# THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**September 21, 2024** 

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL 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?** If you have questions or want more information, please fill out a newcomer form with the QR code at the right. Questions about transferring membership from another Lutheran church, or for beginning the process for baptism, confirmation, membership, 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 SERVICE**

8:15am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave

9:00am | Choir Practice

9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School, Adult Forum, Acolyte Training

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

11:30am | Coffee Hour

#### **SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY:**

Marie Breitenbach and
Lydia Zuehsow, Altar Guild
Eric Carlson, Lector
Kristen Anderson, Deacon
Peter Schmidt, Cantor
Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, Ushers
Hollie Schmidt, Livestream Broadcast
Peter and Hollie Schmidt and
Lisa Chiulli Lay, Coffee Guild

#### LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Arlington 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.

We welcome as today's preacher the Rev. Andrew C. Heisen who served as Vicar at St. Paul during 2009 and 2010. He has served as the Lutheran (ELCA) chaplain at MIT since 2019. He grew up in New York and New England, spending six summers working on staff at Camp Calumet. He attended Dartmouth College, graduating with degrees in music composition and computer science. Before becoming a chaplain at MIT, Pastor Heisen served for seven years as pastor in Shrewsbury, MA, where he now lives with his wife and two children. Among other things, Andrew is an expert in the use of the broad sword.

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**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

William H. Doane (1832-1915) arr. Lloyd Larson Take the Name of Jesus with You *Mark Olson, trumpet* 

WELCOME

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\pm$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

#### \* GATHERING HYMN

"Earth And All Stars" ELW 731



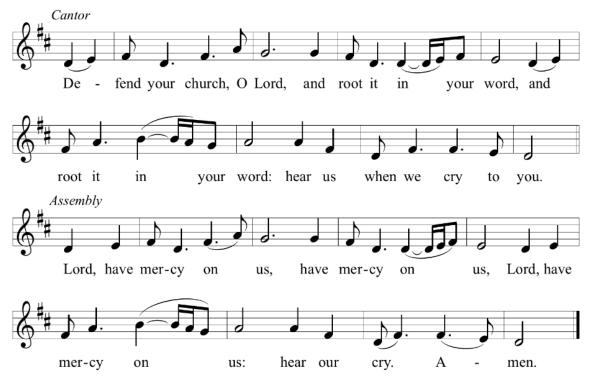
Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

# \*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

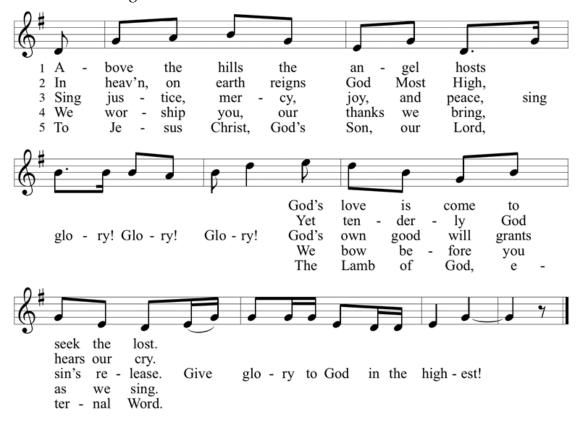




Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Kyrie Music: My Father, How Long, African American spiritual

#### HYMN OF PRAISE

"Above the Hills the Angel Hosts"



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Gloria in excelsis Music: The Devil.'s Nine Questions, Appalachian traditional

# \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# **WORD**

FIRST READING Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants ' of the Lord; praise the name ' of the Lord.

Let the name of the | Lord be blessed, from this time forth for- | evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its 'going down let the name of the 'Lord be praised.

The Lord is high a- | bove all nations; God's glory a- | bove the heavens.

Who is like the <sup>1</sup> Lord our God, who sits en- <sup>1</sup> throned on high,

but stoops | to behold

the heavens | and the earth?

The Lord takes up the weak out ' of the dust and lifts up the poor ' from the ashes,

enthroning them | with the rulers, with the rulers | of the people.

The Lord makes the woman of a 'childless house to be a joyful mother of children. 'Hallelujah!

# SECOND READING - (10:30 only)

1 Timothy 2:1-7

**F** irst of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

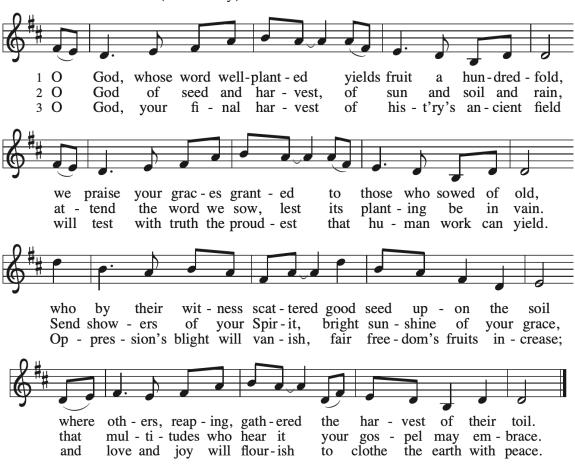
who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# \* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - (10:30 only)



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952

\* GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Andrew Heisen

**SERMON** 

Pastor Andrew Heisen



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997 Music: WISDOM'S FEAST, Jerry Ray Brubaker, b. 1946

#### 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

The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones, especially Bobby, Dan, Jim, Lynn, Meredith, Naomi, Paul,

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

and Susan. May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace, receive our prayer.

