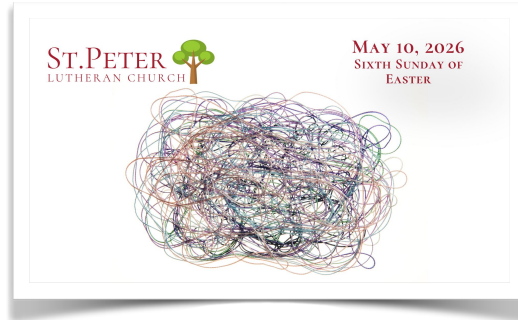


Devotions: May 11 - May 15, 2026



Monday, May 11

Acts 17:16

When Paul entered Athens, he did not simply admire the beauty of the city. Beneath the impressive architecture and intellectual culture, he saw hearts devoted to false gods. His spirit was “provoked” within him. He was grieved because people were searching for meaning and truth in places that could never truly satisfy.

We live in a world filled with modern idols. Some people place their hope in success, popularity, money, comfort, or recognition. Others pursue spiritual paths that sound meaningful but do not lead to the saving truth of Jesus Christ. Like Paul, we are called not to respond with pride or anger, but with compassion and sorrow for those who do not yet know the true God.

A provoked spirit may actually be evidence that the Holy Spirit is working within us. God allows us to see spiritual need so that we may respond with love, prayer, and faithful witness. Rather than turning away from the brokenness around us, we are invited to care deeply for those searching for hope.

Lord God, open my eyes to see the spiritual needs around me. Give me compassion for those who are searching for meaning

apart from You. Stir my heart with love and truth so that I may point others toward Jesus Christ. Amen.

Have a great week!

Tuesday, May 12

Proverbs 14:12

Paul recognized that the people of Athens were sincere in their religious devotion. They built temples, offered sacrifices, and dedicated themselves to worship. Yet sincerity alone could not save them because their worship was directed toward false gods.

It is possible to be passionate, disciplined, and devoted while still missing the truth. Many people today genuinely seek purpose, morality, or spirituality, but without Jesus Christ, they remain separated from the one true God. This reality should not make us arrogant; it should make us compassionate.

Jesus did not say He was merely one option among many. He declared Himself to be “the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). The gospel matters because it reveals the God who truly knows us, loves us, sustains us, and saves us.

God calls us to lovingly share this truth with gentleness and respect. We are not called to win arguments, but to bear witness to Christ with humility and grace.

Heavenly Father, keep me grounded in the truth of Your Word. Help me to speak about Jesus with humility, kindness, and courage. May my life reflect the hope and salvation found only in Him. Amen.

Wednesday, May 13

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Paul was waiting for his companions, Timothy and Silas, to join him in Athens. Together they had endured hardship, persecution, and opposition. Their partnership strengthened their ministry and encouraged their faith.

God never intended for believers to walk alone. Throughout Scripture, we see faithful people supported by companions: Moses had Aaron, David had Jonathan, and the disciples were sent out two by two. Christian community strengthens us when challenges feel overwhelming.

Sometimes we imagine that faithfulness means handling everything by ourselves. Yet God often works through encouragement, accountability, and partnership with fellow believers. The Church is not simply a gathering place; it is a family united in Christ.

When we pray together, serve together, and encourage one another, we become stronger witnesses to the world around us.

Lord, thank You for the people You place in my life to strengthen and encourage my faith. Help me to support others as faithfully as they support me. Unite Your Church in love and purpose so that together we may make You known. Amen.

Thursday, May 14

Matthew 28:19

Paul may have wanted to wait until Timothy and Silas arrived before beginning his work in Athens. Yet the Holy Spirit did not wait. God moved Paul to begin proclaiming the gospel immediately.

How often do we delay what God is calling us to do? We wait for the perfect timing, greater confidence, more knowledge, or better circumstances. We tell ourselves that someday we will speak up, serve more boldly, or share our faith more openly.

But God frequently works through ordinary people in imperfect situations. The Holy Spirit equips believers not because they are fully prepared, but because God Himself is powerful. Even one faithful conversation, one act of kindness, or one word of encouragement can become an instrument God uses to change a life.

The same Holy Spirit who empowered Paul is at work today. He calls us not to wait for perfect conditions, but to trust Him step by step.

Holy Spirit, help me not delay when You call me to act. Give me the courage to speak, serve, and love others faithfully today. Use my ordinary moments for Your extraordinary purposes. Amen.

Friday, May 15

1 Peter 3:15

The gospel is not limited to churches, mission fields, or special events. Paul proclaimed Christ in marketplaces, conversations, and public gatherings. Likewise, God places us in everyday spaces where His truth can shine through us.

A classroom, workplace, hospital room, kitchen table, or quiet conversation between friends can become holy ground when God uses us to share His love. We may feel inadequate or uncertain, but God does not ask for perfection. He asks for faithfulness.

Being prepared to share the hope within us does not mean having all the answers. It means living in such a way that others see the peace, grace, and confidence that come from Christ. Our witness often begins with kindness, patience, listening, and love.

The Holy Spirit is always ready to use willing hearts to make the true God known.

Almighty God, prepare my heart to be Your witness wherever You place me. Fill me with the hope of Christ so fully that others may see Him through my words and actions. Help me to live boldly, gently, and faithfully each day. Amen.

Sunday's Coming!