

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



***Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor***

June 21, 2026

Sparrows PENNIES
and
NUMBERED
HAIRS

Matthew 10:24-39

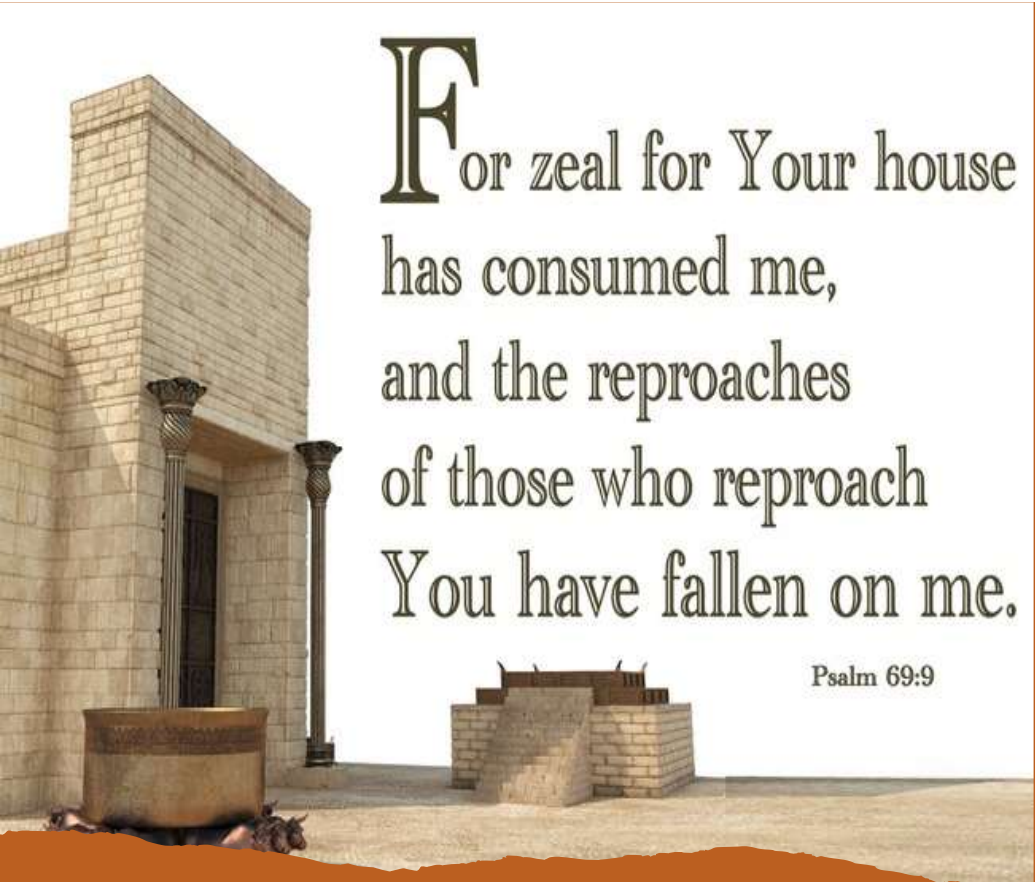


St. Paul
Lutheran



Taylor, TX
LCMC

***Welcome to
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Child Development Center and Pre-School***
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For zeal for Your house
has consumed me,
and the reproaches
of those who reproach
You have fallen on me.

