

***Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!***  
**Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)**

***Tenth Sunday After Pentecost***

**Sunday, August 17, 2025 – 9:30 am**

**Divine Service**

**Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.**

**Organist: Gerald Dahlin**

**Choir Director: Mark Howard**

**Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson**

**Office: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm T-F; 949-599-4760**

Website: [www.saintpaulsirvine.com](http://www.saintpaulsirvine.com)

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**Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus**

**16355 Laguna Canyon Rd**

**Irvine, CA 92618**

**Mission**

*To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.*

**Vision**

*To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.*

**Service Offerings**

- Sunday Divine Service at 9:30 am
  - Fellowship in Café 10:30 am
  - Adult Bible Study at 11:00 am
- Wednesday Bible Studies on summer hiatus.

**Welcome to Saint Paul's**

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at Saint Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

**This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:**

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

### **The Lord's Supper**

The Holy Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors.**

### **Prayer Before Divine Service**

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

+ In the Name of Jesus +

## Prelude:

I Love to Tell the Story -- Robert A. Hobby

## Greeting

**P** My soul longs for your salvation;

**C** I hope in your word.

- Psalm 119:81

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn:

828 We Are Called to Stand Together

(all stanzas)

Kyrie

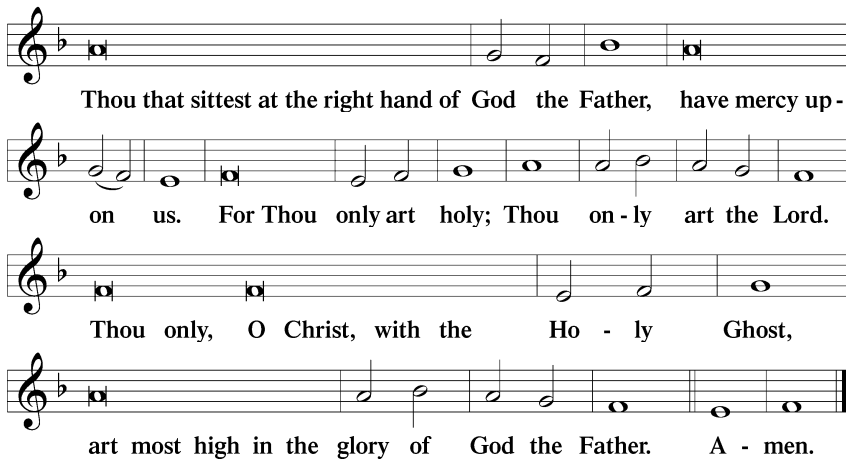
LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

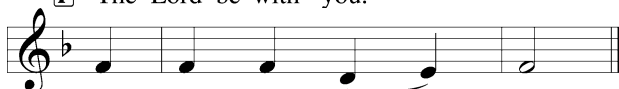


Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

Sit

## Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 23:16–29*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. <sup>17</sup>They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

<sup>18</sup>For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD  
to see and to hear his word,  
or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

<sup>19</sup>Behold, the storm of the LORD!  
Wrath has gone forth,  
a whirling tempest;  
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

<sup>20</sup>The anger of the LORD will not turn back  
until he has executed and accomplished  
the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

<sup>21</sup>"I did not send the prophets,  
yet they ran;  
I did not speak to them,  
yet they prophesied.

<sup>22</sup>But if they had stood in my council,  
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,  
and they would have turned them from their evil way,  
and from the evil of their deeds.

<sup>23</sup>"Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? <sup>24</sup>Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' <sup>26</sup>How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, <sup>27</sup>who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 119:81–88; antiphon: v. 81



KAPH

**P** My soul longs for your sal- | vation;\*

I hope | in your word.

**G** My eyes long for your | promise;\*

I ask, “When will you | comfort me?”

**P** For I have become like a wineskin | in the smoke;\*

yet I have not forgotten your | statutes.

**G** How long must your ser- | vant endure?\*

When will you judge those who perse- | cute me?

**P** The insolent have dug pit- | falls for me;\*

they do not live according | to your law.

**G** All your command- | ments are sure;\*

they persecute me with falsehood; | help me!

