

St. Paul Lutheran Church

9:30a Service of Worship
Pastor ~ Reverend Ashley Nicolls

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost | October 12, 2025

May God's grace continue to overflow to and through you.

Assisting In Worship

Assisting Minister
JoAnn Jordan

Reader Sue Scherr

Acolyte Ryan Masse

Sound Mike Scherr Rick Barry

Camera Operator Ron Zimmerman

Screen Operator Mike Scherr

UshersJudy Roberts &
Kathie Snyder

Greeter Hank Roberts

Church Security
Judy Roberts



Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church!

We hope you will use this bulletin during the week to have a song to sing, prayers to pray and give comfort, whether you are worshipping in person or from home on your electronic devices.

Although not all of us are physically together to worship, our Lord is still with us. We give thanks for those who attend in-person and the technology that allows us to share the bulletin and the worship service on the website.

St. Paul has a Community Prayer Cross located outside near the road. You are welcome to leave a prayer request there or in the box when you enter, and it will be placed on the cross.

Important community ministries of St. Paul include the Tuesday Community Meal, Saturday Food Pantry, and the Early Childhood Learning Center. Your financial gift makes a difference for Christ and His kingdom and enables St. Paul to be the community church that cares. It can be made by online giving, on Sunday morning, mailed to the church, or dropped off during normal office hours - Monday-Friday • 9a-12noon.

May God bless you and give you peace!

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude ~ "Cantad Al Senor" – St. Paul Ringers

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Response: Amen.

Pastor: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

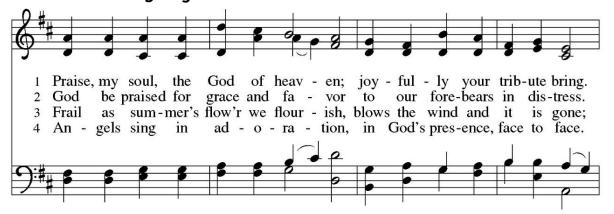
Silence is kept for reflection.

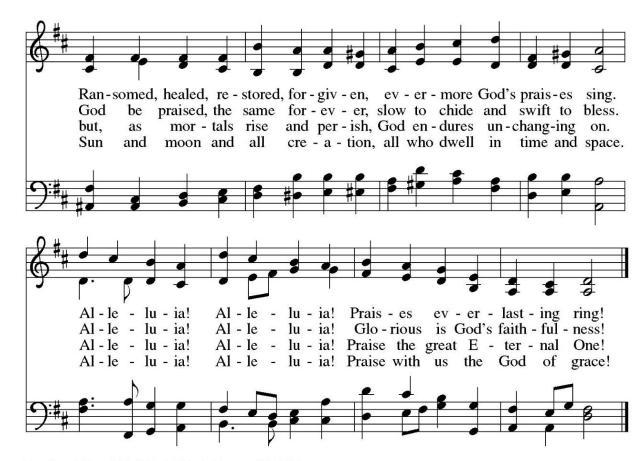
Pastor: Merciful and loving God, *Response:* we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Pastor: 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!

Response: Amen.

Gathering Hymn ~ Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven





Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Benevolent, merciful God:

Response: Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Ministry in MUSiC ~ "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" – Temple/Arr. by
Mark Hayes - St. Paul Singers

Children's Message

Scripture ~ 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." ⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a guarrel with me." 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" 14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. 15a, b, c Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel." Word of God. Word of Life. Response: Thanks be to God.

Scripture ~ Psalm 111

- ¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- ² Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.
- ³ Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴ You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.
- ⁵ You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.
- ⁶ You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.
- ⁸ They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.
- ⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Scripture ~ 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself. ¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

Word of God. Word of Life. Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPel ~ Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 17th chapter.

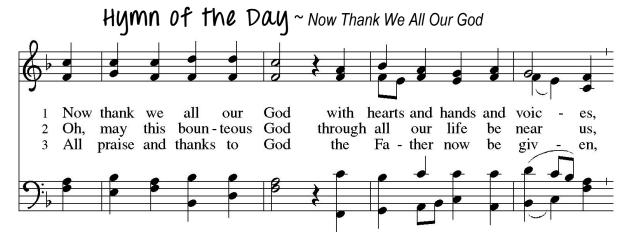
Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. Response: Praise to you, O Christ.

Ministry in Music ~ "Ten Lepers" – The Medical Mission Sisters Soloist: JoAnn Jordan

Sermon ~ Rev. Ashley Nicolls





Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Prayers of the Church

Assisting Minister: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

(pause for silence)

Assisting Minister: Gracious God,

Response: you lead your people to faith. Remind the church that your word flows into the world. By your Spirit, teach the church to share the word of God for the sake of the world.

Assisting Minister: God of grace, *Response:* receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Creating God,

Response: you provided cleansing and healing waters for Naaman. Water the earth's lands in parched places. Restore clean water to all communities, and guide the work of all who advocate for safe and abundant water supplies.

