St. Paul's Lutheran Church Pentecost 13 September 7, 2025

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,

C we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C Amen.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair. Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin. Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE (vs. 1 & 4)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

FIRST READING: Genesis 14:8-17, 21-24, 15:1, 12-18

⁸ Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, that is, Zoar, went out, and they joined battle in the Valley of Siddim 9 with King Chedorlaomer of Elam, King Tidal of Goiim, King Amraphel of Shinar, and King Arioch of Ellasar, four kings against five. 10 Now the Valley of Siddim was full of bitumen pits, and as the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into them, and the rest fled to the hill country. 11 So the enemy took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their provisions and went their way; 12 they also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who lived in Sodom, and his goods and departed. ¹³ Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner; these were allies of Abram. 14 When Abram heard that his nephew had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, three hundred eighteen of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and routed them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. ¹⁶ Then he brought back all the goods and also brought back

his nephew Lot with his goods and the women and the people. ¹⁷ After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh, that is, the King's Valley.

²¹ Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." ²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to God Most High, maker of heaven and earth, ²³ that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, so that you might not say, 'I have made Abram rich.' ²⁴ I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten and the share of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their share."

¹ 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."

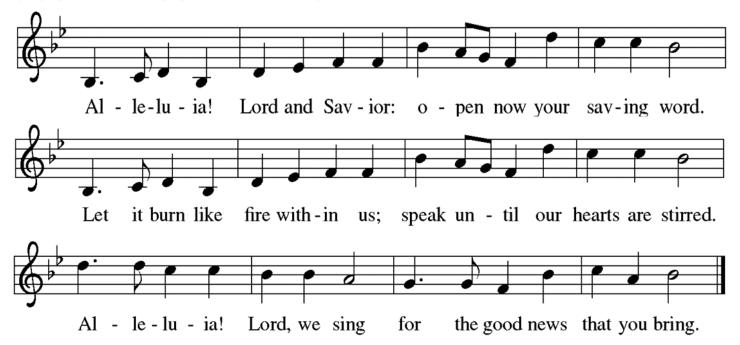
¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹³ Then the Lord said to Abram, "Know this for certain, that your offspring

shall be aliens in a land that is not theirs and shall be slaves there, and they shall be oppressed for four hundred years, ¹⁴ but I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ As for yourself, you shall go to your ancestors in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." ¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it

will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Timothy Holt

HYMN OF THE DAY

WOV 771 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

APOSTLE'S CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely. (We pray especially for Joe Alles, Zach Andry, Ron Bauer, Judy Beckman, Karen Bettag, Clint Breitweiser, Martha Buchta, Angie Danzer, Courtney Hagedorn Drew, Juanita Hembree, Brenda, Lana Hoffman, Ann Hopf, Mary Ann Jerger, Carol Keller, Tammy Kieffner, Zach Leinenbach, Larry Lorey, Bob Lottes, Melvin Meyer, Logan Musgrave, Pat Opel, Tammy Peek, Remington Rainey, Adam Ramsey, Steve Rothgerber, Melody Saylor, Annette Schepers, Kaine Seitz, Larry Sendelweck, Makenzie VanHoy, and all those we name before you either silently or aloud.) May they find healing through your love and the care of

those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray that you guide the military serving to protect us. Grant them safety and wisdom to carry out their assigned duties. (We pray especially for Austin Breitwieser, Luke Himsel, and Cooper Uebelhor.) God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Verse 1 only)



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

C Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children who have not yet received instruction about Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. As you approach the communion assistant, the first will hand you the bread. Take and eat it. Then take a communion cup from the tray. After you have taken the wine, place your empty cup in the tray table beside the pillar.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

