



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Grace Walker • Crucifer: Lindsey Whisnant
Cantor: Hila Canup • Lector: Hila Canup
Communion Assistants: Bonnie Hinson,
Wayne Taylor, Bethany Whisnant

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Now We Join in Celebration”

Karl Osterland

The Ten Commandments *Please stand.*

The Lord is God, our God, and has brought us out of bondage to sin and death, commanding us to observe our conduct before him and our neighbor.

¹You shall have no other gods before me.

**²You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

**³Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

**⁴Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵You shall not kill.

⁶You shall not commit adultery.

⁷You shall not steal.

**⁸You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

**⁹You shall not covet
your neighbor’s house.**

**¹⁰You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor’s.**

Confession and Absolution

Hymn: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

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:

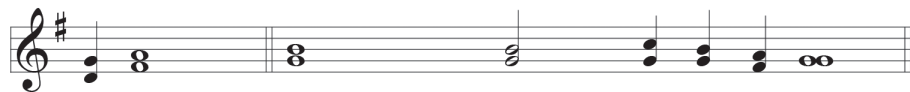


Glory be to God on high!

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

77

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

Direct our hearts, O Lord, by your merciful reign, because without your help it is impossible to please you. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever one God.

Please be seated.

A - men.

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

The word of the Lord.

Psalms 27:1-9

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then
shall I | be afraid?

²**When evildoers came upon me to eat | up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stun- | bled and fell.**

³Though an army should en- | camp against me,
yet my heart shall not | be afraid;

⁴**And though war should rise | up against me,
yet will I put my | trust in him.**

⁵One thing have I asked of the LORD; one | thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all
the days | of my life;

⁶**To behold the fair beauty | of the LORD
and to seek him | in his temple.**

⁷For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe | in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and
set me high up- | on a rock.

⁸**Even now he lifts | up my head
above my enemies | round about me.**

⁹Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with
sounds | of great gladness;

I will sing and make music | to the LORD.

¹⁰**Hearken to my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.**

¹¹You speak in my heart and say, | “Seek my face.”
Your face, LORD, | will I seek.

¹²**Hide not your | face from me,
nor turn away your servant | in displeasure.**

¹³You have been my helper; cast me | not away;
do not forsake me, O God of | my salvation.

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁹... For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ

you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,
³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear
that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

Offering

Anthem: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

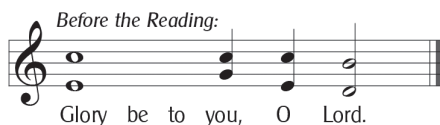
Laura Brock

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

78



The Holy Gospel is written in the 20th chapter of Matthew.



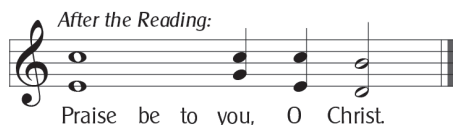
Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

¹[Jesus said,] “For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’

⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired

about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



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 of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Living in God's House"

Hymn: "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

42

Prayers of the Church

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

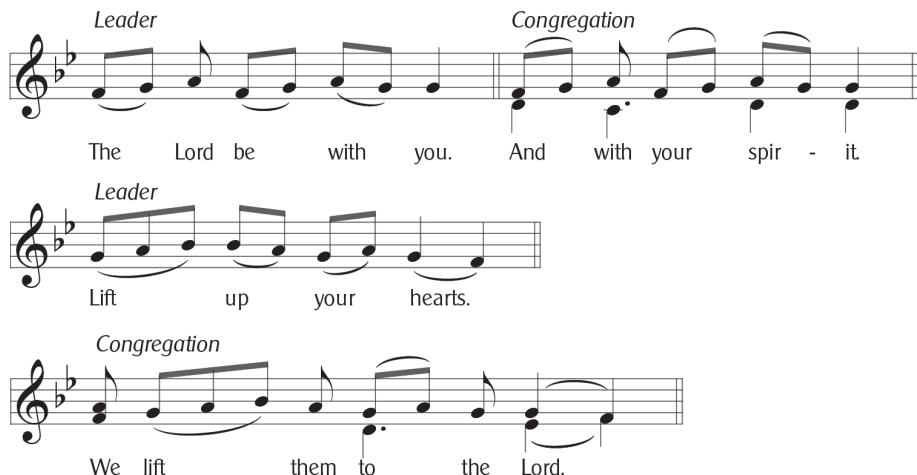
Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
 trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Exhortation

