

# St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

*2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214*

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Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1976

Sunday School Superintendent: Mike Sprengeler



[www.denverlutheran.com](http://www.denverlutheran.com)

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Member Congregation:  
Church of the Lutheran Confession  
[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)



**Sunday after Ascension – May 21, 2023**

# **Order of Worship: Service of the Word**

*(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)*

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Suzannah Miller

Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Ed Chiappetti

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 66 (pew bible, p.504)
- ◆ The Hymns: 493, 701, 491 (1-3), 491 (4)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Acts 1:1-14; 1 Peter 4:12-17, 5:6-11
- ◆ Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed (liturgy insert, p.15)

**Sermon Text – John 17:1-6,9-11,15-17**

***The Son Petitions His Heavenly Father***

1. For His own glorification as the world's Savior.
2. For the protection of His believers by His Father's powerful Name.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (491, stanza 4)

# Today's Scriptures

## First Lesson – Acts 1:1-14

1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” 6 So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. 13 When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14 They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

## Easter Acclamation

P The Lord is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P God ascends to His throne.

C **There are shouts of joy and the blast of trumpets as the Lord goes up.**

P The Lord is risen indeed!

C **This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven.**

P By this we know that we abide in God and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

C **And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.**

P See, I am coming soon," says the Lord.

C **“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”**

P Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

C **“Surely, I am coming soon,” says the Lord.**

P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!  
C **He has given us of His Spirit.**

### **Second Lesson – 1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11**

4:12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? | 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Sermon Text – John 17:1-6,9-11,15-17**

1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. 6 I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word ... 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one ... 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

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**A Warm Welcome To Our Worship Guests.** It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come worship with us again.

### **This Week at St. Paul**

Today (5/21) 9:30 am Worship Service  
10:45 am Bible Class & Sunday School  
Tue-Thu West-Central Delegate Conference at Watertown SD  
Sun (5/28) 9:30 am Festival of Pentecost Worship Service  
10:45 am Bible Class (Sunday School in recess till next fall)

**In Our Prayers:** We ask the Lord for His continuing gracious care for our fellow member, Doug Tiefel, who is recovery from angioplasty surgery. *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust'" (Psalm 91:1-2).*

**Congratulations and God's Blessings** to Zachary Ruegge upon the occasion of his high school graduation. He graduated last Thursday from Rock Canyon High School in Castle Rock. We thank the Lord for bringing Zach to this milestone and ask for His blessing on the path of his life that lies ahead. *"Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this" (Psalm 37:4-5).*

**Bible Study Topic:** Our current study topic is "Evangelism" (the privilege the Lord has given to us of telling others the Gospel Good News). *"In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15).*

**Flower Donations:** St. Paul's Mary & Martha ladies are taking monetary donations toward the purchase of perennial flowers for the front church planters. You can do several things:

- place your offering in an envelope & put the amount on the "Other" line
- place it in a plain envelope with "Mary Martha Flowers"
- give your offering to Crystal Ruegge, Mary & Martha Treasurer

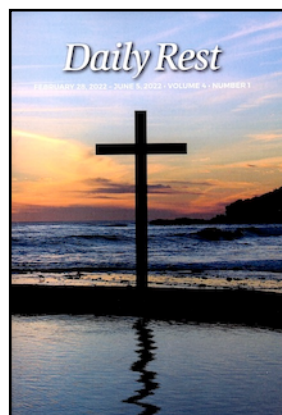
Thank you for considering to make a donation for the flowers! For questions, please ask Lisa Sprengeler.

**Annual Subscription Renewals:** It's time for the annual renewal of our synod publications *Daily Rest* and *Lutheran Spokesman*. If you are currently a subscriber your subscription to the *Spokesman* expires after the June 2023 issue. Your subscription for the *Daily Rest* quarterly devotion booklet expires after the June issue.

- If you are already a subscriber to one or both of these publications you need do nothing (you will automatically be included on the renewal list).
- If are are not a subscriber but would like to be, please let the pastor know by May 31, so that he may add your name to the list.
- If you are currently a subscriber but would like your name omitted from the list, kindly inform me the pastor by May 31.

Note: If you are a distant member of St. Paul you will receive a gift subscription to both publications. (You are welcome to give a donation to cover the cost for your subscription, if you wish). Subscription costs are:

- *Daily Rest*: \$15 for 4 quarterly issues
- *The Lutheran Spokesman*: \$14 for 12 monthly issues
- Payments may be made by placing an offering in the Sunday collection (earmarked for "Daily Rest" and/or "Lutheran Spokesman") or by mailing in your offering to the church.