Assisting Minister: God of grace, Response: receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Righteous One,

Response: you bring justice and wholeness throughout the world, and your righteousness endures forever. By your spirit, guide leaders of all nations and lands to right relationship with you and with one another.

Assisting Minister: God of grace, Response: receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Merciful God,

Response: you know the needs of your people. Show mercy to those suffering in the world. Comfort those in need of your healing.

Assisting Minister: Be especially with those we name now aloud or in our hearts. (pause)

Assisting Minister: God of grace, Response: receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Life-giving God,

Response: you free us by your word. Help us, by your Spirit, to be transformed to live your word of freedom honestly and uprightly in our teaching, preaching, and serving.

Assisting Minister: God of grace, *Response*: receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: Holy God,

Response: thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. Guide us to trust in the baptismal promise of resurrection in Christ.

Assisting Minister: God of grace, Response: receive our prayer.

Assisting Minister: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Response:* Amen.

The Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always. *Response:* And also with you.

offering

(The collection plates will be brought forward at this time. Offering plates can still be found at the back of the sanctuary if you did not place your offering in the plates when you entered. Online giving at www.stpaulsarasota.org is also available.)

Offering Prayer

Assisting Minister: Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. *Response:* Amen.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

Pastor: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Holy Communion

(Those who want to partake of Christ's body and blood in their seats may lift up their elements at this time).

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Response:* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

Response: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Those who wish to remain at their seats to partake of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine/grape juice may do so now. The body and blood of Christ is given and shed for you. Take and eat. Take and drink. If you wish to come to the altar, you may do so at the ushers' direction.

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and forever.

Response: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Assisting Minister: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Response: Amen.

Blessing

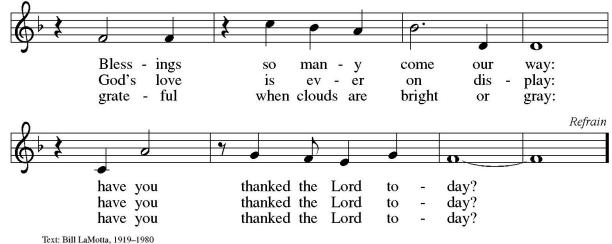
Pastor: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,

→ bless you now and forever.

Response: Amen.

Sending Hymn ~ Have You Thanked the Lord?





Text: Bill LaMotta, 1919–1980

Music: LAMOTTA, Bill LaMotta
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Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Do not lose heart. *Response:* Thanks be to God.

Children: And all God's children say, *Response:* Amen.

Postlude ~ "Rejoice, the Lord is King" – Darwall/Arr. By Anna Laura Page Fonda Davies

Coffee 4 Social Hour is held in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

Attendance for last Sunday morning: 52 in-person; 149 views on line (10/6/25)

Flowers are given this week by: Pastor Don and Marty Hillerich in celebration for Ethel Hamilton's 101st birthday.

Eternal Candle is given this month by: Cindy Paxton, given in loving memory of my father Jack Paxton.

St. Paul Mission Statement

As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we are called through baptism to proclaim and bear witness to God's reconciling grace in Jesus Christ to all so that by joyfully sharing God's Word and encouraging each other to service for the sake of others, our lives together make a difference for Christ and His kingdom.

Announcements

Ethel Hamilton's 101st **Birthday celebration today!** Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to celebrate her birthday.

Halloween Trail at Arlington Park. St. Paul once again will have a table at the community Trick-or-Treat event on Friday, October 24, 5-6:30p. Come and join the fun that night. We will be putting together the treat bags on Sunday, October 19 after worship. We could use your help providing candy for the bags and putting the bags together. Bins for the candy are in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex.

Hope Seeds – It's almost the third Monday of the month. Join us on Monday, October 20 in the Fellowship Hall from 1-3p to put seeds in bags that go all over the world to help people grow their own food. Come when you can, leave when you must.

Mid-Gulf Conference Gathering! Saturday, October 25 from 8:30-12noon at Village on the Isle in Venice. Come join the other ELCA church members for worship, fellowship, and service. See Irene Felicetti or PrAshley to sign up.

Symphony Salvage Blue Bin! Keep cleaning out your closets. If items don't fit in the bin safely, bring items to the Fellowship Hall on Sundays or to the office during the week. Everything is accepted except large furniture and large appliances.

Prayer Zoom – Talking with God! Join the prayer ministry. Thursdays at 4p. Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81662784525?pwd=QSt4TGNSR2F3L0ovUDJ3SVdWbjRYUT0

ECLC Trike-A-Thon! The school's Trike-A-Thon Fundraiser is Tuesday, November 11 from 9:30-10:30a in the circle drive. Be there to cheer on the kids and meet their families.

Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 17:11-19 (NIV).



S	U	L	Ι	R	D	V	Ι	L	L	Α	G	Е	Α	S
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FAITH	TRAVELED	FEET	LEPROSY	THANKED
VOICE	PITY	PRIESTS	JESUS	PRAISE
SAMARIA	DISTANCE	VILLAGE	GALILEE	NINE
MASTER	TEN	HEALED	CLEANSED	LOUD

Please remember in your prayers...

