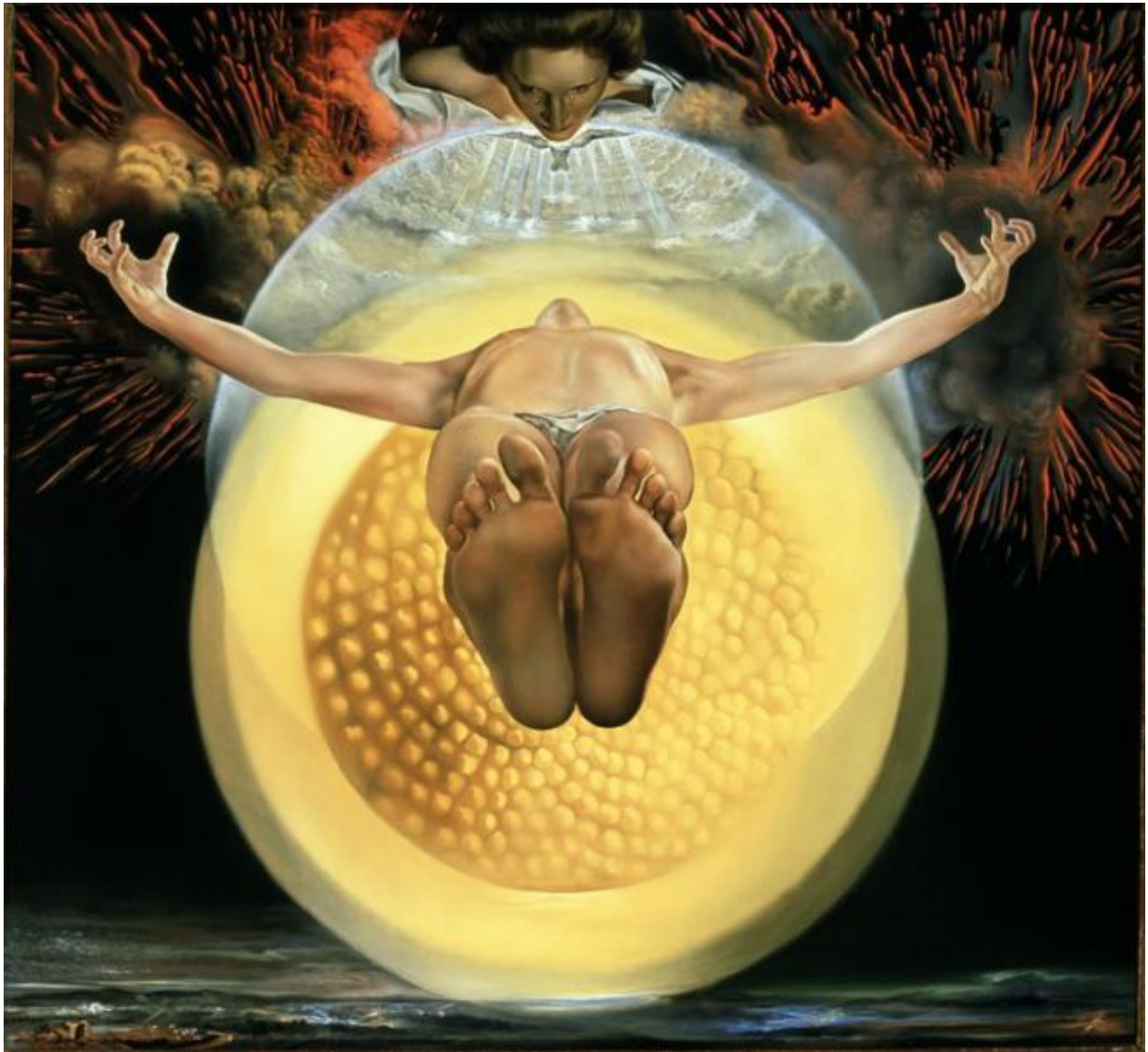


SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Ascension Salvador Dali 1958

May 17, 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.



SUNDAY SERVICE

8:15am | Holy Communion

9:00am | Choir Practice

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

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:

Marie Breitenbach, Kelli Oliver & Kim Fecht, *Altar Guild*

Clara R. and Toby M., *Acolytes*

Marie Breitenbach, *Lector*

Bev Hjorth, *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

Gavotte with Variations (from Organ concerto in C major)

Thomas Dupuis (1733-1796)

WELCOME

* GATHERING HYMN

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

ELW 393



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, “Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 “You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l’wers
sky?” Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! “This is the Sav - ior!” thus they
sky.” Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! “Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty.
say, “this is his glo-rious tri-umph day!” Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty.”
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

* 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

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

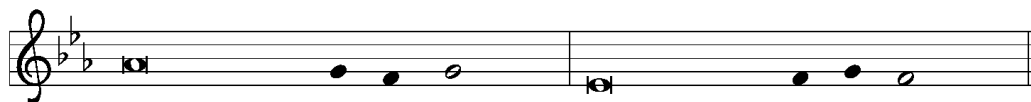
Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (spoken at 8:15 service)

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35



Let God arise, and let God's ene-¹ mies be scattered;
let those who¹ hate God flee.

As smoke is driven away, so you should drive¹ them away;

as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres-¹ ence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice¹ before God;

let them also be mer-¹ ry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who¹ rides the clouds;

I Am is that name, rejoice¹ before God!

