



He parted
from them &
was carried up
into heaven.

Luke 24:51

Ascension of the Lord
May 29, 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC
Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Alexander Canup • Crucifer: German Jaramillo

Lector: Autumn Hill

Communion Assistants: Jan McCanless,
Karen Charles, Sarah Fesperman

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Merry Heart”

Handbell Choir

Please stand.

Confession of Sin

73

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sin to God our Father, imploring him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Absolution

73

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name, he gives power to become children of God, and bestows on them his Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all. **Amen**

Greeting and Kyrie Eleison

74

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.



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

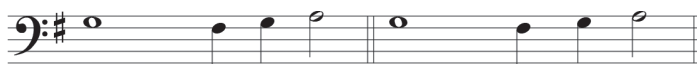


Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75

Leader:

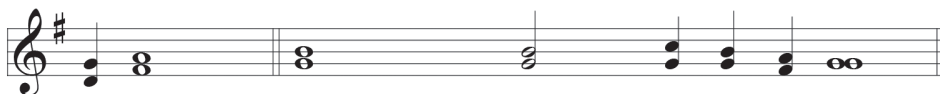


Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:



And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,



we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,



O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy
 on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
 For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

75

Leader: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And with your spirit.

Let us pray. Almighty God, we believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, has ascended into the heavens to sit at your right hand. Grant that our hearts and minds may be directed there, as well, to dwell in him each day, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Acts 1:1-11

The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had given orders by the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of things regarding the kingdom of God.

Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So, when they had come together, they began asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time that You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” But He said to them, “It is not for you to know periods of time or appointed times which the Father has set by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and as far as the remotest part of the earth.”

And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were watching, and a cloud took Him up, out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, then behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them, and they said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, | all you peoples;
shout to God with a | cry of joy.

²**For the Lord Most High is | to be feared;
he is the great king over | all the earth.**

- ³He subdues the | peoples under us,
and the nations un- | der our feet.
- ⁴**He chooses our inheri- | tance for us,
the pride of Jacob | whom he loves.**
- ⁵God has gone up | with a shout,
the Lord with the sound | of the ram's horn.
- ⁶**Sing praises to | God, sing praises;
sing praises to our | king, sing praises.**
- ⁷For God is king of | all the earth;
sing praises with | all your skill.
- ⁸**God reigns o- | ver the nations;
God sits upon his | holy throne.**
- ⁹The nobles of the peoples have gath- | ered together
with the people of the | God of Abraham.
- ¹⁰**The rulers of the earth be- | long to God,
and he is high- | ly exalted.**

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the boundless greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and made Him head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Offering

Anthem: “Ring the Easter Bells”

Adult Choir

Please stand for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

78



The Gospel is written in the 24th chapter of Luke.



79

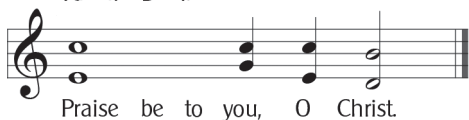
Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all the things that are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, “So it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.



79

Nicene Creed

80

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from
the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection from the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon: "He's Right There"

Prayers of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people, according to their needs.

Following each prayer:
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Holy Communion

Exhortation

85

Brothers and sisters in Christ, to receive this Holy Sacrament in a worthy manner, consider what we must now believe and do. We should believe that Jesus Christ himself is truly present in the bread and wine as his words declare: This is my body which is given for you; this is my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin.

We should also trust that Jesus Christ forgives our sins as his words promise: for the forgiveness of sin.

Finally, we should do as Christ commands when he says: Take. Eat. Drink. Do this in remembrance of me.

When we repent, believe these words, and do as Christ commands, then we have rightly examined ourselves and may worthily come to the Lord's table for the forgiveness of all our sins.

Together, we should also give thanks to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for this great gift. We should love one another with a pure heart, and with the whole Christian church take comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. May our heavenly Father grant us his grace; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Leader *Congregation*

The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it

Leader

Lift up your hearts.

Congregation

We lift them to the Lord.

