

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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June 4 & 5, 2022

Day of Pentecost

Senior Pastor	Alan Kethan	<i>On Sabbatical</i>
Deacon of Word and Service	<u>Phone:</u> (979)-530-8368	Sandye Fletcher
Youth & Family Specialist		Stephanie Polasek
Music Minister		Robert Eaton
Congregational Chair		Donna Maas
St. Paul Christian Learning Academy Director		Briana Bedford
Secretary		Elena Holub
Custodian		O. C. S.
Parish Nurse Program Coordinator		DyAnn Lauzon
Organist		Elena Holub

MISSION STATEMENT: Love God, Love Neighbor (*Luke 10:27*)

VISION STATEMENT: We will work to strengthen and grow closer in relationship to God and to one another.

- *As we enter into a sacred time and space, a friendly reminder to please set your cell phone to vibrate.*
- ***We want to welcome all of our guests today and thank you for worshiping with us. If you have any questions or would like more information regarding our services, programs, day care, or preschool programs at St. Paul, please visit our Welcome Center in the narthex immediately following our service, and an attendant will be more than happy to assist you. If this is your first time at St. Paul, we hope you will take a gift along with you. We also have a gift bag for children.***

* This symbol indicates that the congregation is invited to stand physically or in spirit.

INTRODUCTION

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SIGNING OF ATTENDANCE PADS

(Ushers will be handing out Attendance Pads during the announcements. Please be sure to sign your name and contact information.)

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

D In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

D 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.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, first privately then together publicly.

Silence for reflection and private confession of personal sins, then join in with combined voices this printed confession.

D Most merciful God,

C 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.

D 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.

C Amen.

* **HYMN ELW - #396 "Spirit of Gentleness"**

REFRAIN:

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free; Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

1. **You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing:**

"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." REFRAIN

2. **You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.**

REFRAIN:

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***

3. **You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. **REFRAIN****

4. **You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. **REFRAIN****

CCLI Song #101393 Words: James K. Manley Music: James K. Manley
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* **GREETING**

D The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

D God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

A Our first reading is from Acts, chapter 2, verses 1-21.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

The reading begins:

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

A The Psalm today is from Psalm 104, verses 24-34 and 35b. We will read the Psalm responsively. The congregation will please respond by reading the words in bold print.

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

³²You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁴May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:14-17

A Our second reading is from Romans, chapter 8, verses 14-17.

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

The reading begins:

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A Please stand as you are comfortable for the gospel.

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** (Sung)

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

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

* **GOSPEL:** John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

D The holy gospel according to St. John, chapter 14, verses 8-17 and 25-27.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works

than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

D The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

* **HYMN ELW - #399 "O Holy Spirit, Root of Life"**

1. **O Holy Spirit, root of life, creator, cleanser of all things;
anoint our wounds, awaken us with lustrous movement of your wings.**
2. **Eternal vigor, Saving One, you free us by your living Word,
becoming flesh to wear our pain, and all creation is restored.**
3. **O holy Wisdom, soaring pow'r, encompass us with wings unfurled,
and carry us, encircling all above, below, and through the world.**

Words: Jean Janzen, based on Hildegard of Bingen © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Music: European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius; arr. hymnal version Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress
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* **APOSTLES' CREED**

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C 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 congregation may be seated during the prayers.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A One God, giver of life, you established peace through your Son and gave your church the hope of sharing in your glory. Enliven us by your Spirit to speak and act in love for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Loving Redeemer, you delight in the human race. Move the hearts of world leaders to seek wisdom, speak truth, and care for all endangered by poverty, prejudice, or violence. Further the work of international collaboration and peacemaking. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Abiding Comforter, you call out to all who live. Restore severed relationships and protect children who lack trustworthy caregivers. Grant hope to those who are experiencing fear, pain, or grief. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Holy Three, you are community and you create community. Build up ministries that support those who are isolated or lonely. Give endurance as we nurture vital relationships in our congregation and beyond. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for peace in Ukraine. Help to end this war and the destruction of lives and your creation. Change hearts, bring peace and show the world your existence. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for those in need of healing and whose needs are diverse and known to you including:

