

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 am

August 2, 2026



Food for the Soul

AS WE GATHER

We face so many arguments about food these days. Go organic. Go gluten free. Go low carb. Go vegan. Go GMO free. Our culture is deeply concerned about what sort of food we put in our bodies, because the old saying “you are what you eat” is fairly accurate. While what sort of food we put into our bodies is an important concern, Jesus compels us to make another kind of food an even higher priority than the food we chew and digest. Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Jesus feeds five thousand people, thereby revealing that He is the Word of God Incarnate, the food that feeds more than our stomachs. Jesus feeds our souls. This was foreseen by the prophet Isaiah who wrote, “Come, everyone who thirsts . . . **incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live.**” The food we put into our bodies is important. Even more important is to gather in church for food that feeds the soul!

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
for His steadfast love endures forever” --Psalm 136:1

WELCOME — Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

RINGING OF THE BELL

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship.
 Come, now is the time to give your heart.
 Come, just as you are to worship.
 Come, just as you are before your God,
 Come.

One day every tongue will confess You are
 God.

One day every knee will bow.

Still the greatest treasure remains for
 those

Who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship.
 Come, now is the time to give your heart.
 Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are before your God,
 Come.

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.
 Willingly our knees will bow.
 With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength
 We gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship.
 Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship.
 Come, just as you are before your God,
 Come --- Come ---
 Come, just as you are, Come! ---Come!

Confession and Absolution

Stand

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Kyrie

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lord of creation, You open wide Your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

People: You feed our souls with the true Bread from heaven, Jesus, our Savior.

Pastor: Help us to receive the Bread of Life with joy,

People: so that we may participate in Your providing bread for the world, both body and soul;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Epistle*Romans 9:1–5*

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 14:13–21* (Jesus provides food in a desolate place.)

Reader: ¹³ As soon as Jesus heard the news, he left in a boat to a remote area to be alone. But the crowds heard where he was headed and followed on foot from many towns. ¹⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵ That evening the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.”

People: ¹⁶ But Jesus said, “That isn’t necessary—you feed them.”

¹⁷ “But we have only five loaves of bread and two fish!” they answered.

Reader: ¹⁸ “Bring them here,” he said. ¹⁹ Then he told the people to sit down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he gave the bread to the disciples, who distributed it to the people. ²⁰ They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. ²¹ About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Faithful Still

Verse 1

When my heart is racing
 deep inside my chest
 When I'm underneath the
 weight of anxiousness
 When my fear is raging
 and I can't catch my breath
 I will remember

Chorus

You are faithful still
 You have carried me
 through deeper waters
 Walked beside me
 through the fire
 Faithful still
 You have closed the

mouth of bigger lions
 Conquered even
 greater giants
 Gone before me and
 You always will
 You are faithful still

Verse 2

God You saw this long
 before I ever knew
 And Your peace is waiting
 here to see me through
 My deliverance is

only found in You
 So I will surrender

Chorus

You are faithful still
 You have carried me
 through deeper waters
 Walked beside me
 through the fire
 Faithful still
 You have closed the
 mouth of bigger lions
 Conquered even
 greater giants
 Gone before me and
 You always will
 You are faithful still

Bridge

I have a hope I have a future
 I'm a child of the Mountain Mover (4X)

Chorus

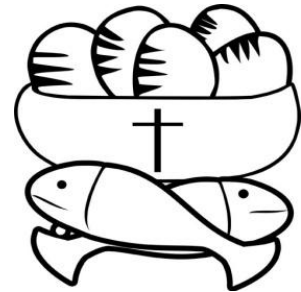
You are faithful still
 You have carried me
 through deeper waters
 Walked beside me
 through the fire
 Faithful still
 You have closed the
 mouth of bigger lions

Conquered even
greater giants
Gone before me and
You always will
You are faithful still

I have a hope I have a future
I'm a child of the Mountain Mover (2X)
... You are faithful still

Sermon - PROBLEMS OR POSSIBILITIES?!

2 fish + 5 loaves = what Christ can do
to nourish and challenge you!



