

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 25, 2025

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30am | Service with Holy Communion in
Nave and Online
10:30am | Coffee Hour

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Kelli Oliver and Taryn Walsh, *Altar Guild*

Kat Allen, *Lector*

Piercen Oliver, *Deacon*

Bev Hjorth, *Cantor*

Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, *Ushers*

Matt Carter, *Livestream Broadcast*

Peter and Hollie Schmidt & Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild*

*When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.*

At the ☒, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

*The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Sonata in A major, K. 208.

D. Scarlatti (1685-1757)

* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.
We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ELW 834

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

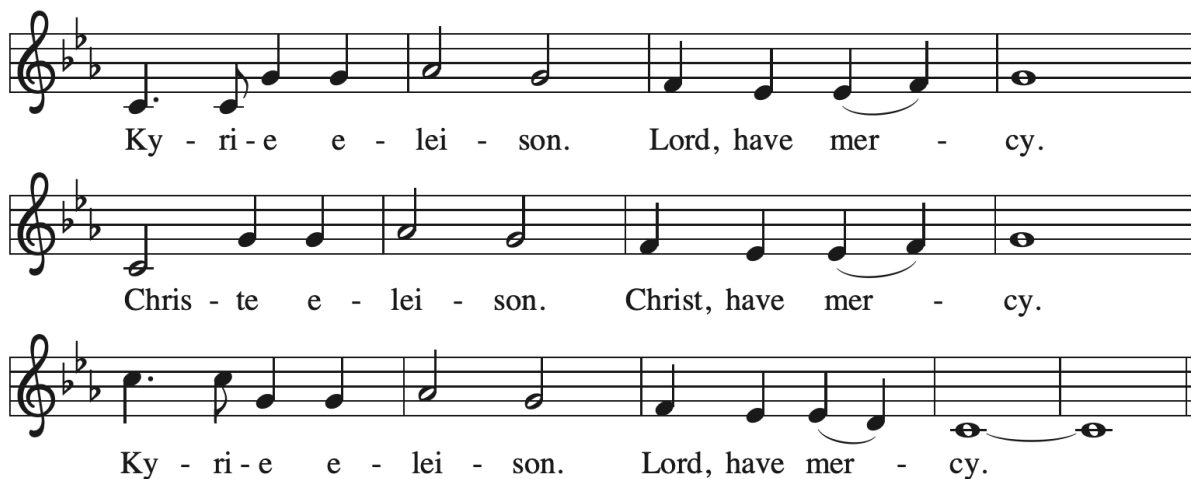
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

* 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.