**P** They have almost made an end of me | on earth;\*

but I have not forsaken your | precepts.

**G** In your steadfast love | give me life;\*

that I may keep the testimonies | of your mouth.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,  
and to the Holy | Spirit,  
as it was in the be- | ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

**P** My soul longs for your sal- | vation;\*

I hope | in your word.

<sup>17</sup>By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup>of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>19</sup>He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup>By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. <sup>21</sup>By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. <sup>22</sup>By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

<sup>23</sup>By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. <sup>24</sup>By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, <sup>25</sup>choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. <sup>26</sup>He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. <sup>27</sup>By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. <sup>28</sup>By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

<sup>32</sup>And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— <sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— <sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

<sup>39</sup>And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the

cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

LSB 190




**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 12:49–56

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>49</sup>[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. <sup>52</sup>For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup>They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## Children's Message

**Hymn of the Day:**

**667 Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses**

*(all stanzas)*

**Sermon**

Running the Race with Our Eyes on Jesus

(Hebrews 12:1-3)

Pastor Mueller

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**G** Amen.

*Stand*

**Offertory**

LSB 192

**G** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

*Sit*

**Offering**

Adagio, Sonata I -- Felix Mendelssohn

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**G** Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the spirit of Jeremiah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses, that in days of division our hearts would be strengthened to confess in word and deed the glory of God's name, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this congregation and our life together around the Word and table of the Lord, for the work of God that goes forth from this place, and for the Lord to bless and prosper all things according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who have wandered from the faith, for those who have been absent from the Lord's house, for those we have hurt or wounded in word or deed, and for the reconciliation of all by the forgiveness of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For young Christians, that just as the Lord called Jeremiah as a youth and used him in His service, they would be strengthened by God's Word for daily life and growth as His people; and for all youth in God's care, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For devout and faithful rulers to promote peace and quietness among us for the flourishing of every godly endeavor, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that God would grant healing to their bodies, strength to the weak, endurance to bear up under trial, patience to await His deliverance, and peace at the last, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all those who come to the Lord's table this day, that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ would sanctify and keep them by His Word and Holy Spirit, so that they would receive the body and blood of His Son in sincere repentance and firm faith and to their abundant blessing, bringing forth the fruits thereof in peace and joy, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Almighty Father, Your dear Son suffered and died for our redemption. Embolden us by the witness of that great company of saints who remained faithful unto death, that we would likewise fix our eyes on Christ and so share in His victory over the grave; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

## +Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

*1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs pastors since they are stewards of the mysteries (1st Corinthians 4:1) to serve only those who share in a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor would love to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament.*

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be Thy name,**  
**Thy kingdom come,**  
**Thy will be done on earth**  
**as it is in heaven;**  
**give us this day our daily bread;**  
**and forgive us our trespasses**  
**as we forgive those**  
**who trespass against us;**  
**and lead us not into temptation,**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For Thine is the kingdom**  
**and the power and the glory**  
**forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and

said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*


## Distribution

## Distribution Hymns:

### 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

(all stanzas)


### 982 Blest Are They



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; Theirs is the  
2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; They shall in -  
3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; Mer - cy  
4 Blest are they who seek peace; They are the  
5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, All be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, full of  
her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun - ger and  
shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of  
chil - dren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in  
cause of Me. Re - joi - ce and be glad, yours is the




sor - row; They shall be con - soled.  
thirst; They shall have their fill.  
heart; They shall see God!  
faith; The glo - ry of God is theirs.  
king - dom; Shine for all to see.



*Refrain*  
Re - joi - ce and be glad! Bless - ed are you,



ho - ly are you. Re - joi - ce and be glad! Yours is the



king - dom of God.

Text and tune: David Haas, 1957

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### 664 Fight the Good Fight

(all stanzas)

Stand

# Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

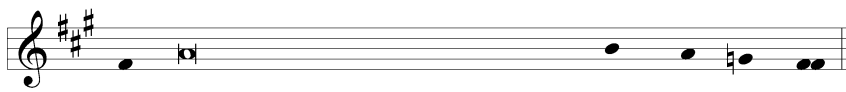
**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

# Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.





