



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC 28146
Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Alyssa McCraven • Crucifer: Rebecca Lombard
Cantor: Stan McConnell • Lector: Wayne Taylor
Communion Assistants: Jennifer Aldridge & Terri Powlas

This Week's Memory Verse

For everyone
who calls on
the name of the Lord
will be saved.
Romans 10:13



Memory Verse Aid

FE
WCO
TNOTL
WBS.
RIOI3

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Just As I Am”

Matthew Corl

Please stand.

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

Amen

Confession of Sin

73

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sin to God our Father, imploring him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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.**

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe in his name, he gives power to become children of God, and bestows on them his Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all. **Amen**

Hymn: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

192

Greeting

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.

Kyrie Eleison

74



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75



Leader:
Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:
And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,
O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy



on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.

For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

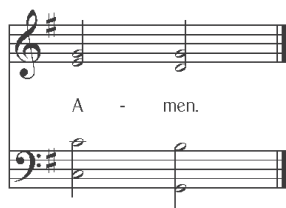
77



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

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: Job 38:4–18

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and

set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’ ¹²Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

The word of the Lord

Psalter: Psalm 18:1–17

- ¹I love you, O | LORD my strength,
O LORD my stronghold, my crag, | and my haven.
- ²**My God, my rock in whom I | put my trust,**
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge:
You are worth- | y of praise.
- ³I will call up- | on the LORD,
and so shall I be saved | from my enemies.
- ⁴**The breakers of death rolled | over me,**
and the torrents of oblivion made | me afraid.
- ⁵The cords of hell en- | tangled me,
and the snares of death were | set for me.
- ⁶**I called upon the LORD in | my distress**
and cried out to my | God for help.
- ⁷He heard my voice from his heav- | enly dwelling;
my cry of anguish came | to his ears.
- ⁸**The earth | reeled and rocked;**
the roots of the mountains shook;
they reeled because | of his anger.
- ⁹Smoke rose from his nostrils and a consuming
fire out | of his mouth;
hot burning coals blazed | forth from him.

¹⁰**He parted the heavens | and came down
with a storm cloud un- | der his feet.**

¹¹He mounted on cherub- | im and flew;
he swooped on the wings | of the wind.

¹²**He wrapped dark- | ness about him;
he made dark waters and thick clouds | his pavilion.**

¹³From the brightness of his presence, | through the clouds,
burst hailstones and | coals of fire.

¹⁴**The LORD thundered | out of heaven;
the Most High ut- | tered his voice.**

¹⁵He loosed his arrows and | scattered them;
he hurled thunderbolts and | routed them.

¹⁶**The beds of the seas were uncovered,
and the foundations of the | world laid bare,
at your battle cry, O LORD, at the blast
of the breath | of your nostrils.**

¹⁷He reached down from on high | and grasped me;
he drew me out | of great waters.

Second Lesson: Romans 10:5-17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in

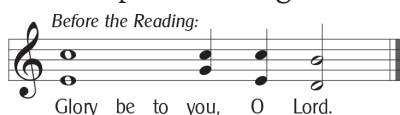
him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*



The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

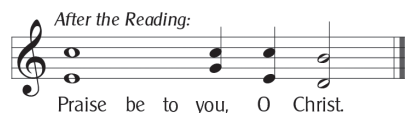


Gospel: Matthew 14:22–33

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” ²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind

ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of our Lord



Confession of Faith

81

Let us profess our faith with 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 one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Children's Chat

Sermon: “The Contrariness of Life”

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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

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: “Hiding in Thee”

Adult Choir

Exhortation

Preface

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Leader Congregation

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



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:

Sanctus

89



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,

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**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 in 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

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.

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

Thanksgiving

92

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this your salutary gift, and we ask you in your mercy to strengthen us through the same, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward on another—through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

Nunc Dimittus

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

93

Leader: Congregation:



The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:



Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” arr. Stephen Aber

*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

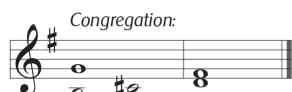
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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.

