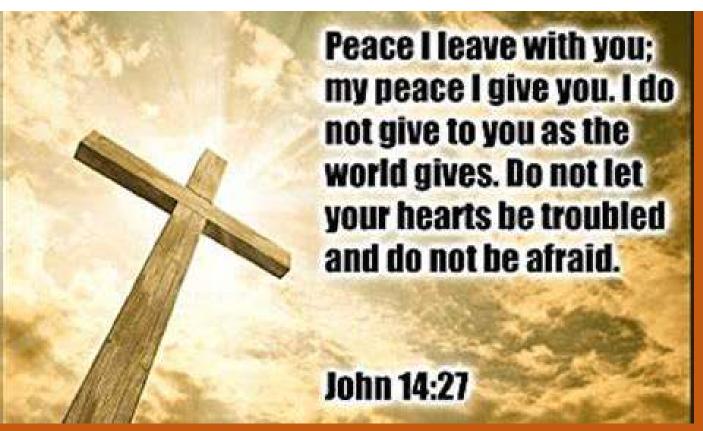




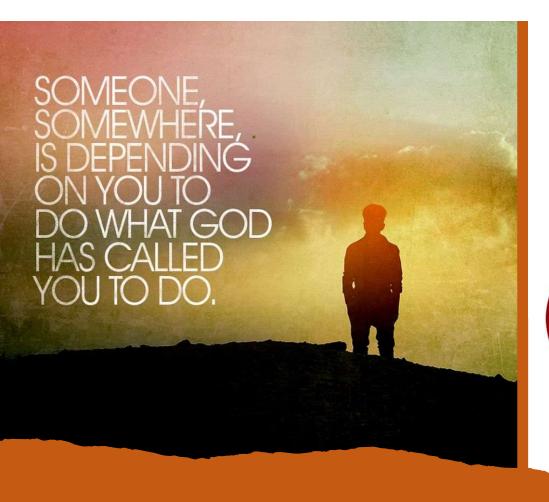
Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

May 25, 2025





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





WELCOME
WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US





Home of the free, because of the brave.

May we never forget freedom isn't free.

Have a safe and happy Memorial Day.



No Brunch Today

# thrivent\*

Money Canvas™

# Create more breathing room in your finances

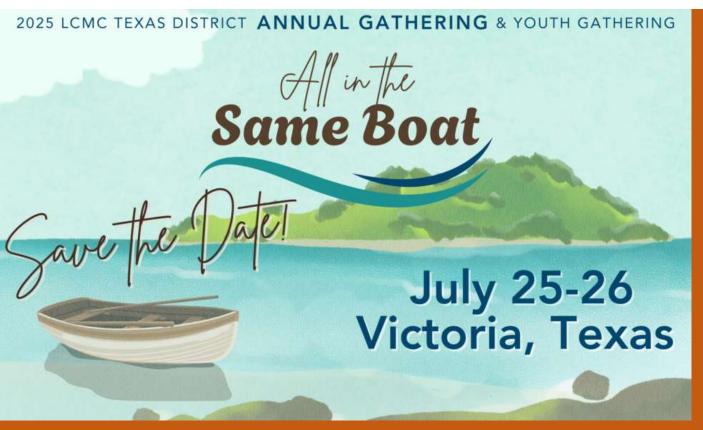
Over three free online coaching sessions with your Money Canvas™ coach, you'll form healthier budgeting, saving and spending habits, so you can free up more money for your financial priorities.



### Reminder!

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 2 pm by Michael Gates, Associate Representative with Thrivent.





Mark Your Calendar!

## INTRODUCTION

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Hymn # 834

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

# most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

<sup>2</sup> Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;

# thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

<sup>3</sup> To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;

# we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Final Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;

# all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

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**

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

# **Glory To God**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest, glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest, glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest, glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest, glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people on earth.

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# **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through 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 16:9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. 13On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

<sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM: PSALM 67**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

- <sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- <sup>2</sup> Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

- <sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

- <sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
- <sup>6</sup> The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.
- <sup>7</sup> May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

### SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

<sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Acclamation

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

### GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 14:23-29

Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL:** John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

<sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

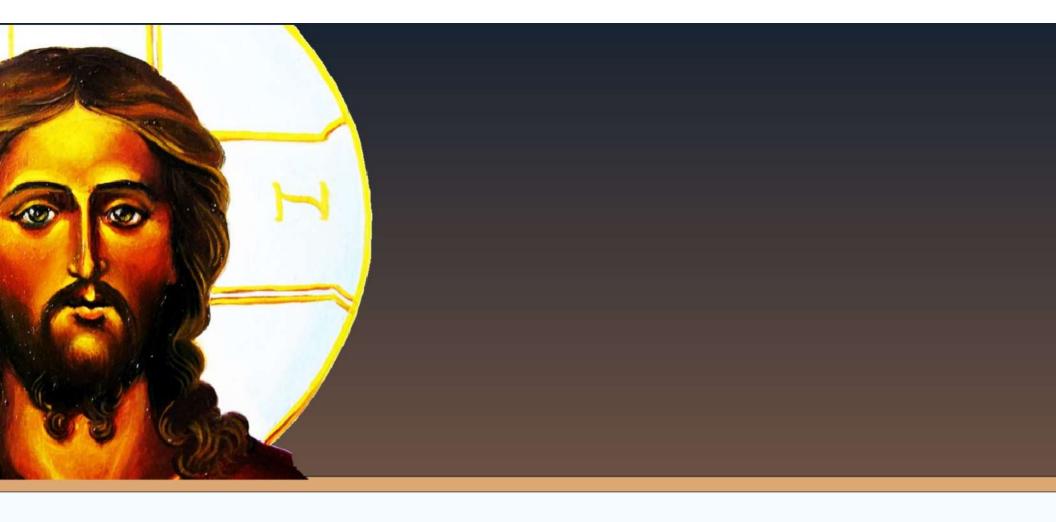
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



### Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



### My Peace I Leave with you.

### **Hymn of the Day**

"Beautiful Savior"

Hymn # 838

# <sup>1</sup> Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

### Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

## Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

# <sup>3</sup> Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;

# Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.

### Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!

### Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

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**

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.

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation.

Hear us, O God.

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylumseekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers and come alongside all who are ill or struggling and we remember our friends and family members before you.

Hear us, O God.

This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease.

Hear us, O God.

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 Didi and Serafin in the Democratic Republic of Congo serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Faith Lutheran Church in Pendleton, Oregon. Merciful Father, you have abundantly gifted your mercy and grace to all who call on your name. Help us to be ambassadors of your Kingdom as we share your mercy and grace with others.

We thank you for the leadership and ministry of the LCMC Board of Trustees, Ministry Board and support staff as they serve the churches of our association. Thank you for our fellowship of congregations. Especially today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Inez, Texas and their pastor, Cindy Bailey. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News. 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 you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give.

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.

### **Canticle of Thanksgiving**

### Refrain Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for ever and ever.

<sup>1</sup> Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations.

Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name?

### Refrain Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup> For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is the Word of God.
All praise and thanks to you, holy God!

### Refrain Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

### 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; 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**

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

**Hymn # 815** 

 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 I want to follow Jesus.

## God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

#### Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Hymn # 815

## <sup>2</sup> I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

# Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]

#### Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Hymn # 815

## Final I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

[Refrain]

#### Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Hymn # 815

### 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!

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