



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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



Welcome to Worship

April 12, 2026

8:30 AM, Downtown Campus



Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2026 (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:
Sundays @ 9:45 AM

Earhart Campus
495 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Worship:
Sundays @ 10:45 AM

Discipleship Hour:
Sundays @ 9:45 AM



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 Word of Jesus, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a symbol. Jesus gives His people His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins through the bread and wine. In Holy Communion, Jesus not only gives these gifts, He unites us in a confession of faith. We confess that God has given His gift of salvation in baptism. We confess that we are sinners who need the forgiveness that Jesus offers by His death and resurrection. We confess that God speaks in His inspired Word, the Bible. We confess that God is one God, the Father who created all things, the Son Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in His people by faith. Alongside this confession of faith, the Holy Spirit is at work in those who receive the Supper to live according to God's Word and remain true to God, even to death, shining Jesus' love inside and outside of God's church. If you share this confession, we invite you to receive Christ's body and blood with us. If you do not share these beliefs, please talk to a pastor before communing though you are invited to come forward during Communion distribution with arms crossed to receive a blessing and the assurance of God's love in Jesus Christ. We're glad you're at St. Paul!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

HYMN

“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”



(LSB# 464)

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o’er, the bat - tle done;
 2 The pow’rs of death have done their worst,
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed Thee,

Now is the vic - tor’s tri - umph won;
 But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
 He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.
 From death’s dread sting Thy ser - vants free

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.

Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 That we may live and sing to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

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!**

ON THE SEVENTH DAY

(Genesis 2:2–3)

P: *“And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.”*

We may often take for granted the way the passage of time is marked and measured. We know that a “day” is calculated by a single rotation of the earth on its axis; a “month” is mapped out from the moon’s cycle; and a “year” is the time it takes for the earth to journey around the sun. But the designation of a “week” does not have a fixed point of measurement as other time markers do. The rhythm of weeks is tied solely to God’s Word in recounting the events of creation: for six days God worked; and on the seventh day He rested and blessed that day to make it holy. Over the next few weeks, we will explore the ways that we are to honor that seventh day, the “sabbath”, through our work, rest, play, and everyday life— how it’s all about living in the joy and celebration of God’s good gifts!

WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins

P: As we have now come to this Sabbath day, let us consider our own weaknesses to “remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy”.

C: **Heavenly Father, we confess to You that as Your people, we have not always set this day aside for You. We can be distracted and consumed by things in the world too easily. We are quick to treat time for the Sabbath as just another event in a busy life. We allow the concerns of daily living to take priority over Your Word and the comfort it can bring. Forgive us, and have mercy on us for the sake of Your risen Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

GOD TURNS TO US, EAGER TO FORGIVE

Absolution

P: Our almighty and everlasting God has promised you the forgiveness of sins, righteousness, and everlasting life through believing in His Son, Jesus Christ—whose sacrifice on the cross and resurrection from the dead fulfill all the demands of the Law. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, in His stead and by His authority, I forgive you for all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

(LSB# 474)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
4 Weep-ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -



sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen-dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for-
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Salutation & Collect

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Almighty God, You rested on the Sabbath and established it for Your ancient people as a commemoration of Your creative work. Do not let us forget that it is You alone who sanctifies us. Give us rest in Your gifts, especially the sanctifying body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, found in His blessed Sacrament. Help us to keep each day holy by receiving His Word, and in it, know comfort and rest.

C: **Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT † Exodus 20:9–11

⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (ESV)

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

EPISTLE † Hebrews 4:1–12

¹ Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. ² For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. ³ For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said, “As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest,’” although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” ⁵ And again in this passage he said, “They shall not enter my rest.” ⁶ Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷ again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” ⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹ So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰ for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. ¹¹ Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (ESV)

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

WE RISE TO THE GOSPEL

Alleluia & Verse
(LSB pg. 205)



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL † John 20:19–31

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (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

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”



LSB# 906

MESSAGE

“A Sabbath Rest for the People of God”
Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Hebrews 4:1–12

RESPONSE

(LSB# 906)

**A Sabbath rest, abounding
With highest peace—Shalom;
Eternal rest resounding
From Christ, who is our home.
To seek His Word forever,
His comfort, be my stay;
With God and one another
Shall be my Sabbath Day!**

Text: ©2026 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.*

Sharing the Peace of Christ

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Pax Domini

C: **Amen.**

John 20:19

An ancient and significant gesture in worship is the **Sharing of Peace**. This tradition, rooted in Scripture (1 Peter 5:14; Romans 16:16), recognizes that one of the biggest dangers in the body of Christ is disunity—both from grievances not forgiven and from not knowing our neighbors. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who entered into our world, came to know humanity from the inside, and restored peace between God and all people. When we share the peace of Christ, we desire to know and be at peace with everyone who comes into our midst, especially those we are meeting for the first time.

“Peace be with you.” ✠ “The peace of Christ be with you.”

PREPARATION

(LSB# 633)

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His

our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—

Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion Distribution

Please note before receiving Holy Communion: *Please read the brief statement of our beliefs, "About Holy Communion", found at the beginning of our worship folder. Our pastors would be happy to meet with you to discuss our beliefs further, and help prepare you for Communion.*



Hymns: "O Sons and Daughters of the King"
"Make Songs of Joy"

LSB# 470

LSB# 484

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 with ☩ Easter joy!

