

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Sunday, June 21, 2026

9:30 AM

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

9:30am | Holy Communion & livestreamed
10:30am | Coffee Hour in Goodman Fellowship Hall
or outdoors

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:

Kelli Oliver and Taryn Walsh & Kim Fechtel, *Altar Guild*
Eric Haugen, *Lector*
Dave Hering, *Assisting Minister*
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

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,

all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

ELW 763

1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!

I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-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.**

*KYRIE

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,

to Verses

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

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)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy, to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,

whose blood has freed and u - nit-ed us

to be one great peo - ple of God. D.C.

Verse 2

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. D.C.

Verse 3

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us

peo - ple of God; to make all things new. D.C.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

O Lord, you have enticed me,
 and I was enticed;
 you have overpowered me,
 and you have prevailed.
 I have become a laughingstock all day long;
 everyone mocks me.
 For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
 I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
 For the word of the Lord has become for me
 a reproach and derision all day long.
 If I say, "I will not mention him
 or speak any more in his name,"
 then within me there is something like a burning fire
 shut up in my bones;
 I am weary with holding it in,
 and I cannot.
 For I hear many whispering:

“Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
“Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him.”
But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18

Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.
**I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother’s children.**
Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
**I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**
**Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**
Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.
**Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

* GOSPEL

Matthew 10:24-39

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND SERMON

Pastor Don Larsen

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

ELW 798



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

APOSTLES CREED

With praise and gratitude, we confess our faith.

**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 power of 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

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.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering Adolf, Bobby, Dan, George, Jim, Kate, Lynn, Mark, Meredith,

Naomi, Paul, Roberta, and Susan. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We ask that, by your Holy Spirit, you raise up new pastors for the entire Church. Work in the lives of people who are considering whether you are calling them into ordained ministry, and bless them with conversation partners who can help them discern their paths. Continue to guide the work of our congregation's Call Committee, and bless

them with the confidence that their labor will not be in vain. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints like Onesimos Nesib who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus 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

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



OFFERING SONG

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be

gath - ered in - to one in you.

Verses

1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 God thanks and praise.

It is our duty and delight,
 that we should everywhere and always
 offer thanks and praise to you, O God,
 through Jesus Christ;
 who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love,
 And so, with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, 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

*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.



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry"

ELW 732



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

* 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

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; 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 grant you peace.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

Cole Badzey will be attending North Shore Community College in their Surgical Technology program.

Madison Curlin will be attending the United States Air Force Academy.

Charlotte Turner will be attending Coastal Carolina University and will be studying Commercial and Investment Real Estate.

Stella Turner will be attending the University of Colorado, Boulder and will be studying Biology (Pre-Med) and Spanish.

Maya Venkatesh will be attending Williams College and will be studying English and Political Science.

* SENDING HYMN

"In Christ Called to Baptize"

