Sunday Worship | Lectionary 19

August 9, 2026

ST. PAUL'S

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Welcome

Welcome! We are glad you are joining our community of faith for worship today. Whether you are a long-time Lutheran, or you come from another Christian tradition, or you're wandering or wondering about faith and the church, you are welcome to participate in worship in whatever ways are comfortable for you. If you are new to St. Paul's you can request more information on our web site contact page here: www.stpaulsbrenham.org/contact

Our worship liturgy is rooted in the ancient church's practice of gathering on Sundays to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus through hearing God's Word and sharing the communion meal in the presence of Christ. We welcome all baptized Christians to receive communion. Children who are communing in other churches are invited to commune here. All who are not receiving are invited to come forward for a blessing—you may indicate you want a blessing by holding your hands together or crossing your arms in front of you.

This bulletin is a helpful guide to our worship liturgy, as are ushers and friendly people gathered here with you to worship God together.

St. Paul's Staff

Michael Coffey	Lead Pastor
Donna Krueger	Pastor of Care Ministry
Diane Garrett	Organist
Larry Smith	Choir Director
Dr. Sarah Burke	Director of Contemporary Music
Lisa Eben	Financial Director
Thomas Johnson	Communications Coordinator
Anne Briggs	Membership Coordinator
Sarah Zwahr	Director of Youth and Family
Julie Guiberteau	Media Technician
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Contact Us

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St. Paul's is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Learn more at www.elca.org

Lectionary 19 A

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Offering

Offering plates are on the welcome table in the narthex. Feel free to leave your offering there. The offering will be presented during the worship liturgy. You can also make an offering online at www.stpaulsbrenham.org/give

First Aid

A First Aid Kit and AED (defibrillator) are located in the closet of the usher room in the Narthex.

Our Mission

Together in Jesus Christ, we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.

GATHERING

PRELUDE **Dr. Bobby Marek, Clarinet** ***Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*** **J. S. Bach**

SOUNDING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM
Remembering that we are members of the body of Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, holy and gracious God,
for you created the waters of the earth:
wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you.
Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.
You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

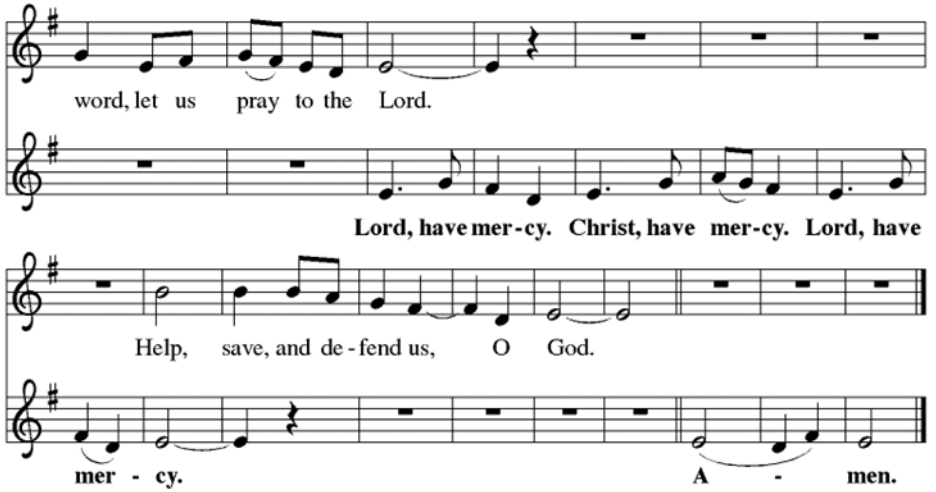
Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.
Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG **ELW 731** ***Earth and All Stars!***

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Leader
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
Lord.
For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your



HYMN OF PRAISE **ELW 837 *Many and Great, O God***

1. Many and great, O God, are your works,
maker of earth and sky.
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey your voice.

2. Grant unto us communion with you,
O Star-abiding One.
Come unto us and dwell with us;
with you are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
eternal life with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING **1 Kings 19:9-18**

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

9 At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave
and spent the night there.
Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What
are you doing here, Elijah?" 10 He answered, "I have been
very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the
Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down
your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I
alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it
away."

11 He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before
the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there
was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting
mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD,
but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an
earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake,
12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in
the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.
13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle
and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.
Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you
doing here, Elijah?" 14 He answered, "I have been very
zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites
have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars,
and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left,
and they are seeking my life, to take it away." 15 Then the
LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the
wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall
anoint Hazael as king over Aram. 16 Also you shall anoint
Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall
anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet
in your place. 17 Whoever escapes from the sword of
Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the
sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. 18 Yet I will leave seven
thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to
Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM **Psalm 85:8-13**

The psalm is sung responsively.

8 I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
9 **Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,**
that your glory may dwell | in our land.
10 Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
11 **Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,**
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.
12 The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.
13 **Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD**
and shall prepare for | God a pathway.