Leader

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

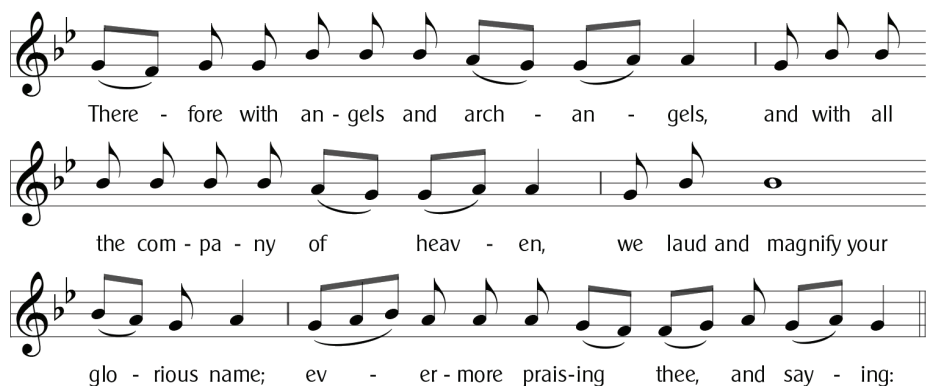
Leader

It is truly good, right, and sal - u - ta - ry, that we

should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you,

O Lord, ho - ly Fa - ther, al - might - y, ev - er - last - ing God:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his resurrection appeared openly to all his disciples, and in their sight was taken up into heaven, that he might make us partakers of his divine nature.



There - fore with an - gels and arch - an - gels, and with all
the com - pa - ny of heav - en, we laud and magnify your
glo - rious name; ev - er - more prais-ing thee, and say - ing:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

90

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: Take, and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Agnus Dei

91

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin
of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.



Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.



Nunc Dimittus

92

Lord, now let your servant de- | part in | peace,
ac- | cording to | your | word.
For my eyes have | seen your sal- | vation,
which you have prepared before the | face of | all | people:
A light to | lighten the | Gentiles
and the | glory of your | people | Israel.
Glory | be to the | Father,
and to the | Son, and to the | Holy | Spirit,
As it | was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and ever shall be, | world without | end. | A- | men

Thanksgiving

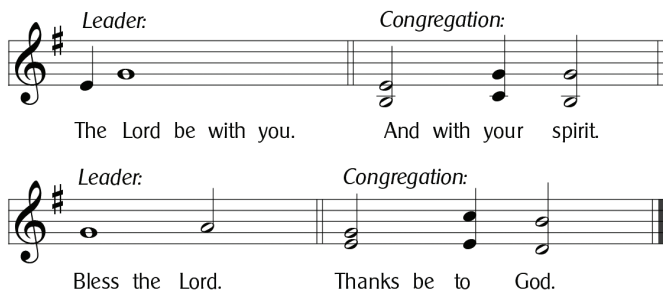
We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this your salutary gift; and we ask you in your mercy to strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen

Benedicamus

93

Leader: Congregation:



The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "God of Grace"

C. Callahan

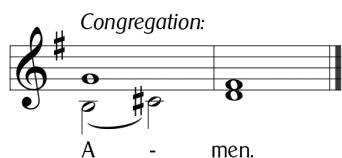
We remain seated, worshipping silently during the postlude, standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross, now at the rear of the sanctuary.

Benediction

93

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Congregation:



A - men.

Announcements

Congratulations to Matthew and Dani Cottingham on the birth of a daughter, Ceylah Eirian. Ceylah was born Tuesday, May 24, 2022. The rose on the altar is in her honor from the Lutheran Women.

We extend our love and sympathy to Linda Behrendt and family on the death of Linda's husband, Bill Behrendt. Bill passed on to the Church Triumphant Sunday, May 22, 2022. His funeral was held Friday morning here in the sanctuary.

Girl Scout Silver Award

Sara Barringer is currently working on her Silver Award in Girl Scouts. She is a member of Troop 743 here at St. Paul's. She is collecting new and gently used kitchen ware items (pots, pans, cooking utensils, silverware, plates, measuring cups, spoons, towels, potholders, etc.). The items will be donated to Binns-Counts community to help families in the area who have suffered loss due to fires. A box is in the narthex marked Sara Barringer/Binns-Counts for the items to be placed.

Sunday, May 29

- Youth & Family Committee, 2pm
- Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- No Vespers tonight. Instead, there will be a reception in the parsonage at 4pm for Leslie Ryman, pastor's sister, who would like to meet those who sent her cards during her illness.

Monday

- Church office closed for Memorial Day

Wednesday

- Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm

Saturday, June 4

- Reception for Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, fellowship hall, 3pm

Sunday, June 5

Pentecost Sunday

- Confirmation Sunday
- Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- Men's Choir, 3pm
- Kathy Ketchie Circle, 5pm
- Vespers—finger foods, 6pm; Vespers at 6:30 are also livestreamed on the church Facebook page.

Meals on Wheels Needs Your Help

If you would like to be a part of Meals on Wheels, and help deliver meals each month, please contact Betty Monroe at 704-279-3598. If you would like to know more, call Betty to schedule a ride-along with her to see the process.

