

Do not let your hearts be troubled.
You believe in God; believe also in me.
John 14:1



Sunday, May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A

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 or email the church office to remove anyone from the prayer lists.)

Our Members:

Larry Wilson, Lydia Burow, Diane, Glenn Minzenmayer, Katy Safarik, Mark Lindell, Olin Tiemann, Kent Safarik.

Our Shut Ins:

Wandeen Sakewitz, Aileen Bunge, Mary Miller, Cynthia Beran, David Kuempel, Gloria Bartosh, Carol Lantzsch, Inez Sladek, Grace Bulgerin, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox.

Our family, friends, and loved ones:

Rick Mosley, Don Williams, Hazel Chasak, Bill Cody, Randel Duelm, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Mary Perez, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

There will be a congregational meeting immediately after service on May 17th. The purpose is to review proposed changes to our constitution and by-laws. Copies of the proposed changes are available upon request from the church office (office@stpaultaylor.com or 512-352-2327)

**WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS
INTRODUCTION**

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

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!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"Morning Has Broken "

P. 556

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.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³
if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's
sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy
priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in
scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸ and

"A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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 14:1-14

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation

Children's message

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"
From the ACS Supplement

P.966

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick and we remember our friends and family members before you. Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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 missionary Liv in the Middle East, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zoarville, Ohio. Today we also give you thanks for St. Paul Lutheran in New Braunfels, Texas and their pastors, Paul Owens and Timothy Sternberg. Bless their ministry both now and for generations to come. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through 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

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

P.538

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY			May 3
10:00	-	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch, Confirmation and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
MONDAY			May 4
10:30	-	Communion at SPJST	
TUESDAY			May 5
9:30	-	LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg - Pflugerville	
6:30	-	Scouts - Fellowship Hall	
WEDNESDAY			May 6
8:30	-	Folding Bulletins	
1:30	-	Prayer Time	
2:00	-	Pastor's Bible Study	
THURSDAY			May 7
9:30	-	Ruth Circle Meeting	
FRIDAY			May 8
		<i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed/Pastor's Day Off</i>	
SATURDAY			May 9
		<i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office</i>	
NEXT SUNDAY			May 10
		<i>Mother's Day</i>	
9:00	-	Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary	
10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch, Confirmation and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	

Announcement



Altar flowers are placed in loving memory of
Leland Kruse

Serving Today

Council Ushers: Terry Richter, Don Artieschoufsky
Reader: Paula Safarik
Acolytes: Jacob Gregory, Sunny Paulsen
Altar Flowers: Ochoa

Serving May 10

Council Ushers: Rhonda Ochoa, Loren Dittmeyer, Katy Safarik
Reader: George Matthys
Acolytes: Conley Paulsen
Altar Flowers: Richter

Notes:

Upcoming Commemorations

Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387
Monday, May 4, 2026

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.