**The West-Central Delegate Conference** will take place this week Tuesday morning through Thursday noon, hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown SD. Ed Chiappetti and Pastor Schuetze are planning to represent St. Paul at this conference. Here is the agenda:

1. A devotional study of a General Epistle (Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, St. Luke's, Lemmon SD)
2. Evaluation of CRT [Critical Race Theory] to which our young members are being exposed in public school (Berea, Sioux Falls SD layman)
3. The Joy of Christian Giving – Financial Stewardship (Layman Peter Krafft, Prince of Peace, Loveland CO)
4. The place of the Book of Esther in the Canon of Scripture (Layman Dave Maas, Grace, Valentine NE)
5. Is “right hand/arm” of the LORD in the Old Testament a reference to Jesus? (Pastor Timothy Daub, Prince of Peace, Hecla SD)
6. A comparison of Psalm 4:4 and Ephesians 4:26 in their contexts (Pastor Aaron Ude, Good Shepherd, Rapid City SD)
7. A study of sensuality and its relation to idolatry (Layman Mike Sprengeler, St. Paul, Lakewood SD)
8. Overview of how the false doctrines of major denominations are shown in their liturgies (Pastor Tom Schuetze, St. Paul, Lakewood CO)
9. The grammar of the Lord's Prayer as explained in Luther's catechism and hymn (Pastor Timothy Wheaton, Prince of Peace, Loveland CO)
10. Christian Freedom: Does Scripture stop us, or does Scripture start us (Redeemer, Cheyenne WY layman)
11. Faith-Based Healthcare options: what do they require and are they God-pleasing to be a part of? (Gift of God, Mapleton ND layman)
12. On what basis is Point II.D of the Joint Statement to be considered Scripturally sound? (Pastor Ben Libby, Redeemer, Cheyenne WY)

Conference Chaplin

Pastor Zachary Sippert (Redeemer, Bowdle / Zion, Ipswich SD)

Communion Service Speaker

Pastor Paul Nolting (Grace, Valentine NE)

## Synod News & Notes

- Missionary Bruce Naumann is posting regular updates on his work in Tanzania. You can view them at: [clc-tz.blogspot.com](http://clc-tz.blogspot.com). You can also view his journal entries (and those of Missionaries Todd Ohlmann and Peter Evensen) by visiting [lutheranmissions.org](http://lutheranmissions.org) and scrolling down to the bottom of the page.
- New Opportunity in Uganda - The Kinship Committee and CLC Board of Missions has taken on a new and exciting opportunity—supporting a group of twenty orphans in Iganga, Uganda. Please consider becoming a sponsor of one of these children. The commitment is \$45/mo. Kinship is also in need of sponsors for seminary students throughout the world. The financial commitment required to support overseas seminary students is similar, ranging from \$30 to \$50/mo. To become a sponsor or for more information, please contact Dan Roehl at 507-381-2042 or [danroehl@hotmail.com](mailto:danroehl@hotmail.com).
- The CLC General Pastoral Conference will be held next month in Eau Claire WI from Tuesday-Thursday, June 20-22.
- Immanuel Seminary graduate Jonah Albrecht will be ordained and installed as the pastor of Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood WA and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma WA on July 16.
- Black Hills Family Bible Camp: "Camping in the beauty of the Black Hills, studies in the beauty of God's Word. This year we will be learning about and practicing having a better prayer life. There will also be many outdoor activities available such as hiking, climbing/repelling, swimming, kayaking etc. The camp runs from the evening of Friday July 7th through the morning of Tuesday July 11th. To sign up or for more information, you can call Pastor Aaron Ude at (605) 393-1311 or email him at [aaronude@gmail.com](mailto:aaronude@gmail.com)."
- Pacific Coast Women's Retreat – Grow in Grace – October 6-8, 2023 | Cusick, WA – "We welcome all girls and women to our retreat in the beautiful Pacific Northwest! Planes, trains, and automobiles will bring you to Spokane, and then we'll lead you an hour-ish north to the Ponderosa Lodge. "Stay in the Know" by signing up on the Gethsemane Lutheran Church website for periodic updates. <https://gethsemaneclc.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat/> Questions? Contact Tina Eichstadt, [teichstadt@gmail.com](mailto:teichstadt@gmail.com) or 651-398-2386."



## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

May 22-27, '23

**Mon John 7:33-36** When the Chief Priests and Pharisees heard that people were thinking that Jesus might be the Christ, they sent to have Him arrested. Jesus reply suggests that they are not getting rid of Him, but He is returning to the Father (v33). He would remove His visible presence also from His enemies.

**Tues John 7:37-39** Remembering Jesus' ascension into heaven, we await the celebration of the sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Jesus promised this gift to believers even before He was crucified, buried, and risen again.

**Wed Ephesians 1:15-23** The gift of the Spirit has this purpose: to enlighten our hearts to the hope that is ours in Christ, to the richness of our inheritance in Him, and to the resurrection power working on our behalf through Him who was raised to life and seated at God's right hand forever.

**Thur Psalm 42:1-5** As the deer in the wilderness cannot live without water, so our innermost being needs God at all times. Especially when we are away from our regular visible places of worship, we need the inner connection with Him who is "my salvation" (v5).

**Fri Psalm 42:6-11** The Christian's life has its ups and downs. After being lifted up by God's comfort, another trouble casts us down, and some might repeat the taunt again, "Where is your God?" (v3,10). But God's love in Christ is not up and down. It is steadfast in the darkest of nights (v8). Hope in God!

**Sat Matthew 10:16-22** The promise of the Spirit does not mean there will be no trouble or opposition. It is a promise of the right thing to say in the face of such difficulties. For the promised Spirit will make us witnesses before all kinds of people, and He gives us the assurance of salvation at the end of the road because of Jesus (v22).