The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Postlude:

Rigaudon -- André Campra

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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## Today:

### Bible Study This Sunday – Led by Michael Lange

This Sunday at 11:00 AM, following Divine Service and a brief time of fellowship, Michael Lange will be leading our Bible study while Pastor Espinosa is away.

The study will focus on *Christian apologetics* and pair perfectly with our current series on Pastor’s book, *Contending for Christ Through the Creed: Apologetics for Loving Answers on the Christian Faith*.

Come grow in your faith and understanding as we explore this rich study together!

### Giving Made Easy – Try Our New Online Giving Platform!

We’ve made it fast and easy to support the ministry at Saint Paul’s through our new online giving system with Amplify. This secure platform allows you to set up one-time or recurring donations, all from your phone or computer.

You can even choose to give directly to causes close to your heart—like helping send our high school youth to *Higher Things* or supporting *Saint Paul’s Family Bible Camp*.

Give today by scanning the QR code or visiting:



<https://giving.myamplify.io/app/giving/sain9267562>

Thank you for your continued generosity!

## This Week:

### ☀️ Join the Journey—Daily Bible Devotionals with Pastor Al! ☀️

It's 2025, and **Pastor Espinosa hasn't missed a single day** of walking through Scripture with us!

Whether you've been following along or just jumping in, you're invited to be part of this powerful, daily connection to God's Word.

#### 📖 Need a boost of faith each day?

👉 Catch daily devotionals on:

- **Facebook** – @AlfonsoEspinosa
- **TikTok** – @alfonsoespinosa356
- **Instagram** – @alfonsoespinosa88

📧 Prefer devotionals by email?

Just send a quick note to **office@saintpaulsirvine.com** and we'll get you added to the list!

Let's keep growing—together in Christ—one day, one verse at a time.

## General Announcements

### Installation & Fellowship for Our New Vicar – Miles Johnson

Join us on **Sunday, August 31st** as we welcome **Miles Johnson** as our new vicar and install him into his role here at Saint Paul's while he attends the CMC program at Concordia University Irvine.

Over the next five years, Miles will be serving our church family and the Irvine community, and we are excited to have him with us!

Following the service, we'll gather for a time of fellowship. Please consider bringing a dish to share—fruit, light morning snacks, etc. **Cake will be provided.**

A **sign-up for fellowship dishes** will be available at the fellowship table after the service this Sunday. For questions, please contact Jackie Johnson at **office@saintpaulsirvine.com**.

### **Retreat Updates:**

The **Women's Retreat** has been **postponed** — we are hoping to find a new date later this year and will keep you updated as plans develop.

#### **Men's Retreat Update**

The Men's Retreat originally scheduled for **September 19–21** has been **postponed**, and we are now looking at potential dates in the **spring**. We are currently **gauging interest**—in order to move forward, we would need at least **30 men to sign up**.

If you would be interested in attending a spring retreat, please let us know by emailing:

✉ [office@saintpaulsirvine.com](mailto:office@saintpaulsirvine.com)

Thank you for your input and support as we plan this special time of fellowship and renewal!

### **The Bulletin Board**

**Life Quote: August 17** “Never apologize for sharing God’s Word. Never excuse holding or defending a godly position that clearly states how a life issue stands according to Scripture. Abortion is wrong, as is assisted suicide, and many other life issues happening in our world.” *Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Weekly Stewardship Message:** August 17 – Proper 15

**Luke 12:51 – “Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.”** Jesus has come to divide us out of the world — to carve out a people for Himself, redeemed by His blood and trusting His Word. The world hates this Word, but for us it is life and salvation. We seek to follow Jesus' Word in all things because we know Him who gave us the Word: we know He always seeks to bless us.

# Upcoming Choir Schedule

- for the rest of 2025



- **Sunday, Sept. 14:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Sunday, Sept. 21:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Sunday, Sept. 28:** rehearsal at **8:30am**, sing for service at **9:30**.
- **Sunday, Oct. 12:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Sunday, Oct. 19:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Sunday, Oct. 26:** rehearsal at **8:30am**, sing for service at **9:30**.
- **Sunday, Dec. 14:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Sunday, Dec. 21:** rehearsal at **8:30am** in the cafe area.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 24:** rehearsal at **6:00pm**, sing for service at **7:00pm**.

