
That list was nailed to the cross. *(chorus)*

He was wounded for your wounds, pierced for all your sin
By His stripes you are healed, died so you could rise again.
He let the blood and water flow, and did it all to let you know
You're the reason that He went to the cross.
He's callin' you to run home to the cross. *(chorus)*

Look up and see the cross

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,

so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

✠ ✠ ✠ **MEAL** ✠ ✠ ✠

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, he 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord
It is made ready for those who love God
and for those who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith
and you who have little;
You who have been here often
and you who have not been here long;
You who have tried to follow
and you who have failed.

Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG

BY YOUR TOUCH

CHORUS

By your touch we are made whole.

By your love we are forgiven.

By your spirit we are born to live forever. *(repeat first time only)*

Jesus, will you hear me when I call upon your name,

For I am helpless and I am wounded in my heart?

Standing in the darkness now, I listen for your call.

I am afraid to walk without you; afraid to start again. *(chorus)*

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine

our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.

Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,

may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

SHOUT TO THE NORTH

Men of faith rise up and sing of the great and glorious King.
You are strong when you feel weak, in your brokenness complete.

CHORUS

Shout to the north and the south; sing to the east and the west
Jesus is Savior to all, Lord of heaven and earth.

Rise up, women of the truth, stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing pow'r of our glorious King of love. *(Chorus)*

We've been through fire, we've been through rain;
We've been refined by the pow'r of His name.
We've fallen deeper in love with You. You've burned the truth on our lips. *(Chorus)*

Rise up, church with broken wings, fill this place with songs again
Of our God who reigns on high. By His grace again we'll fly. *(Chorus)*

Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Experience God's love!

Thanks Be to God!

POSTLUDE

I WAITED FOR THE LORD

by Bill Batstone

St. Paul Praise Team

*Altar flowers are given today by Frank & Jean Forsythe
in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.*

Prayer requests may be sent to prayer@splcwesterville.org

This Week's Activities at St. Paul

Sunday, 6/28

- 9 AM: **Contemporary Worship**
(Shelter House)
- 10:30 AM: **Worship** (Sanctuary)
- 3 PM: **St. Paul Cares** (Library)

Monday, 6/29

- 3 PM: **Music Lessons** (Nursery)
- 5:30 PM: **Yoga** (Fellowship Hall)
- 6 PM: **Dinner's Out** (CJ's Soul Food)

Wednesday, 7/1

- 9:30 AM: **Piece & Sew** (Lower Level)
- 7 PM: **Praise Team Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)

Thursday, 7/2

- 10 AM: **PBS** (Library)
- 6 PM: **Inreach/Outreach** (Library)

Friday, 7/3

Office is closed

Office Hours 7/6-7/10: 9 AM – 4 PM

PERMISSIONS

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As we cultivate welcoming communities of faith with our neighbors and world, we strive for a world where everyone **"Experiences God's Love"**.

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion at every service. We welcome you to join us at the table of the Lord. Our Communion Bread is gluten, peanut, tree nut, soy, and dairy-free. **White grape juice is always available in the center of the tray.** All are welcome.

NURSERY

The nursery is located at the top of the ramp of the main entrance to the church. Currently, the nursery is not staffed, however, it is available for you to use with your child. Also, for our young worshippers, please find **Worship Wonder Bags** on the small coat rack in the rear of the sanctuary, untie, and enjoy. After worship, please put the **UNTIED bag back** on the rack to be replenished and cleaned.

Online giving to St. Paul is available: Using your mobile device, scan below or Text **SPLCGIVE** to **73256**.

CONTACTS

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Prayer requests may be sent to
prayer@splcwesterville.org

MUSIC STAFF

Karla Kruse, Director of Music Ministries
Judy McLeod, Handbell Director
Zach Ruppel, Director of Contemporary Music
Philip Cordell, Organist
Susan Treer, Contemporary Keyboardist



Church Office: M-F 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Closed for lunch: 12 PM- 1 PM

Please contact us if you have any questions. Check out the web site for more information. St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.