* KYRIE

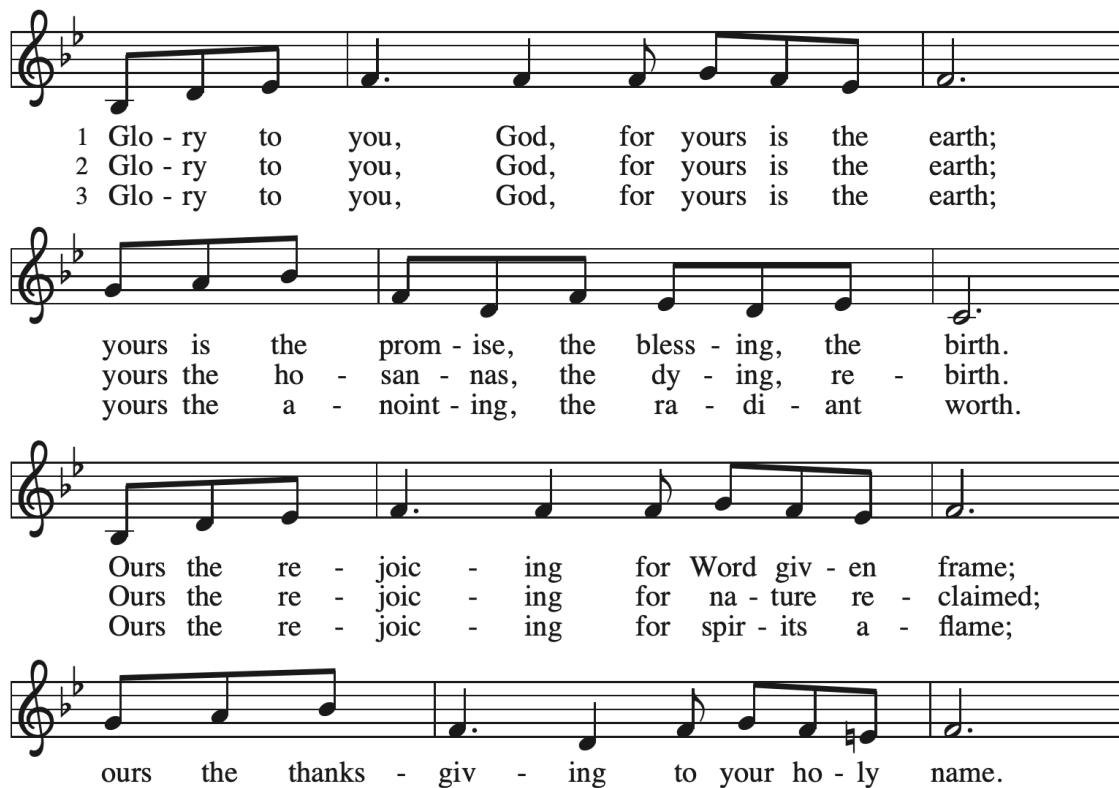


Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

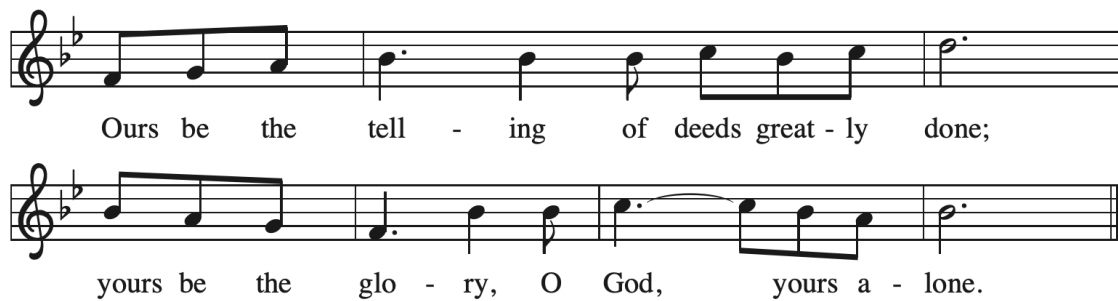


1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9—15

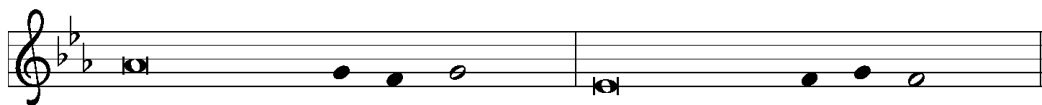
A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



May God be merciful to ' us and bless us;
 may the light of God's face ' shine upon us.
Let your way be known ' upon earth,
your saving health a- ' mong all nations.
 Let the peoples praise ' you, O God;
 let all the ' peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and ' sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- ' tions on earth.
 Let the peoples ' praise you, O God;
 let all the ' peoples praise you.
The earth has brought ' forth its increase;
God, our own ' God, has blessed us.
 May God ' give us blessing,
 and may all the ends of the earth ' stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

* GOSPEL

John 14:23—29

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot)], “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S TIME

Vicar Sam Menapace

SERMON

Vicar Sam Menapace

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

ELW 804

1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890
 Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

* APOSTLES' CREED

In response to the gospel, let us confess the faith of the church:

