

# SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



**MAY 17, 2026**

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)**

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## 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 King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## FIRST READING

ACTS 1:12-26

<sup>12</sup>Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. <sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup>"Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup>For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>18</sup>(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. <sup>19</sup>And it became known to all the

inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) <sup>20</sup>“For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and “‘Let another take his office.’” <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

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

**C** 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 4:12-19, 5:6-11**

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup>But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup>Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup>For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup>And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” <sup>19</sup>Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. . . . <sup>6</sup>Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, <sup>7</sup>casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,

seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

**P. 190**

**GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL "CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD INCARNATE" vs. 1-3 540**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**JOHN 17:1-11**

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

**G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. <sup>6</sup>"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup>For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one."

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

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

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL "CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD INCARNATE" VS. 4-6 540

NICENE CREED

P. 191

SERMON

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING OF GRADUATES

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in your Mercy, **C** 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**

“JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY”	457
“O LOVE, HOW DEEP”	544
“HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION”	728
“FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT”	664

**NUNC DIMITTIS** P. 199

**COLLECT/SALUTATION** P. 201

**BENEDICTION** P. 202

**CLOSING HYMN** “CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS” 525

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

<p><b><u>Attendance Last Week</u></b> Sunday: 170</p>
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<p><b><u>Organist:</u></b> Lynn Mueller</p>
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<p><b>CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p>
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**1. ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY** Our Adopt-a-Highway Ditch clean-up will take place TODAY 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 right after service today (please note time change!). There are permission slips that need to be filled out if between the age of 12 and 17.

**2. YOUTH NIGHT-** All students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us TONIGHT Sunday, May 17th from 6:00-8:00 PM. We are going to have burgers, bible study and games.

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

**4. SANDWICH MINISTRY-** Join us for our monthly sandwich making event on Thursday, May 21st at 8:30 a.m.

**5. ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP** applications are available on the wall pocket file by the church offices. These scholarships are for Christian Education for individuals attending a LCMS Christian pre-school, K-8, high school, Concordia University, or Concordia Seminary. Deadline to apply is July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**6. BAHR/STREI SCHOLARSHIP** applications are available on the wall pocket file by the church offices. The Bahr/Strei scholarship is for church work fields of study at a LCMS Concordia University or Seminary. Please return all applications by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

**7. DIAPER COLLECTION-** Donations of diapers, any size and brand, is being taken for the Marie Sandvick Center. Collection will take place until May 20<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to donate, please place diapers in the box in the Lower Narthex.

**8. 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 18-20<sup>th</sup>. A collection box is in the lower narthex. Deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support.

**9. JOINT WORSHIP** with St. Peter Lutheran Church will be held here on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.

**10. OFFICES CLOSED-** Offices will be closed on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

**11. SCHEDULE-** *May 24 ~* (One Service only) Ushers: Mike Lee, Gary Kosek, Ben Schulteis, Mavrik Kosek; Acolytes: A. Dawson, A. Kosek; Greeters- Carolyn Toenies; Flowers: Debbie Bahr; Altar Guild: Tina Heiraas, Sharon Hecksel; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

## MISC.

**12. LUTHERAN NIGHT AT MN TWINS-** Community Outing  
Tickets are reserved for the 6:40 pm game on Tuesday, August 11th against the Baltimore Orioles. Seats are located in Section 213 (Home Plate Terrace, same as last several years) at a cost of \$44 each. Bus transportation from First Ev. Lutheran Church in Glencoe will depart at 4:15 pm, at a cost of about \$16 per person. At Target Field, the bus will drop and pick us up near Gate 14, which is convenient to our seating. Please contact Cindy Eggersgluess at 612-840-6308 or [eggsgluesscindy@gmail.com](mailto:eggsgluesscindy@gmail.com) to reserve your spot!