Yvonne Lowe; Sonny Lauzon; Becky Collins; Tiffany Lauzon; Marian Frank; Michelle Kollman; Skip North; Emily Rooks; Dessie Steinhauser; those on our Prayer Team's list; and those we name in our hearts before you (*Pause*). God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all those battling cancer that they may know strength and comfort. (*Pause for those we are praying for.*) God of grace, George Wright; Elrose Kollatschny; Sarah Stancik; Irving Schneider; Shelly Bowden; Larry Poenitzsch; Sandy Mosley; Charlene Tesch; Cynthia Coufal; Jeffrey McDaniel; Karen Bailiff; Julian Divin; Nancy Biers; Angie Beggs; Pam Potter; Charlie Hammock; Brad Bryson; Lynette Frnka; Riana Jamison; Jenna Escamilla; Margaret Ortiz; Kenny Neuendorff; Keith Korth; Jodi Sebesta; Cathy Siglow; Paul Casinger; Fran Gillett; Tiffany Murley; DeQuincy

Lister; Angela Mazoch; Lily Presswood; Denise Lange; Doug Mason; Dr. Tom Hancher; Joe Berry; Joyce Templeton; Gracie Brune; Margaret Rogers; Leonard Kahlden; Curtis Wallin; Megan Burch; Jennifer Aleman; Lisa Grazier; Phyllis Behrend; Jessica Mauchlen; Larry Guthrie; Donna Tiner; Libby Divin; Anthony Baumbach; Diane Brooks; Bob Loy; Stanley King; Monty Gillett; Dawn Foster; Edward Halcolm; Amber Smith Kutach; Louis Camacho; Melvin Schobel; Janet Greene; Sabrina Galindo; Debbie Grimes; Horst Traub; Margie Fisk; Preston Carter; Penny Miller; Carl Hahn; Megan Cain; Amanda Fuchs; Cyndi Wallace; Karen Broussard; Donna Young; Sharon Heimann; and Brenda Baker.

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all expectant mothers that they have healthy terms and deliveries, and if not, may they find comfort and peace. (*Pause for those we are praying for.*) God of grace, Stephanie Miles; Katie Page; Brooke Dungen Pawlak; Mallory Dungen Cook; and Madisyn Horndt Neumann.

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all those who reside in care facilities and the homebound that they receive your caring and compassion. (*Pause for those we are praying for.*) God of grace, Adrian Fritsch; Don Morrison; Verna Coufal; Doug Hill; John Zwiegel; Robert Saunders; Coy Dell Schindler; Deanna Lee; Dolores Wessels; Doris Poppe; Barbara McMath; Linda Munos Rodgers; Madeline Menke; Doris Horndt; Helen Perrard; Delores Purcell; Jane Booker; Curtis Berger; Dolores Hoelscher; Jesse Grabow; Beatrice Zikuhr; Robert Eaton; Ronnie Rogers; Fritz Willms; Joyce Dehmer; and Donna Dehmer.

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all law enforcement officers, fire fighters, first responders, healthcare workers, 9-1-1 dispatchers, and active duty military personnel that they are protected and kept safe. (*Pause for those we are praying for.*) God, in your mercy, Law enforcement officers: Todd Jacobs; Troy Neisner; Jacob Gorman; Nancy Gorman; Johnny Kovar; Abigail Weido; Dustin Lattimore; Luke Kanz; Bruno Flores; Zane Weido; Josh Jones; as well as Donnie Templeton and Jason Templeton who are also fire fighters. For all fire fighters, first responders, healthcare workers and 9-1-1 dispatchers, especially Brent Gorman, Sr.; Brent Gorman, Jr.; Reid Brasher; Dusty Dittmar; John Maertz; Ron Luedke; Pastor Alan Kethan; Kristi Weyand; Eric Weyand; Bradley Berger; Jon Berger; James Chollett; Edward Thraen, Jr.; Garrett Flores; Kyle Burris; Dylan Walcik; Randy Wendt; Travis Neuendorff; Brenda Henkes; and Jan Willette, as well as those active duty military members including Brian Anderson; Michael Graham; Bryan Kubena; Brad Bergfeld; Cody Jowers; Kyle Appelt; Montana Appelt; Douglas Neuendorff; Scott Cherniss; Kameron Page; Ryan Neisner; Anthony D'Angelo; Dalton Kapel; Kindra Dawson; William Phillips; and Kevin Gonzalez.

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for the church throughout the world. May we all proclaim the good news of your love effectively. We ask, especially, that you would bless the ministry of our sister congregations Cristo Rey and Iglesia Cristiana Camino de Santidad in Peru, all Missionaries, especially St. Paul's supported missionary, Dina Anton de Espinoza, and our companion synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Gather your people across regions, nations, and lands. Root our common life in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and by your Spirit bind us together with all the saints who have gone before us. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

D In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

*** PEACE**

D The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. *(Share the "Peace of the Lord" with your neighbors.)*

60 SECONDS OF STEWARDSHIP (Sunday, 9:00 AM only)

Lutherhill Camp

(We will be collecting offerings before and after worship each week. This includes Power of One dollars.)

