

# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2, 2025 - Saints Triumphant



**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word, and through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Restrooms and a drinking fountain are located on the right in the hallway outside the sanctuary. We have personal hearing devices. If you need one, please let an usher know before the service. If you are a parent with young children, we want you to know that we love having children worship with us since worship includes them, too. At the same time, we know that children sometimes like to make their presence known in spite of the best efforts to keep them quiet. For your convenience and in consideration of those seated near you, we have a Family Room located through the door in the back of the Fellowship Hall. The facility includes a TV, a window, and speakers so that you can still follow along with the worship service. Busy bags are also available near the central sanctuary doors.

**Prayer before worship**: God of glory, eternal King, help us, we pray, to recognize the signs of the end times around us and to live each day with the realization that it could be the Last Day. Move us to hate what is evil and cling to what is good. Keep us zealous in your service, joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer, so that when the Day comes, we will be among those looking up to see our Savior coming in the clouds. In his name we pray. Amen.

# Service of the Word

## Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

CW 867

We not only look forward to our heavenly home, but know the Lord grants strength for each day he gives.



Text (sts. 1–4): John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960

Tune: Constance Dever, b. 1960

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# Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

## Confession

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

## **Absolution**

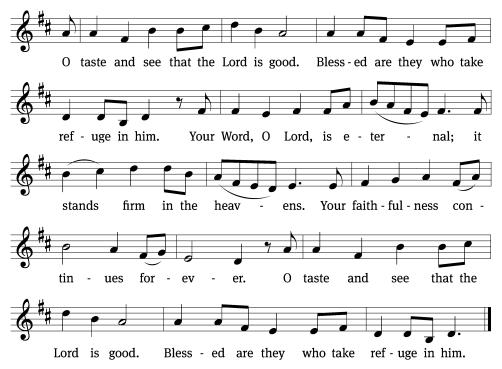
P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

## **Prayer and Praise**

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

O Taste and See



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# **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading Revelation 21:1–6

St. John is allowed to see the home of the saints, the new Jerusalem of heaven!

## The New Heaven and the New Earth

'Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, because the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And the sea no longer existed. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<sup>3</sup>And from the throne I heard a loud voice that said, "Look! God's dwelling is with people. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain, because the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>The one who was seated on the throne said to me, "Look, I am making everything new!" He also said, "Write, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>And he said to me:

It is done.

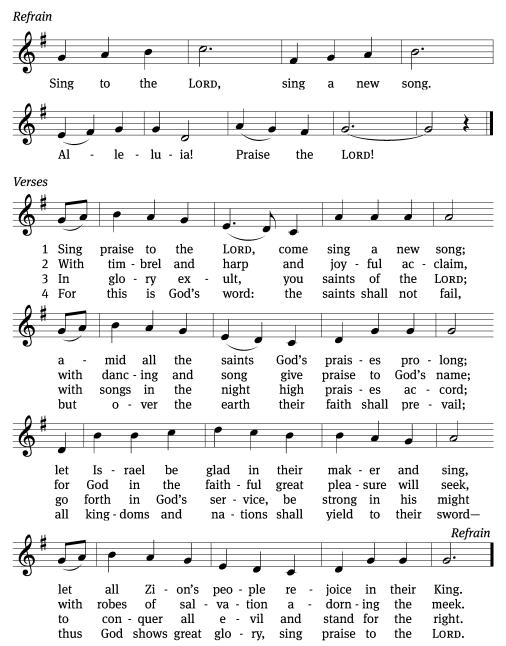
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

To anyone who is thirsty,

I will give freely from the spring of the water of life.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



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Second Reading
Hebrews 11:32–40

Though the Hebrew Christians faced persecution for their faith, they knew that God had

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? There would not be enough time for me to continue to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. <sup>33</sup>By faith they conquered kingdoms, carried out justice, obtained things that were promised, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the power of fire, escaped the edges of the sword, were made powerful after being weak, became mighty in battle, and caused foreign armies to flee. <sup>35</sup>Women received back their dead by resurrection. And others who were tortured did not accept their release, so that they may take part in a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Still others experienced mocking and lashes, in addition to chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were tempted; they were killed with the sword; they went around in sheepskins and goatskins, needy, afflicted, and mistreated. <sup>38</sup>The world was not worthy of them as they wandered in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup>All of these were commended in Scripture by faith, yet they did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>because God had planned something better for us, namely, that they would not reach the goal apart from us.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Revelation 7:15

P: Alleluia! They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:20–23

Jesus teaches that the blessedness of being God's saint is hidden now, but will be revealed one day.

