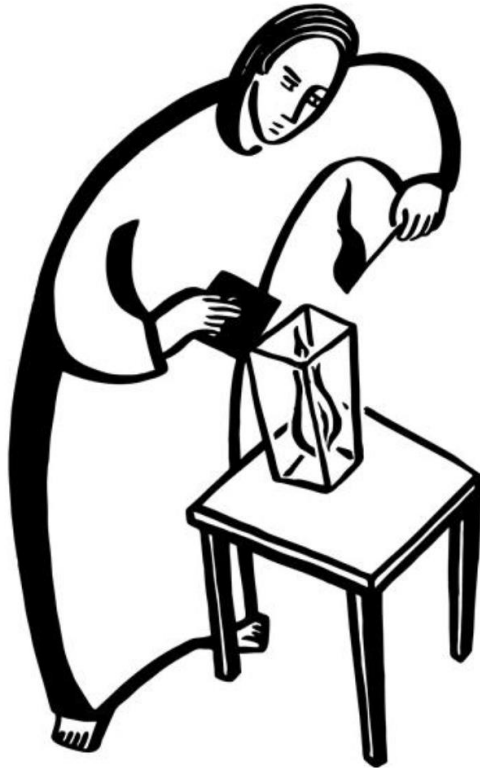


# St. Paul Lutheran Smithville



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 10, 2025

## *Prelude*

## *Welcome*

### *\*Confession and Forgiveness*

P: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**C: Amen.**

*\*Gathering Hymn: # 436 "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"*

- 1 **Wake, awake, for night is flying,  
the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
awake, Jerusalem, at last.  
Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.  
The bridegroom comes! Awake;  
your lamps with gladness take!"  
Alleluia!  
Rise and prepare the feast to share;  
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.**
- 2 **Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
and all her heart with joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,  
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
Now come, O Blessed One,  
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.  
Sing hosanna!  
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
and follow to the banquet hall.      *(Continued on next page.)***

**3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!**  
**Let saints and angels sing before you,**  
**with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.**  
**Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,**  
**lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,**  
**with angel choirs around your throne.**  
**No eye has caught the light,**  
**no ear the thund'ring might**  
**of such glory.**  
**There we will go: what joy we'll know!**  
**There sweet delight will ever flow.**

*Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite*  
*Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.*

***\*Greeting & Call to Worship***

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

**C: And also with you.**

**A:** When we long for your presence,

**C: you are there with us, O source of comfort.**

**A:** When we face dangers and perils,

**C: you are there for us, O source of strength.**

**A:** When we need to do justice,

**C: you are there within us, O source of courage.**

**A:** So we come with songs and praises,

**C: trusting that you are here with us now, as you have promised that you are.**

P: Let us praise God!

**C: Amen**

*\*Prayer of the Day*

A: Let us pray. Almighty God,

**C: you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

*First Reading:* Genesis 15:1-6

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***Responsive Reading:*** Psalm 33:12-22

R: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

**C: The Lord looks down from heaven;  
he sees all humankind.**

R: From where he sits enthroned he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth—

**C: he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.**

R: A king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**C: The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
and by its great might it cannot save.**

R: Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

**C: to deliver their soul from death  
and to keep them alive in famine.**

R: Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and shield.

**C: Our heart is glad in him  
because we trust in his holy name.**

R: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

***Second Reading:*** Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

R: The word of the Lord.           **C: Thanks be to God.**

R: Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the book of Luke the twelfth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Luke 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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



## Children's Sermon

**Sermon:** Pastor Kristy Buyok

### *\*Hymn of the Day: # 618 "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"*



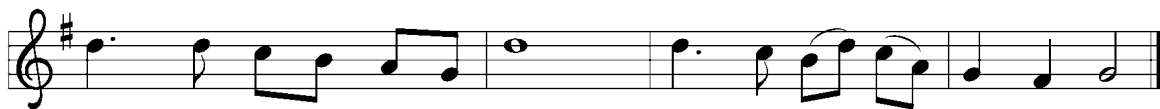
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.  
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

## *The Apostle's Creed*

A: Together, let us confess our shared faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic (*universal*) church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## *\*The Prayers*

A: In solidarity with all creation, we pray with the whole church and for the needs of the world.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

A: Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war, violence, division and lies. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Let your lovingkindness be on those in need. We ask your special care for Evan, Ken, Betsy, Jared, Dave, Lorinda, Bob, Annette, Pat and Karen. We also pray for the St. Paul families of the week: Carol, Jason, Lesley, Aleena, and Zachary. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Bless those who were elected at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, especially our new Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Rev. Keniel Curry.

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Trusting in your kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

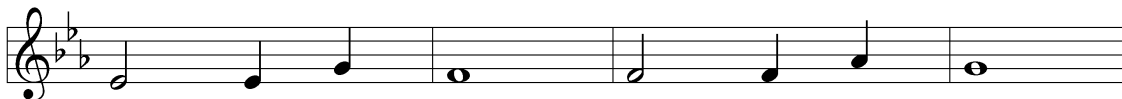
**C: Amen.**

*\*Sharing of the Peace*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

***\*Offertory: "God Is So Good"***



1 God is so good, God is so good.  
2 He cares for me, he cares for me,  
3 He saved my soul, he saved my soul.  
4 I praise his name, I praise his name,



God is so good, he's so good to me.  
he cares for me, he's so good to me.  
he saved my soul, he's so good to me.  
I praise his name, he's so good to me.

