

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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LeAnn Hilchen, Organist



Sunday, August 23, 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service Setting One LSB page 151 and on screens

Hymns: 644, 645, 619, 631, 646, 912

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6, Epistle Reading: Romans 11:33-12:8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

Welcome to St. Paul, a people walking together in the life of Jesus. We're glad you're here! Today, Jesus meets us in Word and Sacrament. His gifts are for you and for your children! If you are caring for little ones, don't worry about noises and squirming; we rejoice in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)

This morning we joyfully receive Holy Communion, in which our Lord Jesus Christ gives us a great blessing: His true body and blood in, with, and under ordinary bread and wine. If you are a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who has been instructed and has confessed this reality, we invite you to participate in the Holy Supper. Other guests interested in joining our confession and life are asked to meet with Pastor Newton in the weeks before communing for the first time. We encourage you still to come to the altar and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.

Catechumenate Class Starts Soon — If you would like to follow Jesus with us here at St. Paul, the Catechumenate is for you! It's how we welcome brothers and sisters into our fellowship as members, whether lifelong Lutherans or brand-new Christians. Catechumenate are perfect for inviting a friend along to discover what we're all about. Since we never stop learning, it's also a great opportunity for existing members to continue to grow in Christ. We'll meet beginning **Saturday, August 29** at 5:00pm with a fire-side fellowship campfire at church. If you'd like to participate or bring a friend along, just get in touch with Pastor Newton or Josh Remington.



Altar Flowers — Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Betty and Ken McConnell in memory of Kenny.

Save the date! — Rally Sunday will be on **September 13**. This is when we kick off the 2026-2027 education year so you won't want to miss it! More information to come.

IDW Youth Gathering Registrations — Registration is open for the IDW Senior Youth Gathering in Okoboji on October 3-4. Registration is also open for the Junior Youth Gathering held in Des Moines October 24-25. Information packets are on the cabinet in the Narthex.

Additional Usher Still Needed — Due to health reasons, we are looking for someone to replace an usher on a 8:00am service team. If you are warm, welcoming, and feel called to serve, we invite you to join our team! High school age and older women, and men (couples encouraged to serve together!) are invited to participate. It's also a great way to get to know other St. Paul members. Please contact Kathy in the church office to get started.

School Supply Donations — A huge thank you to everyone's generosity! We were able to give Capitol View Elementary their largest donation this education year. Look for photos and item totals in the next newsletter. In September we will begin collecting personal care items for the Ankeny Service Center. If you aren't familiar with the Ankeny Service Center, they house a food pantry, help people find resources through the Community Resource Connection, provide transportation, run the holiday assistance program and so much more. Check them out at ankenyservicecenter.org.



Registration is open for nursery, confirmation, Sunday school, midweek, and youth group programs for the 2026-2027 education year. These Christ-centered programs are designed to support your family in the life-long task of growing in faith, grounded in God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions. Registration helps the Board of Christian Education, the Board of Youth and Laura Nelson prepare well for a faithful and fruitful year ahead. We look forward to walking with your family in Christ this school year!

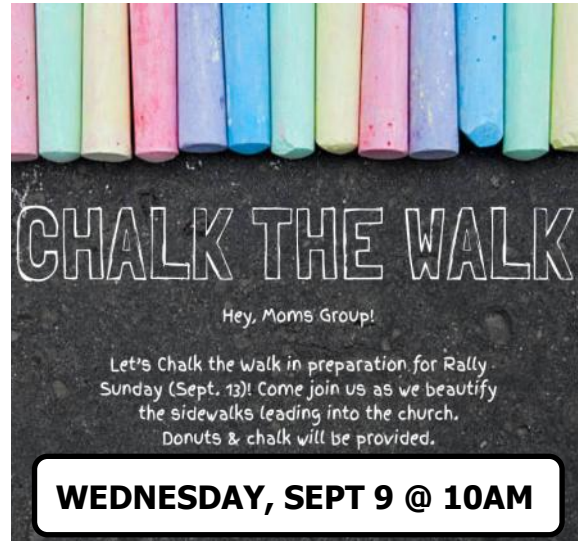


To register, use the QR code or go to the church website.



