



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325
www.siouxcitystpauls.org

And we
know that
all things
work together
for good to them
that love God,
to them who
are the called
according
to his purpose.

Romans 8:28, KJV

10:45 a.m. Sunday, July 26, 2026
Sermon: Pastor James Travis "Predestination" Romans 8:28-39



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(10:45 a.m. Sunday, July 26, 2026)

Servants of God's House Today:

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. James Travis

Praise Team Leader: Doris Hill

Missionaries: Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf and the Siouxland Hispanic Ministry

Usher: Doug Lehr **Reader:** Chaney Teut

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER Jesus famously teaches, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21), and Jesus knows a treasure when He sees one. Listen to the Readings in worship today. From the days of the Old Testament onward, the Lord has clearly declared how He vastly treasures His people. The Son of God gives up everything to reclaim you as His treasured possession. And it is purely His love for you that gives you true value and limitless worth. Since His treasure is His people, you can be sure His heart remains with His people too, as He visits us here with the priceless goodness of His Word and Sacrament.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Let us pray. Loving God, You mercifully call Your people to be Your treasured possession and defeat our mortal enemies of sin, death, and darkness. Supply our hearts with faith and secure us in the victory of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond with the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Hand of Fellowship

Opening Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

LSB 801

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences *Romans 11:33; Deuteronomy 7:7, 9; Romans 11:36*

P: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

P: The LORD set His love on you and chose you.

C: Know therefore that the LORD is God.

P: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: You are a people holy to the Lord your God.

C: We confess our unholy thoughts, words, and actions.

(Silence for personal reflection.)

P: Almighty God,

C: we have not lived up to our calling as Your treasured possession. Our desires are selfish and our love is shallow. We have turned aside from doing good and chosen to treasure things of creation rather than our Creator. In our sinful state we are vulnerable to the devil, death, and darkness. And so we seek Your mercy. We surrender to Your loving kindness in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

C: "He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?"

P: Indeed, the mercy of almighty God is displayed in the giving of His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Praise Song **"As We Gather"**

As we gather may Your spirit work within us

As we gather may we glorify Your name

Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship

We'll be blessed because we came

We'll be blessed because we came

(Repeat)

Words and Music by Mike Fay and Tom Coomes CCLI # 11440148 and 20162974

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (Sung)

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

(In love, the Lord reaffirms His faithfulness and His people's worth.)

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and

is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:28–39

(Paul gives words to the inexpressibly lavish love of God in Christ Jesus.)

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia and Verse (Matthew 13:35b)

P: Alleluia. I will open My mouth in parables;

C: I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:44–52

(Jesus' parables of the kingdom point to the value of the treasures He came to save.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*Sung*)

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and	sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."
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P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (*Sung*)

(Please be seated)

Children's Message

Song of Instruction

"Knowing You "

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own.

All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this.

Refrain: Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,
 There is no greater thing.
 You're my all, You're the best,
 You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know You more, to be found in You, and known as Yours.

To possess by faith what I could not earn, All surpassing gift of righteousness.

(refrain)

Oh, to know the pow'r of Your risen life And to know You in Your sufferings.

To become like You in Your death, my Lord, So with You to live and never die. (refrain)

(Words/music by Graham Kendrick, 1997 Make Way Music, Ltd, Integrity Music, used by permission CCLI 11440148 and 20162974)

