



St. Paul
Ann Arbor

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



Welcome to Worship

October 11, 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.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 11, 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

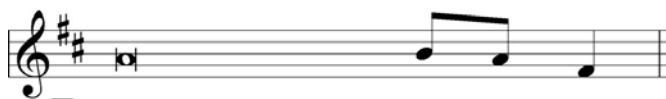
WORDS OF WELCOME

RESPONSIVE VERSES

Versicles
(LSB pg. 219)

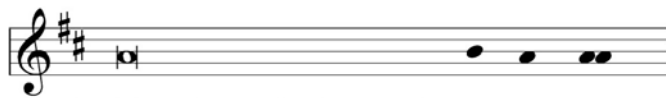


L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

Psalms 51:15



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalms 70:1



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Invitatory Antiphon
(LSB pg. 220)



L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

WE COME BEFORE THE LORD

(LSB# 811)



1 Oh, that I had a thou-sand voic-es To praise my
4 All crea-tures that have breath and mo-tion, That throng the



God with thou-sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re-
earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de-



joic-es, Would then pro-claim in grate-ful songs To all, wher-
vo-tion, Help me to sing God's prais-es high. My ut-most



ev-er I might be, What great things God has done for me.
pow'rs can nev-er quite De-clare the won-ders of His might.

5 Creator, humbly I implore You
To listen to my earthly song
Until that day when I adore You,
Together with the angel throng
And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing
Eternal anthems to my King.

We Hear the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT ✠ Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” (ESV)

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE ✠ Philippians 4:4–13

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned, in whatever situation I am, to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (ESV)

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

SCHOOL
CHOIR ANTHEM

"I Can Do All Things through God"

Valerie Shields (b. 1951)

*I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty.
I have learned the secret of being content in all situations, in all times of plenty and need:
I can do all things through God who strengthens me. I can do all things through God!*

—Philippians 4:12–13

HOLY GOSPEL ✠ Matthew 9:18–26

¹⁸ While [Jesus] was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples.

²⁰ And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, ²¹ for she said to herself, "If I only touch his garment, I will be made well." ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.

²³ And when Jesus came to the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. ²⁶ And the report of this went through all that district. (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

"O God of Mercy, God of Light"



(Tune: LSB# 560)

1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, In love and
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: To feel for
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, Since Je - sus

mer - cy in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er
 those His blood has bought, That ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; Grant us the will and

in Your sight, To live our lives in You.
 word and thought May work a work for You.
 grace pro - vide To love them all in You.

6 And may Your Holy Spirit move
 All those who live to live in love
 Till You receive in heav'n above
 Those who have lived to You.

MESSAGE

"The Ministry of Interruptions"

Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Matthew 9:18–26

RESPONSE

(Tune: LSB# 560)

**Give us Your eyes, dear Lord, that we
 Honor the moments when we see
 Those in our own community
 Reaching for grace from You.**

**Give us Your heart, with love to spare
 For those You place into our care,
 Taking the time, Your peace to share—
 Truly as giv'n from You.**

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



*1 Timothy 2:1-4
Salutation*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God invites us to approach His heavenly throne with all our needs.

C: **We enter the throne room of God, the Ruler of All Things.**

P: We come without fear, at His invitation.

C: **But we come in humility, like the blind men who called out to Jesus: "Lord, have mercy."**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie (LSB pg. 227)
Mark 10:47*



 Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.**

P: Lord Jesus, as You walked among us, You often paused Your journey and set aside Your plans in order to heal the sick and comfort the broken. You saw every interruption not as a nuisance, but as a divine appointment to show compassion and share Your grace.

Give us that same spirit of openness today. When our schedules are disrupted and our patience is tested by the needs of others, remind us that these moments are opportunities to be Your hands and Your feet in a hurting world. Help us to see the *person* before us as more important than the *task* before us.

While many are the plans in our hearts, it is Your purpose that prevails—wherein we surrender our plans to You, trusting that Your will is always better than our own.