All those serving in the U.S. Military, especially Gage Fournier. The homeless in our neighborhood, our city, our nation and the world. The Florida-Bahamas Synod Office of the Bishop Staff: Bishop Pedro, Assisting Ministers to the Bishop Pastors Carlos, Derek, Nicole, and Rob, Specialists Kim, Bill, & Brittney, Support Staff Tina, Yuliet, & Ileana.

SURE – Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity. Community Meal and Food Pantry guests. Prayers upon the HOPE Community Prayer Cross. The Arlington Park Neighborhood.

St. Paul members, especially, Esther and Mark Smith, Jayvion Robinson, Betty Smowton, Kathie Snyder, and Sandy Tull. St. Paul Early Childhood Learning Center families and teachers, especially, Kaiden, Monroe, Issac, Ms. Katie and Ms. Suzie.

Members Clinton Allen – friend of Jim Paulsson Laura Anderson – niece of Roberts Manny Acevedo Sheryl Brandes - sister-in-law of Sue Beetle/O'Hara/Miller Family Scherr Dorothy Boller Buete and Pearson family- family of John Bever Brian McCulley Susan Burmaster Caroline Burmaster – sister-in-law of Judy Carnal Susan Burmaster Sue Fisher Joann Flanigan Todd Couch – son of Sandy Choquette Mike Cunningham- friend of H. Roberts Bob Fong Valerie Nicolls David Eller - friend of Carolyn Mele John and Joy Emanuelli - friends of James Paulsson Colleen Ryan Hellweae Gladys Faraone – friend of H. Roberts Susv Scholl Bill & Vickie Hall – family of Fonda Smith Frank Scianni Davies Esther Smith Niklaus Heisler - great-grandson of Betty Smowton Irene Felicetti **Homebound Members** Katy Hernandev – niece of M. Acevedo B&B Smith Donna Casala Pr. John Hilficker – friend of Conrad Evelvn Gulliksen Lindy Lindemann Hellweae Jr. Becky Hutfilz - daughter of George and Anna Mathisen Marilvn Hutfilz Snyder Virginia McQuaig Nicole Ketler – friend of Susan Michael Reiter Burmaster Carole Wilson Kate Kretschmann- family of Lindy Craia Friends and Family Alice – friend of JoAnn Jordan Lindemann Karen Kugler – friend of Marty Hillerich Debbie – friend of Scherrs David McCall – brother of J. Roberts Ed – friend of Sandy Choquette Marsha McKinney- former member Weckwerth Donnie – community meal quest Addie McLean - daughter of ECLC Jeff - community meal quest Director Lisa Mark - friend of M & D Hillerich Becky Nobles – friend of Lindy Rick – nephew of Linda Knight Lindemann Scott - friend of John Beyer

Sharon – friend of Jane Schubert Susan – friend of C. Paxton Sandi Acevedo – sister-in-law of

Kareem Ali – friend of Fred Melton

Acevedo

Linda and Jim Norris – family of Doris Schlotterback Karen Paulsson – sister of J. Paulsson Hannah Puckhaber Manny Ribas – friend of Cindy Schlotterback Clint Shantz – former member Brian & Kenny Schlotterback—sons of Doris Schlotterback Haley Schlotterback - granddaughterin-law of Doris Schlotterback. Bill Schroeder – friend of Conrad Bethany Smith – daughter of B&B Natalie Smowton Boxx - greatgranddaughter of Betty Smowton Noel Scott Studenwalt – nephew of Bill Sweeney – grandson of Marilyn and George Hutfilz Swisher Family - family of Kathie Dan Torrence - friend of K. Snyder David Van Ness – brother of Missv Elaine & Mark Vanderweight- friends of Jim Paulsson Curtis Weckwerth – cousin of Rich John and Janet Welther - family of Ethel Hamilton Pr. Pete Zieg – former pastor of JoAnn Jordan

St. Paul Lutheran Church

and Early Childhood Learning Center

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Florida-Bahamas Synod, established 1955
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Website: www.StPaulSarasota.org

The Rev. Ashley Nicolls, Pastor – PrAshley1010@gmail.com
Tracy Bateman, Parish Administrator – stpaul-admin@verizon.net
Fonda Davies, Director of Music Ministries—fondadavies6@gmail.com
Lisa McLean, ECLC Director--StPaul-eclc@verizon.net
Iven Ayad - ECLC Assistant Director--StPaul-eclc@verizon.net
The Rev. Don Hillerich, D.D. - Pastor Emeritus – djhillerich@yahoo.com

Executive Committee

JoAnn Jordan, President Judy Roberts, Vice President George Hutfilz, Treasurer Irene Felicetti, Secretary

Congregation Council

Irene Felicetti Lori Fountain-Guillaume Amy Hildreth JoAnn Jordan Bob Lariviere Pr. Ashley Nicolls Nancy Parmakian Judy Roberts

Mike Scherr Esther Smith Alexandra Wise







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