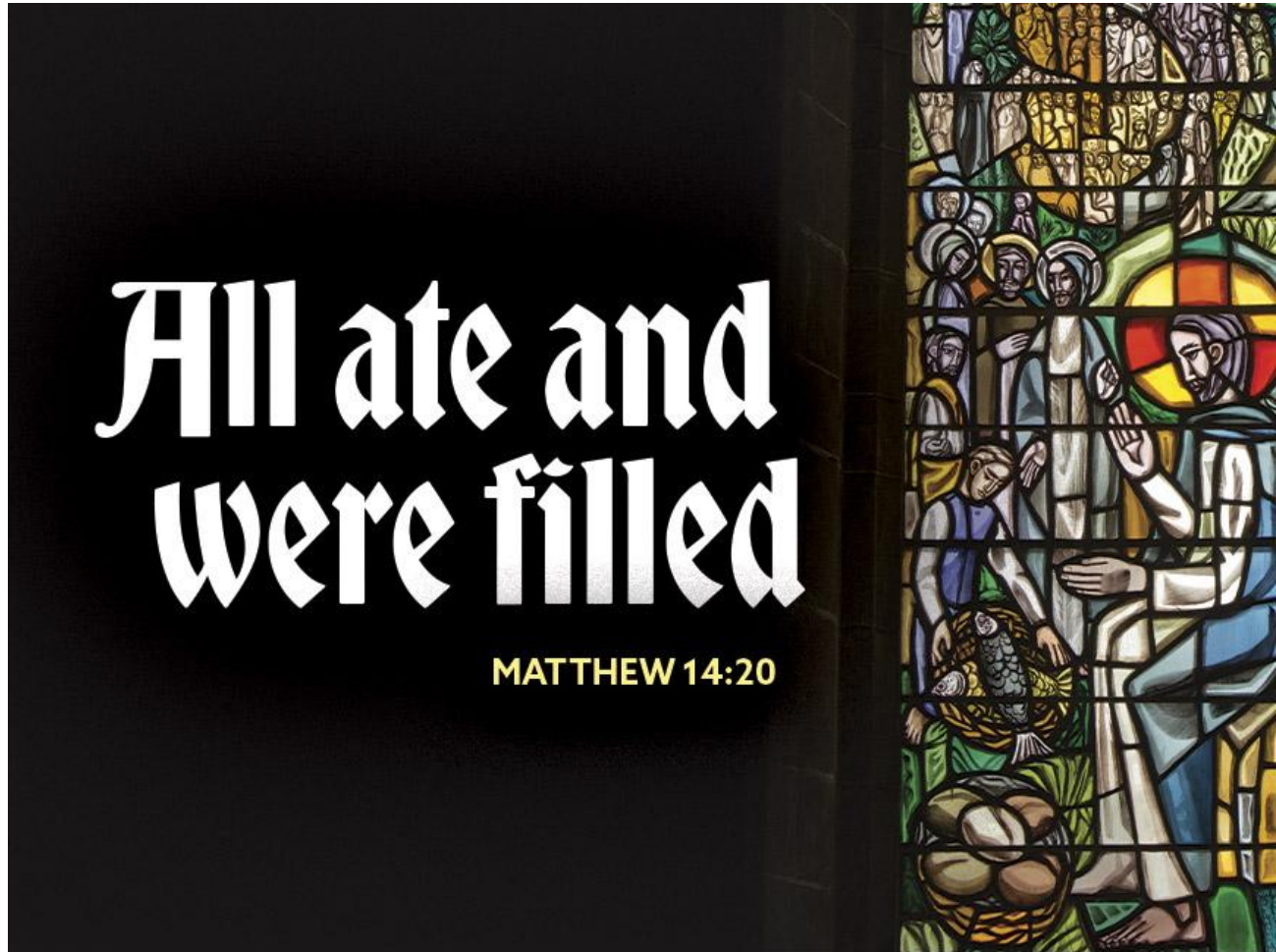


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 2nd, 2026



WELCOME

To our **Church Family**

We're Glad You're Here!