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

Leader



The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

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.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and saying:

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.

The Lord's Prayer

90

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹**hallowed be thy name,**

²**thy kingdom come,**

³**thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴**Give us this day our daily bread;**

⁵**and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶**and lead us not into temptation,**

⁷**but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Words of Institution

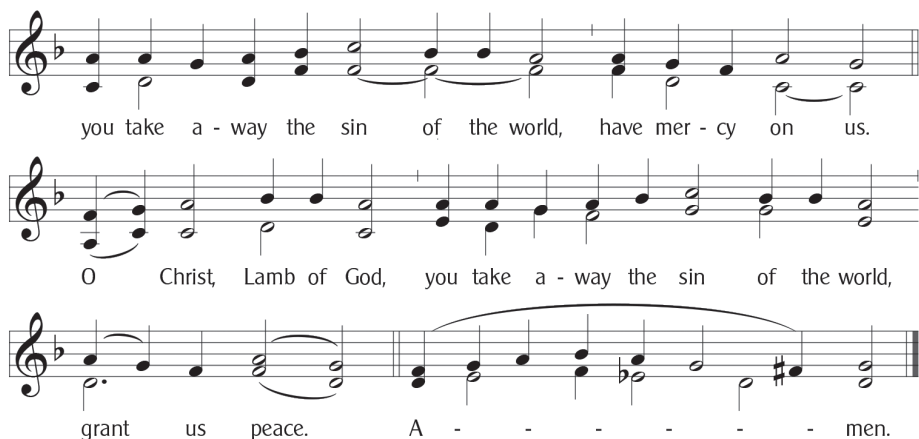
Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me.

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,



Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

May the body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ 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 thank and praise you, almighty and loving Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of your beloved son, Jesus Christ. Having received this holy Sacrament with our mouths, may our faith in you apprehend and enjoy your grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ and his Church, and everlasting life. Send

Amen

Benedicamus

93

Leader: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: *Congregation:*

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Praise, My Soul, the King of Creation” M. Burkhardt

We remain seated, worshiping 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.

*Susan and Pastor Mark Ryman
celebrate their wedding anniversary today.
The altar flowers are placed by Pastor Ryman
in honor of their 46 years of marriage.*

Sunday, September 24

- District Youth gathering, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- No Vespers tonight
- **All members of the Standing Committees** meet at 6pm
(Standing committees are: Christian Education, Finance, Outreach, Property, Worship & Music, Youth & Family)
- Council meeting, 6:30pm

Monday, September 25

- After school program for Faith Academy, 1–3pm
- Lutheran Men's meeting , 6:30pm

Tuesday, September 26

- Adult Confirmation Class, 6pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:45pm

Wednesday, September 27

- Classical Conversations homeschool 8:30am–3:30pm
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm

Thursday, September 28

- Bible Study, 10am and 6pm

Sunday, October 1

- Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- Lutheran Women's Sunday
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Lutheran Women's Executive meeting, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Lutheran Women's Quarterly meeting, 5pm
- Kathy Ketchie Circle, 6pm
- No Vespers tonight

Time and Talent Forms—Time and Talent forms are used to help committees and other groups in the church plan for the coming year. The chairpersons and coordinators need to know who they can call to help. Please take a moment to choose how you would like to serve, fill in your contact information, and turn in your form before October 1st. Forms are in the narthex. Thank you.