**Christ, the living bread from heaven,
Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given,
Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven,
Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water
Springing up eternally.**



Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us go to our heavenly Father with prayers, praise, and thanksgiving. For those who have not truly heard the grace offered to all through the everlasting covenant given to David, but rely on the letter of the Law, expecting justice instead of mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Open their ears to hear and move people of faith to call them to turn to Your gracious invitation.**

Pastor: For the Holy Spirit's work through Word and Sacrament to instill and strengthen the faith of all who call out to God in hope and trust, let us praise the Lord.

People: Praise to You, heavenly Father, through Christ our Lord, for the gift of faith by the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With one another and our brothers and sisters around the world, for all God's promises, which endure forever, let us thank our gracious God.

People: Thanks be to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for Your steadfast love.

Pastor: For all who face this day with little or no food, with poor shelter and tattered clothes, without caring support or necessities, dealing with ongoing oppression and persecution, struggling through long-term ills and sudden man-made or natural disasters, *[including . . .]*, that our gracious God would visit, relieve, strengthen, and surround them with caring people and the precious Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear our prayers for them and the longing in their hearts, gracious Lord. Use us and our gifts to be part of Your answer to their fervent prayers.

Pastor: We bring all these things to You in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering box you will find at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

Stand

Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Service of the Sacrament

Please see our communion policy stated on the inside front cover.

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Sit

Distribution COMMUNION WINE: For those who may not be able to take regular wine, we offer non-alcoholic wine, which is the light colored wine in the center of the communion tray.

++ We offer **Gluten-free** wafers upon request. ++



We Fall Down

We fall down,
 We lay our crowns
 At the feet of Jesus.

The greatness of
 Mercy and love
 At the feet of Jesus.

And we cry holy, holy, holy.
 And we cry holy, holy, holy.

And we cry holy, holy, holy
 Is the Lamb.

We fall down,
 We lay our crowns
 At the feet of Jesus.

The greatness of
 Mercy and love
 At the feet of Jesus.

And we cry holy, holy, holy.
 And we cry holy, holy, holy.
 And we cry holy, holy, holy
 Is the Lamb.

Build My Life

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing.
 Worthy of all the praise we could ever
 bring.
 Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
 breathe.
 We live for You.

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name.
 Jesus the only one who could ever save.
 Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
 breathe.
 We live for You.
 We live for You.

Chorus

Holy, there is no one like You.
 There is none beside You.
 Open up my eyes in wonder. And...
 Show me who You are and
 fill me with Your heart. And
 Lead me in your love to those around me.

Verse

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name.
 Jesus the only one who could ever save.
 Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
 breathe.

And we cry holy, holy, holy.
 And we cry holy, holy, holy.
 And we cry holy, holy, holy
 Is the Lamb.

We live for You.
 We live for You.

Chorus

Holy, there is no one like You.
 There is none beside You.
 Open up my eyes in wonder. And...
 Show me who You are and
 Fill me with Your heart. And...
 Lead me in Your love to those around me.

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love.
 It is a firm foundation.
 And I will put my trust in You alone.
 And I will not be shaken. (2X)

Chorus

Holy, there is no one like You.
 There is none beside You.
 Open up my eyes in wonder. And...
 Show me who You are and
 Fill me with Your heart. And...
 Lead me in Your love to those around me
 (2X)

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, to this world so hungry for what is truly good and what can truly satisfy our hungry hearts, You send Jesus, the Bread of Life. For joining us together in the Body of Christ and for forgiving our sins in this Holy Communion, we give thanks. Give our restless and tired hearts rest in You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: Nourished by the Word of Christ and fed by Christ's body and blood, you are sent out into the world in the name of Jesus to fill the hungry with good things...

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

THE INVITATIONS

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name, in the land
that is plentiful.
Where Your streams of abundance
flow,
Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name, when I'm
found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the
wilderness,
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn
back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord,
Still I will say,

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name, when the
sun's shining down on me.
When the world's all as it should be,
Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name, on the road
marked with suffering.
Though there's pain in the offering,
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn
back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord,
Still I will say,

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your glorious name.