Sermon Pastor James Travis "Predestination" Romans 8:28-39

Apostles' Creed

The Prayer of the Church

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

Mighty Lord, we need Your constant defense in a world of death, danger, and distraction. Guard us in both body and soul, that Your people might live to the praise of our victorious Savior, Jesus. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Generous Lord, all good things are gifts from Your holy hand. Undo our attitudes of selfishness and renew within us a spirit of generosity, freely giving of our treasures to the needy in our midst. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Seeking and saving Lord, You tirelessly pursue the children of earth with Your goodness and mercy. Soften hearts hardened to Your Gospel and activate Your people to witness to Your goodness. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Faithful Lord, despite our sin, You keep covenant and steadfast love. Rescue families where loyalties have been betrayed and trust broken. Mend hurting hearts with forgiveness and restore them by Your grace. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: All-seeing Lord, You set Your heart on the least and fewest. Set Your heart once again on the lonely, the dying, the poor, and the sick, *especially Joyce Magel, Joe Rose, Sandra Murphy, Dennis Harwood, Barb Samson, Mabel Huldeen, Linda Arndt, Kenny Sherman, Coleen Reich, Philip Hageman, Alan Seymour, Connie Spahn, Janice Hinrichsen, Carolyn Stuhr, Ron & Karen Sherrill, Bernie Attema, Pat Berger-Conlon, Deb Wolfe, Judy Seaman, Vickie Johnson, and Kim and Sharon Sparr*. Bring good amid their challenges and remind us that no problem is too big for Your power and no one is too small to escape Your notice. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: O Lord God, for those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Joey Ellickson, Richard Grothaus, Cameron Black, Noah Johnson, Joan Carney, Crystal Christiansen, Stephanie Lilienthal, Dawn Bruns, Emilee DeVries, Adia Wetrosky, Brandi Beller, Edgar Hult and Donald Olson. Lord in Your mercy.

P: These prayers, and all those lifted up by believers around the world, we entrust to Your care, O almighty God, trusting You to hear and answer according to the Father's will, in the Son's grace, and by the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the basket as it is passed by.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.

"Even the hairs of your head are all numbered." — Matthew 10:30

As disciples who are fully known by God, we live with confidence, stewarding His gifts with trust rather than fear.

(stand as you are able)

Offertory Hymn **"When Peace Like a River"**

LSB 763

Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

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.** (*sung*)

The Closing Hymn **"Blessed Be Your Name"**

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,

Where your streams of abundance flow - Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,

Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be Your name.

Channel 1: Every blessing You pour out I turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord, still I will say

Chorus: Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me,

When the world's all as it should be, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering

though there's pain in the offering Blessed be Your name.

Channel 1, Chorus, Chorus

You give and take away; You give and take away;

My heart will choose to say, Lord Blessed be Your name. (repeat twice)

Chorus, chorus, chorus)

(Words by Matt Redman, 2002 by Kingsway's Thankyou! Music, used by permission, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

Silent Prayer and Postlude

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church Weekly Announcements

Week of July 26—August 2, 2026

Today:	Worship	10:45 a.m.
	Disciple Training Hour	9:30 a.m.
	Friends of Christ/ Public Museum Tour	2:00 p.m.
Monday:	Sewing Club	9:00 a.m.
Thursday:	Bible Study— Church Office	9:00 a.m.
Saturday:	Adult Confirmation—Calvary	11:00 a.m.
	Traditional Worship/Communion	6:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Worship/Communion	10:45 a.m.
	Disciple Training Hour	9:30 a.m.

Reader Schedule	Sat. 6:00 p.m.	Sun. 10:45 a.m.
July 25-26	Bob Greene	Chaney Teut
Aug. 1-2	Doug Lehr	Kenny Kasdorf Jr.

Financial Report 2026

Love Offering/We Care Ministry Report

Last Week	Received To Date	Amount Distributed	Balance
\$0	\$20,526.43	\$9,958.88	\$10,567.55

Church Weekly Offerings Report			Church Yearly Budget \$389,072.00		
Received (07/19/2026)	Weekly Budget	%	Up-To-Date Received	Up-To-Date Budget	%
\$13,443.71	\$7,483.00	180%	\$186,099.43	\$217,007.00	86%

Regular Scheduled Meetings

Sunday Disciple Training Hour—Sunday Bible Study will be at 9:30 a.m. in the church basement taught by Frank Tenuta.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: Each **Thursday at 9:00 a.m.** in the office conference room.

Friends of Christ: Join us at the Sioux City Public Museum on **Sunday, July 26** at 2:00 p.m.