Christmas Concert—Christmas is right around the corner, and we need your help! This year, on Saturday, December 23 at 4:00 pm, St. Paul’s will be hosting a fun and festive (yet to be named) Christmas concert. We are looking for volunteers to help with music and production. If you play an instrument, love to sing, can help with the production, or are willing to be a reader, please let us know your interest by October 1, 2023.

You can grab a sign-up form in the Narthex, go to this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hrh3fvtVLh>, or call/email Heather or Michael Canup to volunteer.

Heather Canup - 336-408-0500; heather_canup@outlook.com

Michael Canup - 336-529-5203; michael_canup@outlook.com

Recent prayer needs:

- Cindy Alligood – Recovering at home
- Jasper Eller (12-year-old grandson of Terry and Myra Jane Eller) – Cancer
- Lisa Phelps – Recovering at home
- Vaughn Wilhelm – Recovering at home

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

Stewardship

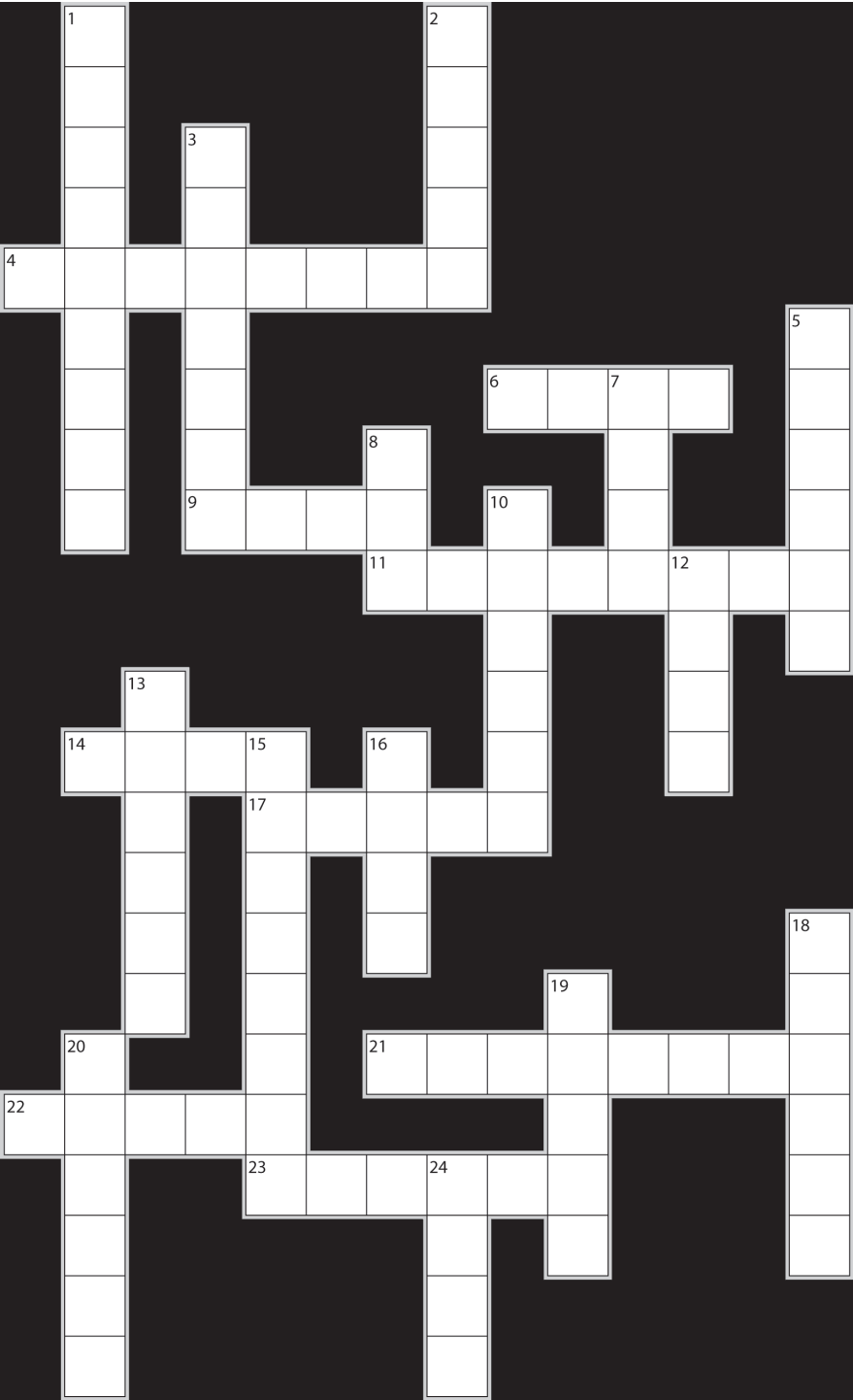
General Fund Offering (9/17)	\$9,895
Other Offering (9/17)	\$3,825
Children’s Mission (3rd qtr. St. Paul Lutheran Seminary)	\$1,860.50
Sunday School Attendance (9/17)	64
Worship Attendance (9/17)	174