### *Calendar of Events*

<b>Sun. May 17</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>  10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION</b> Graduate Recognition Adopt-A-Highway Ditch Clean-Up Youth Night (Grades 7-12)
<b>Mon. May 18</b>	Noon	Deadline for Lamplighter
<b>Tues. May 19</b>	6:00 p.m.	VBS planning meeting
<b>Wed. May 20</b>	Noon	Deadline for Bulletin
<b>Thurs. May 21</b>	8:30 a.m.	Sandwich Ministry
<b>Sun. May 24</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMM.</b>

### **Acknowledgement:**

- + Memorials for Darian Litzau were received in the total amount of \$3,000.00 for the Windows of Faith Campaign.
- + A memorial for Karen Strei was received in the amount of \$100.00 for the General Fund.

## 2026 Graduate Info

### **Michael Albers -**

Son of Doug and Tracy Albers

Confirmation verse: John 3:16

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Michael plans to enter the workforce after graduation and become a heavy equipment operator.

### **Joslyn Ann Alsleben -**

Daughter of Ryan and Shannon Alsleben

Confirmation verse: Psalm 23:4

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Joslyn plans to attend Ridgewater College after graduation.

### **Alexander David Baumann -**

Son of Tim and Lynn Baumann

Confirmation verse: John 8:12

Graduate from Watertown Mayer High School

Alex is planning to attend Wyotech to study diesel mechanic and chassis fabrication after graduation.

### **Harrison Jeffrey Gervase Engen -**

Son of Jeff Engen and Sally Engen

Confirmation verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Harry plans to attend University of Minnesota - Duluth for accounting and finance after graduation.

### **Carter Foust -**

Son of Josh and Dawn Foust

Confirmation verse: Isaiah 54:10

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Carter plans to attend Minnesota State University - Mankato after graduation.

### **Alaina Jade Koch -**

Daughter of Todd and Ashley Koch

Confirmation verse: Psalm 37:4

Graduate from Howard Lake Waverly Winsted High School

Alaina plans to attend Chippewa Valley Technical College to study business after graduation.

**Anah Elizabeth Lee –**

Daughter of Mike and April Lee

Confirmation verse: Ephesians 2:8

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Anah plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse after graduation.

**Broc Mathews –**

Son of Shandon and Brittany Mathews

Confirmation verse: Galatians 2:20

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Broc plans to attend South Dakota State University for Wildlife Sciences after graduation.

**Brayden Jay McCarthy –**

Son of Mark and Dawn McCarthy

Confirmation verse: Joshua 1:9

Plans to attend Northwestern College in Ely, MN for Law Enforcement

**Jackson Remer –**

Son of Charlie and Heather Remer

Confirmation verse: Matthew 6:33

Graduate from Howard Lake Waverly Winsted High School

Jackson plans to become an electrician after graduation.

**Cory Steven Schauer –**

Son of Mike and Kim Schauer

Confirmation verse: 1 Peter 4:8

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Cory plans to attend Ridgewater College for Drafting & Design and work for Schauer & Sons Construction.

**Eli James Zebell –**

Son of Derek and Jenny Zebell

Confirmation verse: 1 John 1:9

Graduate from Lester Prairie High School

Eli plans to attend Ridgewater College for welding and enter the workforce after graduation

**Zachary Jonathon Zebell –**

Son of Derek and Jenny Zebell

Graduated from St. John's University

Plans to attend graduate school for Physical Therapy.

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

## What is a “Gospel Procession”?

You may sometimes see the Gospel reading take place in a different part of the church. On special Sundays, the Bible is carried into the center of the congregation where the pastor reads the Gospel to the people. There may also be some festive music or singing. After the reading, while the Bible is being carried back to its place, there may be more music and singing. This ceremony is called the Gospel Procession.

## Why do we have a Gospel Procession?

Jesus is the living Word. He set us free from the burden of sin through His life, death and resurrection. A Gospel Procession reminds us that this wonderful news is to be carried into the whole world. Jesus came for all people and He offers eternal life to all who believe by the power of the Holy Spirit! Wow! A Gospel Procession is a wonderful thing!



**Parents:** Before or after the Divine Service, remind your children of the meaning of the Gospel Procession. When it is taking place, point out the reverent way the pastor, crucifer, and/or assistants move. Reverence and humility are shown to the One who is truly among us declaring the Good News of forgiveness of sins by His Word! Read John 1:1-3, 14 and discuss it with your children. How is Jesus described in this reading?