<sup>20</sup>He lifted up his eyes to his disciples and said:

Blessed are you who are poor, because yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>Blessed are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, because you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup>Blessed are you whenever people hate you, and whenever they exclude and insult you

<sup>22</sup>Blessed are you whenever people hate you, and whenever they exclude and insult you and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy because of this: Your reward is great in heaven! The fact is, their fathers constantly did the same things to the prophets.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Jerusalem the Golden

This ancient hymn reflects on the incredible joys of heaven that are ours as saints, cleansed by Christ.



- 1 Je ru sa lem the gold en, with milk and hon ey blest— 2 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, the home of God's e - lect!
- 3 The Christ is ev er with them, the day-light is se-rene;



the sight of it re-fresh-es the wea-ry and op-pressed.

O sweet and bless-ed coun-try that ea-ger hearts ex-pect,
the pas-tures of the bless-ed are ev-er rich and green.



I know not, oh, I know not what joys a - wait us there, where they who with their lead - er have con-quered in the fight There is the throne of Da - vid, and there, from care re-leased,



what ra - dian-cy of glo - ry, what bliss be-yond com-pare: for - ev - er and for - ev - er are clad in robes of white: the shout of them that tri-umph, the song of them that feast.



to sing the hymn un - end - ing with all the mar-tyr throng, that dear land of in mer -CV, Je - sus, bring us to rest God en-throned in glo - ry the Church's voic - es blend, To



a - midst the halls of Zi - on re-sound-ing full with song. where sings the host of heav-en your glo-rious name to bless. the Lamb for-ev-er bless-ed, the Light that knows no end.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent., abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Hebrews 11:32-40

#### Who's Got It Better?

Thoughts to ponder after hearing the sermon:

- 1) I struggle most to remember my sainthood when [life is easy/hard/all the time].
- 2) How will I better remind myself of what God says about my sainthood this week?
- 3) Will I set an alarm on my phone with that reminder, write a sticky note, or bookmark my Bible for evening devotion, or something else?

# **Apostles' Creed**

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.

# Offering

**To our guests**: Our offering is not a debt we owe God but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation but love for God. Please do not feel obligated to contribute. We're happy that you're with us to hear about God's love for you.

NOTE: At this time we are not passing the offering plates. You can place your offering in the plate in the Gathering Area as you leave today.

# **Prayer of the Church**

For All the Saints

Though we still fight the good fight of faith here, Christ's saints triumphant rest in heavenly glory forever!



- 5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph-song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!
  - 6 The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **Prayer**

P: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

# The Blessing

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

(Closing Hymn on the next page)
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## Acknowledgments

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What a picture of our heavenly home, won by Christ so that all his saints will join in heaven's voices!



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Same address. New look. Serving you even better.



God's truths are changeless. Websites shouldn't be.

Stpauls.edu has been redesigned from the ground up to serve you better.

Our online home is designed for everyone who's part of—or curious about—our family of faith.

- + St. Paul's family members, this website is here to serve you! Here, you will find resources to deepen your faith and stay informed, such as worship videos and weekly worship bulletins.
- + Honored guests, this website is here to serve you! Here, you can explore who we are and what to expect when you visit. You can see what worship is like and even worship from home. You can meet some friendly faces that are eager to meet and serve you, and you can reach out to one of our pastors with any questions.
- + St. Paul's school and preschool families, this website is here to serve you! Here, you have quick access to calendars, events, and helpful information.
- + If you are considering sending your children to St. Paul's school, this website is here to serve you! Here, you will see how Christ-centered faith and excellence shape every classroom, and you'll find enrollment resources for your family.

Come explore, connect, and grow with us—right on our website at stpauls.edu!



#### MINISTRY NOTES

**Welcome!** We're delighted that you worshipped with us today! Our adult Bible Class time is a great time for good Christian encouragement as we grow in the Word together and take time to pray for one another. Sunday School for the children is at the same time. Today we will continue the study on reading the book of Revelation: The Distant Song Draws Near, focusing this time on "the Slippery Slopes" of false doctrines associated with Revelation.

**Congratulations to Seth and Gaia Welfel** on the birth of their daughter **Eleanor Ruth!** We pray that God will continue to bless and keep her today and always.

The recent **LWMS Rally** was an uplifting experience! St Paul's had 5 members attend and members of the congregation contributed \$212.67 for the mission projects. Thank you to all who donated. Save the date: The Spring Rally will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at Open Bible in the Villages.

**Next Sunday, November 9** we will have several special events: 1) The children of our preschool and kindergarten will be singing some songs in the service; 2) we will celebrate Veterans' Day by recognizing those who have served (or are currently serving) in the armed forces; 3) there will be cake and coffee during the fellowship time to celebrate those who have served our country. There is a signup sheet in the Gathering Area with information about members who served or are currently serving—please check this sheet for accuracy.