Congregation:



A - men.

Welcome New Members

Dawn Peeler and Cathy Stewart were received into membership at St. Paul's on August 2, 2026. Both ladies were previously members here. We are happy that they have returned to our church family. If you would like to have their contact information, please call the church office. Welcome home Dawn and Cathy!



Rally Sunday—August 30

Coffee, juice, and doughnuts will be served on the front lawn **Sunday, August 30, 2026** for Rally Sunday. We invite everyone to come, and bring a friend. **There are classes for every age.** If you haven't been attending Sunday School, this is the perfect Sunday to get started.

Sunday School kids will sing for us before **new Bibles** are presented to students moving into the next learning level. This is also the Sunday that some of the grade school students will move up a class. They will go to their classrooms and meet the teachers after the Bible presentations are made.

That afternoon, we will have the **congregational Ice Cream Social** at the picnic shelter at **4pm**. Bring your favorite homemade ice cream. If you do not have an ice cream freezer you may bring store bought ice cream, or another favorite dessert.

Susan and Pastor Ryman will host **Vespers at the parsonage**, as they do each Sunday evening, at **6pm**. You are invited to bring finger-foods to share; fellowship time is from 6–6:30pm. At 6:30pm, the Vespers service begins.

Our opportunities each week to come to Sunday School to learn and study God's word together, to come to worship, and to take part in these fellowship events are blessings. Rally Sunday is a celebration for that privilege, to recognize our dedicated teachers, and to welcome visitors to our church.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, August 9

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Worship, 10:30am
- Kathy Ketchie Circle, Noon in the pulpit side transept
- Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- Worship & Music Committee, 3pm
- Vespers in the parsonage, 6pm

Monday–Friday

- Morning Prayer, 8:30am in the counting room;
Look for “Daily Word” on our website.

Monday, August 10

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

Tuesday, August 11

- Bible Study 10am and 6pm
- Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm

Wednesday, August 12

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

Thursday, August 13

- Food for Thought packing at RHM, 10am
- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–Noon
- Graveside committal for Perry Julian, Noon

Friday, August 14

- Youth & Family to Cannon Ballers game, 6:30pm (game at 7pm)

Sunday, August 16

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Worship, 10:30am
- Baptism of Oona Lyra Powlas, 10:30am
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Communion Assistants meeting, 4pm
- Vespers in the parsonage, 6pm

Communion Assistants Meeting

Assistants will meet in the sanctuary at 4pm. We will be looking through the robes to make sure we have the sizes and numbers we need for the upcoming year.

Youth Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes will begin on **Wednesday, September 9**. Students going into the seventh grade this school year (or older) are eligible as first year Confirmands. Confirmation classes are held **Wednesday evenings at 7pm**, during the school year, for two years. At least one parent or grandparent should be present during each class with your child. In order for your child to be confirmed, consistent attendance is mandatory. These first-year students will be confirmed in 2028.

We have five students going into the seventh grade this school year—Clara Canup, Sutton Fisher, Carson Friel, Rebecca Lombard, and Alyssa McCraven. Letters have been mailed to the parents/grandparents, with more information. If we have missed anyone, please call the church office.