Transform our interruptions into acts of love, and our distractions into ministries of mercy.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS for THIS DAY

(As prompted) P: *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: *hear our prayer.*

Collect for Grace

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, nor run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

A Foretaste of the Great Feast in Heaven



WE TURN TO GOD, MINDFUL OF OUR SINFULNESS

Confession of Sins

Psalm 124:8, 130:3–4; Luke 18:13

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

- P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: *God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*
- C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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!**

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.
- C: **Amen.**

*Pax Domini
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. 210)
John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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: "Oh How Good It Is"
"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

(See page 12)
LSB# 641

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. 211)

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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 BLESS THE LORD

Benedicamus (LSB pg. 228)
Psalm 103:1

P: Let us bless the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God!

WE RECEIVE THE BLESSING OF GOD

Trinitarian Benediction (LSB pg. 228)

2 Corinthians 13:14

P: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



LSB# 849

POSTLUDE



Our Worship Servants

Liturgist: Rev. Aaron Roggow

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ted Hopkins

Director of Music: Dr. John Boonenberg

Choir: 5th/6th Grade School Choir

Family Worship Team: Fred & Laurie Metzger

Hospitality: Cindy Pine & Patrick Winton

Lay Reader/Elder: Michael Woon

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Parakeet Boots Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) CCL#11313419

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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/>

"Oh How Good It Is"



(Getty/Holmes/Townend)

Verses



1. Oh how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to - geth - er in
 2. Oh how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re - joice with the
 3. Oh how good it is to em - brace His com - mand to pre - fer one an -



spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty; Where the bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and
 hap - py, and weep with those who mourn; For the weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find
 oth - er, for - give as He for - gives; When we live as one we all share in the

Chorus



love are the fruit of His pres - ence here a - mong us. So, with one voice we'll
 grace, when we of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
 love of the Son, with the Fa - ther, and the Spir - it.



sing — to the Lord, and with one heart we'll live — out His word; Till the whole earth



sees the Re - deem - er has come, for He dwells in the pres - ence of His peo - ple.



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.

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.



Bach Vespers: rehearsals starting soon - come join us!

It's time for Bach Vespers rehearsals to start! Our first rehearsal will be Oct 14 (and the following 4 Wednesdays) at 7pm, at our Downtown Campus (420 W. Liberty). Dress rehearsal is Nov. 14th at 1pm. Interested singers should plan on making at least 2-3 of the rehearsals AND the dress rehearsal with the orchestra. Bach Vespers will be presented on Nov. 15th at 4pm at our Downtown Campus. You can still sign up to join us as a member of the choir! Just scan the QR code to join the group! **Come be a part of these exciting and beautiful expressions of faith through music!**

Bible Presentation Milestone - for families of students in Grades 1 - 3

Learning to read and utilize the Bible is an exciting milestone in a child's faith journey. At St. Paul, we are recognizing this milestone for all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade families at St. Paul Church and School with a time of instruction and a worship blessing, where families present a Bible to their child. Families with 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade students are invited to join a time of instruction and conversation on Monday, October 12, from 7:00 to 7:45 pm via Zoom, and a worship blessing on Sunday, October 18. If your family would like to participate, please pick up a Growing In Faith Bible for your child. This is a gift from St. Paul. Bibles are now available before and after all worship services, and in Grace Wiebe's office. If your family plans to participate in this milestone, please email our DCE Intern, Grace Wiebe at familyministry@stpaulannarbor.org.



Join us for our "Awaken" Workshop - November 13 & 14

Want to share your faith with more confidence? Jesus calls us to share the good news, but many of us aren't always sure where to begin. In connection to St. Paul's Welcoming Community Vision, we're partnering with Multipli to offer Awaken, a free training in relational evangelism. Learn simple tools for sharing the gospel, practice real conversations, and receive coaching, feedback, and encouragement along the way. This isn't about having all the answers. It's about taking a step of faith and learning to be more intentional in the relationships God's already given you. Scan the QR code for more details on this workshop and to sign up.