The following **Tuesday, November 11** we will host a Veterans' Day ceremony held in the sanctuary at 10 AM. Mr. Bill Merryman will be our guest speaker and the ceremony will include songs from the children, flag folding, and essays.

**Thanksgiving is coming**: The children of our preschool and kindergarten will be celebrating Thanksgiving with their annual feast and the sailing of the Mayflower on **Friday**, **November 21**. The following week on **Wednesday**, **November 26** we will have a **Thanksgiving Eve** service at 6 PM, followed by a pie and ice cream social all are welcome to attend.

With Thanksgiving on our minds, we will be **collecting funds to order Thanksgiving meals for families facing struggles in our school**. If you would like to contribute, we have special envelopes for you to put your donation in. They are sitting next to the offering plate in the Fellowship Hall. These funds are due by November 14th. Thank you for your generosity.

**Christian Family Solutions CFS** is an organization that focuses on offering mental health resources from a Christian perspective, especially for children and families. For more information on the services they offer, please visit their website (christianfamilysolutions.org) or speak with one of our pastors.

Counseling Care & Services

#### **OUR CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS**

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. - 1 Cor. 4:2

ATTENDANCE: 108 OFFERINGS: \$4,595

PREACHER: James Saatkamp PRESIDING MINISTER: Tim Rosenow

ACCOMPANIST: Justin Siegler USHERS: Rob & Sandy Banker STREAMING: Tony Moore FLOWERS: Ken & Susan Clonts

#### **NEXT WEEK:**

Ushers: Newton & Rochelle Trimmer Streaming: Bill Hoeltke

### PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**Birthday:** Bill Hartman (11-6), Lindsey Klingenschmitt (11-7); Tim Rosenow (11-7); Paula Williams (11-8) **Anniversary**: (none this week)

Eleanor Welfel (born to Seth and Gaia Welfel); Tom Colwell (ongoing pain and cancer treatment); Madison Duncan (Becky Ramsey's daughter, ongoing autoimmune issues); Dana Eynon (continued shoulder recovery); Tom Hutchison (recovery from his medical procedure); Rick Robinson (recovering from a fall); Barbara Sadler, Kathy Babcock (Barbara's daughter), and Kathy's daughters (genetic health issues); Nancy Scruton (recovering from her medical procedure); Jim Teller (ongoing heart issues); our homebound members: Dave Brandt, Bee Grunig, John Hambel, Leona Harms, Leon and Barbara Johnson, Susan Rammel, Kathy Saracione, Josephine Throo, and Paula Vitolo.

### This Week - November 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>

MON -BIC 6 PM

WED - Isaiah Bible Study 10 AM

THU - Choir 6:30 PM

FRI - Morning Chapel 8:30 AM; PreK Gardening Day 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

November 3-14 - Veterans' Food Drive

**November 9** – PreK-K singing in church

November 10 – Kingsway Birthday Celebration 1 PM

November 11 – Veterans' Day Celebration 10:00-11:00 AM

**November 21** – PreK-K Thanksgiving Feast

November 26 – Thanksgiving Eve Service 6 PM

# Who We Are

(Our Mission)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family. Like any family, we have our strengths and we have our weaknesses. We experience successes and we experience struggles. These are the things which unite us. For we know that we aren't perfect, but our Heavenly Father is; and he has loved us with a perfect love, sending his Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and to give us eternal life in heaven. With that same love, he comes to us through his Word, the Bible, to equip us and encourage us as we live in a world which can leave us feeling discouraged and hopeless at times. So, as a family, we **gather** together around God's Word in church and in Bible classes. We have a school where children can **grow** in their relationship with our Heavenly Father and where we can **go** to share the love of Jesus with them. We want as many people as possible to know the joy and hope which we have as members of God's family.

If you would like to learn more about our church family or the ministries we offer through our church, school, and preschool, please speak with our pastor, principal, preschool director, faculty, or one of our members.

Thank you for being a part of our church family today!



Church and School Precious Lambs Preschool

> 6150 N Lecanto Hwy Beverly Hills, FL 34465 352.489.3027 www.stpauls.edu office@stpauls.edu

Sunday worship: 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class: 10 minutes after



# **OUR STAFF**

James Saatkamp Pastor

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Timothy Rosenow Pastor

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Dave Goddard Principal

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Sharon Welfel Preschool director

Sharon.Welfel@stpaulsk8school.org 352.462.1814

Becky Ramsey Preschool teacher

Lucy Siegler Kindergarten teacher

Hannah Foley 1st grade teacher

Cindy Lendt 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher

Lindsey Klingenschmitt 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

Noah Uhlenbrauck 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

**Justin Siegler** *7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher* 

**Dorothy Draeger** Administrative assistant