# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



June 29, 2025 ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Welcome to ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are happy you have joined us for worship today. Wherever you are on your journey with or toward God, you are welcome here—you are a blessing to this assembly.

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socioeconomic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

Lutherans believe, teach, and confess that in, with, and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. All who are drawn in faith are welcome to join in this confession and receive the Sacrament.

We invite and encourage your full participation in our worship this morning. With this service bulletin you can follow and participate in this morning's liturgy.

**New to St. Paul?** Ready to make it your own? Questions about St. Paul, including transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, reception, or transferring from one of the other Christian traditions, may be directed to the Church Office at 781-646-7773 or parishadmin@stpaularlington.org.



#### **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:**

Marie Breitenbach and Lydia Zuehsow, *Altar Guild*Eileen Moyer, *Lector*Kevin Kruetter, *Deacon*Peter Schmidt, *Cantor*Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, *Ushers*Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast*Peter and Hollie Schmidt & Lisa Chiulli Lay, *Coffee Guild* 

Thanks to parishioner Tom Berryman and his wife, Joan Ellersick for today's music.

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**

#### **PRELUDE**

"Wondrous Love" (ELW 666) and "Land of Rest" (ELW 628)

John Weaver

Tom Berryman, organ Joan Ellersick, viola

**Note:** Today's Prelude and Postlude are from John Weaver's *Three American Folk Hymn Settings* (2009) for Viola and Organ. Weaver (1937-2021) served as Organist and Director of Music at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and, later at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

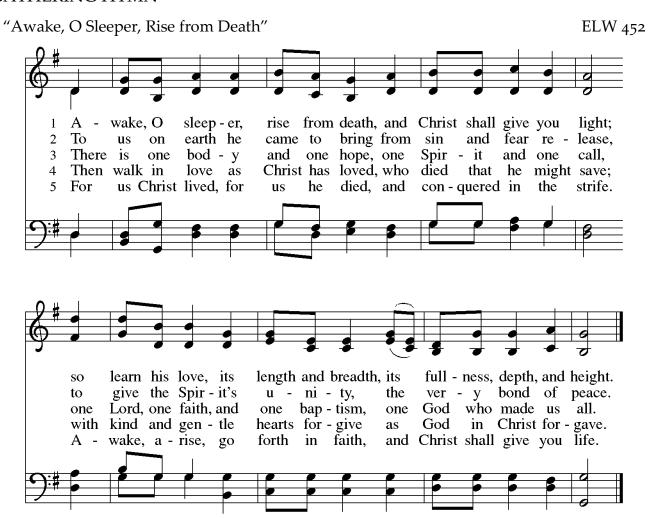
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

#### \* GATHERING HYMN



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

#### \* GREETING

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

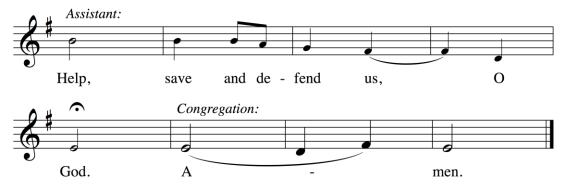
And also with you.

#### \* KYRIE



Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)



Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### \* HYMN OF PRAISE



#### \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

FIRST READING Genesis 19:12—26

Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city—bring them out of the place. For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it." So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up, get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city." But he lingered, so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city. When they had brought them outside, they said, "Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed." And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords; your servant has found favor with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life, but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die. Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!" He said to him, "Very well, I grant you this favor too and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there." Therefore the city was called Zoar. The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar.

Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven, and he overthrew those cities and all the plain and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 16



Protect me, O God, for I take ref- uge in you;

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good a- bove all other."

All my delight is in the godly that are  $^{\scriptscriptstyle \parallel}$  in the land,

upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.

But those who run after ' other gods shall have their troubles ' multiplied.

I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips.

O Lord, you are my portion <sup>1</sup> and my cup; it is you who up- <sup>1</sup> hold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.

I will bless the Lord who ' gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night ' after night.

I have set the Lord al- | ways before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall 1 not be shaken.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- it rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me | to the grave, nor let your holy one | see the pit.

