



seventh sunday after  
**PENTECOST**  
*P e n t e c o s t*



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

July 27, 2025



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St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School***  
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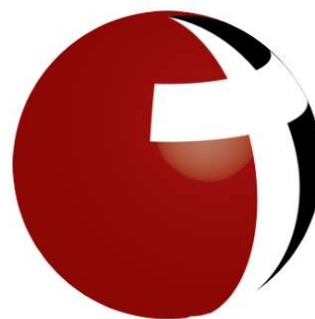
# *Prayer*

is the breath, the watchword,  
the comfort, the strength,  
the honor of a Christian.

—Spurgeon

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



**lcmc**

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

# CONCLAVE



Pastor's Study on Hollywood and the Church continues with viewing part 2 of the Conclave at 11:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall Conference Room.

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US

# ALTAR *flowers*



Altar flowers given in thankfulness to God  
by Janet Brinkmeyer



# St. Paul Lutheran Church Community Service



St. Paul will be serving at Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry and anyone who can help would be greatly appreciated. If anyone needs community service, this is a great opportunity.

For any questions please contact Don Artieschoufsky.  
(512) 923-0220 • [donartie@msn.com](mailto:donartie@msn.com)

*When:*

*Saturday August 2, 2025; 7:30 am – 10:30 am*

*Where:*

*Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry at 121 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Taylor TX*

## INTRODUCTION

*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow  
our own way.**  
**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life  
you offer.**  
**You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of + Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Song**

**“All Are Welcome”**

**Hymn # 641**



**<sup>1</sup> Let us build a house  
where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,**

Hymn # 641

**a place where  
saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.**

Hymn # 641

**Built of hopes and dreams  
and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of  
grace;**

Hymn # 641

**here the love of Christ shall  
end divisions:**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641



[Refrain]

**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**<sup>2</sup> Let us build a house where  
prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,**

Hymn # 641

**where all God's children dare  
to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.**

Hymn # 641

**Here the cross shall stand as  
witness  
and a symbol of God's grace;**

Hymn # 641



**here as one we claim the faith  
of Jesus:**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**3 Let us build a house where  
love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:**

Hymn # 641

**a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.**

Hymn # 641



**Here the love of God, through  
Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;**

Hymn # 641

**as we share in Christ the feast  
that frees us:**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**4 Let us build a house where  
hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone**

Hymn # 641

**to heal and strengthen, serve  
and teach, and live the Word  
they've known.**

Hymn # 641

**Here the outcast and the  
stranger  
bear the image of God's face;**

Hymn # 641

**let us bring an end to fear and  
danger.**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 641



[Refrain]

**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

**Final Let us build a house where  
all are named,  
their songs and visions heard**

Hymn # 641

**and loved and treasured,  
taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.**

Hymn # 641

**Built of tears and cries and  
laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of  
grace,**

Hymn # 641

**let this house proclaim  
from floor to rafter.**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 641

[Refrain]

**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Hymn # 641

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

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# WORD

*FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32*

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.

<sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?"

<sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"

<sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."

<sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."

<sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



# PSALM: Psalm 138

*Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (Ps. 138:8)*

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;

before the gods I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> **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.**

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

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

<sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

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

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> **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: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.

<sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,  
<sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the  
head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you  
were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by  
putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision  
of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in  
baptism, you were also raised with him through  
faith in the power of God, who raised him from the  
dead.

<sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.



[<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking,

<sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

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 Luke 11:1-13

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'

<sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.



<sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?  
<sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**



# **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



# LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

LUKE 11:1-13

## **Hymn of the Day**

**“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”**

**Hymn # 742**

**<sup>1</sup> What a friend we have in  
Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!**

Hymn # 742

**Oh, what peace we often  
forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear**

**--**

**all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!**

**Hymn # 742**

**2 Have we trials and  
temptations?**

**Is there trouble anywhere?**

**We should never be  
discouraged --**

**take it to the Lord in prayer.**

Hymn # 742



**Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry  
weakness --  
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

Hymn # 742

**Final Are we weak and heavy-  
laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our  
refuge --  
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

Hymn # 742

**Do your friends despise,  
forsake you?**

**Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**In his arms he'll take and shield  
you;**

**you will find a solace there.**

Hymn # 742

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**

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*



Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation.  
With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances  
of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action  
for the sake of the earth, our common home.  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways,  
caring for the lowly and having no preference for  
the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to  
seek your will on earth as in heaven.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you and we remember our friends and family members before you.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships.

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 Mac & Selah in South Asia, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Family of Faith Lutheran Church in Tiffin, Ohio. 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 Abiding Word Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas and their pastor, Cody Mills. 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.

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have gone before us.  
May we trust your steadfast love and continue in  
hope until we are united with all your saints.  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our  
prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus  
Christ.  
**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**

**“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”**

**Hymn # 543**

**<sup>1</sup> Go, my children, with my  
blessing, never alone. Waking,  
sleeping, I am with you; you are  
my own.**

Hymn # 543

**In my love's baptismal river I  
have made you mine forever. Go,  
my children, with my blessing,  
you are my own.**

Hymn # 543

**2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at  
peace and pure. Here you learned  
how much I love you, what I can  
cure.**

Hymn # 543

**Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at  
peace and pure.**

Hymn # 543



**Final Go, my children, fed and  
nourished, closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.**

Hymn # 543

**Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here his tender comfort stilled  
you. Go, my children, fed and  
nourished, joyful and free.**

Hymn # 543

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

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seventh sunday after

P E N T E C O S T