

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 18, 2025**



**Love  
One  
Another**

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

Thanksgiving For Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

We gather in the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

## Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

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## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*please be seated*

## First Reading

Acts 11:1 - 18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us

at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 148

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.  
<sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**  
<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.  
<sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**  
<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,  
<sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**  
<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;  
<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**  
<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;  
<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**  
<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;  
<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens, old and young together.**  
<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.  
<sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

## Second Reading

Revelation 21: 1 - 6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann

*please stand in body or spirit*

## Gospel Acclamation

#174

### Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*



*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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Gospel

John 13:31 - 35

The Holy Gospel according to John the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Hymn of the Day

“My Song Is Love Unknown”  
(to the tune of Rhosymedre)

#343

*please be seated*

Blessing of Graduates

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” #384 vs. 1 & 4

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*please be seated*

## HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

## Communion Hymns

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

#359

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

#389

*please stand in body or spirit*

## Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

## Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

## Blessing

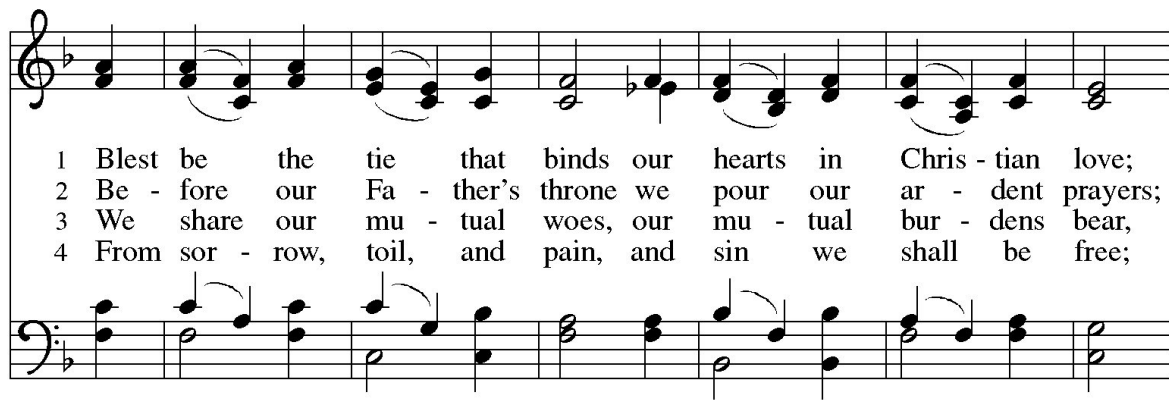
The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come ✠ light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

**Amen.**

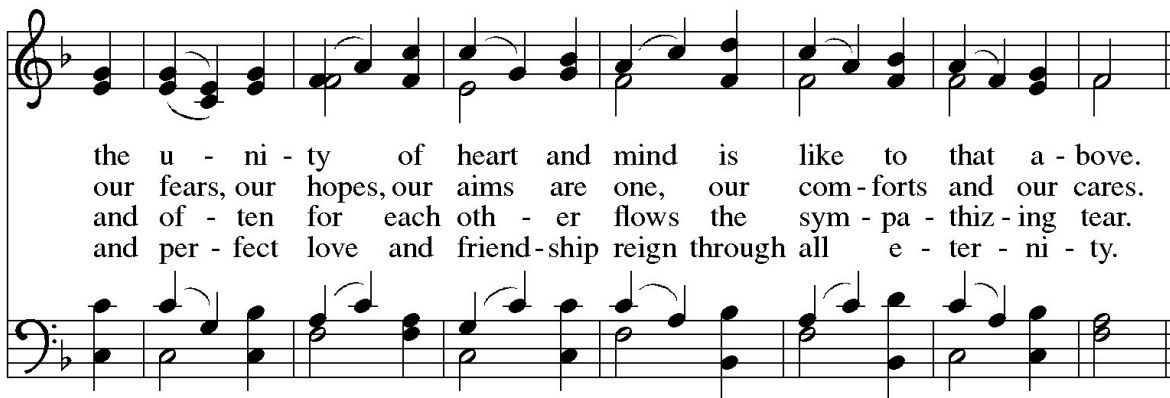
## Sending Hymn

#656

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.



Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

# “NEW LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE”



**Welcome:** Psalm 148 calls all creation to praise the Lord. We join with springtime blooms and buds, more hours of sunlight, newborn animals, singing birds and greening landscapes. Welcome to worship!

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Vern Dean Bohling, Renee Weller, Ron Eickhoff, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Vanessa Doop & baby, Hazel Karstons, Ashley Campbell, David Woolery (friend of Jerry & Melisa Balke), Susan Canfield, Les Bruns, Janelle Howard (daughter of Penny Merriott), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Don Brooks, Vernitta Brooks, Mike Hinkel, Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Stacy Morrison (friend of Teresa Viebrock), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kaleb Mundy, Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Jamie Simon, Joe Campbell, Liz Smart, Art Heimsoth, Cliff Eckhoff, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



**Nursing Home:** Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Marie Viebrock & Florence VonHolten: *GSCC*.

**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Lt. Col. Ron Poe, Major Joseph Strathman, Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (son of Matt & Isabel Hamilton and grandson of Judie VonHolten), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) and Capt. Ashlie Colston (daughter of Jon Beckman).



**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



**New Baby:** Congratulations to Nicholas and Adrienne Dieckman on the arrival of their son, Korbett William. He was born on Saturday, May 10th.

*The red rose on the baptismal font is in celebration of new life.*

**Sunday School:** Sunday School for children and youth will end **today**, for the summer break. The adult class will meet for a few more weeks after that.