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 into hell. 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 resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict, especially Myanmar, Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling, especially Dan, Irving, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, and Susan. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn, and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ, especially John Calvin and Jiri Tranovský. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

* PEACE *(Keep your hands close together or make the peace sign if you'd rather not pass the peace with touch)*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code:



* OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

* LORD'S PRAYER

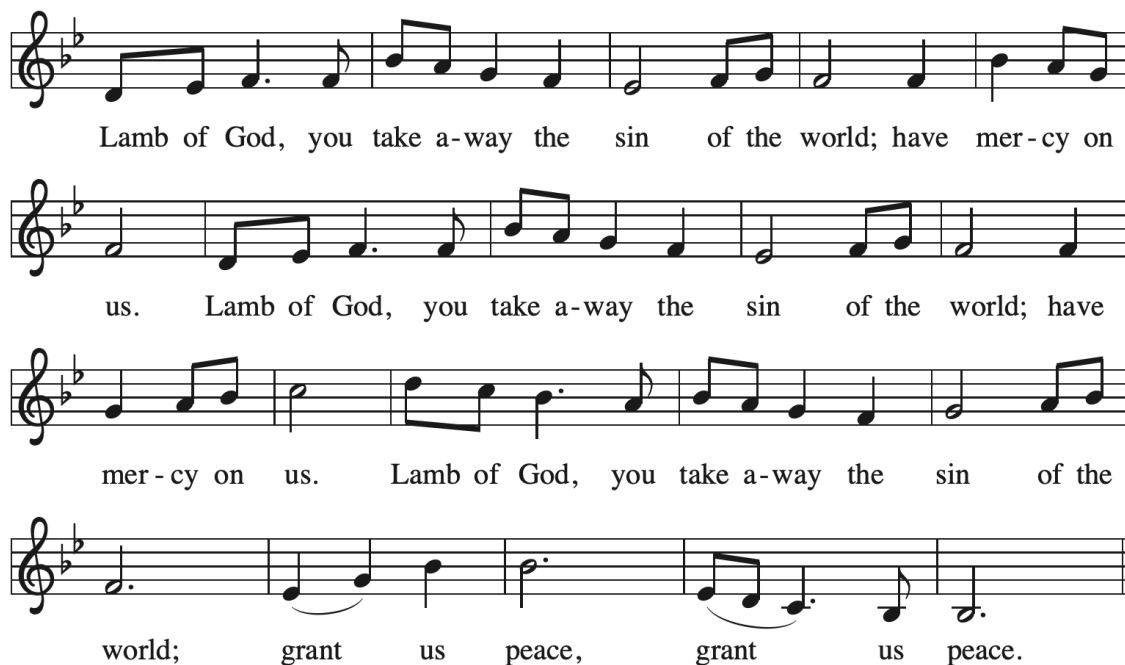
Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,

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.

COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available on request.
Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available in each tray.*

Come forward in the center aisle starting at the front of the church. The pastors will motion the first people forward.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Christ Is Living"

ACS 934



1 ¡Cris - to vi - ve, fue - ra el llan - to, los la - men - tos y el pe - sar!
1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.
2 For if Christ is not a - ris - en there is noth - ing to be - lieve.
3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.

Ni la muer - te ni el se - pul - cro lo han po - di - do su - je - tar.
 Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.
 Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp - lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."
 Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.

No bus - quéis en - tre los muer - tos al que siem - pre ha de vi - vir.
 Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?
 Dust we are, to dust re - turn - ing, but in Christ we are re - stored.
 For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"

¡Cris - to vi - ve! es - tas nue - vas por do - quier de - jad o - ir.
 Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.
 Doubt dis - pel - ling, claim the tri - umph: Je - sus is the liv - ing Lord!
 Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the word of grace a - broad.