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

You are welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

Altar Flowers

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Carol Stoner In memory of her son Lynn and Mother Doris

Introduction

In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 55:1-5

Eat and drink that which truly satisfies

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (*Ps. 145:16*)

Romans 9:1-5

The glory of God's people Israel

Matthew 14:13-21

Christ feeding five thousand

The Westminster Strike

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Gavotte in g minor, BWV 822 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Thomas Haake, violin

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service ELW 712

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



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full [|] of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in [|] steadfast love.
⁹ **LORD, you are [|] good to all,**
and your compassion is over [|] all your works. R
¹⁴ The Lord upholds all [|] those who fall
and lifts up those who [|] are bowed down.
¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon [|] you, O LORD,**
and you give them their food [|] in due season.
¹⁶ You open [|] wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every [|] living thing.
¹⁷ **You are righteous in [|] all your ways**
and loving in [|] all your works. R
¹⁸ You are near to all who [|] call upon you,
to all who call up- [|] on you faithfully.
¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of [|] those who fear you;**
you hear their [|] cry and save them.

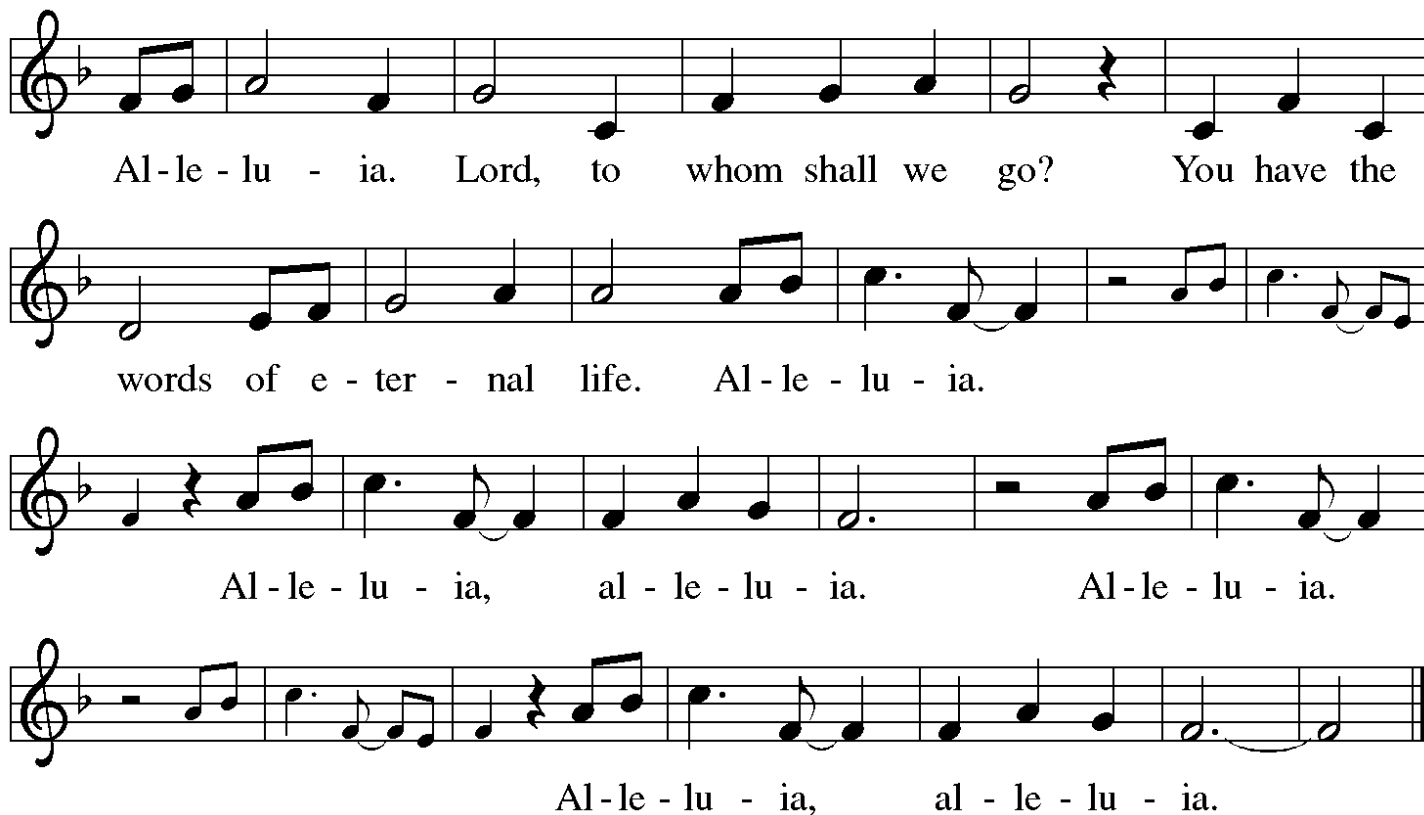
- ²⁰ You watch over all¹ those who love you,
but all the wicked you¹ shall destroy.
- ²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise¹ of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev-¹er and ever. R**