OFFERING and POWER OF ONE

"Power of One" is a ministry sponsored by your Stewardship Team. We are asking each and every one of our members to give \$1.00 above what your normal giving would be. We are asking each member to place this \$1.00 bill or change in the offering plate each week. The team is also inviting all children to participate to develop the habit of giving as part of their worship experience. Parents, a penny, nickel, dime, quarter, or dollar bill, any of these will do to help your children develop a habit of giving. These "Power of One" dollars will be used to support local ministries and ministries abroad. The purpose of this ministry is to demonstrate that something as small as one dollar can be used to make a difference in the lives of others.

*** OFFERTORY (Sung)**



C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

D Living God, bless these offerings we place before you today; they are a thank you for all you have given us. Welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*** REMEMBERING JESUS' WORDS, PROMISES, AND COMMANDS**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

D Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.

*** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

D The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION (Kneeling at Rail)

{You will be coming forward to the rail for distribution. All are welcome for communion. You will be ushered down the center aisle beginning in the front. Fill in at the railings starting at the side and work your way around to the center, then kneel if you are able. Pastor will hand out the bread. If you wish to have a gluten-free wafer, please tell Pastor "Gluten-free, please." Afterward, you will choose either wine or white grape juice from the individual cups in the tray – white grape juice in the center with wine surrounding. An acolyte follows with an empty tray for you to place your empty individual cup. After receiving communion, please remain at the rails until Pastor has dismissed the entire table with a blessing. Please return to your seat by the side aisles.}

(Sung)



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.

(Please be seated.)

*** BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

D Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

*** POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** (Sung)



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

D We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

*** BLESSING**

D God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*** HYMN ELW - #400 "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind"**

1. God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend!

Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross,
there with Christ to bear the cross!

2. God of blazing, God of burning, all that blocks your purpose, purge!

Through your church, Christ's living Body, let your flaming Spirit surge!
Where deceit conceals injustice, kindle us to speak your truth,
kindle us to speak your truth!

3. **God of earthquake, God of thunder, shake us loose from lethargy!
Break the chains of sin asunder, for earth's healing set us free!
Crumble walls that still divide us; make us one in Christ our Lord,
make us one in Christ our Lord!**

4. **God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil; claim us for your kingdom's work,
claim us for your kingdom's work!**

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* **DISMISSAL**

D Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C **Thanks be to God, and we will.**

POSTLUDE

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USHERS: SAT: Harvey Poenitzsch; JoAnn Venghaus; Emily Frank

SUN: Terrel & Robin Maertz; Ruth Bedford

LAY READERS: SAT: JoAnn Venghaus

SUN: David Johnson

STREAMING:

SUN: Tiffany Lauzon

ALTAR GUILD: Carol Ripper and Carol Lighthill

WELCOME: At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit! Welcome to worship as we pray to be aware of the Spirit's movement around us here, as well.

ALTAR WALL FLOWERS are placed by David & Sharon Johnson in thanks for God's many blessings and in celebration of their 52nd wedding anniversary on June 6.

Congratulations to Eric and Eileen Yearwood on the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Hope Yearwood. Elizabeth Hope was born at 6:00 AM on Sunday, May 30, 2022. She weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are Marilyn and James Yearwood.

♥ **THANK YOU** to the Women of JOY Bible Study group for the latest cook session for Meals to Heal. A special "Thank You" to Ruth Poncik for making cookies and Terry May for making cakes for desserts for our meals. Our freezer is full again! Please let Terri Brasher know if anyone in our congregation or community is in need of a meal (979-732-1127). – *Terri Brasher*

Thank You!! We want to thank the St. Paul congregation members for their prayers and for the Meals to Heal that were given to us. Thank you to Pastor Alan for visiting Eugene in the hospital and also to our daughters for their visits in the hospital and their care. – *Chris and Eugene Schobel*

**** REMINDER!!** Pastor Alan will be on sabbatical during the months of June and July, 2022. In case of an emergency, please contact Deacon Sandye Fletcher at 979-530-8368. **

COLLECTION OF OFFERING: Offering for the worship services is collected before and after worship. Offering bowls are placed in the back entrance and inside the side sanctuary door for you to place your offering in. This includes "Power of One" dollars.