**Graduates:** Hallelujah! Let us rejoice with our members who are graduating. We are very proud of all of you and pray that God will continue to guide your way. We will be honoring our graduates during worship **today**. "One Stitch At A Time" will have quilts displayed to be given to our high school graduates. Our graduates for this year are.....Jenna Nash and Braden Poe.


**One Stitch at a Time:** The Sewing Group will meet on Monday, **May 19th** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join the sewing group.



**Circle:** Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **May 19th** at 7:00pm at the home of Rhonda Schlesselman.

**Newsletter:** The Sunbeam Committee will meet on Wednesday, **May 21st** at 3:00pm.



 **Planning:** The Worship & Music Committee will meet on Wednesday, **May 21st** at 3:30pm.

**Meeting:** The Evangelism Committee will meet on Wednesday, **May 21st** at 7:00pm.



**Health Care:** The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **May 22nd** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



**LBPS:** Congratulations to this year's graduates from our Little Blessings Preschool as they move on to kindergarten this coming year. We will celebrate their accomplishments on Thursday, **May 22nd** at a Moving Up Ceremony at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.

**Calling All Fishermen!** We're in need of fish for our upcoming Fish Fry on Sunday, **June 1st!** If you're a fisherman or know someone who can help, we'd love to have your catch to make this event successful. Your support will help us serve delicious meals and raise funds for the mission. Please contact Krista Poe or Debbie Eckhoff if you're able to contribute. We appreciate your generosity and willingness to help! Thank you and God bless!



**Synod Assembly:** Synod Assembly is **June 5th - 7th.** Please remember our delegates Greg Bredehoeft, Janice Gerken and Pastor Stephen Zeller in your prayers during those days.

**Confirmands:** On Sunday, **June 8th** we will share in the joy of the Rite of Confirmation for three of our members. They are Grady Elliott, Ben Goosen and Grant Kullman.



**Ladies of St. Paul's:** The Central States Women of the ELCA will be holding their **Bi-Annual Synodical Convention in Independence, MO at the Hilton Garden Inn on June 20-22, 2025.**

The theme of the convention is Vessels of Grace. The convention will open with an evening meal at 5:00 on Friday, June 20 and conclude with closing worship on Sunday, June 22.

The board has been hard at work to make this an inspiring convention with keynote speaker, worship led by Bishop Candea, informative breakout sessions, Sing-a-longs, Bingo and our Saturday night musical highlight with the "Potter's Wheel". Our own praise band will be part of our worship on Friday evening.

Registration forms can be found at each usher's stand. See Janice for questions. **ALL women are invited to relax, shop, be inspired/informed, and worship with other Lutheran women from Kansas and Missouri!**

**Ice Cream Social:** The Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, **June 22nd** beginning at 6:00pm. Entertainment will begin at 7:00pm.



**VBS:** Mark your calendars for this year's VBS, **July 7th - 11th!** We'll gather around the "campfire" and explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. See you there!

**Mid-MO Bible Camp:** This year's Mid-MO Bible Camp will be Sunday, **July 20th** - Thursday, **July 24th**, at the usual place, Camp Rising Sun in Lake of the Ozarks State Park. It's for youth who this summer have completed 4th - 9th grades. Friends are invited! Cost is \$100 per camper, but St. Paul's will pay for half of the fee for our members and a friend. Registration forms are on the usher's stands at church and are due by June 27th. Adult volunteers during the week - for a couple hours or a couple days - are always welcomed and needed! Talk to Pastor Stephen if you have any questions!



### ~ \* ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~ \* ~



**Picnic 'n Pickin' in the Park:** The Cole Camp Chamber presents the 4th Annual Picnic 'n Pickin' in the Park **today** from 1:00pm until 7:00pm. There will be three bluegrass bands; The Crawford Crew, Potters Wheel and Hensley Boys. This is free admission to a wonderful evening of great music.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

<b>Sunday, May 18:</b>	8:45am	Confirmation
	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
		Graduate Recognition
<b>Monday, May 19:</b>	9:00am	Sewing
	7:00pm	Esther Circle
<b>Wednesday, May 21:</b>	3:00pm	Sunbeam
	3:30pm	Worship & Music
	7:00pm	Evangelism
	8:00am	BCHD
<b>Thursday, May 22:</b>		
<b>Saturday, May 24:</b>	5:30pm	Casual Worship Service
<b>Sunday, May 25:</b>	9:00am	Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations



**~ \* ~ Coming Events ~ \* ~**

May 26 .....	Memorial Day
June 1 .....	World Hunger Fish Fry
June 5-7 .....	Synod Assembly
June 8 .....	Confirmation Sunday

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

<b>Ministers</b>	.....The Whole Congregation
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	.....Pastor Stephen Zeller
<b>Organist</b>	.....Lois Viebrock
<b>Pianist</b>	.....Jeannette VonHoltzen
<b>AV Technicians</b>	.....Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
<b>Altar Guild</b>	.....Shirley Cash & Norma Schlesselman
<b>Ushers</b>	.....Melinda Strathman, Head Usher
	....Nicholas Dieckman, Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett.



## Fifth Sunday Of Easter ~ May 18, 2025

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	.....Sandy Schlesselman
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	.....Luther League
<b>Reader</b>	.....Lynn Schear
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	.....Joyce Schlesselmann
<b>Acolytes</b>	.....Mason Randall & Lena Smith
<b>Flowers</b>	.....Norma Schlesselman



## Ascension Sunday ~ May 25, 2025

<b>Assisting Minister</b>	.....Janice Gerken
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	.....Susan Goosen & Trisha Goosen
<b>Reader</b>	.....Rhonda Schlesselman
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	.....Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
<b>Acolytes</b>	.....Gannon Elliott & Kelsey Viebrock
<b>Flowers</b>	.....Wanda Viebrock



**Sing God's Praises!**