

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Fifth Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday

May 18, 2025
9:30 a.m.



Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, especially to guests visiting on this day when several of our youth are confirmed. Confirmation is a custom of the church that links the catechumens to their Baptism, celebrates the reception of the Lord's Word among them and welcomes them to the Lord's Table. Confirmation declares of a catechumen that he or she is a Christian who has been baptized, confesses the faith, and is in communion with Christ and His Church. This rite emphasizes God's work in Baptism, the gift of faith, and the benefits of the Lord's Supper for all who believe in Christ and in the words of His testament. It assumes that ongoing catechesis (teaching the faith) is the way of life for the faithful Christian. St. Paul's acknowledges this in the ongoing teaching of the faith in our school, in Bible study, and in the weekly proclamation of the Gospel in the Divine Service.

To our guests regarding Holy Communion

Since Holy Scripture clearly teaches that receiving Holy Communion together is an expression of doctrinal unity, **we welcome to the Lord's Table members of St. Paul's and regular communicants who are members of sister congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.** Otherwise, and if you have any concerns, please speak with Pastor Hoem or Pastor Cage before the service.

✠ *In Nomine Jesu* ✠

Stand

Processional Hymn 483 *With High Delight Let Us Unite*



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van-quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Saith He, who
love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001620

Invocation, Confession and Absolution – p. 151

Hymn of Praise *This Is the Feast* – p. 155

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading *Acts 11:1–18*

Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” But Peter began and explained it to them in order: “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle *Revelation 21:1–7*

Then 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. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And 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 from the spring of the water of life

without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Choral Alleluia and Verse

Healey Willan

Alleluia! Christ being raised from the dead will die no more; death has no more dominion over him.

Alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel *John 16:12–22*



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day 633 *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

The choir sings stanzas 2 and 5.

Sermon

Rite of Confirmation

The congregation follows the rite in the front of the hymnal on page 272.

St. Paul's 2025 Confirmation Class

Michael Jancso
Proverbs 3:5-6

Myelle Macon
Matthew 21:22

Aidan Morgan
Matthew 21:22

Savannah Jessie
Psalm 37:5

James Marth
Psalm 23:1

Olivia Roberts
Acts 16:31

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Offertory *What Shall I Render* – p. 159

Stand

Service of the Sacrament – p. 160

Visitors, please refer to the announcement about Holy Communion on the front cover of the bulletin.

Sit

During the Distribution

Hymn 756 *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*

Choral Music During the Distribution

O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Near

The text is found at LSB 599, stanzas 1, 4-6.

setting by Ralph C. Schultz

Hymn 484 *Make Songs of Joy*

Hymn 680 *Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise*

Stand

Collect and Benediction – p. 166

Recessional Hymn 818 *In Thee Is Gladness*



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, We fear no pow - ers, Not of

sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -

heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the

wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -

cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for

pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him

To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!



Participants

Preacher	Rev. Peter C. Cage
Celebrant	Rev. Joe Hoem
Assisting	Seminarians Wesley Deiss and Jon Pietrowski, Rev. Dr. Todd Peperkorn, Rev. Dr. Don Wiley
Crucifer	Finn McMullen
Torchbearers	Noah Machemer, Monte McMullen
Musicians	Rev. Dr. Paul Grime, organist



Upcoming Services

Thursday, May 29
The Ascension of Our Lord
Divine Service, 6:30 p.m.

God's People at Prayer

"TAKE-ALONG FOR HOME DEVOTIONS"

Readings from Holy Scripture

The following can be read in the morning and evening, as suggested here, or in any way that best works with your schedule.

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Sunday	Lev. 20:1–16, 22–27	Luke 11:37–54
Monday	Lev. 21:1–24	Luke 12:1–12
Tuesday	Lev. 23:1–22	Luke 12:13–34
Wednesday	Lev. 23:23–44	Luke 12:35–53
Thursday	Lev. 24:1–23	Luke 12:54–13:17
Friday	Lev. 26:1–20	Luke 13:18–35
Saturday	Lev. 26:21–33, 39–44	Luke 14:1–24

Table of Duties

To Husbands

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. (1 Peter 3:7)

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. (Col. 3:19)

To Wives

Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. (Eph. 5:22)

They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. (1 Peter 3:5–6)

To Parents

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (Eph. 6:4)

To Children

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and your mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—"that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." (Eph. 6:1–3)

For Next Sunday

Acts 16:9–15; Revelation 21:9–14, 21–27; John 16:23–33

Daily Prayer

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Prayer for Others and Ourselves

For each day of the week, let the following topics guide your prayer. Also include members from the congregation as listed under "Intercessions and Thanksgivings" on the insert sheet.

Sunday: For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

Monday: For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

Tuesday: For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

Wednesday: For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

Thursday: For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

Friday: For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

Saturday: For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

Lord's Prayer

Final Collect

Visit, O Lord, the homes in which Your people dwell, and keep all harm and danger far from them. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Hymn

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!

A home that is not wholly
His—How sad and poor
and dark it is!

Oh, blest that house; it prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless His own.

(LSB 862:1, 4)