Amount needed for average weekly budgeted expenses: \$8,405.00

Attendance: May 28 & 29, 2022 – 155

Contributions: May 28 & 29 – \$5,801.18

Power of One: May 28 & 29, 2022 – \$52.15

Building Fund: May 28 & 29 – \$795.02

Thank you to those who contributed to last week's offerings. Loving God/Loving Neighbor.

ATTENTION: Names on the prayer list in the bulletin will be printed for 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the names will be removed from the bulletin unless the church office has been notified to keep them.

**** NOTICE REGARDING BULLETINS:** Please take your bulletin home after worship. We will **not** be reusing them. Thank you! **

► **Children's Activity Bags** are available once again for use by our young members and guests! You can find them on the coat hooks in the coat area of the narthex. After worship, **please place the used activity bags and their contents in the receptacle in the narthex.** Thank you! ☺

Attendance Pads Reminders: **Thank you** to everyone for doing such a good job signing the attendance pads each week when you attend worship! Our records are more accurate when you sign the attendance pads. Here are a couple of things that will help get our records even more accurate and up-to-date: **1) When signing in, please write *everyone in your family who is attending worship.*** When you write "John Doe Family", we do not know how many people that is and we don't know who exactly attended worship. Was it John, Sue and Sally Doe, or the whole family of John, Sue, Jim, Tom and Sally Doe? **2) Please include your address and phone number.** This is helpful especially when we have guests signing in. When they see the members writing addresses and phone numbers, guests are more likely to do the same. We like to welcome our guests by sending them a card after their visit. That is hard to do when we do not

have contact information. It is also a way for us to keep up with our members when they have a change of address or phone number. Thank you for taking the time to do these items. Our staff and volunteers who take care of the personal records and oversee attendance records greatly appreciate your help.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Youth Sewing Camp is meeting every Wednesday from now until July 6, 2022 from 10:30 AM-12:00 PM in The Lighthouse. Debbie Eaton and her helpers are teaching the students a variety of different stitching techniques. The students will then have the opportunity to show off those techniques through different projects each week. For more information, please contact Stephanie at 979-732-1858.



Bus Driver Training: There will be two bus driver training sessions of our new wheelchair lift and handicap bus on **Sunday, June 5, 2022 – one at 12:30 PM and the other at 2:30 PM** at the church. Please sign up in the narthex (foyer) or call Kevin Page at 979-732-0845. Include your phone number when signing up. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin.



Senior Explorers are ready for the Harvest!! Let's go berry, fruit, vegetable and flower picking! We will load onto our new bus at **9:00 AM on Thursday, June 9, 2022** at St. Paul and head to Neal's Berry Farm near Waller. It is an active working farm, and we hope to get a brief tour. Then on to picking huge, thornless blackberries, fruits, veggies and flowers. There is also an indoor farmer's market on site to shop for pre-picked produce and jar items. The picked produce is priced per pound. The flowers are priced by the stem or cup full. We will provide clippers and pay your gate admission. You are responsible to pay for any produce/flowers you want to pick and take home. Then on to lunch on your own at Gaby's Grill near Waller. A Trip Advisor rated 5 of 5! Known for their Tex-Mex and Seafood. Enchiladas to fried seafood and grilled red fish, with Gumbos and Po-Boys! We plan to return to St. Paul by 2:00 PM. **Please sign up in the narthex (foyer) by Sunday, June 5, 2022**, and call Kevin Page at 979-732-0845 with any questions.



Beach Retreat!! High School students are invited to our **Summer High School Beach Retreat** in Matagaorda, Texas **July 28-31, 2022**. Join us for some time at the beach, kayaking, fishing, devotion and enjoying some downtime at the coast. **Cost is \$65 per student**. Contact Stephanie for registration. **Deadline to register is Sunday, June 5, 2022!**



♥ Neighbor-to-Neighbor Team will meet for their regular **quarterly meeting** on **Wednesday, June 8 at 1:30 PM** in the Church Library. ALL ARE WELCOME. This ministry is a gift of presence, special connections, building and growing relationships and, for some who live alone, a real bright spot in a long day. If you have a few hours a month and enjoy meeting and visiting with others, this may be a great way to use your 'gifts' and share God's love with others. Meetings are held only quarterly, and if you have any questions, please contact Deacon Sandye (979) 530-8368 or DyAnn Lauzon (979) 732-2147. Hope to see you there!!! – *Deacon Sandye*

We are here to help! We, as the **Men-In-Mission of St. Paul**, realize that there might be things that we can help assist you with in and around your home. If you need a lightbulb or battery in a smoke detector changed, or need assistance with things you or someone else used to do but can't because it is not safe, physically possible, or they are not around, please let us know. As Jesus taught us, we are called to help and serve one another. Please call Danny Kautz at 979-732-7897.



