



The Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Cantor: Heather Canup • Lector: Kenneth Whisnant

Acolyte: Grace Walker • Crucifer: Alexander Canup

Communion Assistants: Autumn Hill,

Bonnie Hinson, Terri Powlas

This Week's Memory Verse

I am the door.
If anyone enters by me,
he will be saved
and will go in and out
and find pasture.
Psalm 30:5



Memory Verse Aid

IATD.
IAEBM,
HWBS
AWGIAO
AFP.
P305

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Mothers

Prelude: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Dale Wood

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

77

Stand and face the processional cross at the rear of the sanctuary.

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

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Reflection and self-examination

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

77

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. By Christ's authority alone, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

Hymn: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

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Greeting

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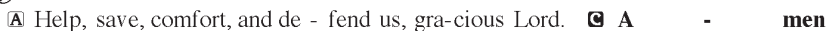
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Kyrie

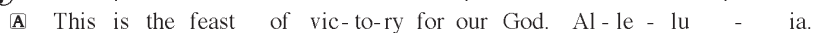


A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



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free to be peo- ple of God. Pow- er and rich - es and wis- dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless- ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God. Al- le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless- ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



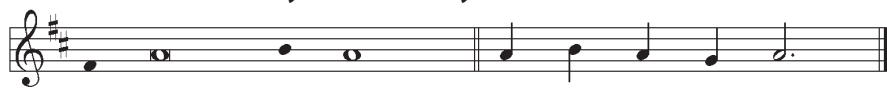
This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu- ia. Al- le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

82



☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ And al - so with you.

Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all that are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you

according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever one God.

Amen *Please be seated.*

First Lesson: Acts 20:17-35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again.

²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those

who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

²**He makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³He re- | vives my soul
and guides me along right pathways | for his name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they | comfort me.**

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of
those who | trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my
cup is | running over.

⁶**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

Second Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.” *The word of the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

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The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.



Gospel: John 10:22-30

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear

witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one." *The Gospel of our Lord.*



Confession of Faith

65

We profess our faith in God using the Apostles Creed.

¹I believe in God the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

²I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

³I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Hearing the Shepherd"

Hymn: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

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The Prayers of the Church

85

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

Offering: Scan the QR code to the right to be taken directly to the giving page on your phone or tablet. Ushers will also pass the offering plates along each row.



Anthem: “The Lord Is My Shepherd”

Adult Choir

A musical score for the Anthem "The Lord Is My Shepherd" for Adult Choir. The score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come." The score includes a common time signature 'C' at the beginning of the first line.

C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Thanksgiving

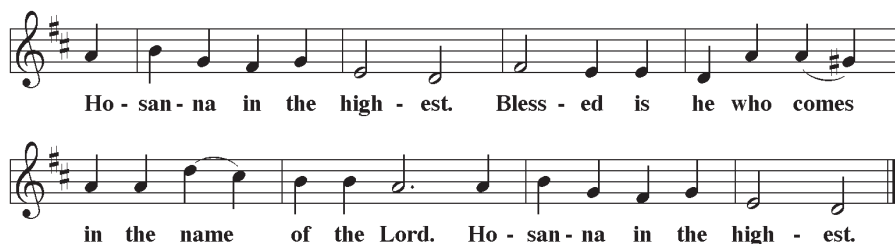
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The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord—for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

The Lord's Prayer

91

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹hallowed be thy name,

²thy kingdom come,

³thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴Give us this day our daily bread;

⁵and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶and lead us not into temptation,

⁷but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Distribution of Holy Communion

92

If you need a gluten-free wafer or juice, please hold up your index finger in front of you as the server approaches you at the rail.



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



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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what



he has done. Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear his name. He re - calls his prom - is -



es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food—through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—bless you now and forever. **Amen**

Postlude: “Fanfare on “Thine Is the Glory” Charles Callahan
*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.*

The Benediction

74

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen



Ladies Banquet Saturday

Get your tickets for the Ladies Banquet on the front porch after worship today. Tickets are \$10 for adults. Children's tickets (4–11) are \$5. Children 3 and under are free.

The banquet is this coming Saturday, **May 17th, 11am–1pm** in the church fellowship hall.

Theological Conference

The St. Paul Theological Conference will be held here in our fellowship hall Monday, May 12, beginning at Noon, through Wednesday, May 14, at 2pm.

Give hope this spring.
Give blood.



Blood Drive

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall
205 St Paul Church Rd
Salisbury, NC 28146

Monday, May 19, 2025
1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



**American
Red Cross**

We want our May blood drive is to be just as successful
as the February drive, when we collected 44 units.

Please donate.

You may make an appointment at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org),
or you may contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930.

Walk-ins are also welcome.

May Youth & Family Outing

The Youth & Family Committee will go skating next Sunday,
May 18, 2025, from 2:00pm to 5:00pm at Skateland USA in
Kannapolis. Youth and their families are encouraged to join
us. Contact Angela Ziegler 704-433-0636 by text for more
information.