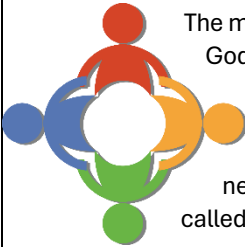
The sheet music and rehearsal recordings will be accessible on the church website (*Ministries-Choir*) so you can get familiar with the music.

*Please plan your schedule to make yourself available to rehearse and sing.*

***All are invited to sing in the choir! We need everyone!***

Contact Mark Howard, Choir Director, if you have any questions.  
(714) 423-6460 / [markahoward@sbcglobal.net](mailto:markahoward@sbcglobal.net)

## Circle of Friends



The most effective way for a church to grow in the Kingdom of God is to be faithful in the Word and Sacrament of Christ and to truly love people. One way to do that is to allow us to pray for those you know who need Christ and/or a church home. Please submit the names of family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and others to us through our ministry called Circle of Friends.

Thank you! Pastor Espinosa.

*For those we care about to come to saving faith and have a church home. Have a friend who needs prayer or would like a meeting with pastor? Use this QR code to let us know!*



## ***Worship Attendance for Members & Guests***

Scan the QR code or use the iPads at the Welcome Table to sign in. **Guests**, please sign the guestbook at the entrance.

**Offerings:** Collected during the worship service. All contributions are voluntary.



## ***Requesting Announcements***

To request an announcement for the congregation or community, submit your request via the QR code or this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hsgrm6zAup>.

Choose where you want it published: bulletin, email, website, livestream, etc.

## **Volunteers Needed!**

We are seeking volunteers for **Ushers, Altar Guild, Welcome Table, Transportation Services, and Visiting Shut-Ins**. If interested, please contact **Mark Kuntz**. We also need help with **Livestream, Family Sunday School, Quilting & Fellowship Team**. Please reach out to [office@saintpaulsirvine.com](mailto:office@saintpaulsirvine.com) if you can assist.

Thank you for serving our congregation!

## **Words of Evangelism: Ch. 8 – This is Personal**

Welcome from your Evangelism Committee. Know brothers and sisters in Christ that God's Word is personal because it applies to all. We make it personal to others by declaring it to be for "you." God's wrath and judgment applies to all and all people should justly be terrified of it. But, the Gospel is the power of salvation for everyone who believes. (Rom 1:16) The Gospel, salvation through Jesus Christ, applies to all who will receive it. We convey this message to others by declaring it to be for them, by declaring it to be for "you."

St. Paul aptly shows us God's wrath applies to all. He writes, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men." All ungodliness and unrighteousness accounts for all sins. Whether they be sins of thought, word, and deed or sins willfully committed or sins committed in weakness, God's wrath is against all of them, every single one. If we are foolish enough to think that we are perfect and have no ungodliness and unrighteousness in us, Paul tells us straight up, "None is righteous, no not one." (Rom 3:10) Lest this not be enough, Paul continues, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom 3:23) All people have sinned. You have. I have. We all fall short and justly deserve God's wrath.

But, there is hope for us in Jesus Christ our Savior. Just as God's wrath applies to all, so too does his Gospel. For all who will receive it, for all who will trust in it and cleave to it, God promises eternal life. Through Christ's death and suffering, "we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Heb 10:10) Our God "has laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Is 53:6) All people, regardless of race or ethnicity or gender, for all time in all places have had their sins paid for by the once for all sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Jesus has taken your sins upon himself so that you may live, so that I may live, and so that all may live. It is truly "the power of salvation" for all people, "for everyone who believes." (Rom 1:16) God desires that all people hear this Word and Gospel because he "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:4) Therefore us Christians should carry the message of God's saving grace through Christ to all the corners of the Earth.

