

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

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, August 3, 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

Elder Installation: Michael Lange

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

Website: www.saintpaulsirvine.com

Email: office@saintpaulsirvine.com

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

Prelude and Fugue in Bb -- JS Bach

Greeting

P Know that the LORD, he is God!

C **It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

- Psalm 100:3

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand

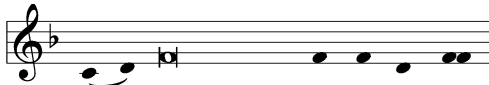
Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn: 782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

(all stanzas)

Kyrie

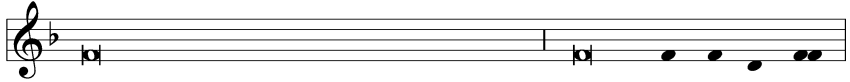
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



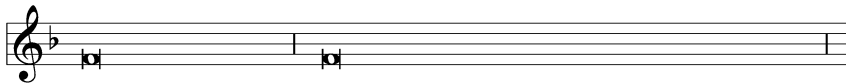
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



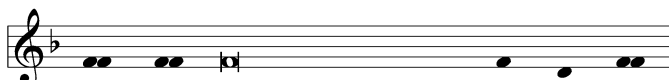
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



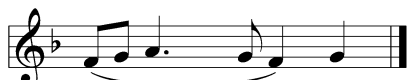
let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through 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

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26

²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . .

¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. . . .

¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.

²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils

beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 100; antiphon: v. 3



P Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with | singing!

C **Know that the LORD, | he is God!***

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

P Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his | courts with praise!*

Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

C **For the LORD is good;**

his steadfast love endures for- | ever,*

and his faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

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 Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

Epistle

Colossians 3:1–11

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

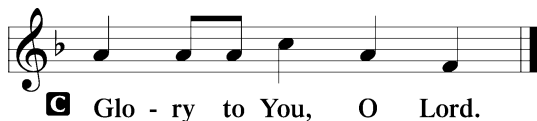


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or

arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day:

789 Praise and Thanksgiving

(all stanzas)

Children's Message

Sermon

"Mere Breath vs. New Breath"

Pastor Espinosa

Introduction: Vanity celebrated in the world, but warned of in God's Word

- A. Vanity in the young man.
- B. Vanity in the prime man.
- C. Vanity in the elder man.

Part 1: Ecclesiastes puts life in perspective.

Ecclesiastes 2:23

"For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity."

- A. Three screens. We have seen the enemy.

Ecclesiastes 2:24-26a

"There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, [25] for apart

from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? [26] For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy..."

B. You've heard, "You are what you eat," but you are also HOW you eat and do everything else. So "how"? With:

1. Wisdom
2. Knowledge
3. Joy

Part 2: Colossians puts life in Christ.

Colossians 3:1-3

Put On the New Self

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. [3] For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

1. Your old breath is now covered with new breath.
2. Christ keeps you breathing new in your holy baptism.

*The three screens can't overcome the three gifts of oratio, meditatio, and contemplatio

Part 3: Luke puts life in protection

Luke 12:15

"And he said to them, 'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.'"

1. The key is the right desire, the right possession.
2. Christ has made you His desire.
3. Christ has made you His possession.
4. Christ has given you new breath.

Stand

Installation of Michael Lange as an Elder:

- P** Beloved in the Lord, Holy Scripture admonishes us that "all things should be done decently and in order."

To that end, the constitution and bylaws of this congregation establish various offices to which men and women are elected and appointed to serve. In so doing, the Church follows the example of the Early Christian Church as described in Acts, chapter six:

The twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

The apostle Peter writes in his first epistle:

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever 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.

P *Michael Lange* has been appointed to serve as Elder.

P You have been chosen to fill specific offices and positions of responsibility at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine. You are to work with the pastor(s), that our life together in Christ may be orderly and pleasing in His sight.

You are to see that the services of God's house are held at the proper times, that the Word of God is purely preached and taught according to the Lutheran Confessions, that the Sacraments of Christ are administered according to His institution, that provision is made for the Christian instruction of young and old, that the erring are admonished, and that discipline is maintained.

You are to see that the temporal affairs of the congregation are properly administered and that proper support is provided for the workers of this congregation. You are to assist in caring for the poor and the sick, in cultivating harmony among the members, in promoting the general welfare of the congregation, and in furthering the kingdom of Christ here and throughout the world.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you, as office-bearers in His Church, show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the office entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His

Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

R *I do.*

P Beloved in the Lord, you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by him who has been appointed to serve as an elder of *Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine*. Do you promise to support him in his work, to remember him in your prayers, and to work with him to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that God may be glorified and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: I do.