Reception for Pastor Ryman

Please join us to honor
Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman
with a reception for earning his
Doctor of Ministry in Stewardship of the Word
from St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

**Saturday, June 4, 2022, 3pm–5pm,
in the church fellowship hall**

Refreshments will be served following the program.
*The reception will begin with a special program at 3pm,
so you may want to arrive a few minutes early.*

High School Fire Academy for High School Seniors during the 2022-2023 school year

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in Salisbury is offering *NC Department of Insurance Firefighter Certification*, and *NC Office of Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Medical Responder Certification* class. The class is at **no cost to the student**, and all equipment is provided. Courses will be fall and spring of your senior year, school days only.

As a NC Certified Firefighter/Emergency Medical Responder, you could become a member of the Volunteer Fire Department or become employed within fire services or Emergency Medical Services (EMS). NC Firefighter certification also serves as a prerequisite for specialized and higher-level training within the fire service.

If you are interested in this opportunity, information is posted on the bulletin boards at entrances of the church.

Vacation Bible School

“Outlaws for God”

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 22, 23, and 24

Monday After-School Care Update

The first part of our Monday after-school care for Faith Academy students has been successful. Thanks goes out to Gina Barringer, Susan Bernhardt, and Ben (by association), Libby Bingham, Dana Bost, Louise Eller, Lisa Monroe, Franda Raymer, and Pastor Ryman for volunteering.

We can always use more volunteers to spread the love! With the volunteers that have signed up so far, we should only have to commit to one Monday a month for 2½ hours each Monday.

The Outreach Committee will meet soon with the Faith Academy Charter School to see what steps will be next. Thanks for the support. Contact Susan Bernhardt at 704-637-0155 or srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com, if you would like to help.

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in...*

(Matthew 25:35)

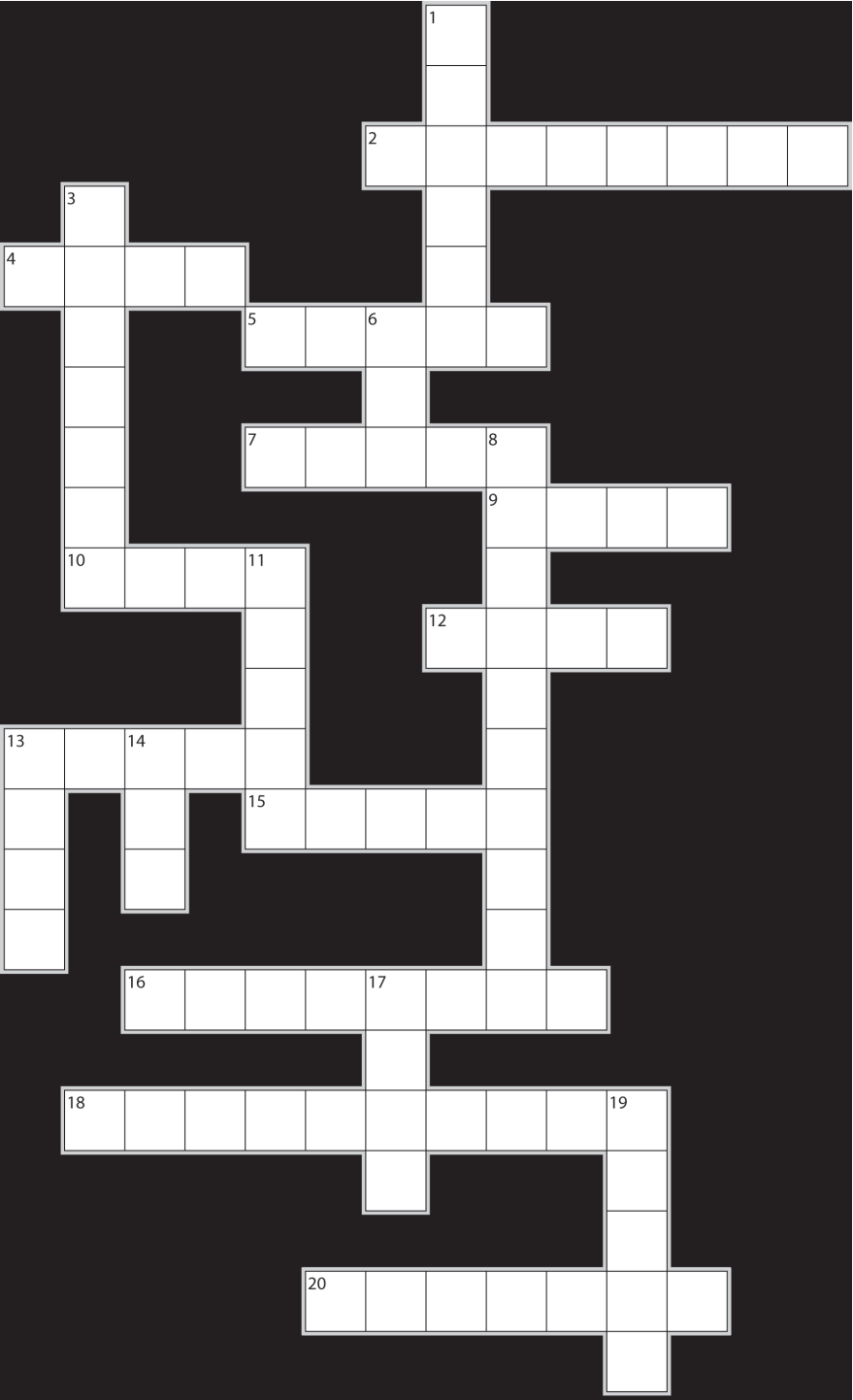
Special Prayers for members of St. Paul's:

