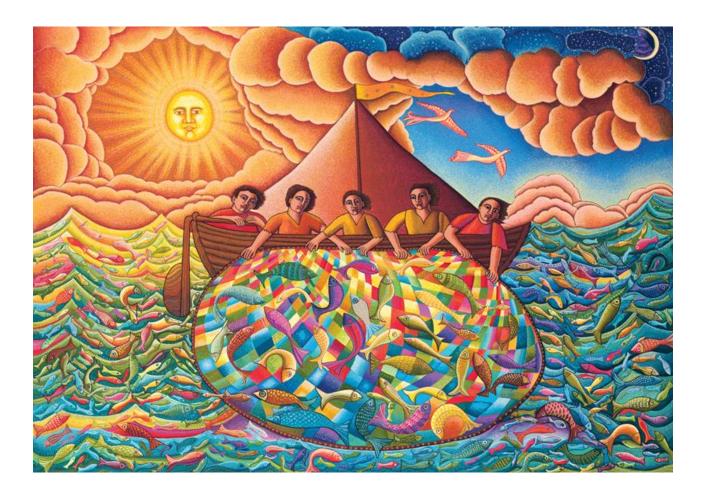
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 4, 2025

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICES

8:15am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave 9:00am | Choir Practice 9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School, and Adult Forum 10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave and Online 11:30am | Coffee Hour

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Marie Brietenbach, *Altar Guild* Sinclair O. and Luther O., *Acolytes* Taryn Walsh, *Lector* Piercen Oliver, *Deacon* Marie Brietenbach, *Cantor* Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, *Ushers* Matt Carter, *Livestream Broadcast* Peter and Hollie Schmidt and Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild*

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.

> Altar flowers are given by Kat Allen in honor of Emi Sniffen and all the confirmands.

Cover Art: "The Great Catch" John August Swanson

When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable. At the \boxtimes , you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism. The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.

GATHERING

Mark Olson, trumpet

PRELUDE

WELCOME

* GATHERING HYMN

"Earth and All Stars" ELW 731 0. Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan ets! 1 -Loud clash - ing 2 Trum - pet pipes! cym bals! and -3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham mers! 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! 5 Knowl-edge truth! Loud sound - ing wis dom! and 0. Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord song! new a Sing Lord to the song! а new Sing to the Lord song! new a Sing the Lord song! to а new Hail, wind, rain! Loud and blow - ing snow storm! -Harp, lute, lyre! and Loud hum - ming cel los! Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work ers! _ Ath - lete cheer - ing band! and Loud peo ple! Daugh - ter son! pray - ing bers! and Loud mem _ 0 Sing the Lord to new song! а Sing Lord to the song! a new Sing the Lord new song! to a Sing the Lord song! to new а Sing Lord to the new song! a Refrain God has done vel - ous things. mar 0. Ι with a too sing prais - es new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

* 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





* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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 9:1–6

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

Sul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

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



I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lift- ¹ ed me up and have not let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.

O Lord my God, I cried ' out to you, and you restored ' me to health.

You brought me up, O Lord, ¹ from the dead;

you restored my life as I was going down ¹ to the grave.

Sing praise to the Lord, | all you faithful;

give thanks in ho- ' ly remembrance.

God's wrath is short; God's favor | lasts a lifetime.

Weeping spends the night, but joy comes ¹ in the morning.

While I felt se- ¹ cure, I said,

"I shall never ' be disturbed.

You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong ' as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was ' filled with fear.

I cried to you, O Lord;

I pleaded with ' my Lord, saying,

"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down ¹ to the pit? Will the dust praise you or de-¹ clare your faithfulness?

Hear, O Lord, and have mer- ' cy upon me;

O Lord, ⁺ be my helper."

You have turned my wailing ' into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed ¹ me with joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you ' without ceasing;

O Lord my God, I will give you $^{\scriptscriptstyle |}$ thanks for ever.