C **I do.**

P Brothers in Christ, I install you as an elder of *Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine* in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The almighty and most merciful God enlighten and strengthen you in your office that you may be a good and faithful steward to the glory of His name and the good of His people.

C **Amen.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks that You have raised up this servant for work among Your people. We humbly implore You to grant him, by Your Holy Spirit, those gifts needed for the faithful carrying out of his tasks, most especially wisdom, strength, and a willing heart. Let Your blessing rest on this congregation. Strengthen the faith, quicken the love, and enkindle the zeal of its members, that Your name may be glorified and that here and in all places under heaven the kingdom of Your Son may be advanced. We pray that in the end of days we, with all Your faithful people, may hear the voice of Christ saying: "Come, you who are blessed by My Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world"; 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.**

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.**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For minds set on things above where Christ is seated, that God, our Creator and Redeemer, would renew us more and more in His divine image, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church, that the Lord would give her honorable and noble men for the Office of the Holy Ministry and gracious and devoted men and women commissioned for the teaching arts and works of charity within His Church, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For strong trust in God's fatherly care, that our hearts would be defended from focusing on worldly wealth and our families from the strife that flows from the love of money, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our protection and the protection of our neighbors from those who seek to do harm, that the Lord would restrain those who senselessly commit acts of violence and keep in peace and safety those who live and work in places of danger, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the suffering, the dying and the grieving, [*especially* _____,] that they would be sustained in the truth that their lives are even now hidden with Christ in God, and that when He appears, they will also appear with Him in glory; and for compassionate and skillful doctors and nurses, that suffering may be alleviated and minds and bodies returned to health, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For hearts that treasure the divine gift of Christ's very body and blood, that we may be protected thereby from the love of worldly riches, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For holy wisdom to see through the illusions of this world, that being tempted by no temporary pleasures, we would arrive at the salvation promised to those who trust in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, because we do not know what we need or how to ask, lead us by Your Spirit to trust in Your wisdom and to have confidence in Your grace, for this life and even forevermore. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your promises; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to

me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

+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 160

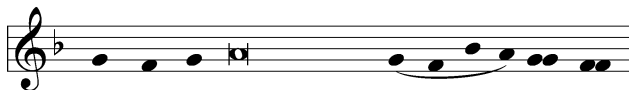
P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh

to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. 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.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

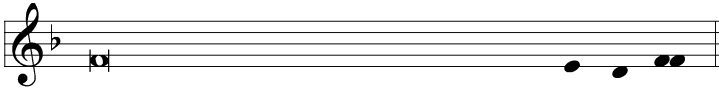
P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**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**



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.



C A - men.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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Today:

Congregation Survey –

**Help Shape Our Future
Worship Space**

We’re exploring three options to accommodate our growing congregation and would love your input! Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey and share your thoughts. Your feedback will help guide our planning as we seek to faithfully grow together. The survey closes **Sunday, August 10 at midnight**. Scan the QR code to

Saint Paul’s Lutheran Church:
Congregational Growth Survey



participate:

Bible Study This Sunday!

Join Pastor Espinosa as he continues teaching from his new book, *Contending for Christ Through the Creed*, this Sunday at 11:00 AM, following Divine Service and a brief time of fellowship.

Last week, we covered Dr. Uwe Siemon-Netto’s foreword and Pastor Espinosa’s introduction. This week, we’ll begin with the **Introduction**.

If you've already received a copy of the book, please bring it with you. Extra copies will be available for anyone who hasn't received one yet.

To help make the study easier and more engaging, Pastor Espinosa will also provide a PowerPoint presentation that reflects each week's chapter content.

Come grow in your faith and understanding as we dive into 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

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

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

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote: August 3 “God isn’t a page in your book, you’re part of His. And He’s delighted to have you in the family.” *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message: August 3 – Proper 13

Luke 12:15 – “And he said to them, ‘Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’” Coveting is the opposite of being content with what God has given us. And the cure for coveting is twofold: thankfulness to God and generosity toward God’s purposes. So be on guard against all covetousness. Acknowledge that your Father has given you all that you need, and therefore be free and confident in directing the mammon of this world toward godly purposes.

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!

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

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Team</u>	<u>Ushers/Greeter</u>	<u>Elders on Duty</u>	<u>Welcome Table</u>	<u>Livestream</u>
<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>
1st Sunday 8/3/2025	Nina Mueller Myra Taylor	Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim	Alex Padilla, Bruce Dannemeyer	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
2nd Sunday 8/10/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla, Mark Kuntz	Cindy Kilduff	Jim J.
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

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

1st Sunday 8/3/2025	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2nd Sunday 8/10/2025	Ann Ashmon, Renee Mott
3rd Sunday 8/17/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
4th Sunday 8/24/2025	Anne-Marie Hines, Daisy Minter