But, what does it look like to declare the Gospel to be for you? Paul did it and risked his life to do it. Even while imprisoned, Paul spoke the Gospel. When a jailer asked how he might be saved, Paul told him, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." (Acts 16:31) To the Romans, Paul said, "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." (Rom 10:9) Paul declared to the jailer and to the Romans that Jesus was for him and for them, but it is also for your neighbors, all people in your life, and for "you." When sharing the Gospel with others, tell them it is for them. Tell them it is for "you."

Lord God Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against you. We confess that all of us have committed all sorts of ungodliness and unrighteousness and deserve your wrath. But, for the sake of the once for all sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord, please forgive us. Remember your promise that all people who believe in your Son will be saved. We know that you desire all people to be saved. So, inspire us, o Lord, to declare the Law and Gospel to all people in all places. Put the words into our mouth, o Lord, so that your Gospel becomes personal. In Jesus' name, we ask it. Amen.

**Please Pray for our Missionaries, Council Members & Elders**

**Missionaries Supported by Saint Paul's**

*(Financial gifts given annually to the national synod)*

Missionary	Location
Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad <i>Please send mail through the LCMS directly.</i>	Dominican Republic

Erin Mackenzie Email: <a href="mailto:erin.mackenzie@lcms.org">erin.mackenzie@lcms.org</a>	Latin America & Caribbean
Britt Odemba Email: <a href="mailto:britt.odemba@lcms.org">britt.odemba@lcms.org</a>	Kenya
Rev. Dr. Tom Park Email: <a href="mailto:tom.park@lcms.org">tom.park@lcms.org</a>	Taiwan

**Missionary Friends**

*(Non-Financial Support)*

Missionary	Role	Location
Tirzah Krey Email: <a href="mailto:tirzah.krey@lcms.org">tirzah.krey@lcms.org</a>	Regional Human Care Coordinator	Latin America & Caribbean

**If you are interested in mailing a letter or giving a donation directly to our missionaries, please send mail directly to the LCMS with the specific Missionaries name in the attention line:**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
*ATTN: (enter missionaries name here)*  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

**Local Evangelism Support: Rev. Mark Jasa** – Saint Paul’s supports our local evangelist.

**Saint Paul’s Parish Council Members**

**Debbie Dannemeyer** – President ~ **Matt Bures** – Recording Secretary ~ **Ken Mott** – Treasurer

**Laura Miller** – Financial Secretary ~ **Jon Rutherford** – Trustee Director ~ **Ali Frank** – Stewardship Director

**Mark Kuntz** – Presiding Elder ~ **Renee Mott** – Fellowship Director ~ **Bradley Hustad** – Evangelism Director

**Jacob Thornblad** – Education Director ~ **Miles & Jackie Johnson** – Youth Directors

**Saint Paul’s Elders**

**Mark Kuntz** (Presiding Elder) ~ **Bruce Dannemeyer** ~ **Bryan Kilduff** ~ **John Church** ~ **Jon Steele** ~ **Karl Blanke**

**Michael Padilla** ~ **Steve Fischer** ~ **Ricky Cuenca** ~ **Alex Padilla**

**SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE**

Date	Altar Team	Ushers/Greeter	Elders on Duty	Welcome Table	Livestream
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<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Kiu Geister</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
3rd Sunday 8/17/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank and Ed Miller	Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele
4th Sunday 8/24/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Anne Wright	Paul and Samuel Hines	John Church, Jon Steele	Anne Wright	Jon Steele
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 8/31/2025	Mei Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Kiu Geister	Jim J.
1st Sunday 9/7/2025	Nina Mueller Myra Taylor	Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim	Alex Padilla, Bruce Dannemeyer	Kiu Geister	Jim J.
2nd Sunday 9/14/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla, Mark Kuntz	Cindy Kilduff	Jim J.

### **FELLOWSHIP ROTATION**

3rd Sunday 8/17/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
4th Sunday 8/24/2025	Hines Family, Daisy Minter
5th Sunday 8/31/2025	Julie Stiegemeyer, Jackie Johnson
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 9/7/2025	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2nd Sunday 9/14/2025	Renee Mott, Ann Ashmon