The 5th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, July 13, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

321 North 10th St., Beatrice, NE 68310 | 402-228-1540 www.stpaulbeatrice.org | splc.beatrice@gmail.com Rev. Karl Hollibaugh, Vacancy Pastor | 225-361-5121 | revdochollibaugh@gmail.com

St. Paul's Lutheran School & Childcare Center

930 Prairie Lane, Beatrice, NE 68310 | 402-223-3414 Cassie Rhoden, Childcare Director

LSB 869; 845; 851; 620; 844

Divine Service, Setting 1: 151; 152; 154; 156; 159; 160; 161; 163; 164

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

869 With the Lord Begin Your Task



His name then close your eyes; Be Him com-mend - ed. In to Save you from the tempt-er's might, With His pres - ence cheer you. in tru - ly knows How to Who wis - dom stem dis - as - ter. You joy will share In the at last the man-sions yon - der. it may well be done To Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, 1734, Waldenburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.; Tune: Peter Frank, 1616–75 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Exhortation LSB 151

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution LSB 151

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 136:23-26; antiphon: v. 1

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

It is he who remembered us in our low estate,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

and rescued us from our foes,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

he who gives food to all flesh,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

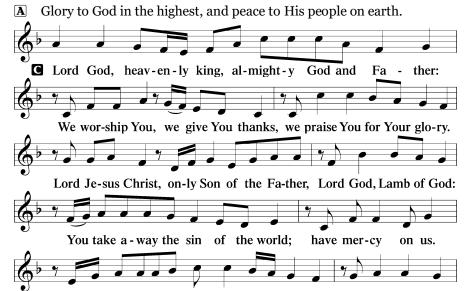
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

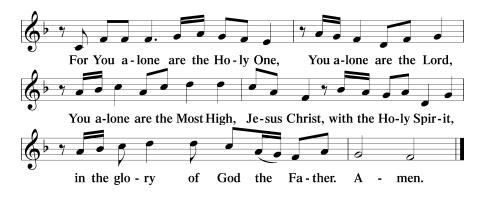
Kyrie LSB 152

- In peace let us pray to the Lord. A
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{A}
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, \mathbf{A} and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- Lord, have mercy. C
- For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let A us pray to the Lord.
- Lord, have mercy. C
- Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. \mathbf{A}
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our praver.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray.

 Lord Jesus Christ, in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us. Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Leviticus 18:1-5; 19:9-18

¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²"Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the Lord your God. ³You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. ⁴You shall follow my rules and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the Lord your God. ⁵You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the Lord. . . .

⁹"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

¹¹"You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. ¹²You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

¹³"You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

¹⁵"You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷"You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Colossians 1:1–14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, ⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf ⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



Holy Gospel

Luke 10:25-37

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

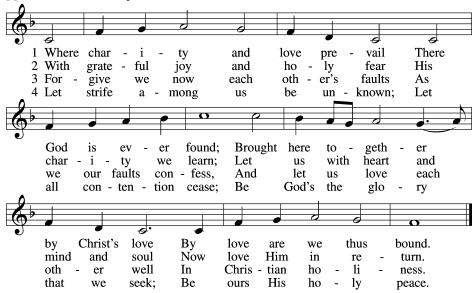
²⁹But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Song for Mrs. Duever & her Family: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" sung by the school children and staff

845 Where Charity and Love Prevail



- Let us recall that in our midst
 Dwells Christ, His only Son;

 As members of His body joined
 We are in Him made one.
- 6 For love excludes no race or clan That names the Savior's name; His family embraces all Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.; Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842; Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life \pm everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful Lord, the apostle Paul did not cease to pray for the church in Colossae, that she might be filled with the knowledge of Your will and all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Stir up in us a spirit of intercession for our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world, that we might constantly remember them in prayer, even as they remember us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of the harvest, You have sent forth ministers in Your name to proclaim Your saving Gospel and deliver sinners from darkness into Your kingdom. Bless all pastors and church workers in their service to You, that they may be faithful in every responsibility placed upon them for our sake. Give us a willingness to hear the counsel of Your Word to correct our errors and repent of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord, as You grant the length of days to many in our families and communities, You bless us with their wisdom and grant us the opportunity to live out Your love for them. Help us to rightly treasure them, and as they grow in weakness and need, deepen their trust in Your strength to bear and Your power to save. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, as You have granted us to live in a nation where Your people may still gather without fear, bless our leaders with Your wisdom and guard us from the rising ungodliness in our land, that Your Gospel may be preached boldly and continue to bear fruit and grow. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

C hear our prayer.

