



Sunday, August 23, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost Lectionary 21, Year A

Walk With Us As Disciples of Christ!

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Child Development Center and Pre-School

LCMC

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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:

Loren Dittmeyer, 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:

Joe Gamez, Dave Martinka, Andrea Carrizales, Janie Luna, Tim Vanecek, Richard, Glynda Vanecek, Naomi Ochoa, 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. Please continue to remember the Stiles, Beran/Harrison, Cox, and Johnson families in your prayers.

Movies for a Sunday Morning with Pastor George

Today's movie is:

August 23 1177 B.C. The Year Civilization Collapsed, a presentation by Dr. Eric H. Cline.

All movies and videos will be shown in the Fellowship Hall Conference Room beginning at 11:15 AM. All movies will run between 88 – 108 minutes.

WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

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,
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

"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

P. 763

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



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Glory to God



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



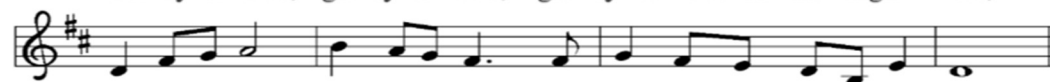
1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Final refrain
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on
 earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 138

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;**

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship.

² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -

lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:13-20

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation

Children's message

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Church's One Foundation"

P.654

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day and we remember our friends and family members before you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
receive 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 missionaries, for Luke and Ruth in the Philippines, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Grace Lutheran Church in Big Sandy, Montana. Today we also give you thanks for First English Lutheran Church in Victoria, Texas and their pastor, Chip Reynolds. Bless their ministry both now and for generations to come. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Amen

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Refrain

Sal - va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -

ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O

God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O

Rul - er of all the na-tions. Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and

Refrain

sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va-tion be-longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and

bless-ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All

Refrain

praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va-tion be-longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

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

"Faith of Our Fathers"

P. 812

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

TODAY				Aug 23
	10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary	
	11:00	-	Brunch and Adult Education	
	12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
MONDAY				Aug 24
			<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>	
TUESDAY				Aug 25
			<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>	
WEDNESDAY				Aug 26
	8:30	-	Folding Bulletins	
	1:30	-	Prayer Time	
THURSDAY				Aug 27
			<i>No Activities Scheduled</i>	
FRIDAY				Aug 28
			<i>No Activities Scheduled/Church Office Closed/Pastor's Day Off</i>	
SATURDAY				Aug 29
			<i>Church Office</i>	
	7:30	-	Shepherd's Heart Workday	
NEXT SUNDAY				Aug 30
	10:00	-	Worship - Sanctuary	
	11:00	-	Retirement Brunch for Glynda Vanecek	
	12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	

Announcement

St. Paul will be serving at Shepherds Heart Food Pantry on Saturday, August 29th from 7:30 am to 10:30 am. Anyone who can help would be greatly appreciated. If anyone needs community service this is a great opportunity. The address is 121 East 2nd Street, but please enter from Porter Street. For any questions please contact Don Artieschoufsky (512-923-0220)

Serving Today

Council Ushers:	Terry Richter, Don Artieschoufsky
Reader:	Sharon Naivar
Acolytes:	Jacob Gregory
Altar Flowers:	Open

Serving August 30

Council Ushers:	Rhonda Ochoa, Katy Safarik
Reader:	Randall Pick
Acolytes:	Sunny Paulsen
Altar Flowers:	Richter