



Seek his kingdom,
and these things will be added to you.

Luke 12:31

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 10, 2025 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

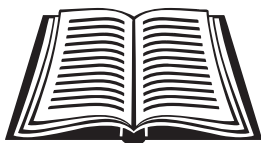
Acolyte: Sutton Fisher • Crucifer: Hila Canup

Cantor: Andrew Baker • Lector: Laura Brock

Communion Assistants: Bonnie Hinson & Grace Walker

This Week's Memory Verse

Indeed, our heart
rejoices in him,
for in his holy name
we put our trust.
Psalm 33:21



Memory Verse Aid

I,OH
RIH,
FIHHN
WPOT.
P3321

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Anna Laura Page

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

The Ten Commandments

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: “If You Will Trust in God to Guide You”

222

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

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

Almighty and merciful God, only by your gift of grace can the faithful offer service that is worthy of you and deserving of praise. Keep us from stumbling as we run to receive your promises—through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated.

A - men.

First Lesson: Genesis 15:1–6

¹The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But

Abram said, "O LORD God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir."

⁴And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."

⁵And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 33:12–22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God | is the LORD!
happy the people he has chosen to | be his own!

¹³**The LORD looks | down from heaven,
and beholds all the people | in the world.**

¹⁴From where he sits enthroned he | turns his gaze
on all who dwell | on the earth.

¹⁵**He fashions all the | hearts of them
and understands | all their works.**

¹⁶There is no king that can be saved by a | mighty army;
a strong man is not delivered by | his great strength.

¹⁷**The horse is a vain hope | for deliverance;
for all its strength it | cannot save.**

¹⁸Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon | those who fear him,
on those who wait up- | on his love,

¹⁹**To pluck their | lives from death,
and to feed them in | time of famine.**

²⁰Our soul waits | for the LORD;
he is our help | and our shield.

²¹**Indeed, our heart rejoic- | es in him,
for in his holy name we | put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, | be upon us,
as we have put our | trust in you.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:1–16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. ⁴By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

¹²Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. ¹³These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore,

God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

The word of the Lord.

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: “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

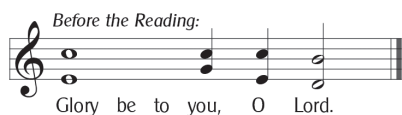
Stan McConnell

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

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The Holy Gospel according to the twelfth chapter of Luke.



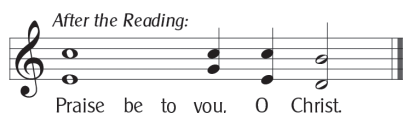
Gospel: Luke 12:22–40

²²[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! ²⁹And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. ³⁰For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

³¹Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. ³²Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. ³⁵Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

³⁷Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! ³⁹But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of our Lord.



Confession of Faith

Let us together profess our faith in God using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Seek the Kingdom"

Hymn: "Jesus, Still Lead On"

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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

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

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.

It is truly good, right, and good for us 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 as he had promised upon the chosen disciples, 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:

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.

*Gracelyn Ziegler will be
receiving her First Communion today.*

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

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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.

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

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

Nunc Dimittis

92

Lord, now let your servant depart | 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 with- | out | end. A- | men

Benedicamus

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Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "A Trumpet Chorale"

J.S. Bach

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

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.

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



*The altar flowers are placed by Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
in honor of their son, Gary Hinson.
Gary celebrated his 50th birthday on August 7th.*



2025 Rally Sunday—August 24

Rally Sunday is the day we kick off the new Sunday School year at St. Paul's. The morning will start with **breakfast at 8:30am**. Listen for important announcements at 9:15am. **Sunday School starts at 9:30am**. Please stay for worship at 10:30am. We will enjoy fellowship later in the day at the **Congregational Ice Cream Supper in the picnic shelter at 5:30pm**.

We encourage all of you to come to Sunday School each Sunday, and bring a friend. There are classes for all ages.

Confirmation Classes

New classes begin on Wednesday, **September 3**. Classes are held from 7pm–8pm. **Those in 7th grade or older** are welcome. A parent must attend as well. Please call the church office to register your child.

Senior Project—Disaster Relief

Salem Lutheran church is making disaster relief buckets and asking for help. **Sheridan Drew** is taking this on as her senior year volunteer project. She and her mother Jamie will be volunteering at the **bucket assembly event on Saturday, August 23rd**. Sheridan is asking for your help with item donations, and to volunteer with them to help pack the buckets. The following items are requested: **half-gallon bleach, dishwashing gloves, Comet/Pinesol, scrub brushes, paper towels and cotton rags**. A donation bin has been placed in the narthex. Jamie will pick up the donations Thursday, August 21st. Cash donations can also be made. Sheridan and Jamie will purchase items needed with the money (mark envelope 'buckets'). The event will be from 10am–2pm. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.