Register for Vacation Bible School – July 18-22, 2022!!

Mark your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School! Join us as we "Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the Southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead!" **VBS dates are July 18-22, 2022 from 6:00-8:30 PM each evening** and is open up to children who have completed 5th grade. Registration is free, however, t-shirts will be available for \$7 each. Parents may register their students online by visiting vbspro.events/p/events/stpaul2022.

BE A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEER! Volunteers are Needed . . . VBS is a wonderful way to connect with the youth and to share how God has worked in your life. Sharing your love for Christ with the younger generation can be a humbling and rewarding experience and can impact the youth in so many ways. We all have gifts to give no matter what age, and we invite you to join our team. You may register on line by visiting vbspro.events/p/stpaul2022. Questions? Contact Stephanie Polasek at 979-732-1858 or stephaniepolasek@yahoo.com.

* *Whenever you have a question about our church, whether it be the facilities, worship services, or just want to know who to talk to about a certain Ministry Team, our **Church Council members** are always there to help, answer questions, and guide us. Posted on the bulletin board across from the church office is a list of all of our hard-working council members and the Ministry Teams they work with and represent. Please use that as a guide to help you contact the appropriate council member with your questions.* *

● **THE GATHERING:** The Gathering, a young adult group, meets twice a month for food, fellowship and devotions led by Stephanie and Bradley Polasek. **They meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00 PM** at the Polasek Residence and different venues in town. For more information, contact Stephanie at 979-732-1858.

♥ **Grief Support Group:** Are you experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of friend who has moved? The Grief Support Group is a place to share and discuss these issues with other individuals. The group meets the **third Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 PM in the church library**. For questions or more information, contact Peggy Geisler at 979-732-0350.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Today (June 5) – Deadline to Register for HS Matagorda Trip!!
12:30 PM – Bus Driver Training
2:30 PM – Bus Driver Training

Mon., June 6 –
9:30 AM – Staff Meeting
6:00 PM – Evangelism Team (library)

Tues., June 7 –
12:00 PM – Noon Bible Study (library)
5:30 PM – Prayer Team (library)
6:30-8:00 PM – The Gathering

Wed., June 8 –
9:30 AM – CLA Chapel
10:30 AM-12:00 PM – Sewing Camp (Lighthouse)
1:30 PM – Neighbor-to-Neighbor Quarterly Meeting (library)

Thurs., June 9 –
5:00 PM – Worship Team (library)

Fri., June 10 –
10:30 AM – Adult Bible Study (library)

Sat., June 11 –
7:00 PM – Holy Communion Worship

June 12-17 –
Confirmation Students & Sponsors to Sky Ranch Camp, Colorado

Next Sun., June 12 –
9:00 AM – Holy Communion Worship
10:00 AM – Adult Sunday School
11:05 AM – Holy Communion Contemporary Worship

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday, June 5, 2022 Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, died 754

Boniface was a native of England who became a Benedictine monk and was called to missionary work among the Vandal tribes of Germany. With fellow workers, he established churches and schools, and he also worked to reform the church.

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, died 1866

Noah Seattle led a coalition of tribes, and convinced them to live peacefully with encroaching white settlers. When he became a Roman Catholic, he held morning and evening prayer with his tribe. The city of Seattle is named for him.

Thursday, June 9, 2022 Columba, died 597; Aidan, died 651; Bede, died 735; renewers of the church

These three monks from the British Isles helped keep the light of learning alive during the Middle Ages. Columba founded three monasteries off the coast of Scotland. Aidan was a pastor who led people to works of charity. The Venerable Bede was a Bible translator, historian, and hymnwriter.

Saturday, June 11, 2022 Barnabas, Apostle

Barnabas was not numbered among the twelve apostles, but the book of Acts gives him that title. After Paul was converted to Christianity, Barnabas welcomed him to Jerusalem, and later the two traveled together on missionary journeys.