The Calendar this Week

Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- No College Ministry on Mother's Day
- No Vespers on Mother's Day

Monday, May 12

- Morning Prayer, 8:30am, chapel
- Theological Conference, Noon – 5pm
- Melissa Lura Circle, 6pm
- Finance Committee, 6:30pm
- Outreach Committee, 6:30pm

Tuesday, May 13

- Theological Conference, 8am – 5pm
- Morning Prayer, 8:30am, chapel
- Girl Scouts, 6:30pm
- Bonnie Bost Circle, 6:30pm

Wednesday, May 14

- Theological Conference, 8am – 2pm
- Morning Prayer, 8:30am, chapel
- Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation class, 7pm

Thursday, May 15

- Morning Prayer, 8:30am, chapel
- Rowan Smart Start, 10am – Noon
- Friendship Club, 10:30am

Friday, May 16

- Morning Prayer, 8:30am, chapel
- Dance Class, 2pm

Saturday, May 17

- Ladies Banquet, Noon – 1:30pm

Sunday, May 18, Youth Sunday

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Youth & Family roller skating, 2pm
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Men's Choir will sing at Autumn Care, 2pm
- Vespers, 6pm

VBS 2025—Mary, Martha, and Many Faithful Women

VBS will start on Friday, June 20, 6–8pm. Saturday and Sunday classes will be 9:30am–3pm. We will wrap up the weekend with an ice cream social for all those participating in VBS. If you are willing to help with VBS, please contact Kara Burnett or Jennifer Aldridge.

Kara: 704-239-7614; karaelizabeth629@gmail.com

Jennifer: 704-223-1696; jaldridge81@gmail.com

Recent Prayer Needs

- Gina Barringer – health concerns
- Marvin Burnett, father of Allen Burnett – Hospice care
- Wilbur Canup – health concerns
- Dennis Cook, Luke Deal's "Paw Paw" – recovering from surgery
- Barbara Deese – health concerns
- Jan Dolan –recovering from surgery
- Jimmy Earnhardt – health concerns
- Mary Lee Earnhardt – health concerns
- D. W. Honbarger – health concerns
- Tommy Huffman – health concerns; home
- Randy Johnson – recovering from surgery
- Betty Niedens – recovering from surgery
- George Reese – health concerns

For a longer list of prayer needs, please consult The Monthly Epistle. This page in the bulletin is to make you aware of the most recent prayer needs. Typically, after one month on this list the name and request will have migrated to The Monthly Epistle.



Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from
Acts 20:17-35; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30.
The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle.*

ACROSS

1. The sheep do this with the Shepherd.
3. These awaited Paul in every city.
6. The Lord makes the psalmist lay down in these pastures.
10. The Lord led the psalmist beside these waters.
11. I will fear no...
13. Paul wished to finish it.
15. They hear Jesus' voice.
18. He and Jesus are one.
20. Paul had to contend with their plots.
22. John looked and saw a great...

DOWN

2. The color of the multitude's bloody robes
3. The angels, elders, and creatures bookended their song with this word.
4. The Jews wanted to know if Jesus was him.
5. Jesus was walking in this colonnade.
7. My cup...
8. It belongs to God and the Lamb.
9. They washed their robes in it.
10. The Lord is my...
12. From where did Paul send to Ephesus?
14. The Jews would not do this.
16. The Revelation multitude came from every...
17. Paul served the Lord with humility and tears and...
19. Paul taught both repentance and...
21. He restores my...

A Great Multitude

Find the 29 bold words from Revelation 7:9–12.

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

After this I looked and **behold**: a great **multitude** that no one could **count**, from all **nations** and **tribes** and **peoples** and **languages**, standing before the **throne** and the **Lamb**, clothed with **white robes**, and **palm branches** in their hands. They cried with a loud voice, saying, “**Salvation** belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the **angels** were standing around the throne and the **elders** and the **four beasts**, and they fell on their faces before the throne, and **worshiped** God, saying, “Amen! **Blessing** and **glory** and **wisdom** and **thanksgiving** and **honor** and **power** and **might** be to our **God forever** and ever. **Amen!**”

I lahs! lwled in het suohe fo hte dlro reefory.

Stats

General Fund Offering (5/4).....	\$13,443
Other Offering (5/4).....	\$3,523
Sunday School Attendance (5/4).....	71
Worship Attendance (5/4).....	181

Children's Change Collection

Last Sunday: \$177 Total \$808.50

In the last two+ years, they have collected \$18,235.12 for missions.

During the second quarter of 2025, the children's change collections which will benefit The Table Ministry.

The total collected for Lutherans for Life during the first quarter of the year was \$1,951.00.

In 2024, our children collected for the following:

- Dept. of Lutheran Studies, Gordon-Conwell – \$1,929.50
 - Lutherans for Life – \$1,976.00
 - St. Paul Lutheran Seminary – \$1,869.50
- Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries – \$1,945.12

In 2023, they collected for the following missions and ministries:

- Lutherans for Life – \$1,855
- Spiritual Orphans Network – \$1,981
- St. Paul Lutheran Seminary – \$2,019
- Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries – \$1,901



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

Wi-Fi: splcguest – pass: SavedbyGrace

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

Brian Lord, Associate Pastor
wingman@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Eric Barringer, Council President
ebarringer@bellsouth.net

John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicalisbury@gmail.com

Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
splcjwl63@gmail.com

Amy Barringer, Girl Scout Coordinator, abarringer@bellsouth.net

Next weeks lessons: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 150; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22

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