



**May 18, 2025**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*Walk With Us As Disciples of Christ!*

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Child Development Center and Pre-School**  
**LCMC**

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**Online Giving Portal:**



Follow us at [Facebook.com/stpaultaylor](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultaylor)

**SUNDAY RADIO BROADCAST**

**KRXT 98.5 FM at 12:00pm**

St. Paul Church does take pictures and videos which will be posted on their  
Social Media and Web Page.

TWCWiFi - no password needed

# **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

*WALK WITH US AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST!*

*Welcome!!*

We welcome all who worship this Lord's Day! We are glad you are worshiping with us today. As we can be helpful to you, we look forward to doing so. If you would like the pastor to contact you, please mark that on the Record of Fellowship or call the church office.

We ask that the Record of Fellowship be filled out (members and visitors) so that we will have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

We Remember in Prayer

**(Please call the church office to remove anyone from the prayer lists.)**

## **Our Members:**

**Diane Talley, Debbie Brinkmeyer, Carol Lantzsch, Kent Safarik.**

## **Our Shut Ins:**

**Inez Sladek, Terri Abert, Grace Bulgerin, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson.**

## **Our family, friends, and loved ones:**

**Lance Pavlicek, Bill Cody, Randel Duelm, Wayne Schroeder, Rachel Elson, Richard Jansky, Felicia Garcia, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Mackenzie Brewer, Loretta Simank, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Edward Morgan, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittan, Ryan Richey, Alma Russell, Tori Harris and baby, Mary Perez, Iris Rangel and family, Melissa Balderas, Kelly Clines Thompson, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.**

## WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTRODUCTION

#### INTRODUCTION

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.*

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of + the One  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life,  
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

**Amen.**

#### GATHERING SONG

"On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand"

P. 437

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.**

## **KYRIE - PG. 165**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THIS IS THE FEAST - PG. 169**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

- 1 **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain**
- 2 **Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain**
- 3 **For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. Refrain**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18**

*In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup>But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 148**

*The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

- <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, all you angels;**  
**sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
- <sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,**  
**and you waters above the heavens.**
- <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,
- <sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forever and ever,**  
**giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
- <sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;
- <sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and fog,**  
**tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
- <sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup>**wild beasts and all cattle,**  
**creeping things and flying birds;**
- <sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>young men and maidens,  
old and young together.

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people  
and praise for all faithful servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6**

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - PG. 171**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to John 13:31-35

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: John 13:31-35**

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'<sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Congregation**

#### **Children's message**

**Sermon** Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

P.631

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

### **CREED**

#### ***Apostles' Creed***

**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**

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness and we remember our friends and family members before you. Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries; for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Tom and Eunice in the Democratic Republic of Congo, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Faith Lutheran Church in Humboldt, South Dakota. Loving God, you send out your people to make disciples of all nations, to baptize, and to teach the faith. We pray for this work throughout the Texas District of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. Bless and prosper the work of our District staff as they support your mission: Bryce Formwalt, Alyssa McCullough, and Doris Engelhardt. Today we also pray for Oromo Evangelical in Houston, Texas and their pastor, Kamiso Boru. By your Holy Spirit, give them the strength of faith to answer your call to make disciples. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**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.**

*The presiding minister continues:*

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

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

## **HOLY HOLY - PG. 173**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.**



## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **COMMUNION**

*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.*

### **LAMB OF GOD - PG. 174**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

### **Prayer After Communion**

## **SENDING**

### **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**

“Let All Things Now Living “

P.881


**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

<u>OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK</u>		
<b>TODAY</b>		<b>May 18</b>
10:00	-	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>May 19</b>
		<i>Church Office Closed</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>May 20</b>
		<i>Church Office Closed/ News Articles Due</i>
9:30	-	LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg
6:30	-	Scouts - Fellowship Hall
6:30	-	Council Meeting- St. Paul House
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>May 21</b>
		<i>Church Office Closed</i>
9:30	-	Folding Bulletins
1:30	-	Prayer Time
2:00	-	Pastor's Bible Study
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>May 22</b>
		<i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>May 23</b>
		<i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b>		<b>May 24</b>
		<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>		<b>May 25</b>
9:00	-	Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary
10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary
11:00	-	Sunday School and Adult Education
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM
<b>Announcement</b>		
<div><div></div><div>Altar flowers given in thankfulness to God by Janet Brinkmeyer</div></div>		
<b>Serving Today</b>		
<b>Council Ushers:</b>	Steve Morgan, Carmen McCleery	
<b>Reader:</b>	Chris Rohlack	
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Jacob Gregory, Tayton Chandler	
<b>Altar Flowers:</b>	Brinkmeyer	
<b>Serving May 25</b>		
<b>Council Ushers:</b>	Kathy Paulsen, Debbie Matthys	
<b>Reader:</b>	Katie Safarik	
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Open	
<b>Altar Flowers:</b>	Open	

## FINAL DAY!

On June 1, 2025, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Taylor, TX will be hosting an introductory session for Thrivent's Money Canvas Program. Over three free online coaching sessions, you'll form healthier budgeting, saving and spending habits.

The introductory session will be conducted at 2pm by Michael Gates, Associate Representative with Thrivent.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP with planned number of attendees to [office@stpaultaylor.com](mailto:office@stpaultaylor.com) by May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

**Money Canvas**<sup>™</sup>

Create **more**  
breathing room  
in your finances

Over three free online coaching sessions with your Money Canvas<sup>™</sup> coach, you'll form healthier budgeting, saving and spending habits, so you can free up more money for your financial priorities.

