St. Paul Lutheran Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026
9:00 am

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Opening Hymn: ELW #526 “God is Here!”

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: pg. 147

Hymn of Praise: pg. 149 "This Is The Feast "

Prayer of the Day- Let us pray.
God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

[1] The word of the LORD came to me: [2] What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the
land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? [3] As
I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. [4] Know that all lives
are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins
who shall die.
[25] Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair?
Is it not your ways that are unfair? [26] When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and
commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. [27]
Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is law-
ful and right, they shall save their life. [28] Because they considered and turned away from all the
transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. [29] Yet the house
of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not
your ways that are unfair?
[30] Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the
Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. [31]
Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves
a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? [32] For I have no pleasure in the
death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9
(Vicar Caitlin will sing the Psalm. The Congregation will sing the refrain below.)

Psalm 25:6
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

[1] To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
[2] My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

[3] Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
[4] Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

[5] Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
[6] Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

[7] Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
[8] You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

[9] You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

[1] If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the
Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, [2] make my joy complete: be of the same mind,
having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3] Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. [4] Let each of
you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. [5] Let the same mind be in
you that was in Christ Jesus,

[6] who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
[7] but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
[8] he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

[9] Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
[10] so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
[11] and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

[12] Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, [13] for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation pg. 151 "Alleluia Lord, to whom shall we go?"

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

The gospel according to Matthew the 21st chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[23] When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as
he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this
authority?" [24] Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer,
then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. [25] Did the baptism of John come
from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From
heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' [26] But if we say, 'Of human
origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." [27] So they answered Jesus,
"We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing
these things.

[28] "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work
in the vineyard today.' [29] He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. [30]
The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go.
[31] Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly
I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.
[32] For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax
collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your
minds and believe him."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #806 "O God, My Faithful God"

Apostles' Creed

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 Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. 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.

The Prayers of the People: Response: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offering

(We invite the children to gather dollar bills and change for the mission jug.)

Create in Me a Clean Heart– p. 186 *(hymn section)*

Offering Prayer

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving: pg. 152

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy: pg. 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God: pg. 154

Distribution Songs: ELW #772 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"
ELW #447 "O Blessed Spring"
ELW #474 "Bread of Life from Heaven"

Communion Blessing

Sending

Blessing–

Sending Hymn: ELW #538 "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

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

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26943.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Announcements

Todays radio broadcast is sponsored by Carol Brumwell in memory of Mary Lee Jahnke's birthday month. We thank her for this ministry gift.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of George Wright. George passed away on Sept. 20. His services will be held on Monday, Sept 28 at Woodley Funeral Home at 11:00 pm. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Our deepest sympathy goes out the family of Annalien Hamilton.

Sunday School continues today!

Confirmation Classes will continue this Wednesday for 7th and 8th Grade at 6:00 pm.

Confirmation Classes will continue for 9th Grade at 7:00 pm.

Quilts of Valor will be using the church on Oct. 4 after worship.

Offering Jug- The funds that are deposited in the weekly offering jug will be designated to go to sponsor a well. The cost of the well is $2,500.00 We currently have over $2,100.00 toward the goal.

Vicar Caitlin will accept donations of pop tabs to support the work of the Ronald McDonald House. Donations of clean pop tabs in a Ziplock bag or similar container can be dropped off at the church office.

Hampton Community Blood Drive will be here at St. Paul on Monday, Sept. 28 from 12:30-5:30 pm. To schedule call 800-287-4903, text 999-777 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

Chicken Fried Steak Fundraiser Dinner will be served Sunday, Oct. 4 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm at the Coulter Community Center. Free Will Offering. All proceeds will go towards Coulter Fun Day.

The back door of the church will be locked on Sundays at 9:00 am.
The church office hours will vary.
Vicar Caitlin will be in the office Wednesday morning.
The office will be open 9:00– 12:00 pm Monday through Thursday.
The deadline for the October 4 bulletin is Thurday, October 1 at 9:00 am.
The deadline for the October Newsletter is Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 9:00 am.

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Worship Services - 9:00 am.
Coffee and Fellowship—10:00 am.
Sunday School after worship

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Quilting– 9:00 am.
Coffee and Fellowship– 10:00 am.
7-8th Grade confirmation– 6:00 pm
9th Grade confirmation– 7:00 pm

9/27/26	9:00 am
Presiding Officiate	Vicar Caitlin Tauro Caitlin.splc@outlook.com 641 494 6989
Reader	Laura Showalter
Organist	Pam DeVries
Coffee Hour	Blaek and Wes Burmester and Nancy Mast
Greeters	Patrick and Maurita Sietsema

10/4 /26	9:00 am
Reader	Marcus Kofoot
Greeters	Mike and Evelyn Cross
Coffee Hour	Marlee Maas and Paul Krull

Offering **9/20/26**	
General:	$ 3,300.00
Building:	$ 105.00
Radio	$
Automated Giving General Bldg	$ 50.00 $
Total	$ 3,455.00

September Ushers:
Jay Ketelsen
Landry Ketelsen
Keegan Murphy
Tanner Miller

Prayer List:

The family of George Wright,
The family of Annalien Hamilton,
Jane Dhondt, David Brugman (Laura Showalter's father),
Larry Richtsmeier, Clarence Moore,
Josh Miller (Kent and Mari Cramer's Son),
Bob Abendschein, Trish Murray, Carolyn Berghoefer,
Darrel Brinkman, Gordie Menken, Leona Meyer,
Joy Christensen, Isaiah Griemann, Justin Mejia, Terry Wheeler, Verna Humburg,
Mike Harmon, (son-in law of Terry and Karen Wheeler), Jo Klein, and Judy Holbrook

Online: Facebook– St. Paul Lutheran of Hampton Page–
Sunday 9:00 am
After broadcast, available on demand on Facebook and at splchampton.com
Radio Broadcast on KLMJ at 8:00pm