Building Healthy Families — This week, take time to notice the beautiful (or wilting!) flowers and vegetables growing in your own or someone else's garden. Let them remind you that great relationships don't just happen – they require time and attention. Who needs more of yours? *“Remember that children, marriages and gardens reflect the kind of care they get.” (H. Jackson Brown, Jr.)* Learn more at LutheranFamilyService.org.
— *Lutheran Family Service*

Summer Office Hours — Summer office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm. It's always a good idea to call ahead if you need to stop by church.



Serving at St. Paul

August Altar Committee
Sue Crawford, Donna Stoelk, Betty Berlau

Altar Flowers
August 23 — Betty & Ken McConnell
August 30 — Carol Wenndt

Elder
August 23 — Hans Schaeffer
August 30 — Steve Bradley

Offering Counters August 23 & 30
Jon Gerths, Doyle Witt

Ushers August 23 & 30
8:00am — Tim Davies, Eric Forde
10:45am — Matt Hayden, Rod Silvey

This Week at St. Paul

<u>Today</u>	8:00am Worship Service Fellowship Hour 10:45am Worship Service 2:00pm Mill Pond Service
<u>Monday</u>	9:00am Staff Meeting
<u>Wednesday</u>	5:00-7:00pm Youth Open Gym 7:00pm Summer Liturgy
<u>Thursday</u>	7:00pm Men's Bible Study and Fellowship
<u>Friday</u>	Church offices closed
<u>Saturday</u>	5:00pm Fireside Fellowship

Attendance Sunday, August 16
8:00am — 163 10:45am — 122

St. Paul Prayer List

Marie Van Beek, cancer, friend of the Glenns
David Glenn, Alzheimer's, Tim Glenn's father
Nicole, Aaron and Sarah, grandchildren of Ken and Betty McConnell
Joel Ausan, health issues
Kathy, COPD and in palliative care, Char Shaw's sister
Cindy, lung cancer, Char Shaw's sister
Bill, brother-in-law of Char Shaw, stomach cancer
Chad Keeling, cancer, Joyce Keeling's son
Abby, leukemia, friend of Marley Anderson
Gabrielle, Tori Hilchen's friend, breast cancer
Jimmy, cirrhosis, friend of Paula W. and Jeremy S.
Kyler Hess, cancer, friend of the Wielenga family
Ken Wehmas, in hospice care
Jim Harvey
Mark Mueller
Alyssa, lung cancer, cousin of the Grevs
Jeff, Trevor Loesch's father, recovering from a stroke
Jarrett Adams, brain tumor, relative of the Hilchens
Layne, friend of Haase family, spinal injury
Renee, friend of Newtons, diagnosed with cancer
John Hopkins, Viviane Kottowski's brother-in-law
Cordell Wabeke, former member, cancer diagnosis
Cecilianna, Newton's niece, heart surgery
Greta, niece of the Grevs, cochlear implant and recovery
Jeff Heflebower, Chad's father, skin cancer
Connie Hilchen, relative of Hilchens, heart issues
Jaydee Hoffmann, recovering from hip surgery
Kip Peterson, friend of the Behrens family, ALS
Kathy Ingram, Karen Whipple's twin sister, in palliative care
Ronny Adams, relative of the Hilchen family, stroke
Deb Behn, open heart surgery, friend of the Horas
Lauren F., niece of the Gerths, medical procedures
Heather C., Gerths family friend, breast cancer
Denny Lensch, in hospice care
Ashley, friend of Jeremy S. and Paula W., recovering from hand surgery

For our shut-in members

Cookie Brown, Phil Eshelman, Vel Hans, Denny
Lensch, Pat Livingston, Terry Moehnke, Mark
Mueller, Doris Olson, Kathryn Witt

For those in active military

Chris Madsen, Tim Fairchild

For those preparing for the Holy Ministry

Ezekiel Grabau, Jarrod Thomas