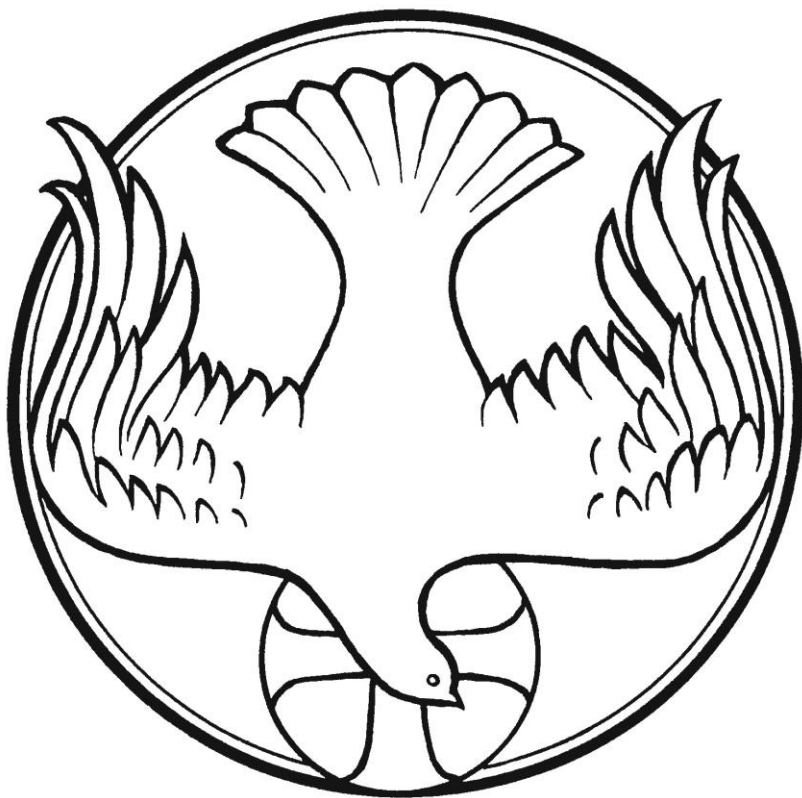


SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



MAY 10, 2026

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

124 MAPLE STREET NORTH

LESTER PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA

(320)-395-2573

Pastor Barlau: Cell (612) 394-6224

Pastor email: pastorbarlau@gmail.com

www.stpaulp.org

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING III p. 184-202

AS WE GATHER- THE LORD JESUS COMFORTS US WITH THE PREACHING OF HIS RESURRECTION-“The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything” (Acts 17:24-25) wants all people to seek Him that they might “feel their way toward him and find him” (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols “formed by the art and imagination of man” (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and “has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us “as orphans” (John 14:18), but He gives “another Helper,” the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of “Jesus and the resurrection” (Acts 17:18). Because He “suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous” (1 Peter 3:18), we “honor Christ the Lord as holy” and are always “prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks” for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism “now saves” us “as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).

PRESERVICE

OPENING HYMN “CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY” 469

✠ CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION ✠ p. 184-185

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT PSALM 119:89-93; ANTIPHON: V. 105

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

**Forever, O Lord, your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.**

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

**By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.**

If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

**I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.**

GLORIA PATRI

P. 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE

P. 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P. 187-189

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

ACTS 17:16-31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed

along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring." ²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL ADAPT. FROM MATTHEW 28:7; HEBREWS 2:7, PSALM 8:6
Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor. He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.

EPISTLE

1 PETER 3:13-22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the

ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P. 190

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL "DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL, REJOICE" vs. 1-4 556

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 14:15-21

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

G Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise be to Thee, O Christ

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL "DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL, REJOICE" vs. 5-7 556

NICENE CREED

P. 191

SERMON

SERMON HYMN "DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL, REJOICE" vs. 8-10 556

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your Mercy, **G** Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

+ Sonya Clausen	+ Associate Pastor to be Kyle Bliss
+ Scott Christenson	+ Angela Litzau
+ Andy Birkholz	+ Mark Barlau
+ Dan Gueningsman	+ Anna Tracy
+ Maya Radtke	+ Hillard Klaustermeier

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN “HE IS ARISEN! GLORIOUS WORD” 488

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠ P. 194-199

The Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His true body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation, to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Our Lord Jesus 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 (Matt. 26:26-28; 1Cor. 11:23-29; Matt.6:15).