- Shiela Barringer – Recovering, knee replacement
- Linda Beaver – Health concerns
- Terry Eller – Recovering from surgery
- Sarah Fesperman – Recovering at home
- Freida Harper – Health concerns
- Shelton Harper – Recovering, stint
- Melinda Redding – Recovering at home
- Susan Ryman – Recovering from pastor's recovery
- Steve Yost – Recovering, knee surgery

*Please see the monthly Epistle for a complete list of prayer needs
for members, homebound, family, and friends.*

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (5/22).....	\$4,915
Other Offering (5/22)	\$1,663
Worship Attendance (5/22)	160
General Fund YTD Receipts as of 5/22	\$165,099
General Fund YTD Budget as of 5/22	\$184,883



Two Year Daily Lectionary

Easter 7, Year 2

Sunday – Exodus 3:1–12; Hebrews 12:18–29; Luke 10:17–24

Monday – Joshua 1:1–9; Ephesians 3:1–13; Matthew 8:5–17

Tuesday – 1 Samuel 16:1–13a; Ephesians 3:14–21; Matthew 8:18–27

Wednesday – Isaiah 4:2–6; Ephesians 4:1–16; Matthew 8:28–34

Thursday – Zechariah 4:1–14; Ephesians 4:17–32; Matthew 9:1–8

Friday – Jeremiah 31:27–34; Ephesians 5:1–32; Matthew 9:9–17

Saturday – Ezekiel 36:22–27; Ephesians 6:1–24; Matthew 9:18–26

ACROSS

2. God provides people to equip believers for this work.
(Ephesians 4:1–16)
4. God is a consuming... (Hebrews 12:18–29)
5. The Lord has washed away the daughters'... (Isaiah 4:2–6)
7. By God's Spirit, not might or... (Zechariah 4:1–14)
9. What did the scribes think? (Matthew 9:1–8)
10. Put off this old thing. (Ephesians 4:17–32)
12. Who should bury their own dead? (Matthew 8:18–27)
13. Walk as children of... (Ephesians 5:1–32)
15. People look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the...
(1 Samuel 16:1–13a)
16. The girl wasn't dead; she was... (Matthew 9:18–26)
18. God told Joshua to be strong and... (Joshua 1:1–9)
20. Believers will feast in heaven with Jacob, Isaac, and...
(Matthew 8:5–17)

DOWN

1. God puts him within us. (Ezekiel 36:22–27)
3. Jesus came not to call the righteous, but... (Matthew 9:9–17)
6. God puts this within his people. (Jeremiah 31:27–34)
8. The mystery was revealed to Paul by... (Ephesians 3:1–13)
11. Christ dwells in our hearts through... (Ephesians 3:14–21)
13. Be strong in his might. (Ephesians 6:1–24)
14. Moses was afraid to look at him. (Exodus 3:1–12)
17. The demons wanted to be sent into them. (Matthew 8:28–34)
19. Jesus saw him fall like lightning. (Luke 10:17–24)



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mark Ryman, Pastor

revryman@gmail.com

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary

splchurch@att.net

Judy Lowman, Treasurer

jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

George Barringer, Council President

gsbarringer@carolina.rr.com

John Brock, Music Director

splcmusicalisbury@gmail.com

Connie Burleson, Organist

connieburleson@yahoo.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Alison and Aaron Moore, Boy Scout Coordinators, 704-467-9191

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