



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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



Welcome to Worship

September 20, 2026
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.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 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 St. Paul Ann Arbor!

We are so glad you're here. At St. Paul, we value **unity**. Whether you are a long-time member or visiting for the first time, we want you to feel connected to one another and to the hope we have in Jesus.

Getting Connected

Our pastors would love to meet you! If they don't get a chance to greet you before the service, please stop by afterward to say hi.

- **The Black Folder:** Guests, please find the folder at the end of your row to share your name and contact info. We'd love to know more about you!
- **What's Next?** Flip to the back page of this worship folder to see upcoming events and groups for connecting with others and serving the community.
- **Coffee & Discipleship:** Coffee is available in the gathering area off the front of the sanctuary. Also, join us Sundays at **9:45 AM** for "Discipleship Hour." Coffee, treats, and Discipleship activities for all ages!

About Holy Communion

In Holy Communion, God's people gather as Jesus taught, united in what we believe. Sharing the beliefs and practices of the **Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)**, we confess that this meal is more than a symbol. We confess (believe, speak, and live this truth):

- Jesus gives His true **body and blood** in the bread and wine of Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins.
- God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—gives His gift of salvation in Baptism.
- We are sinners who need the gifts Jesus offers by His death and resurrection, as God promises in His inspired Word (the Bible).
- Holy Communion is something God gives His people as we gather for forgiveness and for the strength to live in God's Word by the Holy Spirit and to daily follow Jesus.

Should I commune? If you share this confession of faith, we welcome you to the table! If you have questions or hold different beliefs from those above, **we invite you to come forward for a blessing** (simply cross your arms over your chest). A pastor also would love to chat with you before or after the service to learn more.

Families with Children

We love having kids in worship! (Yes, even if they're wiggling or crying.) If you are here with children, please know there are Activity Bags and Children's Bulletins at any entrance. Need a break? A Cry Room is available at the rear of the sanctuary, while a nursery is located just below the main entrance. Our hospitality team is happy to guide you to any of these spots.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

HYMN

"Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old"



LSB# 846

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 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

Salutation & Collect

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: O God, the helper of all who call on You, have mercy on us and give us eyes of faith to see others as You see them—precious and loved, that all may come to know and follow Your Son in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same 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 ✠ 1 Samuel 16:1–13

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’” ³ And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.” ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵ And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before him." ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ¹⁰ And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these." ¹¹ Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." ¹² And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

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.

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*



HOLY GOSPEL.....✠ Mark 10:46–52

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. And as [Jesus] was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." ⁵⁰ And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." ⁵² And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**





**A blind man sat beside the road
And begged for charity
Until he heard a stranger's step
And asked, "Who can this be?"**

**"Who can this be, and will He stop
For one as poor as I?"
Then voices pierced his darkness deep:
"The Lord is passing by."**

**"He must not pass me by," he cried;
"He must in pity see
These empty hands, these sightless eyes!
Have mercy, Lord, on me!"**

**Then Jesus stopped, in mercy spoke;
Those sightless eyes He healed
Which, opened wide, by faith made whole,
The Son of God revealed.**

**Our blindness cries for vision bright,
Our poverty for grace,
O Lord, have mercy now on us;
To us reveal Your face.**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Copyright © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

MESSAGE

"Seeing as God Sees: Recognizing the Neighbor"
Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Mark 10:46–52

RESPONSE

(Tune: LSB# 720)

**Lord, give me eyes to see and know
My neighbor as You do;
To lend an ear, a voice, a hand,
A will to see them through.**

**The sight You give then calls me on
To live with caring eyes,
To see the other as Your own,
To love and not despise.**

Text: ©2026 Kirchenlied S. Schreiber, b. 1685

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.

We Worship the Lord with Our Offerings

During the Offering, please let us know you're here! For members and guests who have our Church Center app, we ask you to please take a moment to Check In and let us know you are in worship with us today. For our guests and members who do not have our Church Center app, we invite you to please fill in the requested information in the Friendship Pad (the black folder located at the end of the pew at the center aisle). Please pass it along for anyone else who might need it.

Want to give electronically? Simply scan the QR code here:
For other giving options, see the end of this worship folder.



WELCOME MOMENT



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."

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: *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: "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"
"What Is This Bread"

LSB# 848
LSB# 629

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.

A PRAYER FOR OPEN EYES

All: Gracious Father, You have poured out Your grace on me, welcoming me into Your family. Open my eyes by Your Holy Spirit so that I notice Your great love at work in and around me. Help me receive Your welcome through others, and walk through the doors You open for me to share Your love with my neighbors. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"
Stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5



LSB# 857

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Aaron Roggow
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins
Lay Reader: Katie Contreras
Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg
Family Worship Team: Tim & Barbara Adler
Hospitality: Julie Novak
Elder: Jerry Novak

Printed liturgy and hymns from Lutheran Service Book, created by Lutheran Service Builder ©2006 Concordia Publishing House.
Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®).
Copyright ©2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
The "ESV" and "English Standard Version" are registered trademarks of Crossway. Use of either trademark requires the permission of Crossway.



