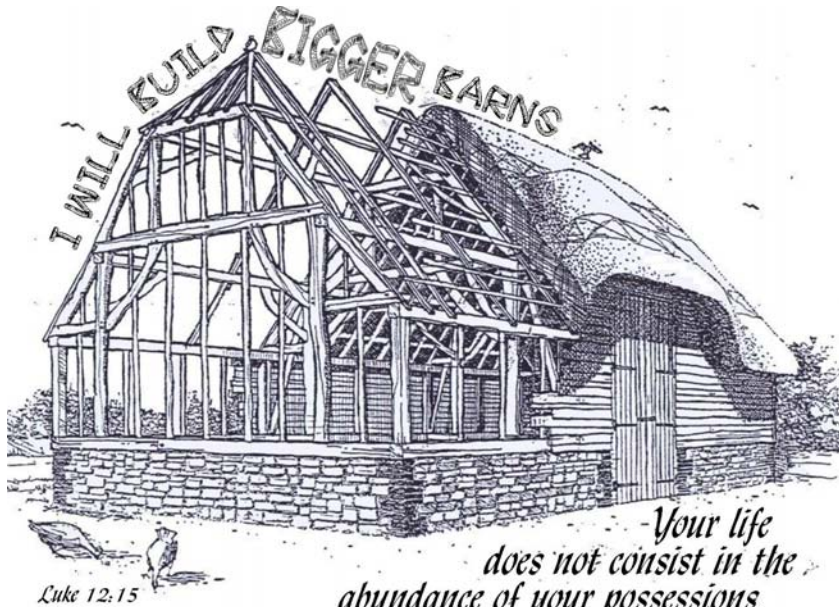




St. Paul
Ann Arbor

Sowing **truth**. Building **faith**. Shining **love**.



*Your life
does not consist in the
abundance of your possessions.*

Welcome to Worship

August 3, 2025
8:30 AM, Downtown Campus



St. Paul Lutheran
Church of Ann Arbor

At St. Paul Ann Arbor, we equip families and
individuals to know Christ, to discover truth,
and to create meaningful connections.

Sunday, August 3, 2025 (8:30 AM)

One church with two locations:

Downtown Campus

420 W. Liberty St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Worship:

Saturdays @ 6:30 PM
Sundays @ 8:30 AM

Discipleship Hour:

(Resumes in September)

Earhart Campus

495 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Worship:

Sundays @ 10:15 AM

Discipleship Hour:

(Resumes in September)



Welcome to our guests!

We're glad you're here! We ask that you fill out your name and an email or phone number in the black folder at the end of the row so we can connect with you. One of St. Paul's core values is unity so we'd like to help you get connected. On the back page of this worship folder, you'll find groups and events that are for you. May God bless you today!

If you have children

We welcome and encourage all children (yes, babies too!) to worship the Lord at St. Paul. If your child becomes restless during the service, don't worry! We get it. If you'd like to use it, there is a cry room available at the rear of the church and a nursery located below the main worship entrance. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available at each worship entrance. The hospitality team will be happy to assist you.

About Holy Communion

St. Paul is a confessional Lutheran congregation, sharing the beliefs and practices of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). Following the teaching of God's Word, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a mere symbol, but that Jesus offers us His true body and blood through the eating and drinking of the bread and wine in Communion. We recognize that the Lord's Supper is also an outward sign of our unity in the Apostles' teaching. It has been the practice since the very first years of the Christian Church, to welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who agree with the Apostolic doctrine, who have been baptized, and who are repentant for their sins. If you are a member of a congregation in fellowship with the LCMS, please do not hesitate to receive the Lord's Supper with us. However, if you are uncertain about the teaching of our church, our pastors would welcome an opportunity to speak with you about Communion.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

HYMN

"Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"
Stanzas 1, 2, 4



LSB# 782

WE CALL UPON THE NAME OF GOD

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

Invocation
Matthew 28:19b

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins
1 John 1:8–9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

(We observe a moment of quiet reflection as we consider our own sinful condition)

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

Absolution
John 20:19–23

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you for all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast of Victory"
(LSB pg. 171) Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Collect