Anna Circle/Sewing Group meet twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays on **July 27** in the church basement.

Evangelism Committee Meeting: Will meet at 4:30 p.m. every other **Tuesday on July 28** in Church office conference room.

Elders Meeting: will be **Tuesday, Aug. 4** at 7:00 p.m. in the church office conference

Lamplighters: Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. on **August 5** at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Women's League Morning Meeting: will be **Thursday, Aug. 6** at **9:30 a.m.** in the church basement.

Youth Board meeting on **Wednesday, Aug. 12** at 5:30 p.m. in the church conference room.

Mary Martha Circle: will meet **Monday, Aug. 17** at 6:00 p.m. at Perkins Eastside.

Board of Education: will be **Tuesday Aug. 18** at 7:00 p.m. in the Office Conference Rm.

FAMILY MATTERS

Last Week's Attendance: July 18-19: 121

Pray for Each Other We ask your prayers on behalf of our friends in Christ who have been hospitalized and sick: Jim Titus, Joyce Magel, Joe Rose, Sandra Murphy, Dennis Harwood, Barb Samson, Mabel Huldeen, Linda Arndt, Kenny Sherman, Coleen Reich, Philip Hageman, Alan Seymour, Connie Spahn, Janice Hinrichsen, Carolyn Stuhr, Ron & Karen Sherrill, Bernie Attema, Pat Berger-Conlon, Deb Wolfe, Judy Seaman, Vickie Johnson, and Kim and Sharon Sparr.

Welcome Cards/Attendance Cards: Can be found in the pew holders next to the communion cards. Please fill out the brown cards and place them in the offering baskets.

***** Summer Office Hours Begin:** The church office will be open M—F 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*****Summer Church Schedule:** through August 31.

- **Traditional Services:** Every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. with communion on the 1st & 3rd
- **Blended Service** at 10:45 a.m. on Every Sunday with communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays. (services will be a combined Traditional/Contemporary)
- **Sunday Bible Study** will be at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday in the church basement.

Pastor Office Hours: Pastor James Travis office hours Wednesday mornings (8:00 a.m.—noon). For an emergency he can be reached at 712-202-8516.

Lost and Found: A key fob that does not open the school building was found in the church narthex area. If you are missing your fob, please stop in the office to get it.

Voters' Meeting: The Church Council and Call Committee invite all voting members to attend a Special Voters' Meeting for the purpose of considering and voting on extending a Divine Call to a pastoral candidate, **Sunday, August 9, 2:00 PM.**

Important Communication Updates from Pastor Travis

- **New Congregational Texting**
Line: Pastor Travis has a new number for sending out group reminders and updates: 1-833-538-3075. Please do not block this number.
- **Daily Morning Devotions:** If you would like to receive a brief text devotion each morning, simply text a request to the new number above.
- **Security Alert:** If you receive an email or text claiming to be from Pastor Travis asking for money or gift cards, it is a scam. He will never request funds this way.
- **Voice Calls:** To speak with Pastor Travis directly by phone, please continue to use his standard cell number: 712-202-8516.

Leather Conference Room Chairs

Available: We have several leather chairs available to whomever would like them. They are free. Please stop in the church office during normal business hours to get them. If they are not taken by the golf outing, they will be disposed of. If you have questions, see Bob Greene.

Sunday School Meeting: will be meeting **Monday, August 3** at 6:00 p.m. in the Church office conference room.

Summer VBS Opportunities Aug. 11 Calvary Lutheran "Cooking Day Camp" 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Steaks Sale: The annual steak sale has begun. We have NY Strip Thick-cut steaks **2 for \$25**. Each steak is 12 oz and 3/4" thick and individually wrapped. (Previous steaks were 8-10 oz and 1/2" thick). See Donna Olson, Pam Whightsil or stop in the office to get your steaks. **We also need Thrivent Action Cards to purchase steaks to sell.** If you have not used your two \$250 cards, please contact Pastor Zirpel at Redeemer at (712) 276-1125.