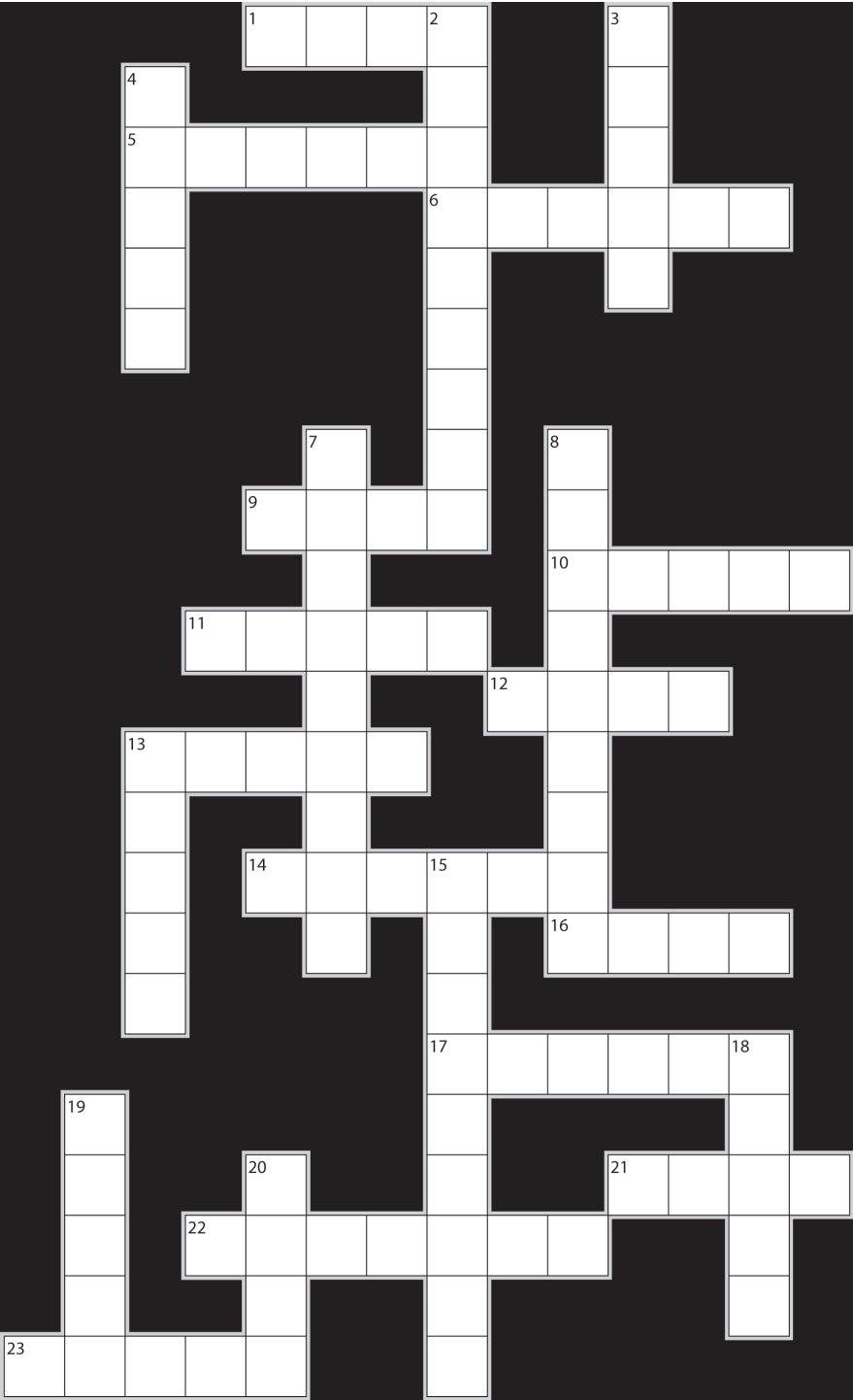
Youth & Family Clean Up for Homecoming

Mark your calendars for our annual youth event—“pew/shelter clean-up”—on **Friday, September 11th, at 6pm**. Bring your cleaning spirit along with vacuums, brooms, and cleaning cloths! We will be providing **pizza and dessert**.

Homecoming Worship and Potluck

St. Paul's Homecoming Sunday is **September 13th**. We hope you will invite former members who haven't been with us in a while, as well as friends and family who may not have a home church.

All are invited to the **potluck luncheon after worship** in the picnic shelter (weather permitting). Keep in mind, our kitchen has only one range right now, so **heating/cooking food here will be very limited**. Please plan your food accordingly. The main goal is good fellowship!



Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost, Year A

Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from

Job 38:4-18; Psalm 18:1-16; Romans 10:5-17; Matthew 14:22-33.

The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle.

Solve online: <https://tinyurl.com/pentecost11A-crossword>

ACROSS

1. It is near you, in your mouth and heart.
5. Time to think. What do you think is referred to by "morning stars" in Job 38:7?
6. God rode on one when he flew down from the heavens.
9. How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good...
10. The psalmist said the cords of this deep place entangled him.
11. O you of little...
12. When Peter saw it, he was sunk.
13. If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be what?
14. God heard David from this location.
16. In Job, God causes what to know its place?
17. Take heart; it is I. Do not be...
21. Jesus went up on the mountain to do this.
22. What stars sang together in Job?
23. There is no distinction between Jew and...

DOWN

2. Jesus compelled them to travel without him.
3. In Job, God shuts the sea with these swingers.
4. God asked Job where he was when God laid the foundation of what?
7. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my...
8. With the heart one believes and is what?
13. What went up from God's nostrils in the Psalm?
15. How are people to hear the gospel without someone doing this?
18. God asked Job if these gates have been revealed to him.
19. He asked Jesus to command him to walk to him on the water.
20. The Lord is my God, my _____, in whom I take refuge.

Recent Prayer Needs

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

- Perry Bernhardt – recovering from surgery
- Larry Clark – recovering from surgery
- W. A. Cline – Hospice at home (*brother of Wayne Cline*)
- Jean Deal – health concerns
- Autumn Hill – recovering from injury
- Judi Honbarger – recovering from surgery
- Sally Kruchkow – health concerns (*Tiffany Holland's grandmother*)
- Tammy Leazer – recovering from surgery
- Alesia Lewis – health concerns
- Sydney Lewis – recovering from surgery
- Vaughn Lyerly – recovering from surgery
- Bob McCanless – health concerns
- Kay Moody – recovering from surgery
- Stan Parnell – health concerns (*nephew of Jimmy Earnhardt*)
- Kensley Phipps – recovering from surgery
(*granddaughter of Gail & George Reese*)
- Will Poplin – health concerns (*Ann Poplin's son*)
- George Reese – health concerns
- Linda Shirley – recovering from surgery
- Dick Smith – health concerns
- Kelly Smith – health concerns (*friend of Karen Charles*)
- Pedro Vincenty – health concerns
- Robin Wastler – recovering from surgery
(*daughter of George & Gail Reese*)
- Kathy Wilhelm – health concerns
- Hugh Wilhelm – health concerns
- Kenny Willis – health concerns (*brother of Gina Wilhelm*)

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.

Pray for Our Homebound and Long-Term Care

Bermuda Commons: Edna Chapman • *Terra Bella:* Della Jenkins
Trinity Oaks: Lottie Simpson, Allen Burnett • *Home:* Susan Beeker,
Barbara Deese, Sonya Eller, Shirley Hoosier, Ruth Julian,
Susie Page, Melinda Redding, Dottie Stancil, Jane Wilhelm

Previous Sunday's Stats

General Fund offering 8/2.....	\$9,268
Other offering 8/2	\$11,585
Worship attendance 8/2	179
Sunday School attendance reported 8/2.....	77

Children's Change Collection

Last week's total: \$158.00 Total so far: \$829.00
Children's change collections this quarter
will support St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

Total collected during the second quarter of 2026
for Marion Medical Mission: \$2,229.00.

In the last two+ years, the children have collected
\$27,733.62 for missions.

Total collected 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

Reminders: Information for **weekly bulletins** should be turned in to the church office by Wednesday morning before Noon. Information for **monthly newsletters** needs to be submitted 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

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Judy Lowman, Treasurer

splcjlw63@gmail.com

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

Next week's lessons: Isaiah 56:1, 6–8; Psalm 67:1–7; Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32; Matthew 15:21–28