In your holy habita-¹ tion, O God,

you are a father to orphans, defend-¹ er of widows;

you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners¹ into freedom;

but the rebels shall live in¹ desert places.

O God, when you went forth be-¹ fore your people,

when you marched¹ through the wilderness,

the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the¹ God of Sinai,

at the presence of God, the ¹ God of Israel.

You sent a bountiful ¹ rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance ¹ when it languished.

Your people found their ¹ home in it;

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision ¹ for the poor.

Sing to God, O kingdoms ¹ of the earth;
sing praises ¹ to the Lord.

You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ¹ ancient heavens;

you send forth your voice, your ¹ mighty voice.

Ascribe pow- ¹ er to God,

whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is ¹ in the skies.

How wonderful you are in your holy places, O ¹ God of Israel,

giving strength and power to your people! ¹ Blessed be God!

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from First Peter.

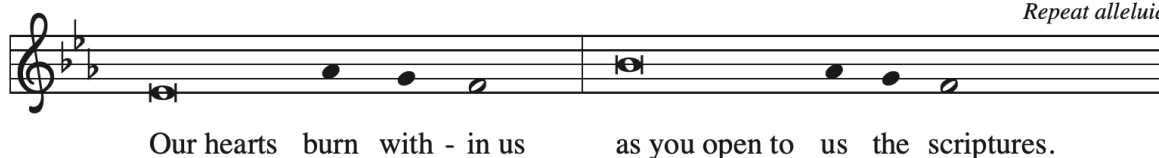
Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

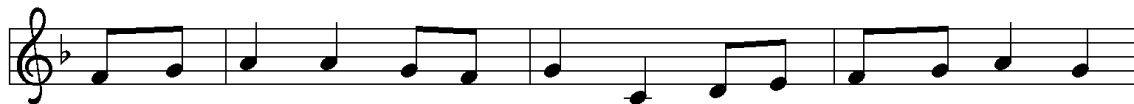
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Don Larsen

* HYMN OF THE DAY



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Holy Baptism (10:30 only)

May 17, 2026

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES THE BAPTISM OF

Isaac James Van Deventer
Theodore Crumly Van Deventer

Parents: Allison and Jim Van Deventer
Godparents: Laura Crumly and Paul Van Deventer

Children are invited to come forward.

PRESENTATION

Candidate for baptism, parents and sponsors gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly is seated.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Presenter: We present Isaac James Van Deventer and Theodore Crumly Van Deventer for baptism.

Isaac and Theo, do you want to be baptized into Christ?

Isaac and Theo: We do.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your sons baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

As you bring Isaac and Theo to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with their among God's faithful people,
bring their to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach their the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture their in faith and prayer,
so that they may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Isaac and Theo grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Isaac and Theo in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Isaac and Theo and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

Congregation: We do.

All stand as able.

* 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.

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Isaac/Theodore with 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.

Isaac/Theo, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God, and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

* 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.

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick, 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**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment (other transitions may be named), and accompany us in our prayers during these times. 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.

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. 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.

* 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

"With This Water"

Fred Gramann

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.
 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

“I Come with Joy”

ELW 482

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for-giv-en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di-vi-sion
 4 The Spir-it of the ris-en Christ, un-seen, but ev-er
 5 To-geth-er met, to-geth-er bound by all that God has
 free, the life of Je-sus to re-call in
 fed, the new com-mu-ni-ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend-ship bet-ter known, a-
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the
 love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com-mu-nion bread, in Christ's com-mu-nion bread.
 strang-ers now are friends, and strang-ers now are friends.
 live a-mong us here, a-live a-mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
 Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

* 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 peace of God, which passes all human understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of our Savior Jesus Christ. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

"Thine the Amen"

ELW 826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

* DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Walk with God.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Presto (from Sonata in C minor)

Giovanni Battista Pescetti (1704-1766)

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and*
UPCOMING HAPPENINGS *at* SAINT PAUL

NEXT SUNDAY - DAY OF PENTECOST AND SUMMER SCHEDULE!

We celebrate the culmination of the Easter season next Sunday, the Day of Pentecost. If you think of it, consider wearing something red in honor of the day! We move to the summer schedule next Sunday (May 24) with a single service at 9:30 AM.

ADULT FORUM - MAY 17

Did you know that Lutheran theology has a unique take on the meaning of Jesus' Ascension? Like, where is Jesus now anyway? Pastor Don will lead us into a discussion of Lutheran theology's contribution to this topic at 9:30 AM.

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.

ST. PAUL BIBLE STUDY | Resumes Thursday, May 14th at 7 PM

All are invited to join our bible study! We 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. This week, we will explore the following passages: Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/86589565080?pwd=NroRDPKeHCmhFXytTLikZexfQEvWZw.1>

continued

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. The members of the committee ask you to participate in their work by praying for them every day.

THEOLOGY ON TAP | Sunday, May 17th 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. The Larsen-age is at 418 Winthrop Street in Medford, which is the corner of Winthrop and Exeter Street. The driveway opens onto Exeter Street, and you're welcome to use it or to find street parking.

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 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:



to

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 to book a room. Have some questions, contact Sarah (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.

May 17	6:30pm	Workshop for the Mystic River Community Mural
May 30	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 | 781-646-7773

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Eric Haugen

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Dan Ries & Andy Airasian

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