You give and take away.
You give and take away.
and forever I will say,
Blessed be Your name.

You give and take away.
You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say,
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your glorious name (2x)

Need some PRAYER? Anyone who desires special private prayer with a pastor or a Minister may do so by coming forward after service to one of the front pews.

Stephen

Our Vision — a place to come for comfort, support, answers, opportunities to serve, and to strengthen a salvation relationship with Jesus



WHERE WE SERVE

Preacher/Officiant	Pastor Christopher Fairbairn
Music Director	Paul Ventimiglia
Guest Pianist	Anthony Viviano
Family Life	Jeanette Koch
Elder	Scott Huggins
Ushers	Mark Baumgarten Patrick Baker
Greeter	Roman Family
Counters	Melissa Raikes Kathy Verseman Dennis Verseman
Welcome Center	Marilyn Edick
Tech Team	Shibu George
Acolyte	Luke Donaldson
Altar Society	Nancy Berg Elyse Huskey Michael Huskey
Praise Team	Kurt Menhart Hannah Hughes Sarah Hughes Chris Englert Linda Johnson Alexandra Vago (Bass Gtr)

Remember Our Homebound

Jean Pichan
Northville Pointe Senior Living
40405 6 Mile Rd.
Northville, MI 48168

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities

SUNDAYS: Join us for Bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.
SATURDAYS: Men's Bible Study – Every 1st and 3rd Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall

Attendance Last week: 7.26.2026– Attendance – 8:30am – 123 + 11:00am – 65 = 188

Received week of 7.26.2026 for **Church** (Envelopes + loose plate)- \$ total includes online giving
School - \$

2	AUG, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Worship with Communion
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Sunday School & Youth Bible Study
		● 7 – 9pm	Adult pick up basketball - check notes for availability school gym
3	AUG, MON	● 9am – 3:30pm	Summer Camp - rooms 3 & 5
		● 5 – 6pm	Board of Social Ministry Ladies Lounge
		● 6 – 7pm	Board of Elders parish hall
		● 6 – 7pm	Board of Trustees classroom #3
4	AUG, TUE	● 9am – 3:30pm	Summer Camp - rooms 3 & 5
		● 9 – 10am	Yolanda M. - Parish Hall
		● 5 – 8pm	Family of God Dinner
5	AUG, WED	● 9am – 3:30pm	Summer Camp - rooms 3 & 5
		● 3:45 – 5pm	PTL MEETING
6	AUG, THU	● 9am – 3:30pm	Summer Camp - rooms 3 & 5
		● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Choir Practice
		● 5:45 – 7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal - church
7	AUG, FRI	● 9am – 3:30pm	Summer Camp - rooms 3 & 5
		● 7 – 9pm	AA Mtg. church parish hall
		● 9 – 11:30pm	Yuta Basketball Rental gym
8	AUG, SAT	● 9am – 8pm	Margo Schmidt- Parish Hall



🍷 CIDER, DONUTS & FELLOWSHIP 🍷

Young Adults & Young Families Fall Outing

We're bringing together our post-college young adults, young couples, and families with kids of all ages for a fall day at the orchard!

To help us lock in the best date and scale the event (hayrides, private space, or casual meetup), we need a fast headcount.

- **Who:** Post-college grads up through parents with kids!
- **When:** Late September – October (Help us pick the date)
- **Deadline:** Sunday, August 16

📱 Scan the QR code below to submit your initial RSVP!

Maui Vacation in your



Plans?

As a way of raising funds for our St. Paul short-term mission trips, a generous family in our congregation is offering the use of their condominium at the beautiful Sands of Kahana Resort in Maui, Hawaii during the week of December 4 - December 11, 2026. More information about the resort at <https://sandsofkahanaresort.com/>. The unit (Orchid Room) is a two bedroom / two bath, with kitchen and with a pull-out couch, comfortably sleeps up to six people. The unit will be awarded to the highest bidder (minimum bid is \$500) in a blind auction with the winning bidder notified on October 1st. Auction proceeds will be deposited to the St. Paul Short-Term mission fund to support future SPL MOST mission trip goers.