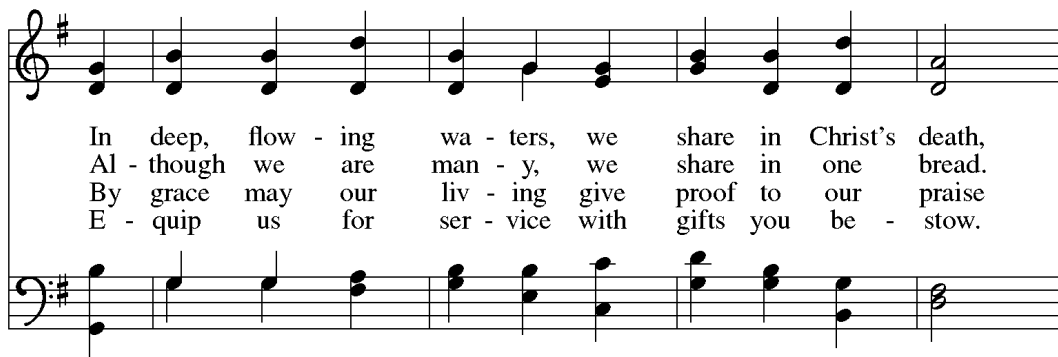
ELW 575



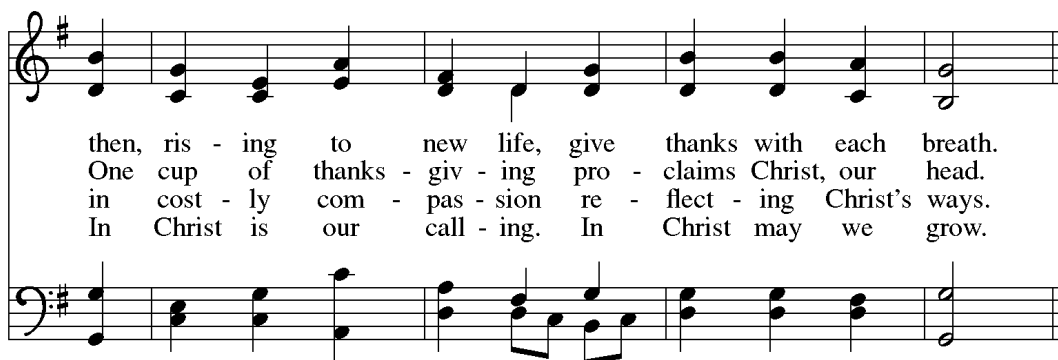
1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
One cup of thanks - giv - ing, pro - claims Christ, our head.
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS *and* UPCOMING HAPPENINGS *at* ST. PAUL

GUEST PREACHER NEXT SUNDAY

We welcome the Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger to be among us on Sunday, June 28, as preacher and presider. Since 2020, Pastor Nelson Winger has served as the University Chaplain at Tufts University. An ELCA pastor, she served congregations in Cairo, Egypt, Dearborn, Michigan, and Bloomington, Illinois. Among her numerous responsibilities at Tufts, she works as Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE | JUNE 21-AUGUST 9

The Social Ministry Committee invites the congregation to participate in an 8-week effort to support the academic success of local children impacted by housing insecurity and poverty. Our collection of basic school supplies will be delivered to Menotomy Manor, Arlington state-subsidized housing for low-income families with children under the age of 21. These children generally attend the Thompson School.

Please leave donations in the yellow bucket in same location as the Arlington Eats Box. Donations accepted June 21- August 9. Delivery will be in mid-August for distribution through their food pantry in time for the beginning of the school year. Questions: please contact Jan Sniffen.

Supplies Needed for Elementary Grades 1-5

- Pencils (#2 Ticonderoga)
- Personal Pencil Sharpener (with cover)
- Crayola colored pencils (12 pack)
- 24 count Crayola Crayons
- Crayola Markers (10 pack)
- Thick Markers
- Thin Markers
- Highlighters
- Glue Sticks (small)
- Child Scissors
- Black Dry-Erase Markers
- Black Sharpies
- Plastic 2-Pocket Folders
- Single Subject Notebook
- Box Tissues
- Sandwich size Zip-lock bags
- Clorox wipes
- Reusable Water Bottle

ARLINGTON EATS | June Spotlight Items

Boxed Mac & Cheese (Kraft, Goodles), Granola Bars (especially MadeGood, Kind Bars, Z Bars, Yumi Bars), Snack Packs (especially Goldfish, Pirate's Booty), Dried Fruit & Nuts (almonds, walnuts, dates, cranberries, dried apples, mango), Dried Seaweed, Roasted Seeds (pumpkin, sunflower), Soy Sauce, Dish Soap, Baby wipes

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.



SAINT PAUL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

www.stpaularlington.org | 781-646-7773

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Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

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Sandy Walker, *Vice President*

Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*

Piercen Oliver, *Secretary*

Mark Olson, *Financial Secretary*

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Altar Guild

Faith Formation Committee

Intern Committee

Social Ministry Committee

Nomination Committee

Worship & Music Committee

Finance Committee

Audit Committee

Usher Committee

Property Committee

Call Committee

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Taryn Walsh

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



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