P Lord God, as Your Son has carried us through Baptism into the safety of His Church and provided for our continued care with the gifts of His body and blood, help us to abide in this place of refuge and to rightly rejoice in His gracious care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- Everlasting Lord, You have been faithful to us, who deserved none of Your mercies. Lead us to receive them with grateful hearts and to be faithful unto death, that we may receive the crown of everlasting life. Hear us in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, through whom, with whom and in whom be all honor and glory, both now and forever.
- C Amen.

Offering



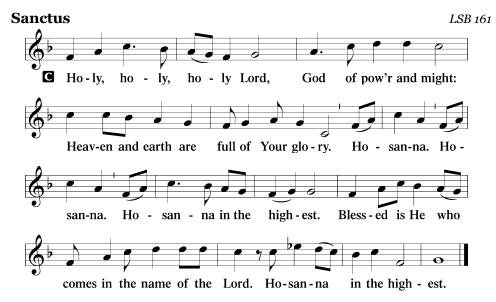
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface & Proper Preface

LSB 160

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

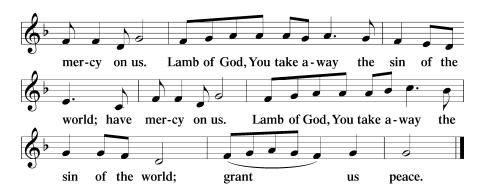
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

forever and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini LSB 163

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





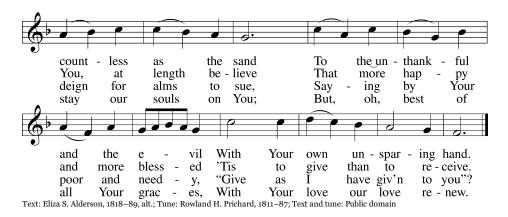
Distribution

The Dismissal

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart → in peace.
- C Amen.

851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us





620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing



Let me praise God's boundless favor, 5 Whose own feast of love I savor. Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,

With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, Cleanses me from sin and error,

Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960; Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758; Text: © David W. Rogner. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.





He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.

C Amen.

844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916–2018, alt.; Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.; Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003644; Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Sunday, July 13, 2025

WELCOME to St. Paul's Lutheran Church: We are glad that you are here as we gather around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you have not already done so, we ask that you sign the guest book at the entrance to the church. If you do not have a church home and are interested in the teachings of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, or if you are interested in becoming a member here at St. Paul's, please contact the church office.

Communion Guidance: Holy Scripture teaches that the Lord's Supper is a precious gift in which Jesus Christ gives us His true body and blood, together with the bread and the wine, for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. Because the Bible teaches that this Sacrament may be spiritually harmful if it is misused and that participation in the Lord's Supper is an act of confessing a shared faith, we seek to commune those who have been instructed and confess the Christian faith as it is taught in God's Word. For visitors who wish to commune at St. Paul's, we want you know that we value you and reach out to you in love. It is our desire to provide communion for not only members of our congregation, but also members of fellow Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations and congregations in fellowship with the LCMS. If you are not a member of such a congregation, it is godly and caring to carefully consider your attendance at the Sacrament in advance to see if there is need for further instruction or questions to be answered. Please refer to our summary of faith, which is available on our webpage and in printed form by the entrance or in the pews, to help ascertain if you share in our confession of faith or would like to receive instruction. We also invite you to speak with the pastor well before the service regarding the Sacrament of the Altar.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Please note: The names listed below will remain on our public prayer list for two weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise. Thank you.

Please continue to keep our congregation, school, and child care center in your prayers. And in addition,

We Also Pray For:

<u>We Pray for Our Fellow Parishioners:</u> --- Angie Fossler (cancer), Mike Holthus (leukemia), Marge Itzen (recovering from a fall), Cheri McConnell (lung cancer), Cindy Weise (melanoma)

<u>We Pray for Friends and Relatives of Parishioners:</u> Ardyce Philippi, mother of Mel Philippi-Aden (hospitalized recovering from a heart attack), **Vern Ankersen**, brother of Bob Ankersen,

We Pray for Those in Service of Our Nation: Olivia Hatzenbuehler, William Kelley

Please call 402-228-1540 by Thursday if you have a petition to be included in the prayers.