Psalm 69:9



lcmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



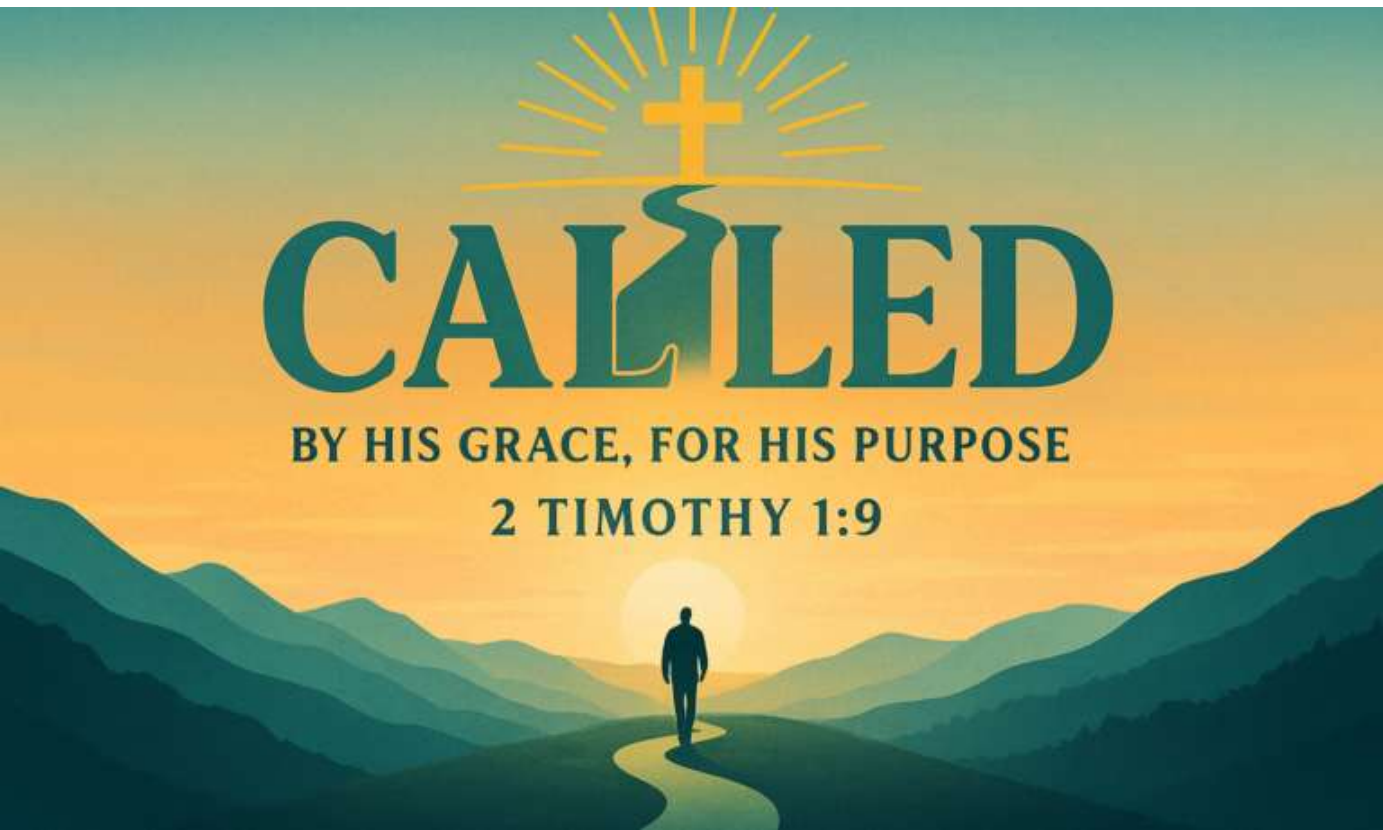
No
BRUNCH
Today



Time to take Dad out for
lunch and not make him pay!

HAPPY
Father's
DAY

Flowers are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of Father's Day
by the Richter family



CALLED
BY HIS GRACE, FOR HIS PURPOSE
2 TIMOTHY 1:9

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Mark Your Calendar!

2026 Annual TX District Gathering, July 24-25

St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Braunfels, Texas

PRAY FOR: FATHERS

Heavenly Father, we pray
that whole families will
come to faith in you.

*“Hear, my son, your
father’s instruction, and
forsake not your mother’s
teaching.”*

Proverbs 1:8

 PRAYER LEAGUE

prayerleague.org



INTRODUCTION

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads.

Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

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.

Gathering Song

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”

Hymn # 519

**¹ Open your ears,
O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's
word.**

Hymn # 519

**Open your hearts,
O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 519

[Refrain - *Sung twice*]

**God has spoken to the people,
hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of
wisdom, hallelujah!**

Hymn # 519

Final They who have ears to
hear the message,
they who have ears, then let
them hear.

Hymn # 519

**they who would learn the way
of wisdom,
let them hear God's word.
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 519

[Refrain - *Sung twice*]

**God has spoken to the people,
hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of
wisdom, hallelujah!**

Hymn # 519

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

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
A-men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

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

Alleluia, alleluia

(sung twice)

***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***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia***

(sung twice)

***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.***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia***

(sung twice)

***For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia.***

***This is the feast of victory
for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia***

(sung twice)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, “Violence and destruction!” For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, “I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,” then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: “Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!” All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. “Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him.” ¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to my own
kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen
upon me.

**¹⁰ I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

¹¹ I put on sackcloth also,
and became a byword among them.

**¹² Those who sit at the gate murmur
against me,
and the drunkards make songs
about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O Lord:

“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

**¹⁴ Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,
neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

¹⁶ **Answer me, O Lord, for your love is
kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ **Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal Life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to
Matthew 10:24-39

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops.

²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



CHILDREN'S
SERMON

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

A photograph of a field of tall grasses at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The grasses are silhouetted against the bright sky. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the text.

Do Not Be Afraid

Matthew 10:24-39

Hymn of the Day

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

Hymn # 765

**¹ Lord of all hopefulness,
Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like,
no cares can destroy,**

Hymn # 765

**be there at our waking, and
give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
at the break of the day.**

Hymn # 765

**2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord
of all faith,
whose strong hands were
skilled at the plane and the
lathe,**

Hymn # 765

**be there at our labors, and
give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts,
Lord, at the noon of the day.**

Hymn # 765

**3 Lord of all kindness, Lord
of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome,
your arms to embrace,**

Hymn # 765

**be there at our homing, and
give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord,
at the eve of the day.**

Hymn # 765

**Final Lord of all gentleness,
Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment,
whose presence is balm,**

Hymn # 765

**be there at our sleeping, and
give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts,
Lord, at the end of the day.**

Hymn # 765

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.**

Congregation may be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us.
Help those living with disability. Comfort those
experiencing any sort of illness or suffering and we
remember our friends and family members before
you.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful.

God of grace,
hear 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 Christian in Bangladesh, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Sandy, Utah.

Today we also pray for HeBrews 10:24 Community Church in San Antonio, Texas and their pastor, Chuck Knudson. By your Holy Spirit, give them the strength of faith to answer your call to make disciples.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service.

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. 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***

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

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

***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.***



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

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

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Hymn # 671

[Refrain]

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this
land with the Father's glory
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our
hearts on fire.**

Hymn # 671

**Flow, river, flow, flood the
nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord,
and let there be light!**

Hymn # 671

**¹ Lord, the light of your love
is shining,
in the midst of the darkness,
shining;**

Hymn # 671

**Jesus, light of the world,
shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you
now bring us.**

**Shine on me, shine on me
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 671

[Refrain]

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this
land with the Father's glory
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our
hearts on fire.**

Hymn # 671

**Flow, river, flow, flood the
nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord,
and let there be light!**

Hymn # 671

Final As we gaze on your
kingly brightness,
so our faces display your
likeness,

Hymn # 671

**ever changing from glory to
glory,
mirrored here, may our lives
tell your story.**

**Shine on me, shine on me
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 671

[Refrain]

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this
land with the Father's glory
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our
hearts on fire.**

Hymn # 671

**Flow, river, flow, flood the
nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord,
and let there be light!**

Hymn # 671

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

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