Funeral Assistants Needed

We need **acolytes, crucifers, ushers, and soundboard techs for funerals**. We have a very short list of people who volunteer to help with funerals. They are called on time after time and are not always available, especially during vacation months. We need a longer list. **Please call the church office and let us know** that you are willing to help so we can put your name on our call list, even if you are only available during certain times of the year.

When one of our church or family members dies, we need to be sure we are providing the best possible service for the family. Please consider adding your name to the list. This is a great way to be of service to the Lord.

Cookbooks for Disaster Relief

The Outreach Committee is **collecting cookbooks** for kitchen kits **September 7–21**. They do not need to be new—gently used will do—and please, no larger than **6x9 inches** so they fit into a 2-gallon bag. A handwritten Bible verse or encouraging words could be added to the inside to personalize the book. We plan to pack fifty kits and will put a cookbook in each one.

Consider the Lilies

Find the 25 bold words from Luke 12:22–28 KJV.

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

And he said unto his **disciples**, Therefore I say unto you, Take no **thought** for your **life**, what ye shall eat; neither for the **body**, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than **raiment**. Consider the **ravens**: for they neither sow nor **reap**; which neither have **storehouse** nor **barn**; and God **feedeth** them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? And which of you with taking thought can add to his **stature** one **cubit**? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is **least**, why take ye thought for the rest? **Consider** the **lilies** how they grow: they **toil** not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that **Solomon** in all his glory was not **arrayed** like one of these. If then **God** so clothe the **grass**, which is to day in the **field**, and to morrow is **cast** into the **oven**; how much more will he **clothe** you, O ye of little **faith**?

The Calendar this Week

Monday–Friday, we meet for morning prayer in the chapel at 8:30am. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Sunday, August 10

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- First Communion for Gracelyn Ziegler, 10:30am
- Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- Contemporary Choir, 2pm
- Worship and Music Committee, 3pm (*note time change*)
- No Vespers this evening

Monday, August 11

- Melissa Lura Circle, 6pm
- Finance Committee, 6:30pm

Tuesday, August 12

- No Bible Study this week
- Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm

Wednesday, August 13

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm

Thursday, August 14

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–Noon

Friday, August 15

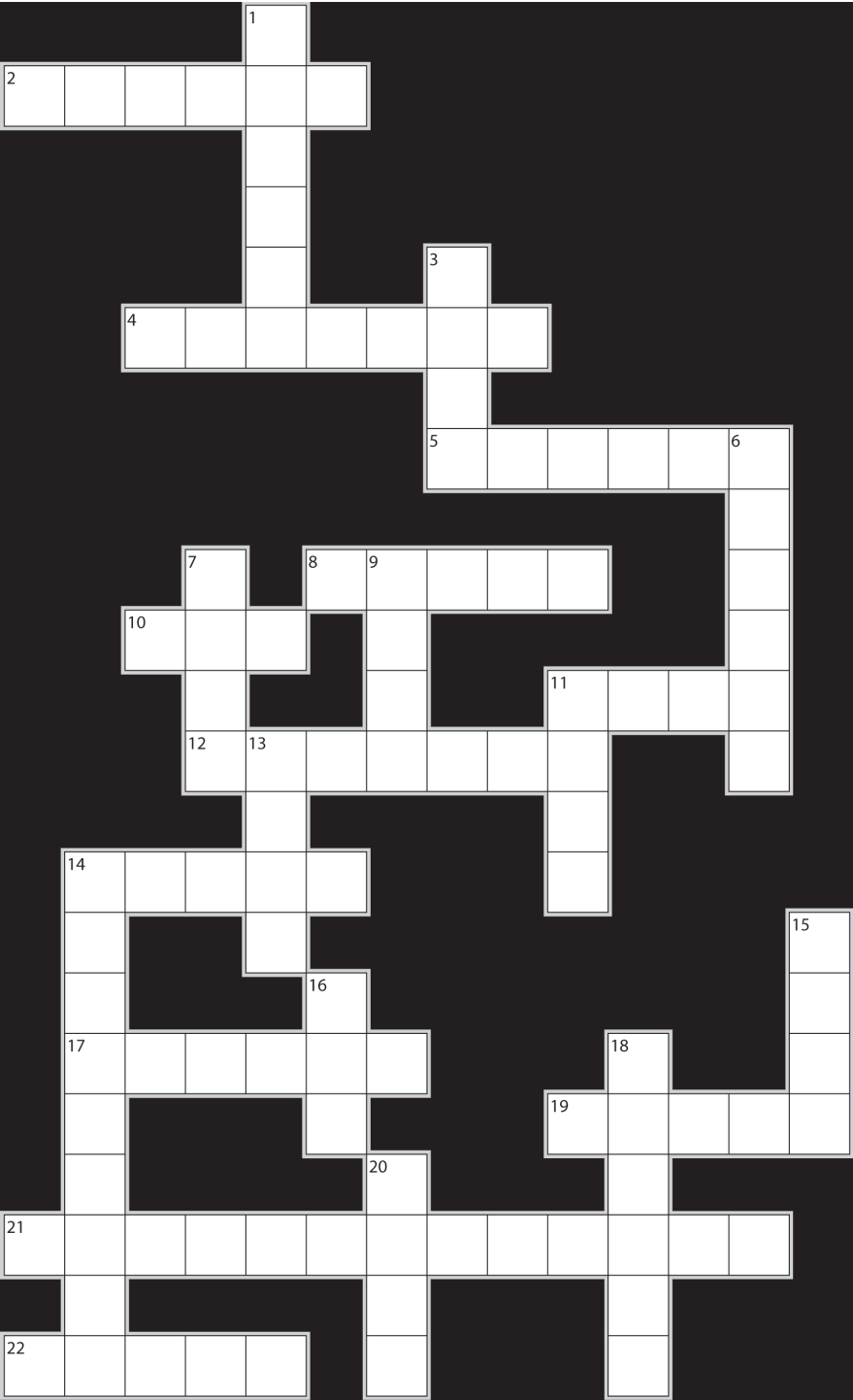
- Youth & Family night at the Cannonballers game, 6:45pm