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SERVICE OVERVIEW: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

“*What does this mean?*” the devout ask. For those gathered in that house, the event meant the birth of sudden, surprising, unmerited new life. Filled with the Holy Spirit, they burst from the house with a story to share about God’s wonders. *But what does this event of Pentecost mean for us, today, many centuries later?* God is at work here, now, in the world. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, God is walking alongside as friend, truth-teller, comforter, and guide.

The writer of John’s gospel speaks of it in this way: the Advocate, the one whom the Father will send, will teach the disciples everything they need to know. God is not yet finished revealing who God is, and the disciples (just like us) are not yet finished learning. Through the Spirit of truth, the disciples will do the work of Jesus, and his life will continue through them.

In holy baptism, the Spirit rests on the heads of young and old alike. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the baptized have an old, old story to tell of Jesus and his love - and a new, new story of how God is birthing sudden, surprising, and unmerited new life all around us, every day. God is at work, here, now in the world through the lives of everyday Christians. Jesus’ work continues through the lives of all the baptized. We discover meaning from this Pentecost story today, not only for our own sake but for the sake of the world that so hungers for this life.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION:

It is Pentecost! The fiftieth day of Easter. We keep the resurrection of Christ by celebrating the Spirit of the risen Christ in our midst. Jesus Christ has not gone away but is here with us. Welcome to worship! Stand to greet him. Hear his words in the gospel reading. Share in his body in the meal with everyone in every land, every culture, and every language.

We are shaped by culture with lenses of language and understanding that are constantly shifting. We can become frustrated with “political correctness” or confused about how we might refer to people who are different from us. We throw our hands up in the air because some language isn’t accepted, received, or perceived in the same way it used to be. The Pentecost story finds the Holy Spirit speaking through the Galileans to a whole collection of other languages and cultures. How might this text be used as an opportunity to explore God’s presence in the shifting language in our world? Specifically, how can you see the Holy Spirit at work in language that you perceive negatively? Can you see through the lens of your personal perceptions to see the Holy Spirit at work?

We may live in the same community, a few door down from each other, but not speak the same physical or cultural language. This keeps us separated and divided from each other. The good news, though, is that the Holy Spirit breaks down those barriers. When God sends forth God’s Spirit, all living things are created and the earth itself is renewed. The Day of Pentecost invites us to consider what it means to be filled with the Spirit, the very breath of God, and how we can renew the face of the earth together as God’s people. People from all religious, racial, ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds are called to do this work. Let the Holy Spirit work through you to speak in a united voice for all people. We, with our gifts, are put here at this time for this purpose.

God sends the Spirit into the gathered community so that it can know the truth of Christ's resurrection. We embrace John's description of the Advocate into our understanding of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is given as the link between the community and God.

KID STUDY:

We see road construction signs all over the place. They are colored bright orange on purpose to draw our attention to them. Sometimes, we see a sign that says, "Road Work Ahead" or "Workers Ahead" but there is no evidence of construction. Other times, we don't need an orange sign to know road work is happening if there are piles of dirt, freshly laid asphalt, heavy equipment, construction cones, sand bags, or workers present on the roadway.

Think about God's kingdom like a construction zone. We are working for God like the workers constructing the roadway. The work we do is like the orange signs that point to a construction zone, except we are drawing attention to God's grace. Our works act as the construction of God's grace in the world, building connections with people. We share love, care, and God's grace as we do this work.

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION:

It is the divine way to be seen, or to be described, under the appearance of fire. Moses had seen fire in the bush. The bush was on fire, yet it was not burnt. So the Lord might show us by this mystery that Christ would come to cast light on the thorns of our body, that he would baptize in the Holy Spirit and in fire, and that he would give us grace and destroy our sins. And Gideon, when he was about to defeat the Midianites, commanded his three hundred men to carry burning torches in their pitchers. Our bodies are pitchers, formed from the clay of the earth, that burn with the fire of spiritual grace and bear witness with the voice of confession to the passion of the Lord Jesus. Also in the Acts of the Apostles the Holy Spirit descended upon the faithful in the image of fire. This is a fire which, as with gold, makes what is good better and devours sin as stubble. As the Spirit is the light of the divine countenance, so also is the Spirit the fire that burns before the face of God. - Ambrose [Ambrose, in Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers, II, p. 13.]

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Next Week's Theme (June 11 & 12): Holy Trinity

Next Week's Scriptures (June 11 & 12):

First Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 "Wisdom rejoices in the creation."

Psalm: Psalm 8 "Your glory is chanted above the heavens." (Ps. 8:2)

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5 "God's love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

Gospel: John 16:12-15 "The Spirit will guide you into the truth."