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace, receive our prayer.

What other prayers are in this place?

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints (especially Matthew and all) who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.** 

#### RECOGNITION OF THE CONCLUSION OF AN INTERNSHIP

#### \* 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.

#### **ANTHEM**

"Go Forth Into The World In Peace"

John Rutter

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast that which is good, render no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, help the afflicted, honour all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you forever. Amen, amen.

# MEAL.

#### \* OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# \* OFFERING

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



#### \* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

# And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

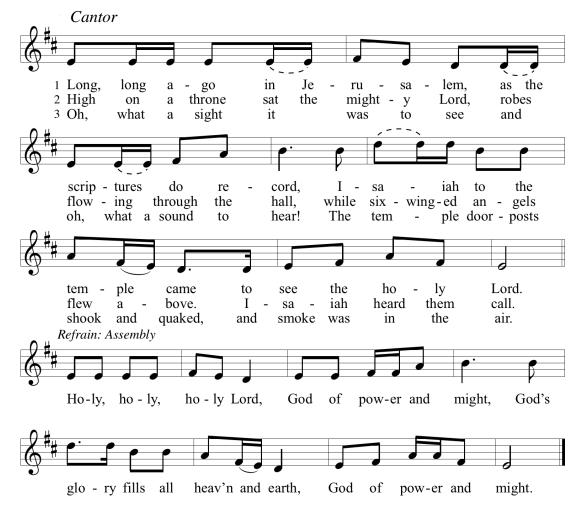
#### We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

# It is right to give our thanks and praise.

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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,



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Sanctus Music: Shady Grove, Appalachian traditional

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

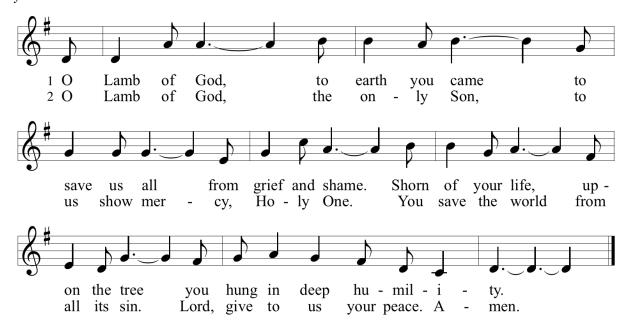
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

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 and grape juice are available in each tray; the wine is red and the grape juice is white.

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



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei Music: The Suffolk Miracle, Appalachian traditional

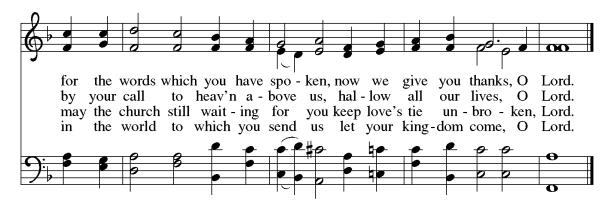
"All Who Are Thirsty" ACS



Text: Brian Wentzel, b. 1979

Music: ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY, Brian Wentzel





Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt. Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895 Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

# \* TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

# \* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE - (10:30 only)



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

Music: Prospect, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

#### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

# **SENDING**

#### \* BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

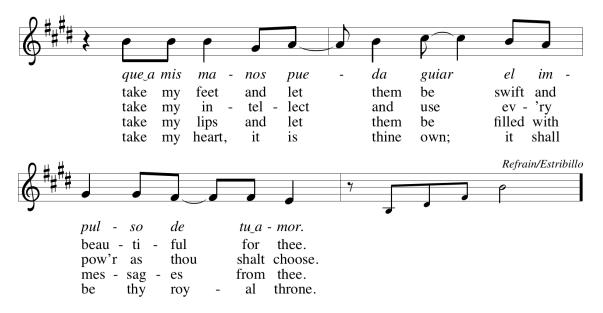
#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### \* SENDING HYMN

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

**ELW 583** 





- 2 Que mis pies tan sólo en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo
- 3 Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo
- 4 Que mi tiempo todo esté consagrado a tu loor; que mi mente y su poder sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956

#### \* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

"Day by Day"

Oscar Ahnfelt (1813-1882) arr. Lloyd Larson Mark Olson, trumpet

# ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

# at SAINT PAUL



# **Everyone** is invited . . .

# St. Paul Small Group Discernment Discussions

As part of our ongoing discernment and prayerful reflection to consider our faith and ministry journey into the future, Church Council and the Transition Team are offering a variety of times and ways for us to gather in small groups. Together we will explore how God is working among us and in our community. This will be a time to get further acquainted and to share our thoughts on the CAT results, our personal perspective and how God is inviting us forward in our ministry together. We will gather all the ideas and themes that emerge from these groups. All of this will inform the development of the Ministry Site Profile and the Call Process set to begin in early 2026.

