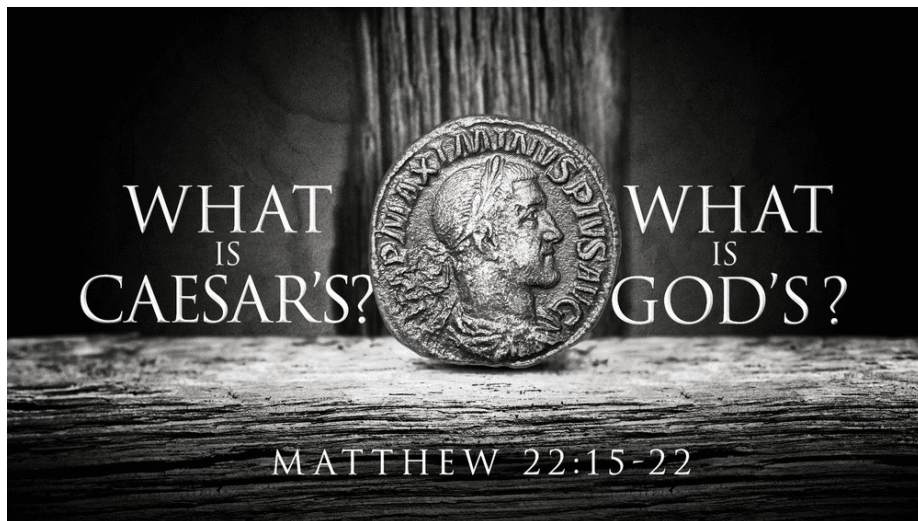




**Sunday, October 18, 2026**

**21st Sunday after Pentecost Lectionary 29, Year A**

***We celebrate today the First Communion for  
Rylen Burrow and Garryn Chandler***

*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](mailto:pastor@stpaultaylor.com)

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Office Hours: 8am-1pm Mon -Thur; Closed on Friday

**Website: [www.stpaultaylor.com](http://www.stpaultaylor.com)**



**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.

# **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

*WALK WITH US AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST!*

*Welcome!*

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 Robbins, Casey Anderson, Carol Wilson, Diane, Mark Lindell,  
Kent Safarik.**

## **Our Shut Ins:**

**Shirley Evans, Olin Tiemann, Wandeen Sakewitz, Glenn Minzenmayer,  
Aileen Bunge, Mary Miller, David Kuempel, Gloria Bartosh, Carol Lantzsch,  
Inez Sladek, Grace Bulgerin, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Lisa Cox.**

## **Our family, friends, and loved ones:**

Roger Wilson, Teresa Talley, William Shelton, Joe Gamez, Dave Martinka, Andrea Carrizales, Richard, Glynda Vanecek, Rick Mosley, Don Williams, Bill Cody, Randel Duelm, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Mary Perez, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

## **WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the earth.

**Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,  
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness  
in the world and in our own hearts.**

**Creation groans from overuse.**

**Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.**

**Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.**

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love  
to others.**

**Turn our hearts back to you.**

**Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.**

**Renew us to live as your holy people,  
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,  
in whom there is no condemnation,  
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.  
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG**

"Here I Am, Lord"

P. 574

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.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him and the gates shall not be closed:

<sup>2</sup> I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; <sup>3</sup> I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup> For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup> I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup> so that they may know,  
from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup> I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

*Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)*

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare God's glory among the nations  
and God's wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,  
more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup> **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

<sup>8</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>10</sup> **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples  
with equity."**

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

<sup>12</sup> **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,  
for you come to judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup> You will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with your truth.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup> We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly  
<sup>3</sup> remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness  
of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he  
has chosen you, <sup>5</sup> because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in  
power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we  
proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in  
spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an  
example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup> For the word of the Lord has sounded  
forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become  
known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup> For they report about us what kind of  
welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God  
<sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us  
from the coming wrath.

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 Matthew 22:15-22

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22**

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

<sup>15</sup> The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup> So they sent their disciples  
to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the  
way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people  
with partiality. <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" <sup>18</sup> But  
Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup> Show  
me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, "Whose  
head is this and whose title?" <sup>21</sup> They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give

therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Congregation**

#### **Children's message**

#### **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

P.583

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**

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

*A brief silence.*

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering and we remember our friends and family members before you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. 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 missionary Shalayne in the Philippines, serving with the Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Grace Lutheran Church in Bountiful, Utah. Especially today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of Bethlehem-Lund Lutheran Church in Elgin, Texas. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

|                                                                      |   |                                                         |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>TODAY</b>                                                         |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 18</b> |
| 10:00                                                                | - | Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary                 |               |
| 11:00                                                                | - | Sunday School, Brunch, Confirmation and Adult Education |               |
| 12:00                                                                | - | Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM                          |               |
| <b>MONDAY</b>                                                        |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 19</b> |
| 6:00                                                                 | - | Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary                     |               |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>                                                       |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 20</b> |
|                                                                      |   | Newsletter Articles Due                                 |               |
| 9:30                                                                 | - | LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg - Deanville                         |               |
| 6:30                                                                 | - | Council Meeting – St. Paul House                        |               |
| 6:30                                                                 | - | Cub Scouts 167 - Fellowship Hall                        |               |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>                                                     |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 21</b> |
| 8:30                                                                 | - | Folding Bulletins                                       |               |
| 11:30                                                                | - | Ruth Circle Birthday Lunch – Sirloin Stockade           |               |
| 1:30                                                                 | - | Prayer Time                                             |               |
| 2:30                                                                 | - | Pastor's Bible Study – St. Paul House Conf Room         |               |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>                                                      |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 22</b> |
| <i>No Activities Scheduled</i>                                       |   |                                                         |               |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>                                                        |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 23</b> |
| <i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed/Pastor's Day Off</i> |   |                                                         |               |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                                                      |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 24</b> |
| <i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office</i>                         |   |                                                         |               |
| <b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>                                                   |   |                                                         | <b>Oct 25</b> |
| 9:00                                                                 | - | Handbell Choir Practice                                 |               |
| 10:00                                                                | - | Worship - Sanctuary (Reformation Sunday)                |               |
| 11:00                                                                | - | Sunday School, Brunch, Confirmation and Adult Education |               |
| 12:00                                                                | - | Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM                          |               |

## Announcement



The altar flowers are given in thankfulness for so many blessings  
Given by the Zuehlke family

### Serving Today

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Council Ushers: | Terry Richter, Don Artieschoufsky |
| Reader:         | Debbie Matthys                    |
| Acolytes:       | Maddie Wilson, Jacob Gregory      |
| Altar Flowers:  | Zuehlke Family                    |

### Serving October 25

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Council Ushers: | Rhonda Ochoa, Katy Safarik |
| Reader:         | Steve Morgan               |
| Acolytes:       | Tayton Chandler            |
| Altar Flowers:  | Bullock                    |

**Notes:**



I would like \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of Chrysanthemum plant(s) to decorate our church for All Saints Day. The plants are \$12.00 each and the order deadline is:

**Noon - Monday, October 26th**

Please include payment with this order form.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My Chrysanthemum(s) is given in memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Chrysanthemum(s) ordered \_\_\_\_\_

X \$12.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

*You may put this form in the offering plate, deliver it to the church office between 8:00 Am to 1:00 PM, or mail to: St. Paul Lutheran Church, MUM order enclosed, 401 W 7th ST., Taylor, TX 76574.*