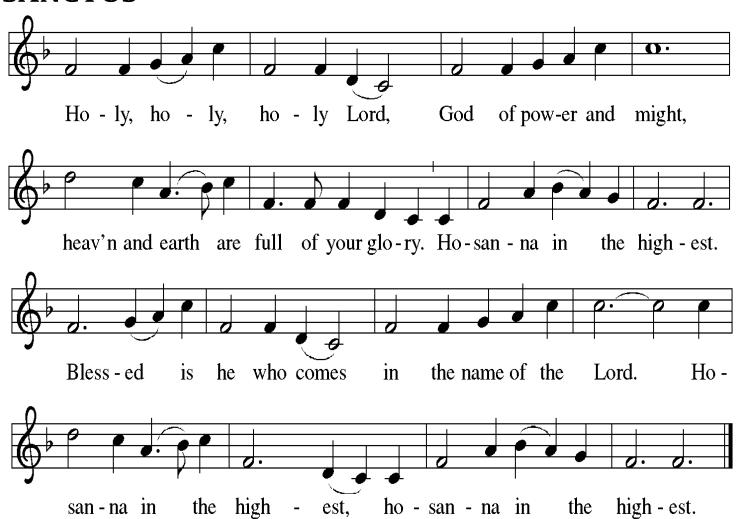
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

peace with

WOV 699 "Blessed Assurance" WOV 690 "Shall We Gather at the River" WOV 723 "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (Verse 1 only)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray

C Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

LBW 377 "Lift High the Cross" (vs 1, 2, 5)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

<u>Mission Statement:</u> Worship Boldly, Empower for Discipleship, Cultivate Spiritual Maturity, Strengthen Community, Serve.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR YOUR SERVICE TODAY:

Greeters: Wayne & JoAnn Schnarr

Comm. Asst: Debbie Bauer

Video: Jeff Schmitt

Organist: Barb Dell

Lay Reader: Sandy Schaus

Audio: Keith Keller

Acolytes: Trace Weisheit

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 153 SS:



CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF Sept. 7th – Sept 14th

Sun. Sept. 7th 9:00 AM Sunday Worship Service

Wed. Sept. 10th 6:30 PM Handbell Practice

Thurs. Sept. 11th 1:00 PM Blanket Tacking

12:00 PM Worship & Music

Sun. Sept. 14th 9:00 AM Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM Sunday School Kick-off

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are presented in honor of Linda Mason and her late husband's wedding anniversary.

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Budget worksheets are available in each committee's mail slot in the office. Please complete and return to the office *no later than September 20*. Please speak with Treasurer, Jeff Schmitt if you have any questions or concerns.

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WELCA will be making ham salad Sept. 15th and 16th with pick-up on the 16th and 17th. Volunteers are needed to help make and sell the ham salad. There is a volunteer sheet on the welcome center desk for anyone interested in helping. We have a great time while making money for the church.

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There will be an **LYO** meeting on Sunday, September 21st in the fellowship hall following the service. Members who are in Confirmation through high school Seniors are invited!

-Tara Betz

The **Strassenfest Committee** would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped, contributed, or supported us in any way this year. Thanks to your incredible efforts and generosity, we had a very successful festival and sold out every item!

We are thrilled to announce that we've raised \$11,000 to contribute to the Sacred Places Grant. Over the 18 years, our fundraising team has proudly donated a total of \$151,222.22 to the church, this money went to building fund, general fund and fixing issues that arise in our church.

This success would not be possible without the time, energy, and teamwork everyone brings. Along the way, we've built new friendships, shared many laughs, created lasting memories, and proudly spread the name of our church throughout the community.

Thank you all for being part of this journey! ~ Erin Kalb

The Jesus Bags have been refreshed, cleaned out, and filled with new items for the children!

- Blue and green bags include items geared toward boys' interests.
- Pink and yellow bags include items geared toward girls' interests.

We invite families to pick up a bag for their child to enjoy during worship.

- Stephanie Stemle

WELCA is sponsoring a Life Stories writing class with Martha Rasche.
Martha believes everyone's story matters, and she uses a mix of prompts, conversation and examples



to help others write their stories to share with their families. The class will meet from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays from Sept. 23 through Oct. 28 at the church. The fee is \$100. To register or if you have any questions, call Martha at 812-630-8992.



