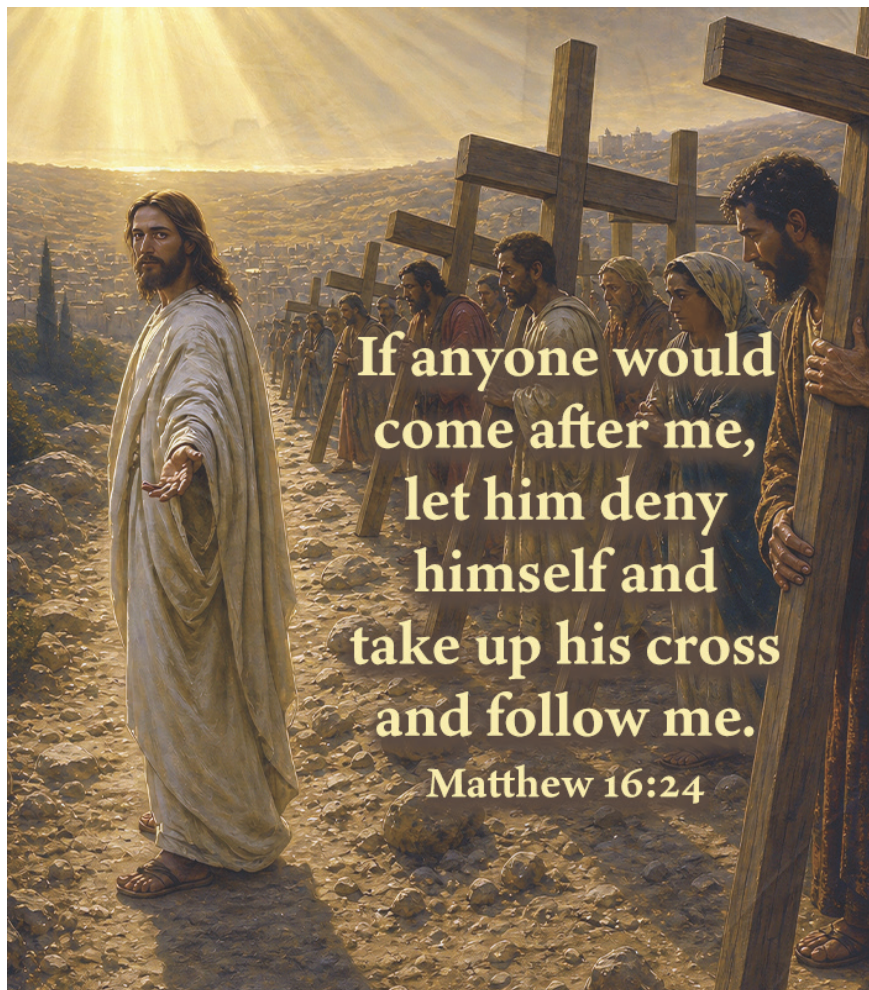




Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Clara Canup • Crucifer: Talia Lord
Cantor: Heather Canup • Lector: Coy Wilhelm
Communion Assistants: Jennifer Aldridge & Terri Powlas

This Week's Memory Verse

For what will it
profit a man
if he gains the whole world
and forfeits his soul?
Matthew 16:26



Memory Verse Aid

FWWI
PAM
IHGTWW
AFHS?
MI626

Welcome and Announcements

Installation of Education Leaders

Prelude: “Our Father, Who Art in Heaven Above” J. S. Bach

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: "Lift High the Cross"

269

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:

Congregation:

Glory be to God on high!

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.

O Lord, mercifully continue to purify and defend your Church. Since she cannot stand firmly without your power, govern her always by your grace—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: Jeremiah 15:15–21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like

a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

The word of the Lord

Psalter: Psalm 26:1–12

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

²**Test me, O | LORD, and try me;**
examine my heart | and my mind.

³For your love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faith- | fully with you.

⁴**I have not sat | with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with | the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷Singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- | ry abides.