Sunday, August 17

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Autumn Care worship, 2pm
- Contemporary Choir, 2pm
- College Ministry with Pastor Lord, 4pm
- Vespers, 6pm

August Blood Drive

The next blood drive at St. Paul's will be on **August 18**, from **1:30–6pm**. This will be our **last blood drive** until the church renovations are completed.



Pentecost 9C

*Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from
Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-16; Luke 12:22-40.
The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle.*

ACROSS

2. The saints of old desired this country.
4. Seek this first.
5. "Consider the _____, how they grow."
8. "Fear not, little...."
10. Do not be concerned about what you will...
11. He offered a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain.
12. Because Abram had no child, this man from Damascus was his heir.
14. God told Abram to number them if he could.
17. The Lord appeared to Abram in a...
19. The conviction of things not seen
21. Because Abram believed the Lord's promise, it was counted to him as...
22. He was taken up so he would not see death.

DOWN

1. The Lord looks down from there.
3. Their what waits for the Lord.
6. God was this protection for Abram.
7. What we trust
9. Do not be anxious about it.
11. The king is not saved by them.
13. Blessed is the nation whose God is the...
14. The war horse is a false hope for this.
15. In faith and fear, he constructed an ark.
16. Who did God promise would be Abram's heir?
18. Consider the _____, they neither sow nor reap."
20. How the universe was created

Stats

General Fund Offering (8/3)	\$10,874
Other Offering (8/3)	\$8,206
Sunday School Attendance reported (8/3)	68
Worship Attendance (8/3)	181

Children's Change Collection

During the third quarter of 2025, the children's change collections will benefit Friends of Madagascar Mission.

Last Sunday: \$180.50 Total so far: \$835.50

In the last two+ years, they have collected
\$20,259.12 for missions.

The total collected for The Table Ministry
during the second quarter of 2025 was \$2,022.

The total collected for Lutherans for Life
during the first quarter of 2025 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



Reminder: Information for weekly bulletins should be turned in to the church office by Wednesday morning before Noon. Information for monthly newsletters needs to be in during the 3rd week of each month or earlier. Please email, call, or bring information. **Also, please be sure you and your family have signed the friendship register.** This helps us know how many are worshipping today.

Recent Prayer Needs

- Eric Barringer – upcoming surgery
- Gina Barringer – health concerns
- Brenda Bass – health concerns
- Marvin Burnett, father of Allen Burnett – Hospice care
- Betty Camerlin – home; health concerns
- Frank Giambastiani, father of Lisa Lord – health concerns
- Myralyn Goodman – health concerns
- Shirley Hoosier – health concerns
- Randy Johnson – health concerns
- Sally Kruckow, Tiffany Holland's grandmother – health concerns
- Cory Orbison – health concerns
- Barbara Upright – health concerns, home
- Kim Wilhelm – recovering from surgery

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.



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

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

Next weeks lessons: Jeremiah 23:16–29; Psalm 119:81–88; Hebrews 11:17–31, 12:1–3; Luke 12:49–56

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