

Welcome to the house of the living Lord!

If you are visiting with us today, we extend a warm welcome and invite you to return often. One of our core values at St. Paul's is to help people find a place where they belong. We have been doing it for 127 years and we pray that one of these worship services will bless you on your journey.

St. Paul's has chosen as its theme verse to guide us in 2025 – Psalm 51:10

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

It is the prayer of our congregation that we will connect people to the love of Jesus through our teaching, serving, caring, and telling.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Entrance Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB 790

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
 O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
 Let all who hear
 Now to His temple draw near,
 Joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
 And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
 Have you not seen
 All that is needful has been
 Sent by His gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
 Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
 What need or grief
 Ever has failed of relief?
 Wings of His mercy did shade you.

- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 111:1–8

- P Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- C **Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**
- P Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.
- C **He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**
- P He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.
- C **He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**
- P The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy;
- C **they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

Confession and Absolution

2 Timothy 2:1, 3, 8a, 11–13; Psalm 111:9–10

- P As we come before the Lord with humble and contrite hearts, we hear the words of encouragement from Paul to young Timothy: “You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus.”
- C **God of grace, we ask Your forgiveness for the times we seek strength away from where You promise to be present with Your Word and in Your means of grace, and for the times we have not desired the grace found in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**
- P “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”
- C **We confess we have chosen the easy way out when our following and serving of Jesus becomes difficult for our lives, forsaking Your name and the name You have given us in Baptism.**

- P "Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead."
 C **We confess we have not remembered the victory Jesus Christ has won for us over sin, death, and the devil, through His sacrificial death and rising from the dead. Because of this, we have not loved You with all our heart, soul, and strength, and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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.**
- P The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with Him,
 C **we will also live with Him;**
- P if we endure, we will also reign with Him;
 C **if we deny Him, He also will deny us;**
- P if we are faithless,
 C **He remains faithful—for He cannot deny Himself.**
- P Our faithful God, the one almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ 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.**
- P He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.
 C **Holy and awesome is His name!**
- P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.
 C **His praise endures forever!**

Special Music

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Adult Choir

Introit

Psalm 34:2–4, 17; antiphon: Psalm 48:1a

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
 in the city of our God!
 My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
 let the humble hear and be glad.
 Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
 and let us exalt his name together!
 I sought the LORD, and he answered me
 and delivered me from all my fears.
 When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
 and delivers them out of all their troubles.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God!

Kyrie - sing

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and
for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray
to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819 sts. 1–3, 5

1 Sing praise to God, the highest good,
The author of creation,
The God of love who understood
Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty pow'r has made,
In mercy He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade
His eye is never sleeping.
Within the kingdom of His might
All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!

3 We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

- 5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray.
Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us
always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and
praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Mitchell Whiteside

Ruth 1:1–19a

¹In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain

from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.” ¹⁴Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” ¹⁸And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

P He will command His angels concerning you

C **to guard you in all your ways.**

P Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C **and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

Epistle – Mitchell Whiteside

2 Timothy 2:1–13

¹You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ²and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

for he cannot deny himself.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse - sing

Luke 5:15

C **Alleluia.**
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children and Youth message

Hymn of the Day **Onward, Christian Soldiers**

LSB 662

1 Onward, Christian soldiers,
 Marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 Going on before.
 Christ, the royal master,
 Leads against the foe;
 Forward into battle
 See His banners go! Refrain

ref Onward, Christian soldiers,
 Marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 Going on before.

2 Like a mighty army
 Moves the Church of God;

Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity. Refrain

3 Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail. Refrain

4 Onward, then, ye faithful,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor
Unto Christ, the king;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing. Refrain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

The Rite of Confirmation: *Ken Hamilton*

Prayer of the Church

Offering

The flowers on the altar are given in honor and glory of God by Linda Hyde in celebration of her mother, Marlene, as she spends her 22nd birthday with our Heavenly Father and in celebration of her father O.J. spending his 12th birthday in Heaven. May their hope be an inspiration to us all.

Hymn Create in Me

LSB 956

- 1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- C 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.**

Closing Sentences

2 Timothy 2:1, 3, 8a, 11–13

- P** Be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
C Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.
P Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

C Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.

P If we have died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him; if we deny Him, He also will deny us; if we are faithless, He remains faithful—for He cannot deny Himself.

C Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.

Benediction

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.

Hymn to Depart O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

LSB 632

- 1 O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!
- 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Sending

P Our Sunday worship is now ended,

C Our daily service now begins

P We now depart, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit,

C to joyfully serve our risen Lord, Amen.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4.
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