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

Break Now the Bread Of Life

ELW 515

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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each petition the following response is given:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory Anthem Be Still My Soul arr. Linda McKechnie (b. 1941)
Loren Veigel, piano; Abby Haake, organ

OFFERTORY

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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 also 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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.
 Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us- arr. Cindy Berry (b. 1949)
Break Thou the Bread of Life- arr. Berry

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: Praise and Thanksgiving ELW 689

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Rondeau In D Major

David Lasky (b. 1957)

In our prayers today we will remember

Jan Hawley, Bob Fox, Lynn Williamson, Cindy Lash, Bob & Marlene Rupp, Gary Maurer, Judee Reed, Paul Staver, Richard Green, Abbie Deuble, Linda Wentling, Eric & Rick Theiss, Judy Hall, Anna Langenfeld, Karen Daily.



Let us know you are here.

Please sign the St. Paul's Friendship Register at the end of your pew.



Rehearsals for the St. Paul's Steelband

Are you needing some island vibes this summer?

Come join the St. Paul's Steelband as we learn about the music and culture of Trinidad!

We meet on Wednesdays from 6-7pm in the education building. No music experience is required and those of all ages are welcome.

Nervous about your first rehearsal or just curious but can't come to class? See Eleanor before or after service to set up a free demo lesson!





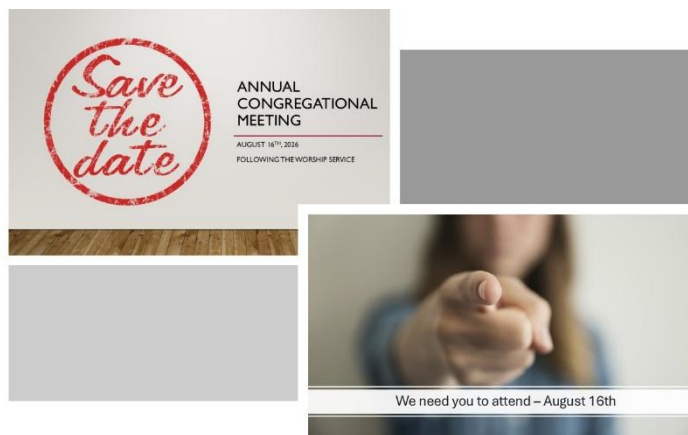
Community Meal – August 14th Second Friday of every month. 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Our Community Meal and Clothing Closet are open.
All are welcome!

Are You hungry and in need of a hot meal? **Come to our Community Meal!!!** It is **Free** to all who are in need.

Our **Clothing Closet** is open during the Community Meal. We have gently used clothing for all ages and all needs: from dress clothes, to school, and work. You can find it all and it is all **Free!!!**

If you wish to volunteer, donate, and/or assist in any way, please contact Kim Oberlin to help with the meal; Carol Stoner or Tracie Schmolt to help with the clothing closet.



Annual Congregational Meeting August 16th

Please plan to participate in the Annual Congregational Meeting on August 16th following The Worship Service.

Paper Products Needed!

During the month of August Mission Endowment will be collecting paper products for the local Commquest Family Living Center located on Lincoln Way E. Their needs include:

- Paper plates
- Paper cups - both solo and Styrofoam
- Bowls
- Napkins
- Plasticware

It was mentioned that Styrofoam anything cannot be heated in a microwave so please choose actual paper products except for coffee cups. Anything you can donate will be much appreciated!

Contact Phyllis Staver with any questions. We hope to deliver these items by Labor Day weekend. Boxes will be placed in various locations for this project. Many thanks for your generosity!