SECOND READING **Romans 10:5-15**

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

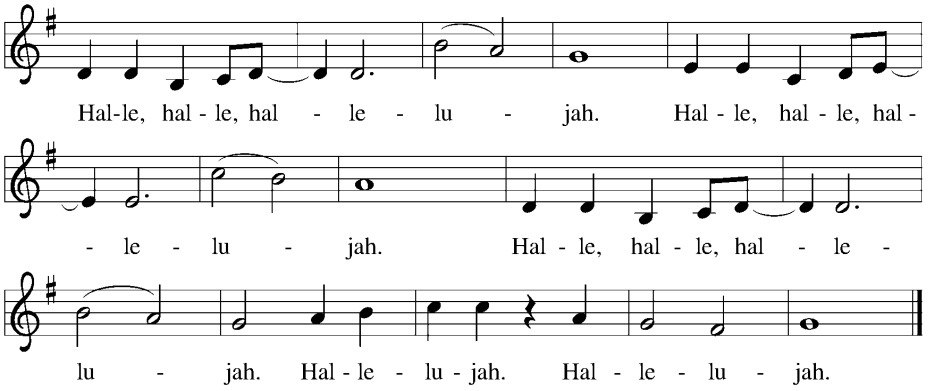
5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes
from the law, that "the person who does these things
will live by them." 6 But the righteousness that comes
from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will
ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down)
7 "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring
Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say?
"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), 9 because 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. 10 For one believes with the heart,
leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the
mouth, leading to salvation. 11 The scripture says, "No one
who believes in him will be put to shame." 12 For there is

no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is
Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For
"everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be
saved."
14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have
not believed? And how are they to believe in one of
whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear
without someone to proclaim him? 15 And how are they to
proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How
beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW 172** ***Halle, Halle, Hallelujah***



GOSPEL **Matthew 14:22-33**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

22 [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on
ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he
dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the
crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.
When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but by this
time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the
land, for the wind was against them. 25 And early in the
morning he came walking toward them on the sea. 26 But
when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they
were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out
in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said,
"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me
to come to you on the water." 29 He said, "Come." So
Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water,
and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he noticed the
strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to
sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Jesus immediately
reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him,
"You of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 When they got
into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat
worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON **Pastor Michael Coffey**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW 400** ***God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind***

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
Greet one another with the peace of Christ. After the Peace, please be seated.

Back to School Blessing

Announcements

Meal

Offering

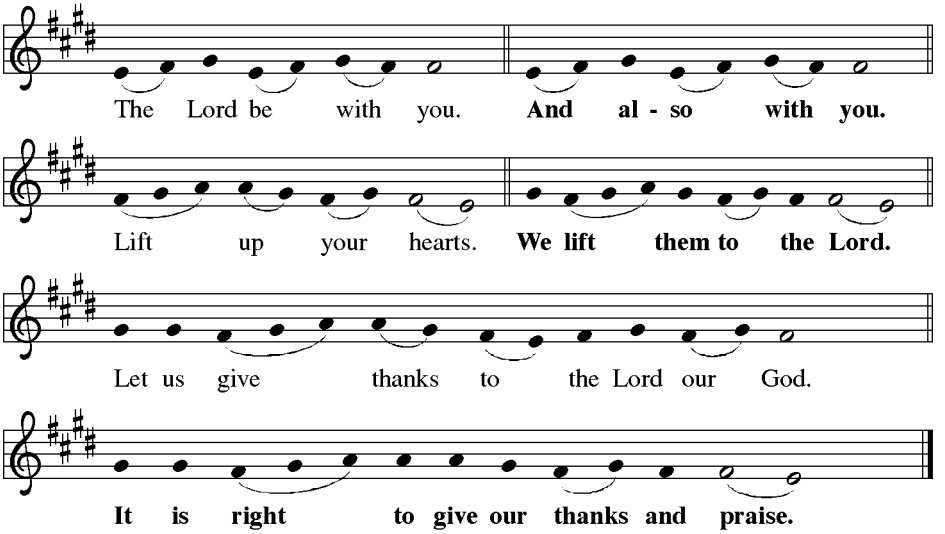
An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.
Offering plates are on the welcome table in the narthex before and after the service.

Musical Offering **Dr. Bobby Marek, Clarinet** ***Praise to the Lord***

Offering Prayer

Loving God
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you
and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

