

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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17th Sunday after Pentecost October 5, 2025

NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.
Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Kathy Meller
Song Leader	Dan Tschirgi
Acolyte	Oliver Stoermer
Audio / Video Technician	Roger Pennell
Reader	Jessica Stoermer
Council	Kent Nelson
Greeters	Richard & Rosemary Heidbreder
Altar Flowers	Cynthia Loesch

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Our Annual Chili Supper will be held today with serving from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Sandwiches and delicious Desserts are all on the menu. Also, remember to stop by the Country Store. Invite your friends and neighbors for a wonderful meal and great fellowship.

Thanks to those who showed up yesterday to help at the annual Church Fall Clean-up.

Children's Sunday School today after the Children's Sermon.

Bell Choir will perform "It Is Well with My Soul" today.

WELCA Mid-Missouri Fall Gathering had a fantastic gathering with 40 attendees. An offering of \$1,671 was collected and numerous in-kind gifts for RACS of paper towels, shampoo, and other personal care items that filled the SUV upon departure. Thank you to all of St. Paul's women who helped to organize and set up to make this year's fall gathering a success.

Margaret Circle will meet at the Church on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 6:30 PM. Donita Stubinger will host and Helen Girard will lead the Bible study. Please RSVP to Erika (573-635-6681) or Donita (573-496-3704) to let us know you will attend!

Jr. Lutherans are invited to go to the Russellville Lions Club on Friday, October 10 or Saturday, October 11 at 6:30 pm with their family for a spooky, scary evening for Halloween. The cost has been paid for.

Hymn History – Our Hymn of the Day “How Firm a Foundation” first appeared in a hymnal in London published in 1787, the same year as our Constitutional Convention. John Rippon edited the hymnal although the original author of the words was unknown. The tune is described as “Early American” which came from strong influences by European settlers plus indigenous people and very strong influences from African Americans. From all these cultures unique American music developed. There were originally seven stanzas in the hymn each based on a biblical promise. The first verse provides the theme – God’s Word is a sufficient foundation for our faith. The last (fourth) verse in our ELV hymnal has been revised to perhaps be more Lutheran. For example, the original hymn closed with:

That soul, though all hell Should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, No never forsake

NOTE: Use Hymnals to read Music for the Hymns if desired.

***Gathering Song: Hymn # 863 My God, How Wonderful Thou Art (4 Verses)**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 My God, how wonderful thou art,
thy majesty how bright!
How beautiful thy mercy seat
in depths of burning light!</p> <p>2 How wonderful, how beautiful
the sight of thee must be--
thine endless wisdom, boundless
pow'r, and awesome purity!</p> | <p>3 No earthly father loves like thee;
no mother, e'er so mild,
bears and forbears as thou hast
done
with me, thy sinful child.</p> <p>4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord,
almighty as thou art,
for thou hast stooped to ask of me
the love of my poor heart.</p> |
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*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sins before God and one another, trusting in God’s endless mercy and love.

Silence for Reflection

P: Merciful God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen

*** SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GREETING (Please be seated)

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.**

Kyrie: Hymnal Page # 147 - 148

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord have mercy.

Help save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **A-men.**

Hymn of Praise: Hymnal Page 148-149

Song Leader

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Prayer of the Day:

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Bell Choir: "It Is Well with My Soul"

Children's Sermon

Children's Sunday School

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Habakkuk, the 1st Chapter.

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So, the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted. I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. The the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37. (Read Responsively)

Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.

Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart's desire.

Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do.

The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.

For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

The 2nd lesson is a reading from 2 Timothy, the 1st chapter.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and

Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation: Hymnal Page 151**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

***The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th chapter.**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Pastor David Viles: “Your Faith Is Enough”

Hymn of the Day: Hymn # 796 How Firm a Foundation

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**
- 3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."**
- 4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."**

Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

*** Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

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.

THANKSGIVING

Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts. Through this small sacrifice, God's love is shown through us, to those who are in need.

***(Please Stand) Offertory:**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Offertory Prayer:** Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*** The Prayers of Intercession:**

The congregation's response to "God of Grace," is "**receive our prayer.**"

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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.

SENDING

***Blessing:** (Please Stand)

Pastor David Viles

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song: Hymn # 545 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

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|---|---|---|
| 1 | Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,
trav'ling through this wilderness. | in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found. |
| 2 | Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation | 3 Savior, when your love shall call us
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day. |

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.

P: Go in peace. Keep the faith.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude