



Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Acolyte: Oliver Newsome • Crucifer: Hila Canup
Cantor: Stan McConnell • Lector: Coy Wilhelm
Communion Assistants: Gina Barringer & Grace Walker

This Week's Memory Verse

I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd
lays down his life
for the sheep.

John 10:11



Memory Verse Aid

IATGS.

TGS

LDHL

FTS.

J1011

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Brother James’ Air”

Dale Wood

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness *Stand*

56

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

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

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.**

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. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, 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: "The Lord's My Shepherd"

451

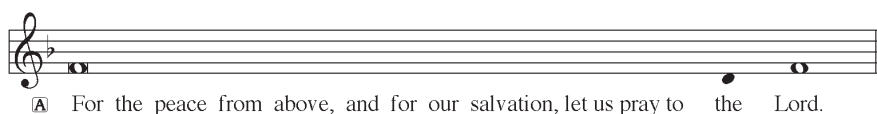
Greeting

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.

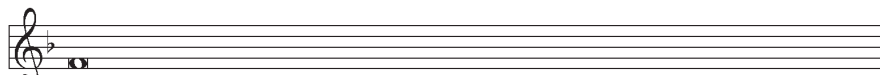
The Kyrie

57





C Lord, have mer - cy.



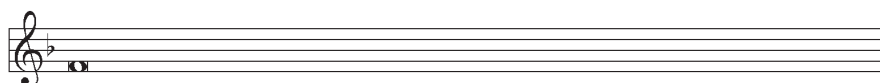
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

Hymn of Praise

60



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **D** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.





Prayer of the Day

62



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, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Acts 2:42–47

⁴² [The believers] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

Psalter: Psalm 23

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want. **²He 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.

⁴Though 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.

⁶Surely 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: 1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The word of the Lord.



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



Gospel: John 10:1-10

¹[Jesus said to the Jews,] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶“This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of our Lord.



Confession of Faith

64

Let us profess our faith in God using
the words of 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: "Our Gate to Life"

Hymn: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us;
For our use thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine; do thou befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear thy children when they pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear thy children when they pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor,
Early let us do thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

The Prayers of the Church

65

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

65

Anthem: “To God Be the Glory”

Men’s Choir

Please stand.

Offertory

66



☐ 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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Let us Pray...

67

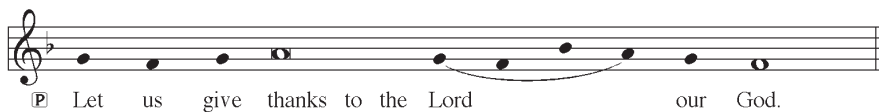
Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

68



☐ The Lord be with you. ☐ And al - so with you.



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 we are 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:



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

71

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

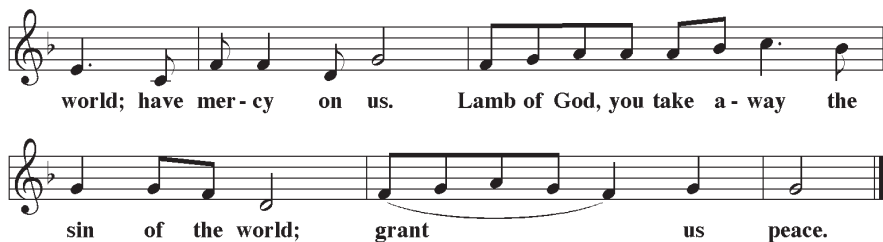
Holy Communion *Please be seated. An usher will direct you to the Table.*

Distribution *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 altar rail. A pastor will bring communion to the pews for those who are unable to come to the rail. Please raise your hand so he doesn't miss you.*