Today's Radio Broadcast and Bulletin are sponsored by Carlyn Koenig in remembrance of her wedding day 70 years ago, July 10, 1955. Thankful for the many blessings received - 47 years of marriage, 3 daughters, 10 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and many good friends.

Children's Bulletin is sponsored by Friends of St. Paul's.

WORSHIP HELPERS FOR THIS WEEK

9:00 am Divine Service

Preacher: Rev. Mark Rosenau
Pianist: Beverly Duensing
Reader: Duane Delozier
Elder: David Doering

Acolytes: Olivia Duever, Miley Loomis

Greeters: Lois Podendorf

Ushers: Larry Huls, Steve Norton, Lyndon Weigand

Gifts of Time and Treasure

Ì	Contributions		
	Weekly Offering	\$5,619.00	
	Coins for Christ (Loose Coins)	\$4.91	

OUR WEEKLY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES!

Birthdays:

- 13 James Ford
- 14 Donna Huls Lucas Noojin
- 15 Keysha Wolf
- 16 Penny Shaffer
- 17 Bentley Poling
- 18 Anthony May Dillon Siebe
- 19 Sophia Eisele Tracie Fossler

Rebecca Jobman

Anniversaries:

14 Ronald & Rebecca Jobman, 51 yrs.
Donald & Carolyn Junker, 57 yrs.

		THE LORD'S WEEK
Sunday	8:00	Radio Broadcast on KWBE
	9:00	Divine Service
		No Adult Bible Class/Sunday School
	10:15	Reception for Amy in the school gym
Monday		NO Monday Service
Thursday		Kelly's Day Off
	7:00	Banner Committee
Sunday	8:00	Radio Broadcast on KWBE
	9:00	Divine Service
		No Adult Bible Class/Sunday School
	*******	************

<u>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</u> are 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday - Thursday, and Saturday. The office may be closed on occasion, so please call ahead.

MONDAY NIGHT SERVICES: Beginning June 23rd, there will be no Monday night services for the foreseeable future during the vacancy. The travel distance to come for the Monday service is not feasible during the vacancy. We do apologize for this inconvenience.

BUSY BAGS for your child to use and return are available in the narthex of the church. If you need assistance, please ask an usher or greeter.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS: St. Paul's has large print hymnals available for use during the services. The hymnals are in the back pew and on a table by the elevator. Feel free to take them to your pew.

RADIO & BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS: Radio Broadcasts, Bulletin, & Quarterly Children's Bulletin Sponsorships are currently being scheduled for 2025. You can sponsor them in honor, memory, or recognition of someone. Radio sponsorship cost \$100, bulletin sponsorship cost \$25 and children's bulletin sponsorship costs \$25. Please call Kelly in the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a date or quarter. Current dates available for radio broadcast are: July 20, Jul 27, October 5, October 12, October 26, and December 28 are the only dates left available for 2025. Current dates available for bulletin sponsorships are: any date you would like to pick in 2025.

THRD QUARTER VOTERS MEETING has been moved to Sunday, August 17. There will be no meeting on Sunday, July 20th. Health insurance rates were received in this week and time is needed to review this information and to meet with the staff. Moving our meeting will allow us not to have to call an additional meeting to approve the insurance later. Plan now to join us on Sunday, August 17th. We will also

have the chance to update the congregation on the status of both the pastoral and principal call positions.

SERIVCE AT THE SCHOOL: On July 13th and July 20th our regular Sunday morning worship service will be held at 9am at the school gym. This is because the floors and carpet will be being replaced during those two weeks. Close parking is limited, so if you can walk a little farther, we encourage you to park a little farther away to allow those who are unable to or have difficulty walking to park closer to the school.



The trustees are looking for help to remove and to reinstall the pews. If you are willing to help with this task please contact Ron Fehn 402-223-0449 and he will give you all the details.

CAR WASH TICKETS: The LYF are selling Super Wash car wash tokens - 5 for \$20!! They are available in the church office.

