

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 10, 2026

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, socio-economic 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](mailto:parishadmin@stpaularlington.org).



## SUNDAY SERVICE

8:15am | Holy Communion

9:00am | Choir Practice

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

10:30am | Holy Communion & livestreamed

11:30am | Coffee Hour in Goodman Fellowship Hall

## 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.

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY:

Jennifer Parker , Lydia Zuehsow & Kim Fechtel, *Altar Guild*

Emily H. and Matt H., *Acolytes*

Peter Hedlund, *Lector*

Marie Breitenbach, *Cantor*

Elizabeth Heichler, *Deacon*

Andy Airasian and Dan Ries, *Ushers*

Hollie Schmidt & Mat Carter, *Livestream Broadcast Team*

Peter & 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

“O Living Breath of God”

Anne Krentz Organ

## WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Holy God, you raised our Lord Jesus from the bonds of death. We praise you, trusting that you raise us to new life with him day by day. Turn us to you again, that we may confess our need of your grace and Jesus as our Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God and to one another. *Silence for reflection*

Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We ask you to forgive us and to free us from all that holds our lives captive, that we may truly love you and walk in newness of life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen for you!

**Christ is risen for me! Alleluia!**

In strength of Jesus' death and resurrection, I assure you: God's forgiveness is yours. Nothing can separate you from the love of God which is yours in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

## \* GATHERING HYMN

“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 year - 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.

\* 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.**

\* 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.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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 17:22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he

has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (spoken at 8:15 service)

Psalm 66:8-20



Bless our <sup>1</sup> God, you peoples;

let the sound of <sup>1</sup> praise be heard.

**Our God has kept us a- <sup>1</sup> mong the living  
and has not allowed our <sup>1</sup> feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have <sup>1</sup> tested us;  
you have tried us just as sil- <sup>1</sup> ver is tried.

**You brought us in- <sup>1</sup> to the net;  
you laid heavy burdens up- <sup>1</sup> on our backs.**

You let people ride over our heads; we went through <sup>1</sup> fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place <sup>1</sup> of refreshment.

**I will enter your house <sup>1</sup> with burnt offerings  
and will pay <sup>1</sup> you my vows—**

those that I promised <sup>1</sup> with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I <sup>1</sup> was in trouble.

**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the <sup>1</sup> smoke of rams;  
I will give you ox- <sup>1</sup> en and goats.**

Come and listen, all you <sup>1</sup> who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has <sup>1</sup> done for me.

**I called out to God <sup>1</sup> with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord <sup>1</sup> with my tongue.**

If I had cherished evil <sup>1</sup> in my heart,  
the Lord would <sup>1</sup> not have heard me;

**but in truth <sup>1</sup> God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound <sup>1</sup> of my prayer.**

Blessed be God, who has not reject- <sup>1</sup> ed my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing <sup>1</sup> love from me.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from First Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone

who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

*Repeat alleluia*



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

\* GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Take My Life That I May Be"

ELW 583

*Refrain/Estrillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -  
 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón  
 to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.  
 let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té  
 1 Take my hands and let them move  
 2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing  
 4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;  
 at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 not a mite would I with - hold;  
 al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
 it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -  
 take my feet and let them be swift and  
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry  
 take my lips and let them be filled with  
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



*Refrain/Estrillo*

pul - so de tu a - mor.  
 beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
 mes - sag - es from thee.  
 be thy roy - al throne.

## **Affirmation of Baptism** (10:30 only)

**May 10, 2026**

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM OF

**Simon Preston Badzey**

*Child of Kathleen Kean and Robert Badzey*

**Lucia Helen Bakule**

*Child of Joanna and Justin Bakule*

**Owen James Carter**

*Child of Sarah and Mat Carter*

**Mitchell Monroe Curlin**

*Child of Julie and William Curlin*

**Simon Carl Denecke - Spakovszky**

*Child of Wiebke Denecke and Zoltan Spakovszky*

**Ainsley Mae Schanbacher**

*Child of Kerri Frick and Michael Schanbacher*

**Saara Eveliina Topi**

*Child of Anne-Louise Klaus and Heikki Topi*

### PRESENTATION

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

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these siblings in Christ, 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

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, I ask you to confess the faith of the church with these confirmands.

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 pastor lays hands on the head of each person and says:*

Stir up in Simon, Lucia, Owen, Mitchell, Simon, Ainsley and Saara 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 friends in Christ. 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

*As is our custom, please face one another across the center aisle. The deacon invites us to prayer and offers the first intercession. As you are moved to pray, you are invited to pray any of the following intercessions aloud.*

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill especially Adolf, Bobby, Charles, Dan, Don, George, Jim, Kate, Lynn, Mark, Meredith, Naomi, Paul, Roberta, and Susan. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make us your partners in building the future. Bless the work of St. Paul's Call Committee and walk with them in discerning the way forward to a new

chapter with a new pastor. Renew your gifts of wisdom, patience, and insight in each member of the committee, and help them to know your presence among them as they labor together to bring a new season of life to birth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the

\* 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.**

faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

## MEAL

ANTHEM

“Lead Me, Lord”

Words and music by John D. Becker

Choral setting by Mark Hayes

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 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.