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb

be blessing and honor and glory and might

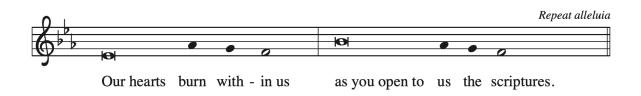
forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





* GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

A fter [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON "Growing in Grace"

* HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

Vicar Sam Menapace

Vicar Sam Menapace

Affirmation of Baptism

May 4, 2025

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM OF

Gus Airasian Child of Monique and Andy Airasian

Andrew Bova Child of Robin and Michael Bova

Karina Haugen Child of Nina and Eric Haugen

Tyler Reuter *Child of Cindy and Dave Reuter*

Emi Sniffen Child of Kat Allen and Brian Sniffen

PRESENTATION

As you are named, I invite you to stand and gather around the font with your parents and sponsors.

Gus Airasian Andrew Bova Karina Haugen Tyler Reuter Emi Sniffen

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Gus, Andrew, Karina, Tyler and Emi, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Gus, Andrew, Karina, Tyler and Emi, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

People of God, with these confirmands, I ask you to confess the faith of the church. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

AFFIRMATION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ASSEMBLY

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these confirmands and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The parents and sponsors each place their right hand on the shoulder of each person, and the pastors lay hands on the head of each person and say:

Stir up in Gus, Andrew, Karina, Tyler and Emi, the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The confirmands turn and face the assembly.

Please stand as able.

Let us rejoice with these confirmands. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world. **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.

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. We especially give thanks for our confirmands and all of the people who supported them on their faith journey so far. Give each of them guidance to continue following your call to listen, learn, and serve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of

grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, especially in Myanmar, Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti. May their leadership guide the way forward. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**.

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care, especially Dan, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, and Susan. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places, especially Monica, mother of Augustine and Julian of Norwich. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. 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

ANTHEM

"Lead Me, Lord"

Words and music by John D. Becker Choral setting by Mark Hayes

Blessed are the poor in spirit	Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall
Longing for their Lord	be theirs
For God's coming kingdom shall be theirs	And the pure in heart shall see their God
Blessed are the sorrowing	Blest are they whose hunger only holiness
For they shall be consoled	can fill
And the meek shall come to rule the world	For I say they shall be satisfied
Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord	Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord
By the light of truth	By the light of truth
To seek and to find the narrow way	To seek and to find the narrow way
Be my way, be my truth	Be my way, be my truth
Be my life, my Lord	Be my life, my Lord
And lead me, Lord, today	And lead me, Lord, today
-	And lead me, Lord, today

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:



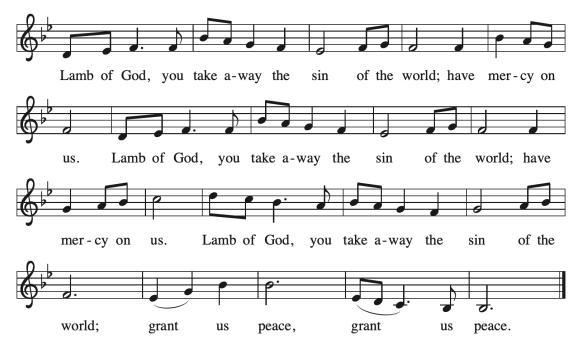
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

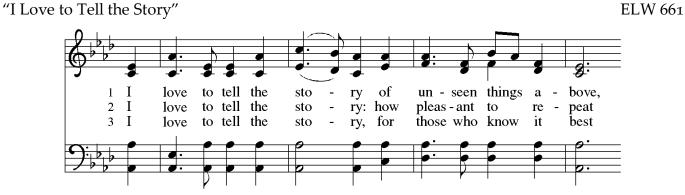
* LORD'S PRAYER

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



COMMUNION HYMN





Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911 Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

