



God's Work
Our Hands

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

May this hour be a journey of the heart, a renewal of spirit, a pause in our lives as we worship the Lord our God together. If you are a guest this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to sign our guest book located in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary, also known as the narthex. Following our worship service, we invite you to share in a time of fellowship over coffee, juice, and snacks in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and becoming a member, please visit with any member of the congregation or Pastor Janis Sloka, III. Thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!

We feel strongly that the faith formation of youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome youth of all ages to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number of roles, such as: ushers, greeters, readers, and musicians. While we expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles, and all—we also understand that sometimes they (and their parents or guardians) need a break; on those occasions, you are welcome to utilize the nursery (unstaffed) located on the north end of the narthex. Additionally, there is a playroom for children and a couch room for older youth on the west end of the Fellowship Hall. You can also find children’s bulletins and crayons on the table as you enter the main church building doors.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

As Lutherans, worship is connected with and central to everything we do—uniting us in celebration, engaging us in thoughtful dialogue, and helping us grow in faith. At the heart of our worship life is the presence of God through the word proclaimed and the sacraments—Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; this is because worship is—first and foremost—fundamentally about what God is doing in the world and in our lives, and then our response to God’s action. In the context of worship, we find our response in the liturgy, which is a way of living God’s story. The liturgical texts that form the prayers we pray, the texts we say, and the songs we sing find their roots in the Bible; for more information see the back of the hymnal, ELW pp. 1154-1159. Furthermore, these liturgical texts invite each and every one of us—not just the pastor or choir or any other worship leader—to use our voices to praise God. Through worship we are shaped to be participants in God’s life in this world.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR...

- Assistance with wheelchair seating • Assisted listening devices • Large print bulletins • Directions to restrooms •

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
September 10, 2023- Rally Day “Outreach Sunday”
“Grandparents Day”
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Pentecost 15

+Indicates to rise as you are able. Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus’ words in today’s gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

WELCOME

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

+GATHERING SONG

“All Are Welcome” ELW 641 verses 1,2,4,5

+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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

+CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:33-40 *Congregation read the even verses.*

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

³⁶**Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.

³⁸**Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.

⁴⁰**See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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+GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

Children's Bible page 274

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have

regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON Bella Wimer and Holly Klemisch
PRESENTATION OF BIBLES ~ SPECIAL RECOGNITION

SERMON

SONG

“God’s Work, Our Hands” *Page 10 of this bulletin*

+APOSTLES’ CREED

In holy baptism the triune God adopts us as children and makes us members of the body of Christ, the church. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

Each petition concludes: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

+PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**

OFFERING

Thank you for your time, talents, and treasures. These offerings support the ministry of St. Paul. Today we will return to passing the plates. You may also visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS

+THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+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.**

+OUR MISSION

What is the mission we share together?

Our mission is to GATHER as God’s people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.

+BLESSING

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in us, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

+SENDING SONG

“This Little Light of Mine” ELW 677

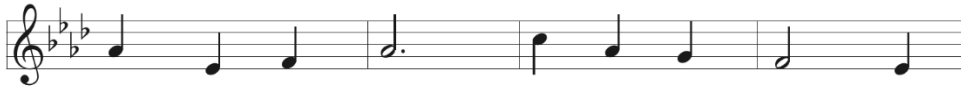
+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

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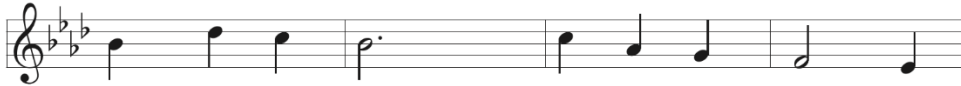
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus, to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson

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EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

- **Story Bibles:** will be presented to preschoolers and new children today.
- **Offering plates:** *2 Corinthians 9:7* “*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, for God loves a cheerful giver.*” The Stewardship Committee has decided through prayer and discernment that we will start passing the offering plates again this Sunday, September 10. This will take place during the offering time in worship. We will also provide children with the opportunity to participate. They can come forward with their offerings to be put in a manger by the altar. Thank you for your call to “Gather, Grow and Go!”
- **Fellowship:** everyone is invited to fellowship after worship.
- **Fellowship Sign up:** the congregation is invited to sign up for fellowship this fall, in September and October. There is more information on the sign-up sheet, at the narthex table, and on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Thank you for helping with our Sunday morning fellowship.
- **Sunday School:** starts today, September 10th at 11:00 a.m.
- **Spaghetti Lunch:** is today, September 10th after worship. This is a free will lunch that the youth sponsor to raise money (\$1000), for a classroom, for a year, in our Companion Synod, the Central African Republic (C.A.R.). Please join us!
- **Sunday School Teachers:** thank you to all that have volunteered for the fall Sundays. We appreciate your commitment to our Sunday School youth. Thanks!
- **The Adult Choir:** practice begins today after worship in the Sanctuary. Please see Lisa Haugen if you have questions. All are welcome!

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Readers:** are needed for September and October. A sign-up sheet and a copy of the readings is on the signup table in the entry.
- **Acolytes:** We need Acolytes to sign up for September and October.