P: O God, You are the giver of all that we have, including all that we are. We praise and thank You for blessing us with family, friends, opportunities, jobs, and possessions. Guide us to be good stewards of all You provide, and empower us to find enjoyment in all the riches You generously give to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT ✠ Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14, 2:18–26

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ... ¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. ... ^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must

leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun?²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God,²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment?²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE ✠ Colossians 3:1–11

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. (ESV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

WE RISE TO THE GOSPEL

Alleluia & Verse
 (LSB pg. 173) *John 6:68*

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

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

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’” ¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.’” ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN

"Christ Jesus Was for Us Made Poor"



(Tune: LSB# 500)



1. Christ Je - sus was for us made poor, That He our ran - som
 2. For life is not what we pos - sess, Our man - y to - kens
 3. There are no trea - sures here on earth That can com - pare with
 4. With grate - ful hearts and with one voice, Come sing your prais - es
 5. To works of love, O Spir - it prod; May we be rich t'ward



might se - cure; He glad - ly paid the need - ed price: His
 of suc - cess; The goods we hoard ex - tend their rule, Be-
 hea - ven's worth. No sin can tar - nish or de - grade That
 and re - joice! Though now you suf - fer trials and grief, God
 You, O God; Make strong our faith and pure our love; Af-



sin - less life as sac - ri - fice. Such lav - ish mer - cy let us
 come our gods, and we the fool! What will we do, should death ar-
 end - less life which can - not fade. Through faith as heirs, by God's great
 sees and cares and brings re - lief. His per - fect loves seeks to re-
 fix our gaze on things a - bove; Lord, from all e - vil grant re-



heed And ev - er guard a - gainst — all greed!
 rive? Who'll get the things for which — we strive?
 pow'r, We are pro - tect - ed til — that hour.
 fine Your pre - cious faith by sure — de - sign.
 lease; Bring us at last to heav - en's peace.

MESSAGE

"A Security You Don't Need to Secure"

Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Luke 12:13–21
Colossians 3:1–11

RESPONSE

**Fix not your minds on worldly wealth,
 Nor things that harm your spirit's health.
 Lift up your heart, do not despair—
 Your riches lie in heaven's care.
 Your image, may it always be
 Kept safe in Christ eternally!**

(Tune: LSB# 500)

Text: ©2025 Kirchenlied S. Schreiber, b. 1685

We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

During the Offering, we invite your participation in our Ritual of Friendship. Please fill in the requested information on the Friendship Pad (which is located at the end of the pew at the center aisle) and pass it down the pew. Also, as the pad is returned, please take note of who is worshiping with you in order that you might greet them following the service.

(For electronic and convenient giving options, see the end of this worship folder)

VOLUNTARY

The Prayers We Bring to God

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

PRAYERS for THIS DAY

(As prompted) P: Lord, in Your mercy,
C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:9-13

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.**

A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven



CHRIST'S WORDS ESTABLISH THE LORD'S SUPPER

Words of Institution
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.* In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: *Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pax Domini
John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: **Amen! The peace of Christ be with us all.**

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei (LSB pg. 180)
John 1:29

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.

WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion Distribution

Please note before receiving Holy Communion: *Those who have not communed at St. Paul before should read the brief statement of our beliefs found at the beginning of our worship folder before coming forward. Our pastors would be happy to meet with you to discuss our beliefs further, and help prepare you for Communion. If you have not yet had opportunity to do so, please still come forward with your hands on your heart and receive a blessing!*



Hymns: "All Depends on Our Possessing" (Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5)
"What Is the World to Me"
"Jesus, Priceless Treasure" (Stanzas 1, 4, 6)

LSB# 732

LSB# 730

LSB# 743

WORDS OF PEACE AND JOY

Communicants' Dismissal

- P:** Now may this Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in ☩ peace!
- C:** Amen.

WE DEPART WITH THANKS AND PRAISE

Post-Communion Canticle (LSB pg. 181)

C 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.