* 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

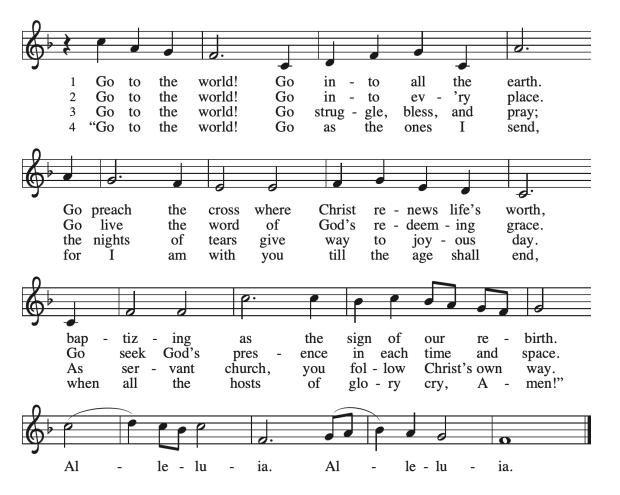
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

"Go To The World"



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

* DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Mark Olson, trumpet

(continued next page)

ACS 991

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS at **SAINT PAUL**



SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING | May 11, 11:30

At the April 14 meeting the church council voted to call a congregational meeting on Sunday May 11 immediately after the 1030am service.

The sole purpose will be to remove from the constitution we adopted at our last annual meeting: "except that if there are less than 300 voting members a quorum shall be the lesser of thirty and thirty percent (30%) of the voting members" from section 10.4. Section 10.4 will then read "Ten percent (10%) of the voting members shall constitute a quorum."

The New England Synod Council has to approve new congregational constitutions and their representative alerted us to the fact that we could not add this language to section 10.4 as required by the ELCA.

It is hoped that this congregational meeting may be the briefest in our 103-year history.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS IN EASTER

<u>Today is the last Sunday with an 8:15 am service.</u> May 4: Confirmation, at 10:30am service May 11: Holy Baptism, one service at 10:30am May 18: Farewell and Godspeed, one service at 10:30am May 25: Summer Worship begins with one service at 9:30am

POTLUCK SUPPER CLUB WITH PASTOR ROSS | May 10, 6:00pm

Come to the last Supper Club of the season and get a chance to visit with Pastor Ross. Bring a dish to share and enjoy a casual gathering. Some people will be attending the piano recital concert in the sanctuary prior to the potluck (starts at 5:00). Feel free to come to both!

PIANO CONCERT | May 10, 5:00pm

St. Paul Music Director, Ana Zecic Jeffers will have her piano students perform their spring recital in the sanctuary. Come to St. Paul's Supper Club Potluck afterwards in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00.

PASTOR ROSS GOODMAN RETIREMENT CELEBRATION CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Party Planning Committee is planning a big party on May 17th and could use some help in a variety of ways. There are lots of options from setting up tables and chairs, managing the food and drink tables, to bringing your favorite dessert. Please use the link <u>here</u> to get to the SignUp Genius, which can also be found in the Weekley Newsletter (sign up through our website), or by emailing Jennifer White at parishadmin@stpaularlington.org.

ADULT FORUM | Sundays at 9:30

May 4: Lectionary Bible Study with Diane Davidson May 11: Remembering with Pastor Goodman

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: <u>https://rb.gy/mi7doh</u>

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.





www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *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*

Church Council and Officers

Kerri Frick, President Sandy Walker, Vice President Eric Haugen, Treasurer Elizabeth Heichler, Secretary Mark Olson, Financial Secretary Kristen Anderson Eric Carlson Dave Hering Kathleen Kean Kevin Kreutter Pierson Oliver Taryn Walsh

Committees

	1
Altar Guild	Marie Breitenbach
Faith Formation Committee	Bev Hjorth
Intern Committee	Kristen Anderson
Social Ministry Committee	Janice Sniffen
Nomination Committee	Taryn Walsh
Worship & Music Committe	ee John Christiansen
Finance Committee	Eric Haugen
Audit Committee	Eric Haugen
Usher Committee	Dan Ries & Andy Airasian
Transition Committee Pe	eter Hedlund & Sandy Walker

Chairperson





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