Agnus Dei

72

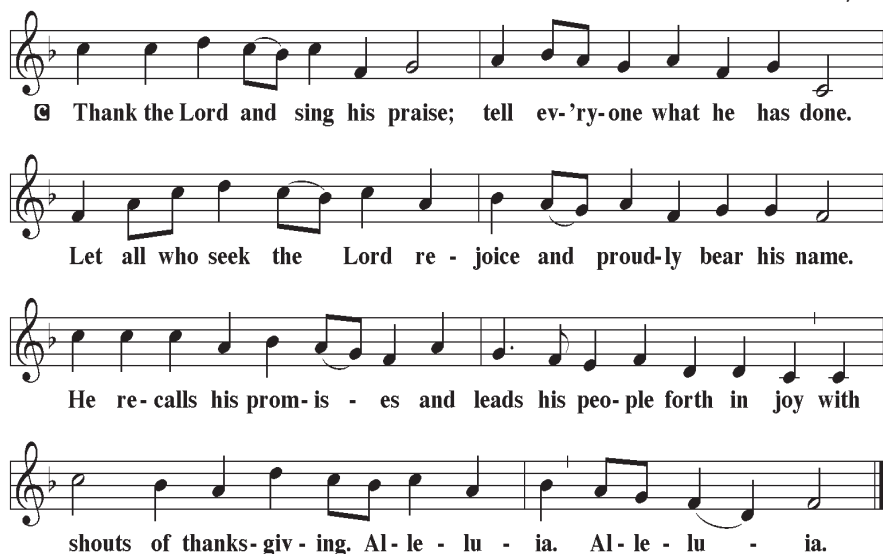




Blessing The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Canticle

72



Prayer

74

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. We pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another—for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Postlude: "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" 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.

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, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Wilhelm Latvia Mission

Mark and Julia Wilhelm are returning to northeastern Europe (on the Russian border) this summer to share the gospel in a unique way. The summer camps that SON (Spiritual Orphans Network) offers uses learning the English language as the tool that attracts attendees. The text for the summer program is the English Bible. If you would like to help Mark and Julia with their mission trip to Latvia, you may do so by putting a special offering in a blue envelope in the offering plate. Mark your envelope "Wilhelm."

Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday has been rescheduled for May 31, 2026. Our high school seniors will be preaching that Sunday. We look forward to hearing their messages.

Girl Scout Cookies

The girl scouts still have a few cookies left over. If anyone would like any Trefoils, Tagalongs, Thin Mints, or Lemon-Ups please contact Amy Barringer. Each box of cookies is \$6.00.

Do You Remember Joshua?

Pastor Ryman will offer an overview about Joshua at St. Paul's Church on Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 11:00am to 12pm. We will provide a booklet with information, crossword, and word search puzzle. Those that would like to go to lunch afterward can do so. This is for those that are going on the Christian Tours trip to see the play Joshua/Museum of the Bible, and for anyone else wanting to get a little refresher course on Joshua.



Walter Wesley Smith

July 29, 1931 – April 20, 2026

Visitation will be Monday, April 27, 2026,
at 10am in St. Paul's sanctuary.

The funeral service will begin at 11am.

A committal service
will follow in
St. Paul's cemetery.

Jesus said...

*"I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever believes in me, though he die,
yet shall he live, and everyone who lives
and believes in me shall never die.*

Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26



Raymond Carl Kubitz

June 16, 1934 – April 17, 2026

Ray will be interred at the Salisbury
VA National Cemetery Columbarium
on Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

A memorial service
will be held that afternoon
in Trinity Oaks Chapel at 2pm.

*For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38–39



Sharon Elizabeth McBride

June 6, 1947 – April 21, 2026

Visitation will be Tuesday, April 28, 2026,
at 10am in St. Paul's sanctuary.

The funeral service will begin at 11am,
followed by the committal service
in St. Paul's Columbarium.

*Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord
from now on.
...because they will rest
from their labors,
for their works follow them.*

Revelation 14:13

Recent Prayer Needs

Please notify the church office when a prayer request should be removed from this list or updated.

- Jennifer Aldridge – physical therapy
- Shiela Barringer – cancer
- W. A. Cline – health concerns (*Wayne Cline's brother*)
- Sonya Eller – recovering at home
- Kelly Gainey – health concerns
- Frank Giambastiani – health concerns (*Lisa Lord's father*)
- Sarah Goodman – recovering at home
- Autumn Hill – recovering from surgery
- Doris Hilliard – hospitalized
- Jerry Hilliard – health concerns
- Tiffany Holland – upcoming surgery
- Alesia Lewis – health concerns
- Alan Lyerly – recovering at home
- Dennis Martinez – cancer (*friend of Lisa Lord*)
- Irene Miller – recovering at home
- Will Poplin – health concerns (*Ann Poplin's son*)
- Mita Powlas – upcoming surgery
- Melinda Redding – recovering at home
- Carol Reese – health concerns (*George Reese's brother*)
- Dottie Stancil – health concerns
- Scott Watson – health concerns
- Nancy Wilhelm – recovering at home
- The family of Donald Austin who died April 10, 2026
- The family of Mary Holland who died April 12, 2026
- The family of Raymond Kubitz who died April 17, 2026
- The family of Walter Smith who died April 20, 2026
- The family of Sharon McBride who died April 21, 2026

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.