YOUTH ART SALE

When: Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 10:00

Where: Welcome Center

Who: All church members

What: Browse/Purchase children's painted canvases
Proceeds will go towards Sunday School with 10% given to the
Basement Renovation Project

ST. PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2025

9/14

Kick-Off Day: Youth Art Show

9/21

PreK-1st: Welcome Day: Intro + Routines

2nd-6th: Welcome Day: Intro + Routines

9/28

PreK-1st: Jesus Calls Disciples

2nd-6th: David as King





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Monday, September 8th 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall 556 W Haysville Rd, Jasper

Give blood 8/29 to 9/21 for 1 of 4 mystery tees with an iconic Red Cross x PEANUTS design, ltd. qty!

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: StPaulsJasper to schedule an appointment.



Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

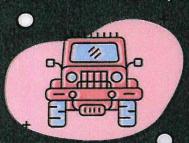
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Benefit Fundraiser for

Sunday, Sept. 14 9:00 - 5:00 PM

Secret Meadow Event Barn - Celestine, IN



JEEP RUN

\$10/person Registration 9:00-10:45 Leave at 11:00 - Back by 2:00

SILENT AUCTION

Bid on your favorite items! Contact Melissa 812-630-1214 to donate. Final bids at 4:00 - must be present to collect prizes.

Lana Hoffman

PRE-ORDER MEALS - \$15

Prepared by Finn's

Pulled Pork, Potato Salad, Baked Beans

Pre-order by Sept. 1

Venmo: @Lana-Hoffman-76

Pickup Time: 2-4:00 at Event Barn or Finn's Text name, quantity & pick up location to:

Melissa 812-630-1214 or

Angie 812-556-8392



BAKE SALE
Contact Stacy at
812-631-1274 to
donate items



Crisis Connection is here for our neighbors in times of need, offering compassionate support, advocacy, and resources to those facing domestic violence, sexual assault, and other life challenges. Want to join in making a difference?

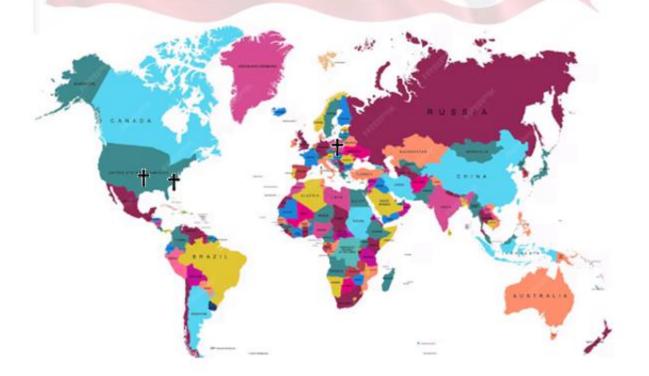
Purchase a Great Getaway Raffle ticket and help support their mission!

Contact Board Members, Deidra Church or Renee Kabrick to buy a ticket. They can accept cash, checks made payable to Crisis Connection, or Venmo. Emanuel Lutheran Hill Church of rural Dubois, Indiana, will hold the annual homecoming on Sunday, September 21st at 2:30 p.m. Rev. Tim Kraemer of Christ Lutheran will conduct the service. Holy Communion will be celebrated during the service. After the service, there will be a carry-in meal in the old schoolhouse. The public is invited to come and join the activities at the old Hill Church.

TOGETHER .D ABUSE FEATURED MUSIC BY SEPT. 19TH 5:30PM JASPER RIVER CENTER STUDEBAKER & FRIENDS FAMILY FRIENDLY FREE ENTRY AKACIA springsvalley

In Service to Our Country

Austin Breitwieser AMC Luke Himsel Cooper Uebelhor Redzikowo, Poland Virginia Beach, VA Colorado Springs, CO



you are powerful strong & beautiful