You will show me the | path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

#### SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1, 13—25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

 $\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{or}}$  freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

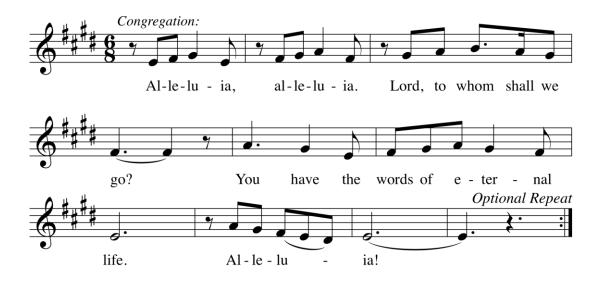
Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### \* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

\* GOSPEL Luke 9:51—62

The holy gospel according to Luke.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Vicar Sam Menapace

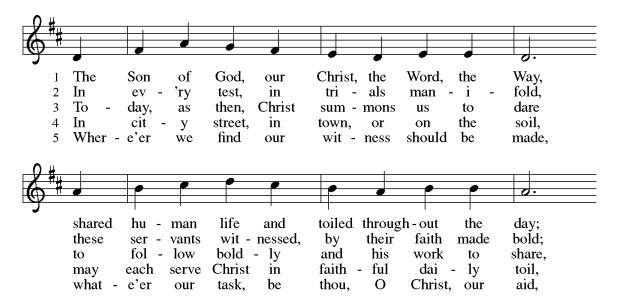
**SERMON** 

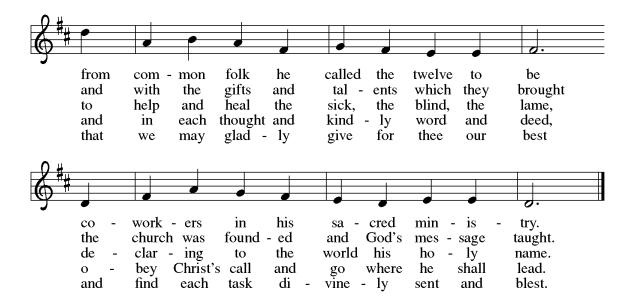
Vicar Sam Menapace

#### \* HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Son of God, Our Christ"

ELW 584





Text: Edward M. Blumenfeld, b. 1927, alt. Music: SURSUM CORDA, Alfred M. Smith, 1879–1971

#### \* APOSTLE'S 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

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of your apostles Peter and Paul and Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace, especially in Myanmar, Iran, Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti and all places experiencing violence. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence, especially Dan, Irving, Jim, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, and Susan. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our 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.

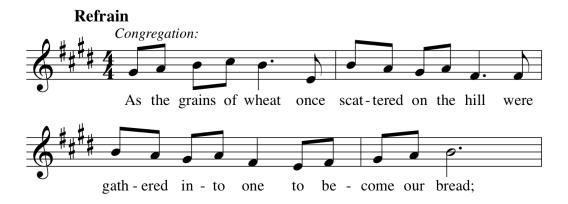
And also with you.

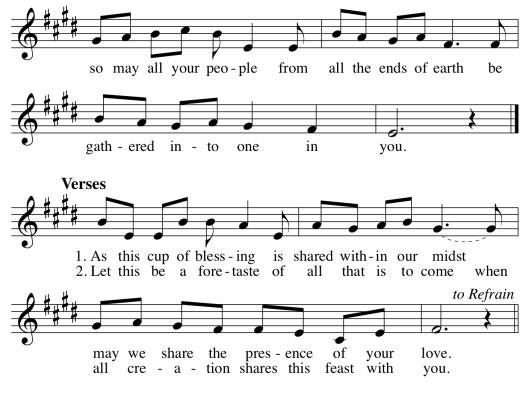
#### **MEAL**

#### OFFERING remain seated

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







Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### \* OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

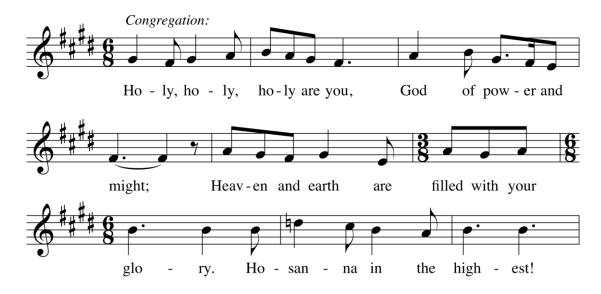
Amen.

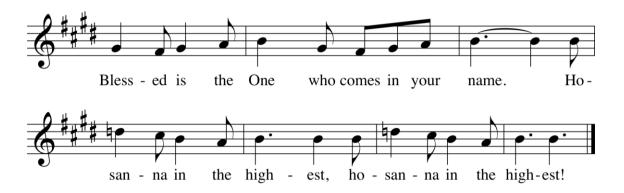
#### \* GREAT THANKSGIVING



Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

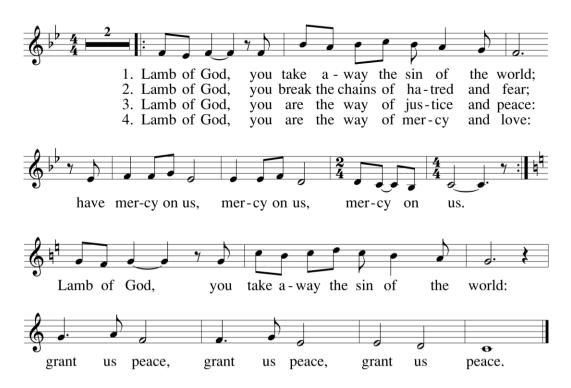
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,

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.



Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

"Be Thou My Vision" ELW 793



Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

#### POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### \* BLESSING

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

Amen.

#### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. 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.

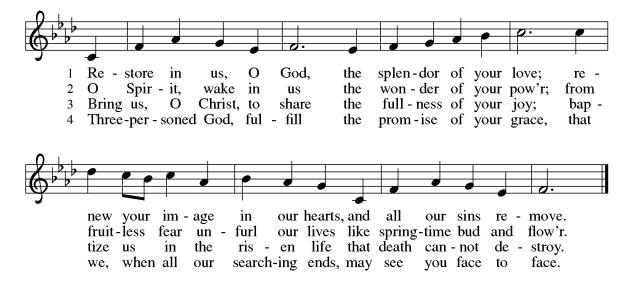
Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### \* SENDING HYMN

"Restore In Us, O God"

ELW 328



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

#### **DISMISSAL**

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

#### **POSTLUDE**

"Foundation" (ELW 796)

John Weaver

Tom Berryman, organ Joan Ellersick, viola

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

#### at **SAINT PAUL**



#### ALL ABORD - LAST CALL TO JOIN THE CAT TRAIN!

This is your last chance to share your perspective on our church and our ministry together through the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). Thanks to so many who have already shared their experiences and perspectives via the CAT survey for St. Paul.

If you have not yet completed the **CAT**, we have extended the survey until **Monday**, **June 30th at 10 PM**. This is your last chance! Although our response rate is strong, if we don't have your input, we are still missing an important piece of the puzzle. PLEASE - share your opinions with us using this highly confidential assessment instrument.

If you need a paper copy, please call the office, and we will provide one for you along with a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

If you have questions, please contact Sandy Berlin Walker at sbwalker127@gmail.com or 513-373-7782 who is available to answer questions.

A very special thanks to everyone who has participated in this process,

The CAT Team: Hollie Schmidt, Lionel Goulet, Marie Breitenbach, Nicole Rura, Rob Badzey and Sandy Walker

#### THEOLOGY ON TAP -Summer Schedule,

Sunday, June 29th at 4pm

Sunday, July 27th at 4pm

Vicar Sam will continue to host monthly Theology on Tap gatherings at Mighty Squirrel (411 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham) throughout the summer. All are invited to grab a beer, coffee or seltzer (non-alcoholic options available) and spend time together outside of church on Sundays.

#### ARLINGTON EATS JUNE NEEDS

We are officially into the summer season and EATS is busier than ever.

Since Summer Lunches take place in July and August, we will collect things we need for that program in June & July. We also are asking for some items for the Market. Thank you for your support!

#### Summer Spotlight Items:

- Goldfish (1-1.50z packs) cheddar
- Pirate's Booty (0.50z packs)
- Granola bars Made Good (bars and bites) or Nature Valley
- Mac & Cheese Annie's
- Cereal Cheerios is a favorite
- Condiments (think summer BBQ)
- Soy Sauce

#### POTENTIAL SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

We are looking to start a regular Bible Study for our members over the summer. Think you might be interested? Let us know here:



#### 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: <a href="https://rb.gy/mi7doh">https://rb.gy/mi7doh</a>

#### 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.



20 Upland Street, Worcester, MA 01607-1624 Phone (508) 791-1530 | Fax (508) 797-9295 office@nesynod.org | http://nelutherans.org

May 5, 2025

Samantha Menapace, Vicar c/o Ms. Kerri Frick, President St. Paul's Lutheran Church 929 Concord Tumpike 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. Pipho, Bishop

New England Synod



## SAINT PAUL

#### LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

#### Staff

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

#### **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

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**Transition Committee** 

Chairperson

Eric Haugen

Peter Hedlund & Sandy Walker

Altar Guild Marie Breitenbach

Faith Formation Committee Bev Hjorth

Intern Committee Kristen Anderson

Social Ministry Committee **Janice Sniffen** 

Taryn Walsh Nomination Committee

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**Audit Committee** 

Eric Haugen

**Usher Committee** Dan Ries & Andy Airasian





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