St. Paul's Apparel Shop Now Open! You can now order your St. Paul's school apparel online at **www.rtithreads.com**. Search under schools and select St. Paul's. There are t-shirts, polo shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts and more!

Woodbury County Fair Food Fundraiser:

Each summer we volunteer at the Woodbury County Fair **August 5th—9th** to raise money for St. Paul's school. We invite each family to participate. Here are the ways you can make a difference.

- **Donate Pie Fillings**—All flavors of pie fillings are needed to make the pies for the bake sale and the dinner. Walmart GreatValue and Aldi's brands are the best. Please bring to the school office **now to July 31**.
- **Make Pies or donate money.** Types of pies needed are Cherry, Apple, Peach, Pecan or donate \$20 per pie. If you would like to make a pie, there are pie tins and boxes in the church office.
- **Come to Event**—Come out to the Woodbury County Fair **August 5th—9th** and eat at the Redeemer Lutheran Food Co-op in the Bleil Building.
- **Volunteer to serve** at the Food Co-op on **Sunday, August 9**. Several shifts are needed to help serve food and clean tables. **2 shifts of 9 people each are needed.** 1st shift 9:30 a.m. –2:30 p.m. 2nd shift is 2:30—7:30 p.m. Sign up in the back

*****For more information on how your family can participate, contact the school at 712-258-6325.**



2026 Golf Outing: Sunday, August 16.

Deadlines are approaching! Get your team registered! Sponsor a Hole, Donate pie filling and get your tickets! It is time for our Annual Golf Outing and Steak Dinner! We need everyone to make this year a success!

1. **Sponsor a Hole**—Four Levels of Sponsorships. Gold—\$1,000, Silver—\$500, Bronze—\$200, General—\$100 **Deadline to Sponsor is Monday, August 3.**
 2. **Silent Auction Donations**—We are asking businesses and individuals to make a Themed Basket, donate new items or gift cards. **We need all donated items by Monday, Aug. 10.**
 3. **Donate Pie Fillings**—All flavors of pie fillings are needed to make the pies for the bake sale and the dinner. Walmart GreatValue and Aldi's brands are the best. Please bring to the school office now to **Wednesday, August 12.**
 4. **Register a Team**— get your golfing buddies together and golf on **Sunday, Aug. 16.** Tee time is 1:00 p.m. at Sun Valley Golf Course. Golf Cost \$90/ person & includes 18 holes, cart, prizes and steak dinner.
 5. **Come to the Steak Dinner**—Eat dinner, buy baked goods and bid on silent auction items on **Sunday, Aug. 16.** Steak Dinner cost \$20/Adults & \$10/Children under 12. Dinner begins at 4:30 p.m. at St. Paul's School Gym.
- Back to School Dates and Information:**
- Supply Lists are now available in the office or can be found on our website www.siuoxcitystpauls.org.
 - Teacher's work day is **Tuesday, Aug. 11**
 - Staff Picture Day is **Tuesday, Aug 18**
 - Registration Day is **Thursday, Aug. 20** from 2:00 –7:00 p.m. Bring in your school supplies, meet your teachers and get all the registration forms filled out.
 - First Day of School is **Monday, Aug. 24** beginning at 8:30 a.m.
 - Opening Chapel Service is **Monday, Aug. 24** at 9:00 a.m. Join us as we kick off the new school year with worship to our Lord.

LCC Training Workshop

Hosted by Iowa West District Offices - Fort Dodge, IA

As Lutheran believers, let's prepare
to provide care during the chaos of a crisis.



SPIRITUAL FIRST AID™

Aug 28-29

\$25 per
registration
(\$129 value)

REGISTER



Fri Aug 28 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Sat Aug 29 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Light dinner served Friday.
Lunch and refreshments provided Saturday.

Register today

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Sponsorship Levels:
Gold: \$1,000 Silver: \$500
Bronze: \$200 General: \$100

**Supporters showcased
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