

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, August 31, 2025 – 9:30 am

Divine Service

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

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

Vicar: Miles Johnson

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Mark Howard

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

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

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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: A Multitude Comes from the East and the West
-- Kevin Hildebrand

Greeting

P O Israel, hope in the LORD

C **from this time forth and forevermore.**

- Psalm 131:3

Confession and Absolution

Entrance Hymn: **907 God Himself Is Present**
(all stanzas)

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

Kyrie

186

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

947 All Glory Be to God on High

1 All glo - ry be to God on high And thanks for all His
2 We praise and laud and wor - ship You; We give You thanks for -
3 O Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son Be - got - ten of the
4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, our de - light And source of con - so -

fa - vor; No harm can touch or ter - ri - fy A
ev - er, O Fa - ther, for Your rule is true And
Fa - ther, Your sav - ing death has made us one With
la - tion, Pro - tect us from the dev - il's might Through

child of God for - ev - er. God shows His good and
just and chang - es nev - er. With bound - less pow'r, Your
God and with each oth - er. O Lamb of God, to
Je - sus, our sal - va - tion, Who by His death up -

gra - cious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
might - y reign Ful - fills what - ev - er You or - dain.
You on high In our dis - tress we sin - ners cry,
on a tree Has res - cued us from mis - er - y:

All strife at last has end - ed.
Lord, grant us ev - 'ry bless - ing!
Have mer - cy on us, a - men!
To this we hold for - ev - er.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 25:2–10

²It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.

³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.

⁴Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;

⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,

⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?

⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,

¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 131; antiphon: v. 2



P But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its | mother;*
like a weaned child is my soul with- | in me.

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not | raised too high;*

I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvel- | ous for me.

C But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its | mother;*
like a weaned child is my soul with- | in me.

P O Israel, hope | in the LORD*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.

C 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 But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its | mother;*
like a weaned child is my soul with- | in me.

Epistle

Hebrews 13:1–17

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and

be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶So we can confidently say,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear;
what can man do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1–14

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will

begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day:

842 Son of God, Eternal Savior

(all stanzas)

Sit

Children's Message

Sermon

The Lord is My Helper

(Hebrews 13:1-6)

Pastor Espinosa

Sermon Transcripts Available

Did you know you can view sermon transcripts and closed captions directly on YouTube? Simply click 'Show Transcript' under the video description. If you are interested in this option scan the QR code below, please email office@saintpaulsirvine.com if you need support



Watch on our channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@SaintPaulsIrvine>

Installation of a Vicar

The vicar is presented before the altar. The presiding minister, standing before the altar, says:

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, according to the usual custom of the Church, Miles Johnson has been assigned to Saint Paul's as a Vicar. As a student assigned to our congregation, he will continue his education in preparation for service to the Church as a called worker.

Hear what the Word of God says about those who serve in the Church.

The presiding minister or an assistant reads one or more of the following passages from Holy Scripture.

A ¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,

A ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that

God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- A** ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.
- A** ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
- A** ¹⁵Practice these things, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. ¹⁶Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

The pastor addresses the vicar:

- P** Miles, are you prepared to serve as vicar in this congregation under the supervision of the pastor, undertaking your assignments as one who seeks training for the Office of the Holy Ministry? If so, then answer: I am, with the help of God.
- R** *I am, with the help of God.*
- P** Miles, I install you as vicar at Saint Paul's in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Stand

The vicar may kneel.

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God our Father, You send laborers into Your harvest. Grant Your blessing to Miles, who now begins his vicarage in our congregation, so that Your Word may bear much fruit for the growth of Your Church; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend *[name(s)]* and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering:

What A Friend We Have in Jesus -- Robert Holly

+Announcements+

+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

Stand

Preface

LSB 216

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

G 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.

