

August 24, 2025 TIME AFTER PENTECOST—LECTIONARY 21

Walk With Us As Disciples of Christ!

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

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor (812) 259-2530 Email: pastor@stpaultaylor.com

Debbie Matthys, Organist Jason Richter, Office Manager 401 West Seventh Street Taylor, Texas 76574 Email: office@stpaultaylor.com

Office Phone: (512) 352-2327 FAX: (512) 365-1509 Office Hours: 8am-1pm Mon -Thur; Closed on Friday

Website: www.stpaultaylor.com

Online Giving Portal:





Follow us at 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! Wellconnue!

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:

Kent Safarik.

Our Shut Ins:

Gloria Bartosh, Carol Lantzsch, Inez Sladek, Grace Bulgerin, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson.

Our family, friends, and loved ones:

Kyle Vanecek, Hazel Chasak, Bill Cody, Randel Duelm, Rachel Elson, Felicia Garcia, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Loretta Simank, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Mary Perez, Kelly Clines Thompson, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS INTRODUCTION

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Amen.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

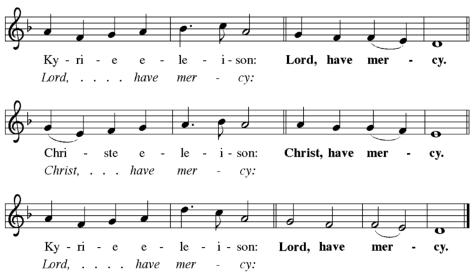
You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

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







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. ¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; ¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

The LORD crowns you with mercy and steadfast love. (Ps. 103:4)

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and forget not all God's benefits—

³who forgives all your sins

and heals all your diseases;

⁴who redeems your life from the grave

and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things

so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶O LORD, you provide vindication

and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷You made known your ways to Moses

and your works to the children of Israel.

8LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

¹⁸You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 13:10-17 Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation

Children's message

Sermon Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

HYMN OF THE DAY "Thy Holy Wings" P. 613

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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. *A brief silence.*

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness and we remember our friends and family members before you. Manifest your healing presence in their midst. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. 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 Will in Brazil, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Firmly Rooted Ministries in Oxford, Michigan. God of Heaven and earth, you call your children to seek first your kingdom and righteousness. 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, Aubrey Hamann, and Kyle McGinnis. Today we also pray for Elizabeth Lutheran Church in Caldwell, Texas and their interim pastor, Mark Neuman. 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.

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you

Amen

Canticle of Thanksgiving



THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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;

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.

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 "How Great Thou Art" P. 856

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms)from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Songs Used by Permission. CCLI License #11135365

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK			
TODAY			Aug 24
10:00	-	Worship Service - Sanctuary	-
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
MONDAY			Aug 25
		No Activities Scheduled	
TUESDAY			Aug 26
6:30	-	Scouts - Fellowship Hall	-
WEDNESDAY			Aug 27
9:30	-	Folding Bulletins	_
1:30	-	Prayer Time	
THURSDAY		·	Aug 28
		No Activities Scheduled	
FRIDAY			Aug 29
		No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed	-
SATURDAY			Aug 30
		No Activities Scheduled	•
NEXT SUNDAY			Aug 31
10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
ı			

Announcement

Congregational meeting today after service to discuss Fellowship Hall Roof Repairs

No Brunch on August 31st.

Serving Today

Council Ushers: Terry Richter, Don Artieschoufsky

Reader: George Matthys
Acolytes: Maddie Wilson

Altar Flowers: Open

Serving August 31

Council Ushers: Rhonda Ochoa, Loren Dittmeyer, Katy Safarik

Reader: Steve Morgan Acolytes: Jacob Gregory

Altar Flowers: Richter