

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 7, 2023**



**THE WAY. THE TRUTH. THE LIFE.**

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you  
are the everlasting wellspring.**

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the  
firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them  
we are born anew.

**Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for  
waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and  
creatures.**

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the  
new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our  
witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for  
all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth,  
bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring  
peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen.**

Opening Hymn

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

#389

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.**

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*please be seated*

First Reading

Acts 7:55 - 60

<sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

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Gospel

John 14:1 - 14

The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." <sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup>Jesus 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'? <sup>10</sup>Do 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. <sup>11</sup>Believe 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. <sup>12</sup>Very 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. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

*please be seated*  
Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*  
Hymn of the Day

"You Are the Way"

#758

Apostle's Creed

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy.     **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards be Fruitful"

#182

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

HOLY COMMUNION

At the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

### Communion Hymns

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

#380

"Lord God, We Praise You"

#558

"Blessing and Honor"

#854

*please stand in body or spirit*

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

### Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

#392

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

# "CHRIST IS ALIVE"



**Welcome:** We see the risen Christ when we look into one another's eyes. We touch his wounds when we share one another's burdens. Together, let us worship our Lord!

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** "Unspoken prayer concerns" Huth Schlesselman, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Dewey Jobe, Judy Smith, and Kyle Luetjen.

Sharon Steigerwalt, Roger Kruep (grandpa of Kash Kruep), Linda Mehrens (sister of Teresa Viebrock), Jamie Simon, Dena Sikoutris, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Kathy Regekr, Bill Talbot (friend of Connie Gerken), Shirley Boose (mother of Melisa Balke), Annie Bright, Kiley Simon (friend of Jenna Nash), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Rebecca Heimsoth (friend of Norma Schlesselman), Gerald Goodson (uncle of Melisa Balke), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Reagan Phillips, Bill Hampton, Alex Stevens (friend of Tina Ives), Jeffery Jones (son of Bonnie Bohling) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



*Lord,  
Hear our prayers...*



**Nursing Home:** Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Huth Schlesselman, Marie Viebrock, Florence VonHolten & Cecelia Wiedemann: *GSCC*. Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms*.

**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, Cpt. Joseph Strathman, Sgt. Russell J. Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann) and Cpt. Wayne Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann).



**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer **Need Prayer?** list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.





**New Baby:** Congratulations to Chad and Rebecca Balke on the arrival of their son, Weston Allen Balke. He was born on Sunday, April 30th. Weston Allen Balke is the grandson of Dennis & Mary Balke.

*The red rose on the baptismal font is in celebration of new life.*

**One Stitch at a Time:** The Sewing Group will meet on Monday, **May 8th** at 9:00am in the church basement. Everyone is welcome to join the sewing group.



**LBPS:** Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **May 9th** and Wednesday, **May 10th** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.

Little Blessings Preschool is now accepting enrollment for 2023-2024. If you have a little one who will be 3 or 4 by July 31st and wish to get them enrolled, please call Rhonda Schlesselman at 660-668-3823. We hope to keep our enrollment around 12 so you'll want to call soon to get your spot secured.

**Meeting:** Council will meet on Tuesday, **May 9th** at 7:30pm.



**Planning:** Worship & Music will meet on Wednesday, **May 10th** at 3:30pm.

**Health Care:** The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **May 11th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.



**Sunday School:** Sunday School classes for children and youth will conclude on **May 14th** this year as we take a summer break and look forward to coming back in the fall. The Adult Sunday School class will continue through the end of May and then make plans for the summer.

**Graduates:** On Sunday, **May 14th**, we will be honoring our graduating seniors during the worship service. One Stitch At A Time will be gifting each of them with a handmade quilt. We invite you to come give thanks for their involvement at St. Paul's, and bless them for the next step in their journey.



**Circle:** The Esther Circle will meet Monday, **May 15th** at 7:00pm in the home of Ellen Harms. Ellen Harms will be the hostess.