We Have Not Listened

Find the 27 bold words from Daniel 9:2–6.

D Y P J S L S M N Z A I H C F
R R T R E C P P U O C O A O A
J A O I A R R T E S T O I T S
K E N L A Y U O U E C F M S T
S A C Y V E E S L Y K J E S I
D Z E A V W E R A L E Y R E N
O D U O F D R O W L S N E V G
T P L B Y E U D M W E U J E T
U N D E R S T O O D V M E N N
V U A Q Y E L G P G X B L T A
N R E E H S I N N E D E I Y N
S W A P S E E K I N G R J P E
J R O D E S O L A T I O N S V
S R N O I S S E F N O C A R O
P A N H Z D E N E T S I L T C

I, **Daniel**, **understood** in the **scrolls** the **number** of the **years**, according to the **word** of the **LORD** to **Jeremiah** the **prophet**, for the accomplishing of the **desolations** of **Jerusalem**: **seventy years**. So I **set** my **face** to the Lord **God**, **seeking** him by **prayer** and supplications, with **fasting** and sackcloth and ashes. I **prayed** to the LORD my God, and made **confession**, and said, “Oh, Lord, the great and awesome God, who **keeps covenant** and steadfast **love** with them who love him and keep his commandments, we have **sinned**, and have dealt wrongly, and have acted wickedly, and have rebelled, turning aside from your precepts and from your ordinances. We have **not listened** to your servants, the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.



Pentecost 17A

Find the answers in today's four Scripture lessons.

It may help with the Psalm if you use the English Standard Version instead of the old Psalter in the bulletin.

ACROSS

4. The master hired people to work in his...
6. The Lord is the stronghold of your...
9. To live is Christ; to die is...
11. The master hired people early, and in the third, sixth, and ninth hours, and what other hour?
14. The last will be first, and the first...
17. This shall not fear.
21. Rate of a day's pay in the gospel lesson
22. The Lord is your salvation and...
23. Standing firm in one...

DOWN

1. Though war arises, you may be...
2. Seek the Lord while he may be...
3. When were the laborers paid?
5. Let your manner of life be...
7. Seek God's...
8. How many hours did they work who were hired last?
10. Paul's desire was to die or...
12. Call upon the Lord while he is...
13. God will do this abundantly.
15. God's thoughts are higher than your...
16. God's ways are higher than your...
18. Paul's troubles advanced this.
19. Striving side by side for the...
20. Let him forsake his way.
24. The Lord will lift you high upon a...



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: secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

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

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Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

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

Next Sunday's Lessons: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-10; Philippians 2:1-18; Matthew 21:23-32

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