⁹Do not sweep me a- | way with sinners,
nor my life with those who | thirst for blood,

¹⁰**Whose hands are full of | evil plots,**
and their right hand | full of bribes.

¹¹As for me, I will live | with integrity;
redeem me, O LORD, and have pit- | y on me.

¹²**My foot stands on | level ground;**
in the full assembly I will | bless the LORD.

Second Lesson: Romans 12:9–21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

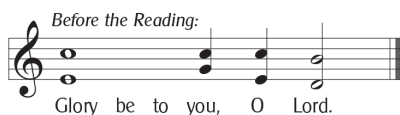
¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the LORD.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*



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

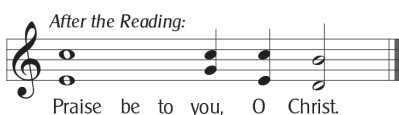


Gospel: Matthew 16:21–28

²¹Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and

said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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 the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

Please be seated.

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Faith Anchored in the Cross"

Hymn: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

140

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.*



Exhortation**Preface**

86

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:

Sanctus

89



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,

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 one 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**

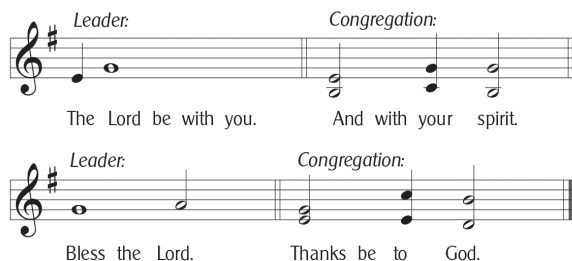
Nunc Dimittis

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

93



Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Trumpet Tune on ‘Lift High the Cross’” Janet Linker

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.



*Altar flowers are placed today to the glory of God
in memory of Nancy Leonard Powell.*



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.

This 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!

First Communion Classes

First Communion **classes will be held today and September 13**, after worship in the pulpit side transept.



Nancy Leonard Powell

August 8, 1933 – August 21, 2026

Nancy was laid to rest on
August 28, 2026 in
Rowan Memorial Park
with her husband E.B. Powell.

*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

Planning Meeting—Yard Sale

The Women of St. Paul's would like to have a yard sale to help with funds for our treasury since we will not be able to hold a full bazaar this year. Anyone interested in a yard sale (or at least one person per circle) please meet with us **today at 5pm**. We want to have definite plans in place so we can start advertising for a possible November date. If you have questions, please contact Susan Bernhardt 704-637-0155, srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com.

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.

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.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, August 30, Rally Sunday

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Rally Sunday activities begin at 9:30am on the front lawn
- Worship, 10:30am
- Installation of Sunday School teachers, 10:30am
- First Communion class #1 after worship, pulpit side transept
- Ice Cream Social, in the picnic shelter, 4pm
- Women's Yard Sale planning meeting, 5pm
- Vespers in the parsonage, 6pm

Monday–Friday

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

Tuesday, September 1

- Bible Study 10am and 6pm

Wednesday, September 2

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

Thursday, September 3

- Rowan Smart Start, 10am–Noon
- Home school Dance class, 4pm

Saturday, September 5

- Care Team breakfast, Sunshine Restaurant, Rockwell, 8am

Sunday, September 6

- Sunday School, 9:30am
- Worship, 10:30am
- Grace Ridenhour Circle, transept, after worship
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Youth & Family Committee, 2pm
- Contemporary Choir practice, 4pm
- Vespers in the parsonage, 6pm

