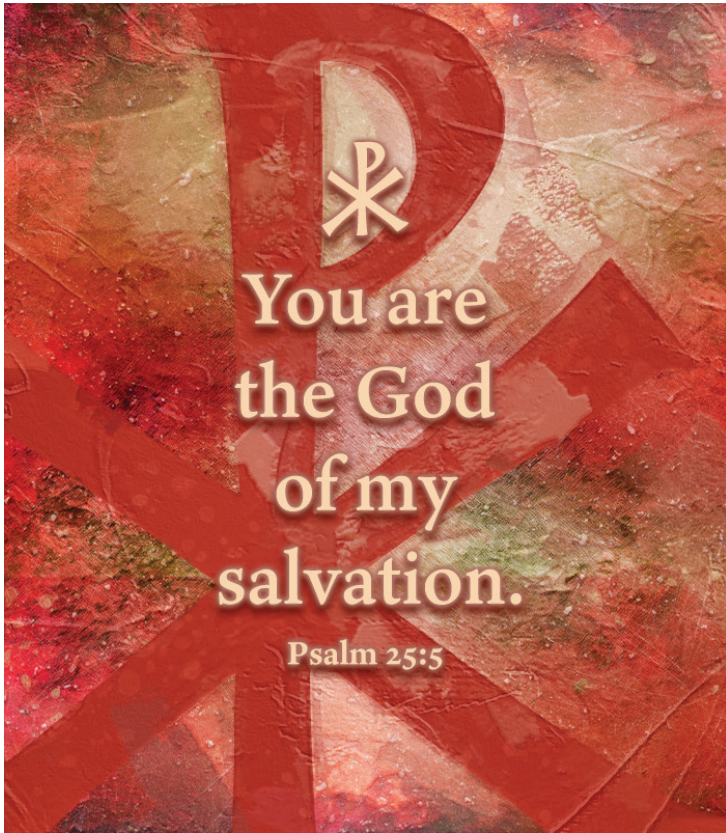




Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 2023 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Ushers: Nicole Amos, Susan Bernhardt, Carolyn Canup,
Jenny Earnhardt, Libby Bingham, Donna Lyerly
Acolyte: Grace Walker • Crucifer: Abby Walker
Liturgist: Lauren Holland • Cantor: Laura Brock
Lector: Jeanne Shaver • Preacher: Jennifer Aldridge
Communion Assistants: Crystal Bost,
Karen Charles, Bonnie Hinson, Terri Powlas

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “O Worship the King with Here I Am to Worship”

arr. Anna Laura Page

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

73

Hymn: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

205

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:

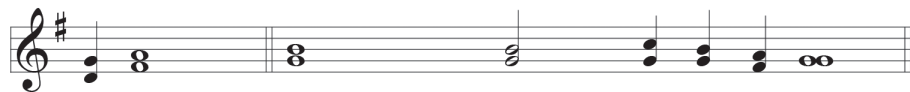


Glory be to God on high!

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: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

O Almighty and most Merciful God, through your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²⁴“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the LORD God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the LORD God; so turn, and live.”

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God,
I put my | trust in you;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies
triumph | over me.

²**Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.**

³Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.

⁴**Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have
I trusted all | the day long.**

⁵Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.

⁶**Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your love and for the sake
of your good- | ness, O LORD.**

⁷Gracious and upright | is the LORD;
therefore he teaches sinners | in his way.

⁸**He guides the humble in | doing right
and teaches his way | to the lowly.**

⁹All the paths of the LORD are | love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his | testimonies.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-18

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much

more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

The word of the Lord.

Offering

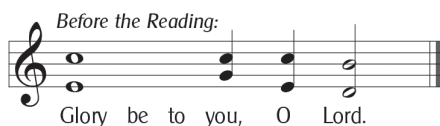
Anthem: “Celebrate”

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

78



The Holy Gospel is written in the 21st chapter of Matthew.



Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

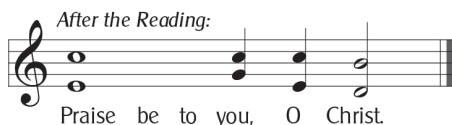
²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’

he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

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

Kara Burnett

Sermon

Jennifer Aldridge

Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult"

184

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

85

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

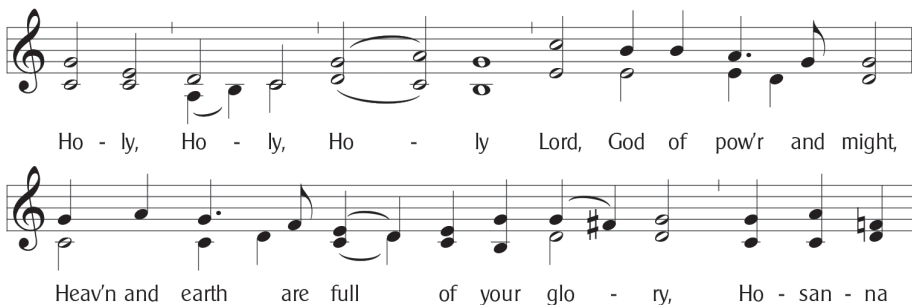
Leader *Congregation*

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



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God—through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples as he had promised, causing the whole earth to rejoice.

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





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,
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,
grant us peace. A - - - - - men.

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 your Holy Spirit to remind us of these promises throughout the week, and keep us in the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Benedicamus

93

Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "The Lord Is My Light"

Mary McDonald

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.

*Thank you to the ladies leading us in worship today.
We are grateful for the dedication you have shown to your church.*

St. Paul's Congregation is invited to a reception honoring 60 years of marriage for Judi and David (D.W.) Honbarger, on Saturday, October 7th, at 2pm, in St. Paul's fellowship hall.

Judi and D.W. were married on December 1, 1963. Please come and celebrate with them.

Recent prayer needs:

- Cindy Alligood – Recovering at home
- Jean Deal – Health concerns
- Johnny Jenkins (property brother) – Health concerns
- Michelle Orbison – Health concerns
- Betty Niedens – Recovering at home
- Mike Morris – Health concerns

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



Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 14th • 5:00pm

Traditional German fare,
including Bratwurst, sauerkraut,
red cabbage, German and American potato
salads, apple dumplings,
apple cake, tea and German coffee.

**RSVP on the pew pads
or by calling the church office
no later than October 8th.**

Christmas Concert—On Saturday, December 23rd, at 4:00 pm, St. Paul’s will be hosting a fun and festive (yet to be named) Christmas concert. We need 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 today** so we can plan. 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. Heather Canup – 336-408-0500; heather_canup@outlook.com Michael Canup – 336-529-5203; michael_canup@outlook.com

Christmas Program Planning—If you are participating in the Christmas Concert, there will be a **short volunteer meeting directly after worship** service, next Sunday, **October 8th**, in the Conference Room.

There will also be a pre-planning meeting for the upcoming **Kids Christmas Pageant in the Sanctuary on October 8th, at 3pm**. This meeting is for all Sunday School teachers and anyone who wants to help with pageant production.

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (9/24)	\$7,530
Other Offering (9/24).....	\$3,143
Children’s Mission (3rd qtr. total for St. Paul Lutheran Seminary)..	\$2,019
Sunday School Attendance (9/24).....	72
Worship Attendance (9/24).....	182

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- Mike Morris – Health concerns

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

Sunday, October 1

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

Monday, October 2

- After school program for Faith Academy, 1–3pm
- Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm

Tuesday, October 3

- Extension Club, 1pm
- No Adult Confirmation class this evening
- Grace Ridenhour, 6:30pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:45pm

Wednesday, October 4

- Classical Conversations homeschool 8:30am–3:30pm
- Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm

Thursday, October 5

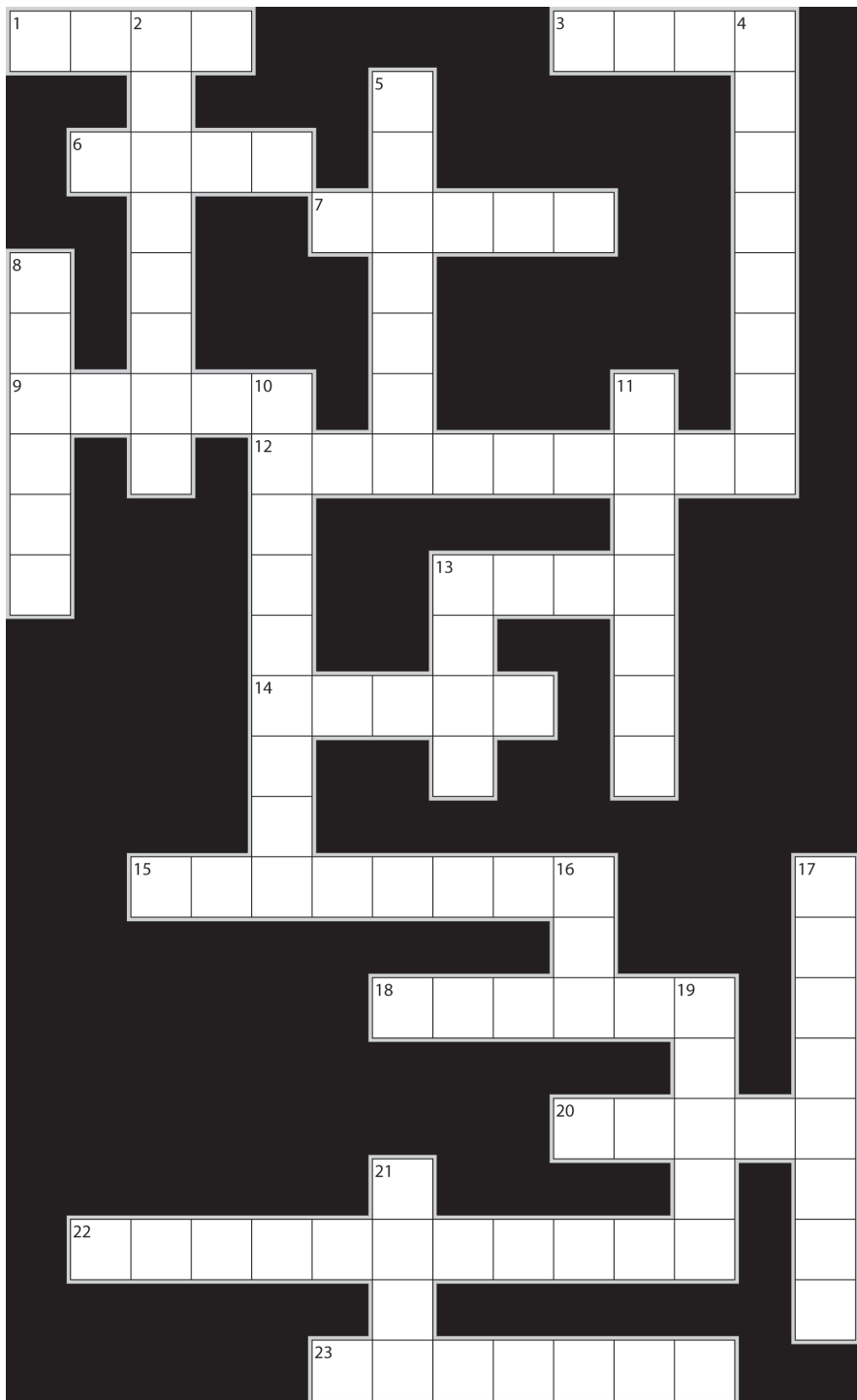
- No Bible study today

Saturday, October 7

- Reception honoring Judi and D.W. Honbarger, 2pm

Sunday, October 8

- Outdoor Worship Service, 10:30am (If there is inclement weather, we will meet in the Sanctuary.)
- Christmas Concert participants—after worship, conference room
- Planning for Kid's Christmas pageant, Sanctuary, 2pm
- Youth & Family and Outreach Committees meet, 2pm
- Youth Group, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm



Pentecost 18A

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

1. What did the psalmist do all day long?
3. Every one of these will bow to Jesus.
6. We are to be of the same...
7. Jesus humbled himself by being obedient to this kind of death.
9. Lord, teach me your...
12. They wanted to know who gave this to Jesus.
13. Jesus asked the chief priests and elders a question about his baptism.
14. We place this in God.
15. The parable's father sent his sons there.
18. Look to their interests.
20. Lead me in your...
22. They will get into heaven before the chief priests and elders.
23. When they saw John's righteousness, the chief priests and elders did not do this.

DOWN

2. Repent so that this will not be your ruin.
4. Though Jesus was in the form of God, he did not count this as something to be grasped.
5. Jesus took this form.
8. To turn from your transgressions
10. You are the God of my...
11. The Lord instructs them in the way.
13. The ways of the Lord are...
16. The soul who sins shall...
17. The chief priests and elders interrupted this with their questions.
19. All of these belong to the Lord.
21. Turn away from your wickedness and save your...



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

Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, Pastor
pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Perry Bernhardt, Council President
perryhbernhardt@gmail.com

John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicalisbury@gmail.com

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: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46