Text: Nicolás Martínez, 1917–1972; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
 Music: CENTRAL, Pablo D. Sosa, 1933–2020; arr. Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child Of the Light"

ELW 815

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear cadence at the end of each line. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicating different parts of the hymn. The first line of the hymn is "I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to", the second line is "I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to", and the third line is "I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to". The second system of the score continues the hymn with the lyrics "fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give", "look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,", and "be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with". The score uses standard musical notation, including treble and bass clefs, a key signature of two sharps, and various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests.

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with




light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sonata in A major, K. 322

D. Scarlatti (1685-1757)

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* UPCOMING HAPPENINGS *at* **SAINT PAUL**



THE CAT SURVEY – Planning Our Future Together!

We are inviting the St. Paul community – active members and nonmembers – to complete a Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) survey, a standardized, online survey developed for use by churches undergoing transitions or facing important decisions. The information gained from this assessment will help the leaders of St. Paul gauge the strength, vitality, and trends in our church as they make decisions about St. Paul's direction going forward.

In a few days, you will receive an email with a link to the CAT. Beginning June 1, we are asking you to go online by clicking on the link provided and tell us about your experiences in and priorities for our church. Please do not discuss the survey or your answers with others as this may influence their answers.

Paper copies will be available after the service on June 1, 8, 15, and 22. The survey will close on June 23.

All answers are strictly anonymous. We have no way of matching any assessment to a particular person, so please feel free to candidly share your perceptions, opinions and experiences. Our future together is dependent on your participation and honest answers.

Many thanks from the CAT Team: Nicole Rura, Rob Badzey, Marie Breitenbach, Lionel Goulet, and Hollie Schmidt.

ST. PAUL SUMMER RETREAT WEEKEND AT CAMP CALUMET | August 22-24

Calumet Retreat! St. Paul Calumet Retreat. Weekend of August 22-24. This is an annual tradition to relax, reflect, and reconnect with each other in the beautiful environment of Camp Calumet on Lake Ossipee in New Hampshire. All are welcome to join us for this weekend! Register using this form: <https://rb.gy/mi7doh>

MAY MESSAGE FROM ARLINGTON EATS

Happy Spring Everyone! This month we are collecting the following items for Arlington Eats: **Coffee (all kinds!), Tea (all kinds) Condiments (all kinds) Dish soap, Salad Dressing, Jam/Jelly.** Some are repeats from last month but these are very popular items that are hard to keep in stock so we are asking again.

SUMMER FAITH FORMTION OPPORTUNITY | Vacation Bible School with First Waltham

Children ages 3 years old - 5th grade are invited to join First Lutheran in Waltham's weeklong Vacation Bible School program from July 7-11, 2025. This year's theme is "Road Trip." For more information, check out the registration form (see QR code). If you have questions, please talk to Vicar Sam.



New England Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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May 5, 2025

Samantha Menapace, Vicar
c/o Ms. Kerri Frick, President
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
929 Concord Turnpike
Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Samantha,

This letter authorizes you to preside at the Eucharist at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Arlington, MA, on the following Sundays: May 25, June 1, June 22, June 29, July 6 July 13, July 27, August 10, November 2 and November 9, all in 2025.

Please put notices in the bulletins that you preside with my permission on those days.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. Nathan D. Piphon, Bishop
New England Synod



SAINT PAUL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

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The Reverend Don Larsen, *Transition Pastor*

Samantha Menapace, *Vicar*

Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*

Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*

Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and Families Director*

Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*

Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

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Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*

Elizabeth Heichler, *Secretary*

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Altar Guild

Faith Formation Committee

Intern Committee

Social Ministry Committee

Nomination Committee

Worship & Music Committee

Finance Committee

Audit Committee

Usher Committee

Transition Committee

Chairperson

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Bev Hjorth

Kristen Anderson

Janice Sniffen

Taryn Walsh

John Christiansen

Eric Haugen

Eric Haugen

Dan Ries & Andy Airasian

Peter Hedlund & Sandy Walker



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



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