Recent Prayer Needs

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

- Bob Barringer – recovering from surgery
- Carolyn Canup – health concerns
- W. A. Cline – Hospice at home (*brother of Wayne Cline*)
- Jean and Jimmie Deal – health concerns
- Autumn Hill – health concerns
- Michael Goodman – recovering from surgery
- Myralyn Goodman – health concerns
- Tammy Leazer – recovering from surgery
- Alesia Lewis – health concerns
- Chloe Monroe – recovering from surgery
- Stan Parnell – health concerns (nephew of Jimmy Earnhardt)
- Kensley Phipps – health concerns
- Will Poplin – health concerns (*Ann Poplin's son*)
- George Saieg – acute health concern (*friend of St. Paul's members*)
- Linda Shirley – Autumn Care rehab
- Kelly Smith – health concerns (*friend of Karen Charles*)
- Wayne Taylor – health concerns
- Kenny Willis – health concerns (*brother of Gina Wilhelm*)
- Hugh and Kathy Wilhelm – 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.

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,
Bob McCanless, Susie Page, Melinda Redding, Dottie Stancil,
Jane Wilhelm

St. Paul's Men's Annual Fish Fry – DATE CHANGE

The time is fast approaching for another of our congregation's signature annual events. St. Paul's Men's Fish Fry will be held in the **picnic shelter on Saturday, OCTOBER 3, at 6:00pm.**

Proceeds from this year's fish fry will benefit St. Paul's Men's sponsorship of two students at Naomi's Heart Mission. There will be no drive-thru pickup, but takeout boxes will be available.

We will have tickets on the lawn after service on Sunday, September 20th and 27th. **A minimum donation of \$15 for adults, \$7 for those under 12** is requested (under 3—free).

To make sure there's more than enough for you to enjoy, please **purchase your tickets ahead of time.** Only a very limited number of tickets will be sold at the event.

We look forward to another great fish fry—great food, great fellowship, and best of all, showing God's love and changing lives through Naomi's Heart Mission. This is also another great opportunity for you to invite those friends and family to come and experience our St. Paul's church family!



Previous Sunday's Stats

General Fund offering 8/23	\$8,381
Other offering 8/23	\$1,397
Worship attendance 8/23	179
Sunday School attendance reported 8/23	75

Children's Change Collection

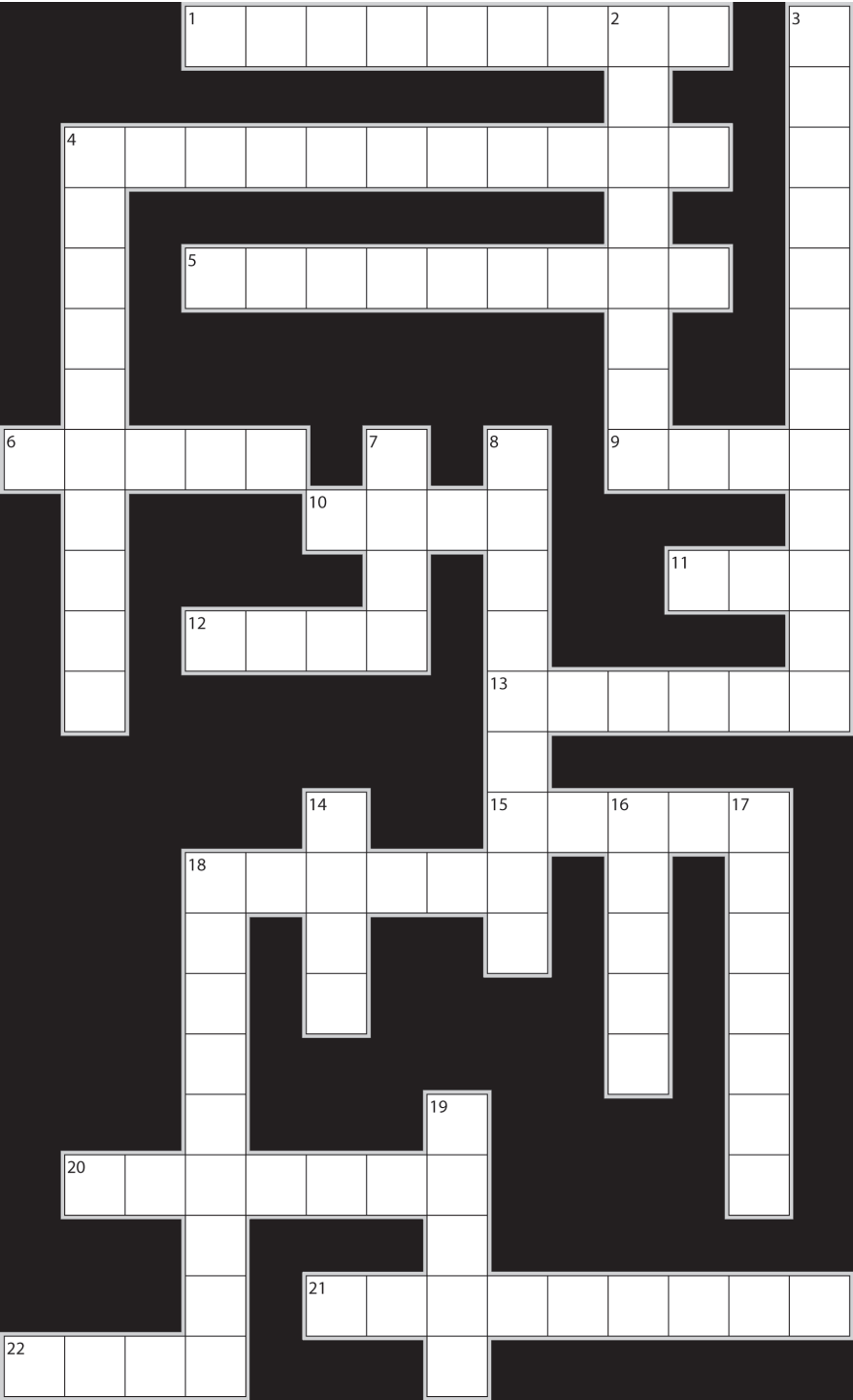
Last week's total: \$178.00 Total so far: \$1,367.00