Called Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday May 3, 2026, starting at 10:20 AM. The only purpose of this meeting is to vote on calling Brian Joseph Lord as Pastor and The Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman as Associate Pastor, as well as approval of the total pay package.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council makes the motion:
To call to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Salisbury NC, Brian Joseph Lord as Pastor at a total pay package of \$125,465.00 and, The Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman as Associate Pastor at a total pay package of \$67,949.00.

For Christ and his Church,
St. Paul's Church Council

Gina Barringer	Susan Faggart	Matthew Cottingham
Susan Bernhardt	Matt Holland	Dan Dolan
Dana Bost	Donna Lyerly	Tony Heilig
Josh Canup	Mita Powlas	Keith Hoffner
Tim Canup	Bethany Whisnant	Stan McConnell
Lisa Monroe	Luke Ziegler	Terri Powlas

VBS 2026

VBS 2026 dates are set! We will be holding VBS **June 26th–28th** (Friday night–Sunday). The theme is David: Hero of God. There will be classes for 3-year-old Preschool – Middle school. If you are interested in volunteering to work with our youth for VBS weekend, please contact Lauren Holland, 980-234-2907, or Kara Burnett, 704-239-7614.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, April 26

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Worship, 10:30am
- Vespers, 6pm

Join us at 8:30am, Monday–Friday in the chapel for morning prayer.

Monday, April 27

- Home school dance class, 10am
- Visitation for Walter Smith family, 10am
- Funeral Service for Walter Smith, 11am

Tuesday, April 28

- No Bible Study due to funerals
- Ray Kubitz interment at VA Columbarium, 10am
- Visitation for Sharon McBride family, 10am
- Funeral Service for Sharon McBride, 11am
- Funeral Service for Ray Kubitz at Trinity Oaks, 2pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:30pm

Wednesday, April 29

- Home school meets, 8:30am–3pm
- Fun Bunch Lunch at Recipe, 11:30am
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Confirmation Class, 7pm

Thursday, April 30

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–12pm
- Classical Conversations year-end ceremony, 4pm–8pm