Please join in one or more of the Small Group Discussions planned below. Just email the host indicating your interest and they will either send you a link for the Zoom or confirm the location and time for the in person gathering. Many of the sessions will be open for all topics. Some may have a focus topic for a portion of the time or a targeted group for that discussion.

Host	Contact	Date	Time	Location	Focus
	Info				
Jan Sniffen	jsniffen.js@gmail.com	Sun 9/21	11:30	Church	Social
and Lisa			AM		Ministry
Chiulli Lay					
Kevin	kevin.kreutter@gmail.com	Mon	7-8 PM	Zoom	Worship
Kreutter		9/22			plus
Elizabeth	elizabeth.heichler@gmail.com	Wed	7 PM	Zoom	Open
Heichler		9/24			
Taryn Walsh	tarynewalsh@gmail.com	Sat 9/27	11 AM	Taryn's	Open
				Home	
Monique	agent starfish@hotmail.com	Sun 9/28	11:30	Church	Open
Airasian			AM		
Kerri Frick	kfrick@gmail.com	Fri 10/3	12 noon	Zoom	Open
Kathleen	pierceno@gmail.com	Sun 10/5	11:45	Church	
Kean and			AM		Open
Piercen					
Oliver					
Kristen	kristen.anderson.715@gmail.com	Tues	evening	Zoom	Open
Anderson		10/7			

Norma	nofsthun4g@gmail.com	Thurs	10:30	Church	Open
Ofsthun		10/9	AM		
Eric Carlson	emcarlson1@gmail.com	Sun	11:30	Church	Open
		10/12	AM		
Kathleen	pierceno@gmail.com	Sun	11:45	Church	
Kean and		10/19	AM		Open
Piercen					
Oliver					
One on One					
Chat					
Dan Ries	drries283@gmail.com	Contact			Open
		to			
		schedule			
Josh Davis	JoshDavis1956@gmail.com	Contact			Open
		to			
		schedule			

# SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE | September 21, coffee hour

Members of the Social Ministry Committee invite you to visit with us during Coffee Hour on Sept. 21. Find out who we are and what we've done in the past. Talk to us about how St. Paul can engage in social ministry moving forward. We hope to see you and hear from you!

#### THEOLOGY ON TAP IS TODAY

Theology on Tap is returning this fall with an updated schedule. We will gather on the **3rd Sunday of the month at 4PM at Mighty Squirrel** (411 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham). Vicar Sam will lead a relaxed conversation about a different theological topic each month. I hope these gatherings will be a time to learn, listen, and laugh as we spend time together outside of church on Sunday afternoons. The brewery welcomes families and includes alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. All are invited!

#### **Fall Dates:**

September 21st at 4pm October 19th at 4pm November 23 at 4pm December 21 at 4pm

# ARLINGTON EATS SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Spotlight Items are below. Please place these items in the basket which is on the floor of the upper narthex.

- Jams & Jellies (low sugar is great)
- Cereal (Cheerios are great)
- Almond Butter
- Coffee
- Tea

# ST. PAUL SUMMER BIBLE STUDY | Thursday Evenings, 7-8pm by Zoom

All are invited to join our summer bible study! We will gather on Thursday evenings on Zoom from 7-8pm. Each week, we will study the upcoming Sunday's lectionary texts, which are the bible readings we hear in worship. To access the readings and Zoom link, please see St. Paul's Weekly Update email. If you are not a subscriber, you can sign up on our website or email Vicar Sam for the Bible Study Zoom link (<a href="mailto:stpaularlingtonvicar@gmail.com">stpaularlingtonvicar@gmail.com</a>).

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday 27
September 21	September 22	September 24	September 25	Saturday 27
8:15 Service 9:00 Choir	7-8pm Small Group Discernment meeting Kevin	7pm Small Group Discernment meeting Elizabeth	7-8pm Bible Study via Zoom	11am Small Group Discernment
9:30 Education Hour and acolyte training	Kreutter via Zoom	Heichler via Zoom		meeting Taryn Walsh's
10:30 Service				
11:30 Small Groups Jan Sniffen and Lisa Chiulli Lay Social Ministry Committee meeting				
3-5pm Small Group Discernment meeting Sandy Walker's				
4:00pm Theology on Tap at Mighty Squirrel				



# 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*Sarah Carter, *Children*, *Youth and Families Director*Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager* 

stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com stpaularlingtonvicar@gmail.com

> stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com parishadmin@stpaularlington.org

#### **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

# **Committees** Chairperson

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



Taryn Walsh



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