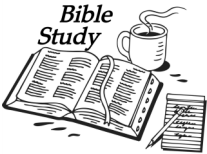
**Baptismal Grace:** On Sunday, **May 28th**, Parker Stuart Fowler will be washed clean in the waters of Holy Baptism. We welcome him into the fellowship of faith that we all share through baptismal grace of God. Parker is the son of Jacob and Alyssa Fowler and was born on March 10, 2023.

**Synod Assembly:** Synod Assembly is **June 3rd** (online). Please remember our delegates Greg Bredehoeft, Janice Gerken, Norma Schlesselman and Kelly Viebrock in your prayers during those days.



**Confirmation:** On Sunday, **June 4th** we will share in the joy of the Rite of Confirmation for four of our members. They are Lucas Eckhoff, Macy Luetjen, Bradyn Rehmer and Leighton Tinney.

**World Hunger Fish Fry:** On Sunday, **June 4th** we will have our annual World Hunger Fish Fry and Turkey dinner from 11:30am until 1:00pm. As always, we welcome all donations of crappie fillets. So if you need an excuse to go fishing, here it is!



**Pastor's Bible Study:** You are invited to join Pastor Stephen for a Bible study and conversation around the theme of Civic Life and Faith. This is an invitation into a conversation about religious liberty, the proper role of the church in relation to government, and many other critical topics. Yes, this has become a controversial and heated topic, but the church should be a place where we can have a thoughtful conversation and discussion about these issues. Thanks to everyone for feedback regarding when we could meet. Because summer schedules are crazy, we're going to have to bounce around a bit for these classes. So, we will meet at 7:00 pm in the Chapel on: Tuesday, **May 30**, Tuesday, **June 6**, Wednesday, **June 14**, Wednesday, **June 21**, Thursday, **July 6** and Thursday, **July 13**. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Skating:** Who wants to go roller skating? We're looking at planning an intergenerational skate party and want to know who might be interested. It would be a 2-hour, private skate session, on a Sunday afternoon in Sedalia. There would be a small fee per person. All ages are welcome! Please indicate your interest on your Offering Card.



## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

<b>Sunday, May 7:</b>	8:45am	Confirmation
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar
<b>Monday, May 8:</b>	9:00am	Sewing Group
<b>Tuesday, May 9:</b>	8:00am	LBPS
	7:30pm	Council
<b>Wednesday, May 10:</b>	8:00am	LBPS
	3:30pm	Worship & Music
<b>Thursday, May 11:</b>	8:00am	BCHD
<b>Saturday, May 13:</b>	5:30pm	Casual Worship
<b>Sunday, May 14:</b>	8:45am	Confirmation
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
		Honor Graduates
		Mother's Day



### ~ \* ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~ \* ~

**Taco's:** When is Taco Tuesday? It is on Tuesday, **May 9th** at the American Legion Hall from 11:00am until 1:00pm. Hard or soft tacos are 3 for \$5.00. Donations are welcome and appreciated.



**Baccalaureate Service:** The senior class of Cole Camp R-1 will hold their Baccalaureate Service on Wednesday, **May 10th**, following the Awards Ceremony in the high school gym. The Awards Ceremony begins at 6:00 pm and usually lasts an hour to an hour and a half. The public is invited to attend.

## Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**Ministers** ..... The Whole Congregation  
**Presiding Minister** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Organist** ..... Lois Viebrock  
**Pianist** ..... Jeannette VonHolten  
**Altar Guild** ..... Shirley Cash & Norma Schlesselman  
**Ushers** ..... Kelly Viebrock, Head Usher  
..... Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman, Melinda Strathman & Steve Triplett



### Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ May 7, 2023

**Assisting Minister** ..... Anne Goosen  
**Communion Assistants** ..... at the Altar  
**Reader** ..... Bill Viebrock  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Acolytes** ..... Lucas Eckhoff & Kaelyn Keith  
**Flowers** ..... Teresa Viebrock



### Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 14, 2023

**Assisting Minister** ..... Tom Oelrichs  
**Communion Assistants** ..... Trisha Goosen & Stephanie Randall  
**Reader** ..... Poe Family  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Paul Fuelling  
**Acolytes** ..... Lexi Goyette & Kaylan Poe  
**Flowers** ..... Luther League