Friday, May 1

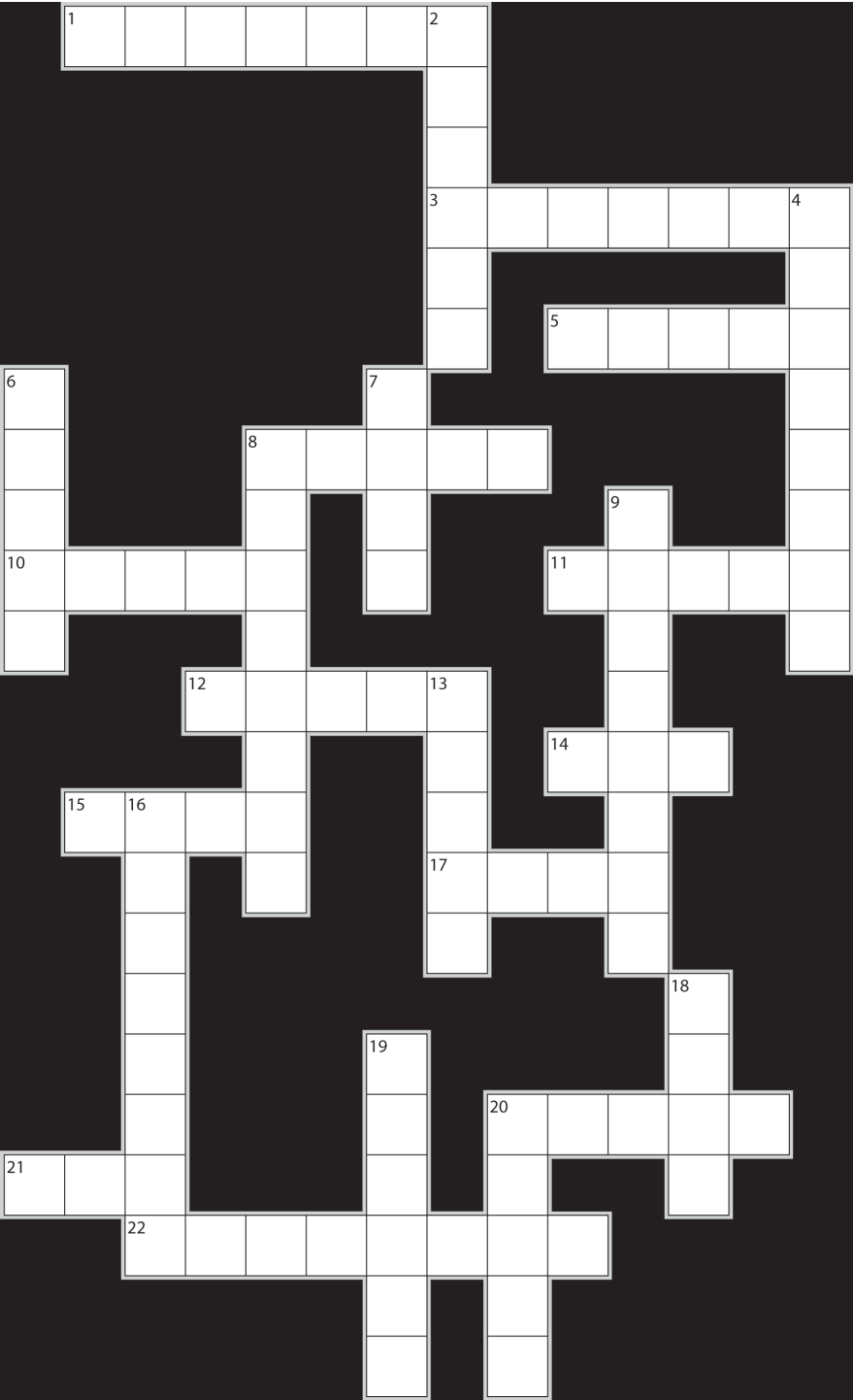
- Scholarship application deadline

Saturday, May 2

- Joshua overview for those going on the bus trip next week, 11am–12pm

Sunday, May 3

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Called Congregational Meeting, **10:20am**
- Worship, 10:30am with guests from Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministry
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Youth & Family Committee meeting, 2pm
- Hand bell ensemble practice, 5pm
- Vespers, 6pm



Easter 4A

*Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from
Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.
The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle .
Solve online:<https://tinyurl.com/easter4Acrossword>*

ACROSS

1. The Lord's rod and staff provided this for David.
3. The early church devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching fellowship, breaking of bread, and what else?
5. The sheep hear this and go in and out of the sheepfold.
8. The Lord led David beside these waters.
10. He who does not enter by the door of the sheepfold is this.
11. The early church had this with all the people.
12. He is the door of the sheep.
14. It overflows.
15. Jesus calls his sheep by what?
17. Jesus came so that his sheep may have this abundantly.
20. The Lord added to the early church's number those who were being...
21. It came upon every soul.
22. Sheep will not follow him.

DOWN

2. The early church attended it daily.
4. The psalmist wanted for nothing because the Lord was his what?
6. David feared no evil even though he walked through this valley.
7. We are to die to sin but do this to righteousness.
8. Christ did this for you, so you should also endure hardships.
9. The Lord made David lie down in green what?
13. Christ is the Shepherd and Overseer of our what?
16. Many signs and wonders were done through them.
18. Christ bore our sins on it.
19. We have been healed by Christ's what?
20. We were straying like them.

Previous Sunday's Stats

General Fund offering 4/12	\$5,490
Other offering 4/12	\$5,751
Worship attendance 4/12	162
Sunday School attendance reported 4/12	57

Children's Change Collection

Last week's total: 211.50 Total so far: \$510.00

Children's change collections this quarter
will support Marion Medical Mission.

In the last two+ years, the children have collected
\$26,311.12 for missions.

Total during the first quarter of 2026 to
benefit the Small Catechism Project: \$2,213.00

The total collected for
Lutheran Military Veterans and Families
during the fourth quarter of 2025 was \$2,396.

The total collected for Friends of Madagascar Mission
during the third quarter of 2025 was \$2,248.50.

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.

More information about
St. Paul's Missions may be found at
StPaulsLutheran.Church/Missionaries

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. You may email, call, or bring information. **Also, please be sure your name and your family member's names are written in the friendship register each Sunday.**



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

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, Senior Pastor
pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Brian Lord, Associate Pastor
wingman@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Dana Bost, Council President
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John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicsalisbury@gmail.com

Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
splcjlw63@gmail.com

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

Next week's lessons: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; Psalm 146; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

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