C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

(LSB# 474)

5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -
ru - sa-lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch-
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!
Refrain
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 118:1

P: "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: For His steadfast love endures forever."

P: Lord Jesus, prepare us for that eternal Sabbath when You will rest in us, just as now You work in us. The rest that we shall enjoy will be Yours, just as the work that we now do is Your work done through us. But You, O Lord, are eternally at work and eternally at rest. It is not in time that You see, or in time that You move, or in time that You rest— yet You make what we see in time. You make time itself and the repose which comes when time ceases; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

TAKING IT HOME

Hebrews 4:9–10 (ESV)

P: "So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God,

C: For whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his."

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

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;
 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n! Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
 Death in vain for-bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now: Hail, the res - ur - rec-tion, Thou!

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Aaron Roggow
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Lay Reader: Cynthia Pulford
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Family Worship Team: Shasko family
Hospitality: Julie Novak
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.

Our Offerings and Gifts

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



Download the **Church Center** app from the Google Play or Apple App stores and navigate to "Give"



or Scan the **QR Code** to give immediately through Church Center

or Visit: <https://st-paul-lutheran-church-ann-arbor.churchcenter.com/giving>



or 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/>

2025-2026 SPAA Attendance and Offering						
Month	Attendance	Offering	Budget	Bud. Var.	Prior Year	PY Var.
July	278	\$ 85,561	\$ 103,200	\$ (17,639)	\$ 95,048	\$ (9,487)
August	292	\$ 92,582	\$ 129,100	\$ (36,518)	\$ 87,623	\$ 4,960
September	364	\$ 108,717	\$ 106,200	\$ 2,517	\$ 98,203	\$ 10,514
October	347	\$ 112,763	\$ 106,200	\$ 6,563	\$ 140,243	\$ (27,480)
November	311	\$ 135,822	\$ 132,800	\$ 3,022	\$ 106,819	\$ 29,004
December	291	\$ 163,097	\$ 123,200	\$ 39,897	\$ 157,855	\$ 5,242
January	306	\$ 91,986	\$ 106,200	\$ (14,214)	\$ 107,378	\$ (15,392)
February	350	\$ 128,052	\$ 107,400	\$ 20,652	\$ 87,936	\$ 40,116
March	-	\$ -	\$ 135,200	\$ -	\$ 118,139	\$ -
April	-	\$ -	\$ 114,900	\$ -	\$ 95,801	\$ -
May	-	\$ -	\$ 132,800	\$ -	\$ 112,259	\$ -
June	-	\$ -	\$ 104,800	\$ -	\$ 122,082	\$ -
YTD	317	\$ 918,580	\$ 1,402,000	\$ 4,280	\$ 1,329,384	\$ 37,477



News & Upcoming Events

Don't miss out! Sign up for our e-News at: www.stpaulannarbor.org/news-and-events

SPAA Board of Directors & Elders - Now Accepting Nominations!

St. Paul Lutheran Church has opened nominations for one of the five seats on the Board of Directors and two seats on the Board of Elders. (Tim Adler has faithfully served as Chair of the BOD the past 3 years and has agreed to continue for a second term. Thus, he will be up for re-election in May). **St. Paul members who are interested in serving on the Board for a three-year term or on the Board of Elders for a two-year term** (beginning in July 2026) should **apply before May 1, 2026** by emailing bod@stpaulannarbor.org. Elections will be held at the Congregation Voters' Meeting on May 31st. Details for that meeting will be coming soon.

Learning to Pray Milestone

Prayer is a gift from God. Teaching young children to pray is both a privilege and responsibility of parents. That is why we are excited to partner with families in order to help them make prayer a comfortable and normal part of the life of your young children. **Parents and their preschool aged children** are invited to the Learning to Pray Milestone Class. The class will take place Tuesday, April 14, via Zoom at 6:30pm. A special worship blessing will take place on Sunday, April 19. During the worship blessing, a prayer pillow will be given to each child that participated in the milestone class. For more information or to sign up, contact Lexie Brown – Director of Family Life Ministry at lbrown@stpaulannarbor.org!

Spring Clean Up Day – April 25th (both campuses!)

Mark your calendars for our Spring Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 25th from 9am-12pm at both campuses! Coffee and breakfast snacks will be provided at 8:40am. Please bring your gloves, shovels, rakes or your favorite garden tools! Contact Doug Ronan if you have any questions at douglasalexanderronan@gmail.com.

Save the Date! All One Worship Service – May 17th at 10:45am (School)

Join us on Sunday, May 17th at 10:45am at our school campus (495 Earhart Rd) as we worship all together in one place! Also plan to join us at 9:45am for Discipleship Hour and Christ Connections! *Please note: There will be no worship services at our Downtown Campus that weekend.*



VBS 2026 – Registration now open!

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a life-long adventure, discovering the nature of God, and exploring what it means to be rooted in relationship with their creator, a safe place in life's storms. VBS is open to children who have turned 4 by June 1 through children who have completed 4th grade. Registration is now open and closes June 10. Scan the QR code to register or volunteer!