P In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 217

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 † 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 † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

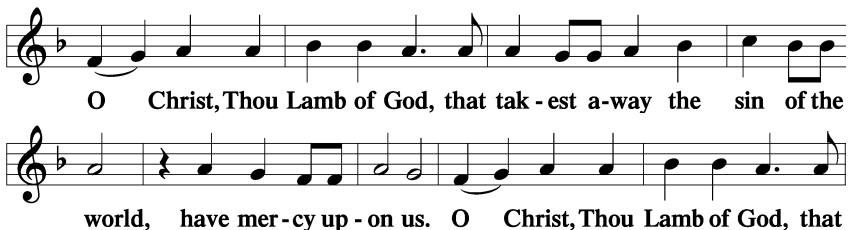
Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

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:

628 Your Table I Approach
(all stanzas)

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray
(all stanzas)

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing
(all stanzas)

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus
(all stanzas)

Stand

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 218

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

G Amen.

Postlude:

Intermezzo -- Schroeder

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran Service Book

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Today:

No Bible Study Today – Enjoy Fellowship!

Join us today 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. We are also celebrating the return of the **CUI students** for a new school year—please join us in giving them a warm Saint Paul's welcome.

Following the service, we'll gather for a time of extended fellowship.

Thank you to everyone who provided dishes to share—your generosity makes this celebration special!

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

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote: August 31 “God created every one of us to shine brightly in the world He made for us. Each person is a candle, sustaining His light to share with others. When a baby is aborted, his or her candle is extinguished. Clearly, that is not what God wants for us. None of us is unimportant to God; He cares about all of us, no matter our size, age, parents, gender, or disabilities. Every candle has a special purpose God designed.” *Christina, Missouri, Lutherans For Life Essay Contest – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message: August 31 – Proper 17

Luke 14:11 – “For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Psalm 111:10). That’s called humility. The Lord is God and we are not. With that in mind, how could we not seek to follow His Word in all aspects of life? He knows what He is talking about and we don’t. If you believe that, then striking out on a path of faithfulness in the realm of stewardship is a lot easier: it just makes sense.

*“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.
The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to
man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music.”*

– Martin Luther

Upcoming Special Music at St. Paul’s

Date: Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025 – 9:30 am

Featuring: St. Paul’s Choir, Directed by Mark Howard
Music by John Eggert, Walter Pelz, John Rutter
Jerry Dahlin, Organ
Rachel Okonski, Flute
Jacob Thornblad, Violin

Date: Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025 – 9:30 am (Reformation Sunday)

Featuring: St. Paul’s Choir, Directed by Mark Howard
*Music by Michael Burkhardt, Paul Christiansen,
Ralph Vaughan Williams*
Jerry Dahlin, Organ
Bruce Benne, Handbells

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 24 – 7:00 pm (Christmas Eve)

Featuring: St. Paul’s Choir, Directed by Mark Howard
*Music by Jeffrey Van, Alfred Fedak, Gustav Holst,
John Rutter*
Jerry Dahlin, Organ
Rachel Okonski, Flute

Don’t miss these special worship services!

Interested in singing in the choir?
Contact Mark Howard 714.423.6460
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 if you can assist. Thank you for serving our congregation!

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

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	Dominican Republic

<i>Please send mail through the LCMS directly.</i>	
Erin Mackenzie Email: erin.mackenzie@lcms.org	Latin America & Caribbean
Britt Odemba Email: britt.odemba@lcms.org	Kenya
Rev. Dr. Tom Park Email: tom.park@lcms.org	Taiwan

Missionary Friends

(Non-Financial Support)

Missionary	Role	Location
Tirzah Krey Email: tirzah.krey@lcms.org	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** ~ **Michael Lange**

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

Date	Altar Team	Ushers/Greeter	Elders on Duty	Welcome Table	Livestream
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
5 th Sunday 8/31/2025	Mei Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Mark Kuntz	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
1st Sunday 9/7/2025	Nina Mueller Myra Taylor	Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim	Alex Padilla, Bruce Dannemeyer	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
2nd Sunday 9/14/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla, Mark Kuntz	Cindy Kilduff	Jim J.
3rd Sunday 9/21/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank and Ed Miller	Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele
4th Sunday 9/28/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Anne Wright	Paul and Samuel Hines	John Church, Jon Steele	Anne Wright	Jon Steele

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

5th Sunday 8/31/2025	Julie Stiegemeyer, Jackie Johnson
1st Sunday 9/7/2025	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2nd Sunday 9/14/2025	Renee Mott, Ann Ashmon
3rd Sunday 9/21/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
4th Sunday 9/28/2025	Hines Family, Daisy Minter