Please submit a short statement of your interest along with your bid to Jeff Henning (Jhenning90@comcast.net) by September 30, 2026. If you should have any questions or want more information, please reach out to Jeff Henning or Chris Burgess. Chris and Ann Burgess took advantage of this opportunity last year and would be happy to describe their wonderful experience to interested bidders!



Wild Card Bible Quizzing Tournament This FREE Bible Quizzing tournament will be hosted at **St. Paul Church**. There is **no age limit**. Join us **Saturday, September 12, 2026 @ 12PM-5PM!** The material will be 8 random chapters from the Gospel of John (randomly selected 1 week before the tournament). No prior knowledge of the material is required. All ages welcome on teams of 3 people each. For info or to register, visit biblequizzing.azurewebsites.net/Tournaments or talk to Jake Fairbairn <jakecfairbairn@gmail.com>, (248) 231-9684.

Weather permitting, the parking lot will have cracks filled and seal coated and painted the week of **August 8th.**

-  It can be driven upon 5 hours after painting.
-  It should not interfere with Sunday worship.



OUR NEW MEMBERS

We welcome **Megan Kutz** officially as a member of St. Paul although she and her family have been worshipping with us for quite some time now. Megan transferred her membership from Saint Matthew Lutheran Church in Walled Lake. She is a Special Ed Teacher in Northville Public Schools. She likes writing, reading and yoga. She has already helped with several events including VBS and is on the prayer chain. She would like to help with FOG meals and be a reader. So happy to welcome her.

Please welcome **Courtney Julien and her two sons Isaac (14) and Samuel (11)** to the St. Paul family. The Julien family participated in VBS this year. Samuel and Isaac were youth helpers and Courtney took pictures. Courtney listed photography and helping at events here as some of her interests. She has already put her photography skills to work and she and Isaac helped with the grounds clean up day earlier this spring. Thank you and we look forward to working beside you more.

Romans 15:7 - "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you."



A delicious summer meal of Cheesy Chicken Pasta Salad was delivered to FOG on Tuesday, July 7. As always this was a joint effort with many people helping to supply the salads, rolls and butter, chips, watermelon, dessert and drinks.

Barbara Hoffmeier joined the servers at FOG with her two granddaughters. Claire and Elise were wonderful helpers and made friends with a young girl there. As we learned, the girls had gone down last year when they were in town and were anxious to go again. What beautiful servant hearts just like their Oma's.

Julia and Pat were so happy to see George. We had been missing him for quite some time and wondering where he was. As it turned out, he needed that support as his brother had passed away that morning. God comforts for the broken hearted and provides for our needs.

Pastor Nick is back from leave after the birth of his son, Walter. All we had to ask was "do you have any pictures" and he was ready to pull out his phone like every proud Daddy.



JULY 15 FOG DINNER

A meal of Sloppy Joes, green beans, chips, brownies and watermelon was delivered and just about everything was gone. What a great night. It was a smaller than usual group and the pastors thought it might have been because of the heat. There is an air conditioning unit in the meeting room but it didn't really help much. We were concerned that we might have a lot left over but when everyone was served, there was just a little bit of sloppy joes which we left.



Two of our servers were Ann Kelly and Kathy Verseman. Ann has been going down for a couple of months now and has become one of our regulars. There is always room for more and you might just fall in love with the mission and the people. The next meal is Tuesday, August 4. Julia Smith was another one of our servers and our official driver when she is available.

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve this meal. As the sermon message was Sunday:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.” –

Matthew 25:3



St. Paul's entry in the July 4th parade. It was pretty cool. It's been dismantled but we are not done yet.

We have a dilemma. What to do with the wood which is in two places in the back of the parking lot.

If you can use it, you are welcome to take it.

If not, does anyone have an idea or suggestion to remove it from church property? Please contact Pat McGuigan or Margo in the office 248-349-3140.