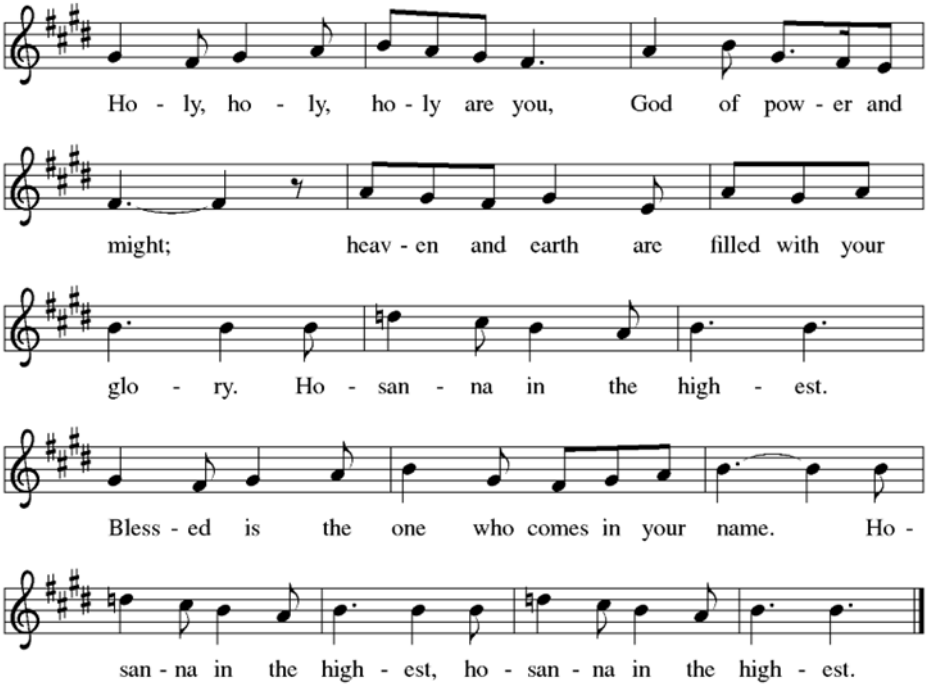
Dialogue and Preface



It is indeed right… we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW 191 *Holy, Holy, Holy*



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, you alone are holy,
you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile;
into the future.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer; beside the sinner;
among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed…

Remembering his love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
in your church, without end.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation

We welcome all baptized Christians to receive communion. Children who are communing in other churches are invited to commune here. All who are not receiving are invited to come forward for a blessing—you may indicate you want a blessing by holding your hands together or crossing your arms in front of you. Please follow the guidance from the ushers. Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Wine is red; grape juice is white. Those unable to come forward, remain seated and communion will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD ***Now the Feast and Celebration*** **Marty Haugen**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

MUSIC **Duane Dippel, Soloist** ***In This Very Room*** **Harris**

SONG **ELW 632** ***O God, Our Help in Ages Past***

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

Response: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Response: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG **ELW 543** ***Go My Children, with My Blessing***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love others with the love you have received. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE ***God of Grace*** **Franklin Ashdown**

GOSPEL MESSAGE

TAKE HEART

Can you recall a time in your life when something happened that was so strange or out of place that your initial reaction was fear? Maybe you doubted what you were experiencing or seeing and even thought, This is not possible. This can't be.

The disciples must have been terrified when they saw something so strange that it should have been impossible—someone walking on water, toward their boat, during a storm. They thought they were seeing a ghost until Jesus said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid" (Matthew 14:27).

Some say seeing is believing, but sometimes belief comes through experiencing. So, with Jesus' encouragement, Peter stepped out of the boat and began to walk on the water. But when he realized how hard the wind was blowing, Peter started sinking and shouted, "Lord, save me!" Jesus reached out, steadied Peter, and said, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" (vv. 30-31). Then the storm ended.

We may be more like Peter than we realize. Maybe there are times when it's relatively easy to trust in God—until we face something unexpected, frightening, or out of our control. Then doubts immediately overwhelm us.

The good news is that Jesus hears our cries and saves us. He is with us in our weakest moments, holding us even as our spirits sink. Take heart—Jesus is always with you, bringing peace amid the storms, faith amid your doubts, and new life out of death.

COMMEMORATIONS

Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258 **Monday, August 10, 2026**

As one of the seven deacons of the church at Rome, Lawrence was responsible for the church's financial matters and for the care of the poor. Asked by the emperor to gather the church's treasure, he presented a collection of orphans, lepers, and the like. The enraged emperor had him put to death.

Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253 **Tuesday, August 11, 2026**

A contemporary of Francis of Assisi, Clare and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She inspired other women to pursue spiritual goals.

Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society **Thursday, August 13, 2026**

Nightingale was born in England, and horrified her wealthy family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform. Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease.

Maximilian Kolbe, died 1941; Kaj Munk, died 1944; martyrs **Friday, August 14, 2026**

Father Kolbe was a Franciscan priest arrested by the Nazis and confined in Auschwitz. Kolbe gave generously of his meager resources, and finally volunteered to be starved to death in place of another man. A Danish Lutheran pastor and playwright, Munk strongly denounced the Nazis who occupied Denmark in the Second World War. His sermons and articles helped to show the anti-Christian nature of the movement.

Mary, Mother of Our Lord **Saturday, August 15, 2026**

The church (including Martin Luther) honored Mary with the title theotokos, meaning "God-bearer," for her role in giving birth to the Son of God. Her song, the Magnificat, speaks eloquently of God's lifting the lowly and feeding the hungry.

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