Text: traditional

Music: GOD IS SO GOOD, traditional

***\*Offertory Prayer***

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** We thank you for all the blessings you have given to us.

Use these gifts we offer as a sign of our gratitude  
and in order to glorify you in this place.

In your holy name we pray.

**Amen.**

***\*The Great Thanksgiving:***

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

You stand with those who suffer,  
offering them strength.

You give a mission and purpose  
to your people.

You turn fear into hope by your very presence.

Therefore we join our praise and prayer with all those on Earth  
and in heaven as we say:

**C: Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed are you, our Savior and Lord!**

***\*Words of Institution***

P: In the night in which he was betrayed...

P: Remembering your goodness and grace,  
we offer ourselves to you with gratitude  
as we pray the prayer you taught us:

*\*The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

*Invitation to Communion*

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

*Holy Communion*

*(All baptized Christians are welcomed at God's holy meal.)*

P: This is the body of Christ given for you.

*(You may eat your wafer)*

P: This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

*(You may drink the wine from your cup)*

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Communion Hymn: "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"**  
**(Congregation sing only the Refrain.)**



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your  
 2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er  
 3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the  
 4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps  
 mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night  
 morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing  
 lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
 lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.  
 soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
 trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

*Refrain*



Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual



**Communion Hymn: # 721 "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"**



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931

Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.

Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)

***\*Post Communion Blessing***

***\*Benediction***

*\*Sending Hymn: # 763 “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”*



1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

*\*Dismissal*

**A:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## ***Postlude***

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### ***Your Prayers Are Requested For:***

***Evan, Ken, Jared, Betsy, Dave, Lorinda, Bob, Annette, Pat, and Karen  
Fisher***

### ***St. Paul Families of the week:***

***Carol Lantz, and Jason, Lesley, Aleena, and Zachary Mast***

***The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Jerry & Kathy  
Meitzler***

### ***Thank you to those serving this morning***

**Pastor: Rev. Kristy Buyok**

**Cantor: Lesley Mast**

**Assisting Minister: Hans Kwee**

**Lector: Zach Mast**

**Pianist: Joe Hennell**

**Communion Assistant: Tim Preston**

**Altar Care: Rex & Beth Raff**

**Ushers/Greeters: Duane & Robin Eggeman**

**Bread Baker: Nancy Carr**



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Worship Services are streamed each Sunday at:

[www.stplcsmithville.org/services](http://www.stplcsmithville.org/services)

If you are unable to access via the internet,  
DVD copies are available for delivery to your home.

Please contact Pastor Kristy: (803) 673-1727.

[stplcsmithville.org](http://stplcsmithville.org)

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### **This Week**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Worship Parents of Youth planning meeting	9:30 a.m.
<b>Monday:</b>	<i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Church Council	6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Wednesday Meal	5:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday:</b>	Euchre Day	11:30 a.m.
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Worship	9:30 a.m.

### **Upcoming & Announcements**

**Parents of Youth & Kids Meeting:** Following Worship today, August 10, there will be a brief meeting to go over schedules for youth activities taking place over the school year. Please meet in the room across from the nursery.

**50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary:** Come celebrate Terry & Kathy Bumgardner's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, August 23 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. At Smithville Church of the Brethren. Light refreshments and cake provided. No gifts necessary. *Please RSVP by August 16<sup>th</sup> to [Adbum30@gmail.com](mailto:Adbum30@gmail.com).*

**New Member Sunday:** Welcome new members Mike & Kathy Smith on August 24. Stay and join us after Worship for a cake reception.

**People to People:** Stacking the shelves for People to People: canned mandarin oranges, canned chicken, pork & beans, rice, and shampoo. Vegetables from your garden are also appreciated. Thank you for contributing to this mission.

**Blanket Sunday & Quilt Dedication:** On August 31, during our Worship service we will ask God's blessing on donated blankets and the quilts lovingly made by our quilters throughout the year. The quilts will be sent to Lutheran World Relief as well as to local hospitals and charities. If you would like to donate, please bring in any new or gently used blankets, baby blankets, or afghans.





Scan the QR code to view our website or to donate thru Paypal.

### **Wednesday Night Meals**

August 13 – Pulled pork sandwiches, chips, and dessert

August 20- Kitchen Committee casserole, pasta salad, and dessert

August 27- Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, and dessert

<b>Serving in August In-Person</b>	<b>8/3</b>	<b>8/10</b>	<b>8/17</b>	<b>8/24</b>	<b>8/31</b>
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Lynn Moomaw	Zach Mast	Lyn Miller	Heather Blough	Hans Kwee
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Lynn Moomaw	Hans Kwee	Pam Root	Aleena Mast	Adrienne Karlen
<b>Greeters/ Ushers</b>	Bob Race & Pat Badger	Duane & Robin Eggeman	Jerry Meitzler Ernie Buyok	Alvin Rehm Tim Preston	Rex Raff Jason Mast
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Nancy Carr	Tim Preston	Ernie Buyok	Alvin Rehm	Lynn Moomaw
<b>Altar Care</b>	Jerry Meitzler	Rex & Beth Raff	Larry & Sandy Allen	Lyn Miller	Zach Mast Tim Preston
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr

*Rev. Kristy Buyok, Pastor; 803-673-1727  
www.stplcsmithville.org; stpsmithville@gmail.com*