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/>

2026-2027 SPAA Attendance and Offering						
Month	Attendance	Offering	Budget	Bud. Var.	Prior Year	PY Var.
July	255	\$ 87,223	\$ 90,569	\$ (3,346)	\$ 85,561	\$ 1,662
August	319	\$ 97,105	\$ 97,260	\$ (155)	\$ 92,582	\$ 4,523
September	-	\$ -	\$ 114,288	\$ -	\$ 108,717	\$ -
October	-	\$ -	\$ 118,332	\$ -	\$ 112,763	\$ -
November	-	\$ -	\$ 142,975	\$ -	\$ 135,822	\$ -
December	-	\$ -	\$ 171,440	\$ -	\$ 163,097	\$ -
January	-	\$ -	\$ 121,025	\$ -	\$ 91,986	\$ -
February	-	\$ -	\$ 134,636	\$ -	\$ 128,052	\$ -
March	-	\$ -	\$ 117,968	\$ -	\$ 118,257	\$ -
April	-	\$ -	\$ 99,376	\$ -	\$ 112,360	\$ -
May	-	\$ -	\$ 113,215	\$ -	\$ 107,685	\$ -
June	-	\$ -	\$ 109,416	\$ -	\$ 104,079	\$ -
YTD	287	\$ 184,328	\$ 1,430,500	\$ (3,501)	\$1,360,960	\$ 6,185

Welcoming Community

2026–2033 St. Paul Ann Arbor Vision

In the underconnected and transient Ann Arbor area, St. Paul seeks to revitalize our neighborhoods through relationships. Many people have full, busy lives yet still long for deeper connections, with others and with God.

In Jesus, God gives full and abundant life. Through this gift, we believe that God has prepared St. Paul Ann Arbor to cultivate a community where people are known, loved, and welcomed into abundant life together. We seek to become this welcoming community by following Jesus with our neighbors and equipping others to do the same, showing up for one another and walking together in faith and life.



To begin this work, God is calling each of us at St. Paul Ann Arbor into deep and lasting relationships with and among our neighbors. By 2033, the 125th anniversary of St. Paul, we hope to welcome 7000* neighbors into deeper relationships with Jesus and His people. This is not a vision for growing St. Paul membership, but for becoming a people intentionally connected to the neighbors God has placed in our lives.

- *We imagine a community of imperfect people from all backgrounds who pray, eat, and play together, connecting meaningfully with one another in Christ.*
- *We imagine kids and their families building faith in community: learning to pray, forgive, and trust in Jesus together.*
- *We imagine people at all stages of life's journey, nourished in their faith by God's Word and each other.*
- *We imagine neighbors becoming friends, together shining the abundant love of God in our neighborhoods.*

***Why 7000?** Everyone contributes! Scripture regularly uses 7 and 10 to represent completion. For us, 7000 (7x10x10x10) symbolizes the full mission God is calling St. Paul, and each of us connected to St. Paul, to pursue over the next 7 years. In addition, 7000 works literally too. If the 350 regularly worshipping adults-plus children and families connected to our school-each deepen connections with two or more people annually, we will achieve this goal.



News & Upcoming Events

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



Welcome Moments - Share your stories with us!

Welcome Moments are seemingly ordinary moments when we notice God at work: bringing us grace through others, deepening relationships, encouraging us in faith, or opening doors for us to serve, love and share Jesus with our neighbors. We invite you to pray every day, asking God to open your eyes to His welcome opportunities. As you notice a welcome moment, please share it with us! Together we want to discover the many ways God is at work in and through our Welcoming Community. Simply scan the QR code to share your stories.



SPAA Gratitude Report for 2025-26 is Now Available!

Let's celebrate and give thanks to God for all He has done through SPAA this past year! Pick up a hard copy of our 2025-26 Gratitude Report at worship entrances (supply is limited) OR click here for your digital copy!



Fall Community Groups - don't delay, sign up today!

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with others and grow in meaningful ways. Whether you're looking to dive deeper spiritually, stay active physically, or explore something new, there's a group for you! Groups begin meeting in mid-September and most wrap up before Thanksgiving (some are ongoing). Fall groups include hiking, basketball, golf, coffee & breakfast groups, mahjong mornings, service groups, Bible study, sewing, music, and many more! You do not have to be a member of St. Paul Ann Arbor to sign up! Please prayerfully consider asking a friend, family member or neighbor to join you. **Fall launch ends on September 18th. Scan the QR code for more information and to sign up!**



Women's Fall Bible Study (Revelation) - Community Group Highlight!

Join us this fall for our Women's Evening Bible Study where we will study Revelation through the new Concordia Commentary Bible Study Series on the book. Filled with symbolism and vivid imagery, Revelation can seem too strange and difficult to understand. Yet, this last book of the Bible is filled with hope for our lives today. As one of the Concordia Commentary Bible Studies, we will be guided in our study by knowledgeable and trustworthy Lutheran Biblical scholars through whom we will grow deeper in our faith in Jesus, our victorious shepherd and all-powerful king. We will meet weekly for one hour on **Thursdays at 6:30 PM for seven weeks beginning Thursday, October 8 at the Liberty St. location.** You can join the Women's Bible Study group through the Community Groups sign up form (scan QR code) or contact co-facilitators Cherise Callahan or Peggy Glahn. All are welcome and bring curious friends!
