

“Landmark of the Gospel Since 1834”

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Purpose: Led by the Word of God, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family who lives and shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.

August 9, 2026

10:30 AM

192nd Anniversary Sunday

After the ringing of the bell...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

HYMN

O God Our Help in Ages Past

LBW 320, vs.1-2, 5-6

**1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

**2 Under the shadow of your throne
Your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.**

**5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.**

**6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home!**

GATHERING GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all,
And also with you.

Since Abraham and Sarah and other wanderers settled in promised lands,
since Mary and Paul,
since Martin Luther and the reformers,
since 1801 when Ohio settlers followed Native American trails into Pickaway county,
since the 1820's when the Waltmire and Roof families and many immigrant families sought refuge in our nation's abundance,
since 1834 when Rev. Roof organized farm families together for worship in this place,
We gather to you, O God.
We gather to you, O God.
Here is the word of life,

here is the water of rebirth,
 here is the meal of mercy,
 here is the grateful assembly.
 Gather us to you, O God.

Gather us to you, O God.

We gather, wet from the water,
 we gather, listening to the word,
 we gather, already the body of Christ.

Come, Holy Spirit, and gather us in love.

Come, Holy Spirit, and gather us in love.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have promised through your Son to be with your church forever. We give you thanks for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your presence in our congregation. Increase in us the spirit of faith and love, and make our fellowship an example to all believers and to all nations. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹ At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹ He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
 that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
 righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
 and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
 and our land will yield its increase.

**¹³ Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 10:9-15

⁹ Because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

VERSE

Alleluia. We have a building from God,
a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. *Alleluia.* (2 Cor. 5:1)

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE FROM ST. PAUL HISTORY

with reflection from Pastor Laura

GARY MCCAIN

HYMN

Calm to the Waves

ELW 794

**Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus Whispers, “Peace, be still.”
Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear his voice.**

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

LBW p. 84

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.*
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again 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

Christ's peace is shared....

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *Take My Life, That I May Be*
 I Take my life, that I may be consecrated Lord, to thee;
 Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

LBW 406, vs. 1

THE PRAYERS

Each petition ends:
 Merciful God,
 receive our prayer.

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.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God
 ✠ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

HYMN

Precious Lord Take My Hand

WOV 731

**1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I'm weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

**2 When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

**3 When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.

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