TAKING IT HOME

Colossians 3:2–3 (ESV)

P: “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

C: **For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”**

WE RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD

Benediction
Numbers 6:24–26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”
Stanzas 1, 2, 4

LSB# 842

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist/Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Lay Reader: Cynthia Pulford

Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg

Family Worship Team: Shasko family

Hospitality: Cindy Pine

Elder: Brent O'Banion

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St. Paul Stephen Ministry

Are you feeling overwhelmed, grieving a loss, or navigating a health crisis? SPAA is here for you. Our trained Stephen Ministers offer compassionate, confidential, and Christ-centered care, providing the support you need during challenging times. Contact Cherise Callahan at 734-395-8775 to connect with a Stephen Minister who will offer a listening ear and a caring heart.



**Life does not consist in
an abundance of
possessions.**

Luke 12:15, NIV

Our Offerings and Gifts

Looking for different options to financially support the ministry of St. Paul through your regular offerings or one-time gifts?



Just text "GIVE" to **734-436-3634**

(This will also allow you to set up a recurring gift if you choose.)

Online: <https://www.kindridgiving.com/app/giving/stpaulaa>



Mail checks to: St. Paul Lutheran Church
420 W Liberty St
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



For more giving information, go to: <https://www.stpaulannarbor.org/give/>

2024-2025 SPAA Attendance and Offering			
Month	Attendance	Offering	Budget
July	283	\$ 95,048.24	\$ 114,743.64
August	302	\$ 87,622.56	\$ 114,743.64
September	344	\$ 98,203.04	\$ 114,743.64
October	376	\$ 140,242.74	\$ 114,743.64
November	386	\$ 106,818.58	\$ 114,743.64
December	307	\$ 157,854.77	\$ 114,743.64
January	350	\$ 107,377.55	\$ 114,743.64
February	308	\$ 87,935.71	\$ 114,743.63
March	380	\$ 118,138.79	\$ 114,743.63
April	464	\$ 95,801.34	\$ 114,743.63
May	289	\$ 112,259.21	\$ 114,743.63
June	297	\$ 141,375.89	\$ 114,743.63
YTD	341	\$ 1,348,678.42	\$ 1,376,923.63

Annual Budget

\$1,376,923.63



News & Upcoming Events

For more news & events visit our webpage at: www.stpaulannarbor.org



Our worship livestream is moving to YouTube this fall!

Beginning **Sunday, September 14th** our Sunday morning livestream will be moving to our YouTube channel! There are several reasons for this change, but mainly that YouTube is a platform designed for streaming and hosting video content, while Facebook is better suited to social interaction. As of Sunday, September 14th you will be able to watch our worship live on YouTube, Sunday mornings at 8:30am. Scan the QR code to take you to our channel! If you click "Live" from the menu list it will take you to the livestream. Under "Videos" you can also view our archived library of past worship services. You do not need an account to watch our livestream on YouTube. However, if you have a YouTube account and would like to subscribe to our YouTube channel you can be notified of when a new service is live. If you have any questions on how to access our worship livestream please contact Natalie Nesbitt at nnesbitt@stpaulannarbor.org or Tyler Seehafer at tseehafer@stpaulannarbor.org.



Don't forget – you can also listen to sermons on our website (and on Spotify)!

Scan the QR code to listen to our sermon audio right from our website! You can also listen on Spotify (just search for St. Paul Ann Arbor). Please note: due to lack of interest, we have decided to discontinue our phone-streaming service. This will also be effective beginning September 14th.

Can you help with our Unity Service & Picnic on September 7?

We are excitedly preparing for our Unity Service and Picnic on Sunday, September 7. We can't put on this event without the help of many volunteers. We are currently looking for people to serve on a food & beverage team, to assist with preparations and setup the week of, or to supervise in the kitchen during the service and picnic. If you are interested in assisting in any of these ways or in any other ways (chair setup the day before, supervising kids in the bounce houses, clean-up etc.), please contact Lexie Brown at lbrown@stpaulannarbor.org.

We are still looking for Community Group facilitators this fall!

Are you interested in gathering with other people to do something you love for 8-12 weeks this fall? We have community groups forming as book clubs, doing service projects, playing basketball (or pickleball!), hiking, studying God's Word, or anything you want to do with others. We are looking to create some new groups for this fall. If you are interested in facilitating or co-facilitating a short-term group, meeting for up to 12 weeks (as often as you'd like), please reach out to Lexie Brown at lbrown@stpaulannarbor.org for more information. Please also see our website at: <https://www.stpaulannarbor.org/connect/community-groups> for more info!