We practice closed communion. Why? (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Because our Lord says those who eat and drink His body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. If not yet instructed, in doubt, or holding a confession differing from that of the LCMS, you are lovingly asked not to commune at this time. Pastor is happy to make an appointment to discuss adult catechesis or questions you have regarding the Sacrament of the Altar. If you would still like to come forward to receive a blessing, please signify so by crossing your arms.

Examination Questions: Please prepare by asking yourself — Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior from sin? Do I believe that I am receiving the body and blood of Christ along with the bread and wine? Will I try, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers for “Before communing” and “Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament” are printed on the front cover of the hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“GOD’S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT	594
“LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD”	655
“CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER”	725

NUNC DIMITTIS

P. 199

COLLECT/SALUTATION	P. 201
BENEDICTION	P. 202
CLOSING HYMN	“BUILT ON THE ROCK” 645

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Attendance Last Week
 Sunday: 209

Organist:
 Lynn Mueller

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. SUMMER SCHEDULE-** A reminder that we will begin our Summer Worship Schedule on Sunday, May 17th. Service time will be at 9:00 AM.
- 2. ASSOCIATE PASTOR UPDATE-** We are pleased to announce Kyle Bliss as our new Associate Pastor, joining us following his graduation from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Stay tuned for more information!
- 3. DIRECTORY UPDATE:** Stewardship committee is still working on designing the group and feature pages for the directory. Our part of this process is taking longer than we anticipated, but we are working on it and appreciate your patience! We'll update the congregation again when we complete this step and send it in for printing.
- 4. LWML -** The MN So. District Mites update as of April 2 is \$259, 010. That is 96% of the goal of \$270,000. The District will be able to pay all 13 Mission grants in full. By April 25, \$10,989.00 is needed and that surely will be met. To God Be The Glory.
- 5. YOUTH NIGHT-** All students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us on Sunday, May 17th from 6:00-8:00 PM. We are going to have burgers, bible study and games.
- 6. SAVE THE DATE-** The Board of Education invites our 2026 High School graduates and their families to attend worship service on May 17th at 9:00 AM in honor of their academic accomplishments.
- 7. DIAPER COLLECTION-** Donations of diapers, any size and brand, is being taken for the Marie Sandvick Center. Collection will take place until May 20th. If you would like to donate, please place diapers in the box in the Lower Narthex.

8. THANK YOU for the recent donations to the McLeod County Food Shelf. Donations for the last two months totaled 210 pounds and \$20.00.

9. ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY Our next Adopt-a-Highway Ditch clean-up will take place on Sunday, May 17th. ANYONE THAT is 12 years of age or older is invited to help with this service project. We will meet at church at Noon that day.

10. NEW FREEDOM STORE COLLECTION: LWML will be collecting cash for VISA gift cards to support the Homeless Ministry at the Pigs Eye Encampment in St. Paul. This is a mission sponsored by the LWML MN. South District as part of the district convention held June 18-20th. A collection box is in the lower narthex. Deadline is May 15th. Thank you for your support.

11. VBS PLANNING MEETING- If you are interested in helping plan VBS for this summer, please attend our meeting on Tuesday, May 19th at 6:00 PM.

12. SCHEDULE- May 17 ~(One Service only) Ushers: Adam Birkholz, Todd Ruschmeyer, Jacob Ross, Fred Holasek; Acolytes: B. Peterson, E. Novotny; Greeters- Ralph, Donna, Kori Machemehl; Flowers: Debbie Bahr; Altar Guild: Tina Heiraas, Sharon Hecksel; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. May 10	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMM WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMM
Mon. May 11	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting Council Meeting
Wed. May 13	Noon	Deadline for Bulletin
Thurs. May 14	7:00 p.m.	ASCENSION DAY SERVICE AT ST. PETER
Sun. May 17	9:00 a.m. Noon 6:00 p.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION Graduate Recognition Adopt-A-Highway Ditch Clean-Up Youth Night (Grades 7-12)

Acknowledgement:

- + A memorial for John Hummel was received in the amount of \$20.00 for the Windows of Faith Campaign Fund.
- + A memorial for Merlin Mathews, Karen Strei and Darian Litzau was received in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Windows of Faith Campaign Fund.