Summer Read & Conversation Opportunity

Thursday Mornings at 10 am.

Over the past several months, many people have asked an important question: What is a faithful Christian response to the times in which we live?

Others have wondered how we can speak with family members, friends, neighbors, and fellow Christians who may see the world very differently than we do.

The book explores the intersection of faith, politics, culture, and Christian witness in today's world. It raises challenging questions about how followers of Jesus are called to live with both conviction and compassion.

This conversation will not be for everyone, and that is perfectly okay. The goal is not political agreement, nor is it to debate winners and losers. Rather, the hope is to create space for thoughtful reflection, respectful conversation, and faithful listening.

As Christians, we are called to “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15). That means we can hold differing opinions while still treating one another with dignity, grace, and respect. Our congregation will continue to be a place where questions may be asked honestly and where people are valued as brothers and sisters in Christ, even when perspectives differ.

Our next blood drive is Monday, August 24th, 2026 from Noon to 6 pm.



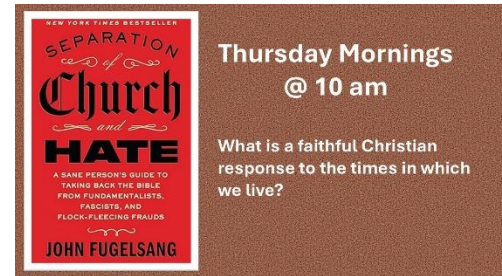
The American Red Cross is declaring an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. Blood donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay.

Unlike other medical treatments, blood cannot be stockpiled. It must be constantly replenished because it is only viable for

transfusion for a few weeks and in some cases, as with platelets, only a few days. Without it, lifesaving treatments and critical access to care are not possible. Emergency rooms can't function; maternity wards can't operate; cancer patients must wait.

The blood collected at St. Paul's drive has already been allocated to assist a patient in need. Please consider donating and encourage others to do the same.

Schedule an appointment at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>





My Church
by Pushpay



Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the “My Church” by Pushpay. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing **STPLC APP**. Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.

Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.



You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi: **Network:** sound media **Password:** Sound127

Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search “Massillon Lutheran Churches”

Facebook

“St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon”
or “Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's”

Coloring Page



Jesus can feed a crowd with a little food.

Children's Activity Bulletins

Crayons and Children's Activity Bulletins are available at the side entrance. These are a fun way to spread today's Gospel to our younger ones.

Children's Activity Bulletin

August 2nd, 2026

Feeding the Five Thousand

Matthew 14:13-21

Word Search

QWLOAVESPLTHJEB
RYTGBVGSB XOAHTA
FISHLANDEDWUSQS
BXEEJTBQAPNIAJK
JBWIFKHOOISATWE
FTLWTZNAAQLGICT
OUALBKZONTSSSTF
LPTQFIPKXKPBFMU
LFEJHEALEDSEIZL
OOCQTTMLSLCFECS
WOGRJESUSCLBDWC
ETMFOQSFOODDJTA

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Scott Larson
Lector	Larry & Kim Oberlin
Greeters	Gary Collard
Communion Assistants	Dennis Morgan & Kathryn Myers
Sacristan	Kathryn Myers
Ushers	Sue Ambrosic, Becky Johnson Patty Long, Sue Reid
Acolytes	Scott Larson, Thomas Haake
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service ELW 712

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HYMN OF THE DAY Break Now the Bread Of Life ELW 515

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SENDING HYMN: Praise and Thanksgiving ELW 689

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Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712



1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

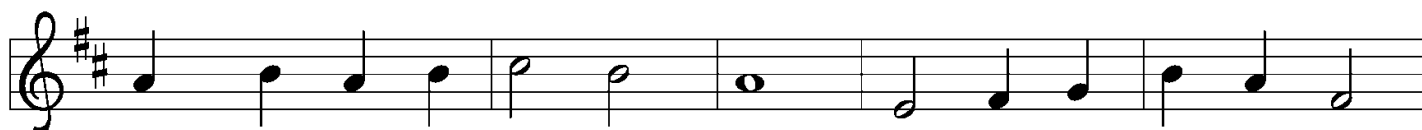
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Break Now the Bread of Life



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 689



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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