Upcoming

- **Breakfast Club:** starts Wednesday, September 13th at 7:30AM at Four Seasons.
- **Sonshine Friends:** starts this Wednesday, September 13th at 3 p.m.
- **Sonshine Choir:** starts this Wednesday, September 13th at 4:30 p.m.
- **Evening Circle:** starting the first Wednesday in October at 7:00 p.m. This is for all women that would like to be a part of a St. Paul Circle that meets in the evening instead of the morning. Fellowship, Bible Study, and a little bit of business, takes place at a Circle meeting. All women are welcome.
- **Confirmation Classes:** starts this Wednesday, September 13th.

- **New Members** will be received into our family on Sunday, October 1st. Please let Pastor Sloka if you would like to join.
- **Camp of the Cross:** Fall Women's Retreat is September 23rd. See the brochure on the church bulletin board or go to the Camp website.

Outreach

- **German Supper:** will be October 1st from 5-7 p.m. This is our fundraiser for Camp of the Cross. There are signup sheets on the sign-up desk in the church narthex. You can also let Pastor Janis know if you are willing to help make regular potato salad, German Chocolate cake, Apple Crisp, or setup, serve or cleanup. We would really appreciate your help! Thanks!
- **Potato and Onion donations:** are being asked for the German Supper. Please bring donations by September 25th. Thanks!

General

- **Office Hours:** *new hours begin Monday, September 11th 9a.m.-3p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 9a.m.-12 noon Fridays.*
- **Newsletter for September/October:** was mailed and emailed last week. There are extras on the table in the church entry way, and extra September calendars.
- **Copier Paper:** we are running low on 8 ½" X 14" copier paper for bulletins, if anyone would like to donate paper. Thank you!
- **Update our Living Wall:** People are encouraged to send, bring to the office or email, updated pictures to the church to put up on the Living Wall.
- **Live Facebook:** each week at St. Paul's. The 4 Ministers are also on FB and Instagram each week.
- **Get your St. Paul Gear!** Spread our mission with custom shirts! Check them out in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to buy any of the shirts we have in stock.
- **St. Paul Store:** Did you know that in the Fellowship Hall we have various boxes of greeting cards for a donation? Currently they are a \$5 donation per box. But starting October 1 they will be \$6 per box. So, stock up now.



You invited to visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.

Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul!



In Our Prayers...

Kylar Hansen, Gary Mikkelson, Linda Kolden, Vi Maki, Ernie Hinderer, Kristi Devitt, Hayden Ogilivie, Clarence Behles, Stuart Bennett, Mona Reinisch, Heidi Smith, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Jeff Wretling, Alton Krebsbach. Families of Gladys Vanderwerff and Arnold Johnson

Birthday Blessings and Wishes This Week To:

Courtney Collings	September 11
Tressa Torno	September 11
Lucie Dewitz	September 12
Keith Thelen	September 12



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today, Sunday, September 10

	9:45 a.m.	Worship – Story Bibles to preschoolers & new children
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School 1 st Day Spaghetti Lunch for C.A.R. w/1 st Responders
	11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
<i>Mon.</i>	9:00 -3:00 p.m.	Office Hours
	1:00 p.m.	Quilting
	6:00-8:00 p.m.	MOPS/MOMSnext
<i>Tues.</i>	9:00 -3:00 p.m.	Office Hours
	10:00 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study
<i>Wed.</i>	9:00 -3:00 p.m.	Office Hours
	7:30 a.m.	9-12 Breakfast Club at Four Seasons
	12:00 p.m.	FCA @ High School
	3:00 p.m.	K-6 Sonshine Friends
	4:30 p.m.	Sonshine Choir
	6:00 p.m.	7 th grade Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	8-9 th Confirmation
<i>Thurs.</i>	9:00 -3:00 p.m.	Office Hours
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Study at The Meadows
<i>Fri.</i>	9:00-12:00 p.m.	Office Hours
	12:00 p.m.	Crafting
<i>Sat.</i>	9:00 a.m.	Crafting

Next, Sunday, September 17

	9:45 a.m.	Worship - Communion
	10:45 a.m.	Fellowship October Action Group meets in the Chapel
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School 6-9 th LOL meets Worship Committee meets
	6:00 p.m.	6-8 th Youth meet at church



PRE-READER

Pentecost 15

- Today is the 15th **Sunday** after Pentecost.
- Pentecost is the **longest** season in the church year.
- Today we are about **halfway** through the season after Pentecost.

Confession is a part of worship when we say we're sorry to God.



What are you sorry for? Draw a picture of it here. Remember that God forgives us!

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA

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stpaul@restel.com

Church Office: 701-463-2019

Sunday Worship – 9:45 a.m.

www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com

pastorsloka@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: 701-861-9915

Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

SERVING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH

<i>Ministers</i>	The People of St. Paul Lutheran
<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Janis Sloka, III
<i>Faith Formation Director</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church Council President</i>	Keith Thelen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Custodian</i>	Pam Kolden
<i>Missionaries</i>	Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto
<i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Choir Director</i>	Lisa Haugen
<i>Musician</i>	Sundi Lagge
<i>Reader</i>	Aspyn Thelen
<i>Ushers</i>	Gavin Ruud, Emmitt Lagge, Kadin Kolden
<i>Greeters</i>	Isabel Rime, Morgan Torr, Jamison Rime
<i>Acolytes</i>	Peyton Rime
<i>Door Attendant</i>	Barb Ferguson
<i>Fellowship Hosts</i>	Kevin Rime Family
<i>Technology</i>	Lisa Maki

MISSION STATEMENT

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to **GATHER** as God's people; to **GROW** in faith, love, and service; and to **GO** into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.