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

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

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781

*Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,*  
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe-ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

*stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.*  
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

\* 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 and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

\* SENDING HYMN

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

ELW 392

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful

Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

\* DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Walk with God.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Loving Spirit"

Anne Krentz Organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and*  
UPCOMING HAPPENINGS at SAINT PAUL

**FUNERAL FOR CLIFFORD GREEN | May 12, 11:00 am**

Clifford Green, our brother in Christ, died on Wednesday, April 22, surrounded by his family. A funeral service for Clifford has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, at 11:00 AM at the church with a reception to follow the service in Goodman Fellowship Hall. Pre-service music begins at 10:30 AM. As we give thanks for Cliff, please pray God's comfort for his children, Cathie, Monica, and Paul, his partner, Vicky Mistacco, and all who mourn his passing.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE GROUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY | July 8**

Group Volunteer Opportunity at the Food Link Hub in Arlington on Wednesday July 8 from 3:30-4:30. This is a hand-on experience, activities may include sorting produce and non-perishable food, packaging baked goods, loading/unloading vehicles with supplies, and cleaning tasks inside and/or outside the building. Our group is limited to 10 individuals, Adults and Children age 10-18 accompanied by adult. This event requires registration and waivers. Contact Jan Sniffen for further details.

**ADULT FORUM DISCUSSES FAITH & SCIENCE QUESTIONS | Sunday, May 10**

Three scientists who happen to be members of St. Paul will speak to questions about the relationships between faith and science. Katie McAuley, Jim Van Deventer, and John Christianson will talk about their work, and how they understand the connections between these two approaches to making sense of the world.

**ST. PAUL BIBLE STUDY | Resumes Thursday, May 7th at 7 PM**

**CALLING A NEW PASTOR**

The Call Committee (John Christianson, Josh Davis, Maile Hedlund, Tommy McCauley, Kelli Oliver, Sandy Walker [Chair] and Taryn Walsh [alternate]) continue their work behind the scenes. Their work is complex, involving both the question of discerning whether to "call" a specific person into the Office of Pastor at St. Paul as well as parsing through the terms of employment for the position. It's tempting to think of this only in terms of a job hire. But Lutherans have long believed that Christ has instituted the Ministry of Word and Sacrament as part of the way God's grace is spoken into the realities of our lives, and the persons who labor in this work are called into it by the Holy Spirit through the very human decision-making processes of congregations like this one. It's exciting work, this Call Committee work. And the members of the committee ask you to participate in their work by praying for them every day.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP | Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 4PM**

What exactly is cancer? Is it a flaw, an alien presence in the body, an enemy? Or is it a byproduct of the body's own adaptive processes at a cellular level? An aspect of evolution which is simply

part of us? And where is God in such a situation? What kind of God is present in the challenges presented to us by a cancer diagnosis?

Beer is helpful in meditating on such questions. So come to the next Theology on Tap in Pastor Larsen's backyard (or living room, depending on weather) on Sunday, May 17, at 4:00 PM. There will be beer, NA and regular stuff, other beverages, and some snacky things. Even better, there will be good, thoughtful conversation about a topic that in one way or another affects all of us.

### COMMUNITY ART EVENT | Sunday, May 17, 6:30-8:30, Goodman Fellowship Hall

Take part in a community art project. We have paired with the **Mystic River Watershed Authority** to host a workshop to create fish for a community mural to raise awareness about the Mystic River Herring. This is an evening for all ages and abilities. Bring a dessert or snack to share with the community! Please RSVP with the QR code here:



### ST. PAUL CAMP CALUMET RETREAT | August 21-23

Our annual St. Paul Retreat at Camp Calumet is happening August 21-23, 2026. All are welcome to join us for a weekend of relaxation, reflection, and relationship building at this idyllic spot in NH. Please contact Julie at [julie@calumet.org](mailto:julie@calumet.org) to book a room. Have some questions, contact Sarah ([stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com)) to find out more.

### SPRING POTLUCK EVENTS

The Community meals that we have been sharing have been really lovely, and we want to make sure that everyone can mark their calendars for our upcoming times.

<b>May 17</b>	6:30pm	Workshop for the Mystic River Community Mural
<b>May 30</b>	5:00pm	Concert in Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	Potluck Supper

### ARLINGTON EATS | May Spotlight Items

As you shop this month, we are focusing on re-stocking our gluten free cupboard.

- canned tuna
- gluten free snacks
- gluten free soups
- gluten free mixes
- gluten free baking/cooking staples
- gluten free cereal



# SAINT PAUL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

[www.stpaularlington.org](http://www.stpaularlington.org) | 781-646-7773

## Staff

The Reverend Don Larsen, *Transition Pastor*

[stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlington.interim.pastor@gmail.com)

Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*

[anazecicjeffers@gmail.com](mailto:anazecicjeffers@gmail.com)

Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and Families Director*

[stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com)

Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*

[parishadmin@stpaularlington.org](mailto:parishadmin@stpaularlington.org)

Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*

Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

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