Children's change collections this quarter
will support St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

In the last two+ years, the children have collected
\$29,100.62 for missions.

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

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



Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost, Year A

Find the answers in today's lectionary readings from

Jeremiah 15:15–21; Psalm 26; Romans 12:9–21; Matthew 16:21–28.

The English Standard Version is used to build this puzzle .

Solve online: <https://tinyurl.com/pentecost14A-crossword>

ACROSS

1. David hated their assembly.
4. Seek to show this.
5. So far as it depends on you, live this way with all.
6. If anyone would follow Jesus, he must take up his own what?
9. What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his what?
10. Rejoice in this.
11. What Jeremiah did when he found the Lord's words
12. The psalmist wanted God to test his heart and...
13. Contribute to their needs.
15. Whoever _____ his life for Jesus' sake will find life.
18. The Lord made Jeremiah this kind of wall.
20. People would fight the prophet, but they would not... (v20)
21. Jeremiah was to utter what was precious, not what was...
22. If anyone would follow Jesus, let him do this to himself.

DOWN

2. The Lord redeemed Jeremiah from their grasp.
3. David walked in the Lord's what?
4. David did not consort with them.
7. Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with this.
8. In our Gospel Lesson, Jesus begins to show his disciples that he must go to this city.
14. Jeremiah was to stand before him and be his mouth.
16. Jesus addresses Peter as whose spokesman, saying "Get behind me"?
17. David did not want his soul swept away with these people.
18. Love one another with this kind of affection.
19. David loved the place where the Lord's what dwelled?



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. Brian Lord, Pastor

wingman@stpaulslutheran.church

Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, Pastor

pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary

secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Dana Bost, Council President

Dana.Bost59@gmail.com

John Brock, Music Director

splcmusicalisbury@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: Ezekiel 33:7–9; Psalm 32:1–7; Romans 13:1–10; Matthew 18:1–20

Sola Publishing ©2019 Online Worship Resource Site from Sundays and Seasons.com. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2016 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 11395633; St. Paul's is a member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC.NET)