ST. PAUL'S YOUTH GROUP meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. Meetings are held at the school from 5-7pm. Youth plan now to join us at our next meeting for an activity, food, and a Bible Study. Watch the bulletin for more information. Questions, you may contact Joanna Gellermann-Long 425-591-5318.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL INFORMATION

SUMMER SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS: The school office will be open from 8:30am to 11:30am Monday through Thursday. It will be closed occasionally, so please call ahead!

OUR FAMILY AND BEST CHOICE UPC CODES: Please save the labels from all Our Family and Best Choice products and bring them to school or church. We need the UPC codes from them. We receive \$25.00 for each group of 500 Our Family UPC codes we send in. We receive \$30.00 for each group of 1,000 Best Choice UPS codes we send in. So please bring all your Our Family and Best Choice labels to school or church. They are Valuable!

BEATRICE COMMUNITY BAND: 2025 Concert Dates are... Sunday, July 20th 7:00pm at Chautaugua Park.

BATTLE OF THE

BANKS









EACH BANK IS ACCEPTING FOOD AND MONETARY DONATIONS TO BENEFIT THE BEATRICE FOOD PANTRY

THE COMPETITION BETWEEN BANKS RUNS FROM: JULY 14[™] - JULY 25[™]







Why do we use candles in the Divine Service?

Imagine that you are attending a worship service 500 years ago. Since there are no lights, even during the daytime, the church is dark. How will you see what is going on? How will you see the pastor? How will you walk up to the altar to receive the Lord's Supper? As you probably guessed, one of the first uses for candles in church was to give light in the sanctuary. Actually, oil lamps were probably used until the fourth century when candles became more common.

Is there more to using candles than just lighting the room?

With the invention of the light bulb, candles were no longer needed to light the church. That doesn't mean they lost their importance in the church. Candles have been used for hundreds of years to symbolize Christ's words when he said: "I am the Light of the world" (John 8:12). Candles remind us that Jesus is the Light that has conquered the darkness of sin. As you can see, candles play an important role in our worship.



Parents: When the candles are lit at the beginning of the service, remind your children that Christ is the Light of the world. Teach them that when the candles are lit, we are honoring our God and recognizing His presence in the sanctuary. He is really here just as He promised!



Beautifying Our Church

With grateful hearts we acknowledge, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Psalm 126:3.

All blessings we have received, all favors of divine grace that have been shown us, all manifestations of His love that we have experienced, we ascribe to His mercy and loving kindness. All praise, honor and glory to Him, for He has given us His Holy Word and has continued to share among us the sweet Gospel of our Redeemer.

This year St. Paul's Lutheran Church is celebrating its 110th birthday. The cornerstone of our current building was laid in 1954, making our building 71 years old. In honor of our birthday, we are going to do some upgrades within our church. Some of these upgrades are painting the inside of the church, repair/replacing the lights outside of the church, refinishing the front doors, installing new tile flooring, installing new carpet, painting wood trim around door frames, cleaning the church, and so much more.

You may have noticed some of the work has already begun in the sanctuary. If you have a desire to help with any of these projects, contact Ron Fehn (402-223-0449). He is always looking for willing volunteers.

Would you be willing to donate to help offset some of the cost associated with these projects? If you are so inclined you may place your gift in the offering plate or bring it by the church office. Make sure to ere mark your gift "St. Paul's Birthday."

If you have Thrivent insurance, you might want to consider applying for a Thrivent Action Grant for \$250. Carla Loemker is willing to coordinate the application of these. Her number is 402-520-0015. Ron has obtained estimates for some of these projects. Here are some of the estimated costs.

Painting the sanctuary \$3,500 (fully funded) completed - actual cost was \$3,680

Replacing the lights outside \$3,500 (\$2,000 given so far) Replacing the lights in the stairs outside \$660 (fully funded)

Refinishing the front doors \$300 (fully funded)
Painting trim around doors \$100 (fully funded)

Replacing the carpet and tile \$18,000 (\$12,995 given so far)

Replacing the ceiling tile in the chapel

Putting LED lighting in the stained-glass pictures \$500 (fully funded)

If you would like your donations to go to a certain part of the project, please let us know.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of supporting this project, whether it be through prayer, physical labor, grants, or monetary donations.

