



***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



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SOMEONE,
SOMEWHERE,
IS DEPENDING
ON YOU TO
DO WHAT GOD
HAS CALLED
YOU TO DO.



WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



lcmmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



***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.

2025 LCMC TEXAS DISTRICT **ANNUAL GATHERING & YOUTH GATHERING**

All in the
Same Boat

Save the Date!

July 25-26
Victoria, Texas

**St. Paul
Lutheran**



**Taylor, TX
LCMC**

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,**

Hymn # 834

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

Hymn # 834

**2 Unresting, unhasting, and
silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou
rulest in might;**

Hymn # 834

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

Hymn # 834

**³ To all, life thou givest, to
both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true
life of all;**

Hymn # 834

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

Hymn # 834

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

Hymn # 834

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

Hymn # 834

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.*

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.

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When 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.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and 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.

¹⁴A 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)

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

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for
joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its
increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ 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.

¹⁰And 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. ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And 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.

²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But 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.

22:1 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 2 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.

³Nothing 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; ⁴they will see
his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.
⁵And 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.

²³Jesus 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. ²⁴Whoever 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.

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But 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. ²⁷Peace 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.

²⁸You 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. ²⁹And 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

**¹ Beautiful Savior, King of
creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!**

Hymn # 838

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

Hymn # 838

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

Hymn # 838

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

Hymn # 838

**3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is
the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on
high;**

Hymn # 838

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

Hymn # 838

**Final Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!**

Hymn # 838

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

Hymn # 838

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.

Your mercy is great.

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.

Your mercy is great.

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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.

Your mercy is great.

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.

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 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.***

***¹ 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.***

***² 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

**¹ I want to walk as a child of
the light.
I want to follow Jesus.**

Hymn # 815

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

Hymn # 815

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

**2 I want to see the brightness of
God.**

I want to look at Jesus.

Hymn # 815

**Clear sun of righteousness,
shine on my path, and show
me the way to the Father.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 815

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.

Hymn # 815

**When we have run with
patience the race,
we shall know the joy of
Jesus.
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 815

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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