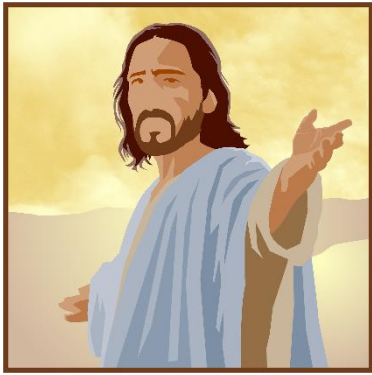


## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 AM

August 30, 2026



Formed to Follow

### AS WE GATHER

Jesus invites anyone who would come after Him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow Him. The life of following Jesus includes genuine love and service both to the Lord and to other people—even when those people may be considered enemies. It is about daily repentance all along the way in good times as well as in evil times. We may wonder at times whether He has forgotten us or wonder if He is still leading us, but we have His promise that we will see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.

Surrounded by evil in this world, we cling to the God who is good, learning to trust His Word as the means by which we receive His deliverance from our enemies of sin and death. The living, active, delightful voice of our Savior guarantees His ongoing presence in our life.

On this fifth Sunday we will be receiving an additional ***Student Aid offering*** to help support our students going into full time church work.

**WELCOME** – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

## Heaven Changes Everything

### Verse 1

These tears would just be tears  
falling down my face.  
And this hurt would just be hurt with no  
healing on the way.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.

A goodbye would be goodbye  
With no "I'll see you again,"  
And when a `life is over, that would  
simply be the end.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.

### Chorus

In the light of eternity,  
I have this hope.  
You hold my heart  
And I'm never alone.  
One day, you're coming back.  
One day, I'm coming home.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.

### Verse 2

My questions would stay questions,  
No answers to be found.  
And all the times I've fallen,  
I'd still be there on the ground.  
Thank you, Jesus.

I can live for the day when my eyes will  
finally see.  
Every piece that was broken, restored  
and redeemed.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.

### Chorus

In the light of eternity,  
I have this hope.  
You hold my heart  
And I'm never alone.  
One day, you're coming back.  
One day, I'm coming home.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.

### Bridge

The way that I love, the way that I live,  
The way I let go and choose to forgive.  
The peace in this pain, the hope in this  
grief,  
The beauty beyond this I have to  
believe.  
I can't see what you see, but I know  
that I know  
This world's where I am,  
But this world's not my home.

### Chorus

In the light of eternity,  
I have this hope.  
You hold my heart  
And I'm never alone.  
One day, you're coming back.  
One day, I'm coming home.  
Thank you, Jesus.  
Heaven changes everything.  
Everything.

Heaven changes everything.  
Everything.  
Heaven changes everything

## INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:8–9*

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.**

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: Thus says the Lord, "If you return, I will restore you." 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.**

## Service of the Word

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**PSALM** *Psalm 26*

**People:** **Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.**

*Women: Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind. For Your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in Your faithfulness.*

*Men: I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites. I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked. I wash my hands in innocence and go around Your altar, O Lord, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all Your wondrous deeds.*

*Women: O Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.*

*Men: Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men, in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.*

**People:** **But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE READING** *Romans 12:9-21* (With genuine love, overcome evil with good.)

**Marks of the True Christian**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. <sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 16:21–28*

(Jesus calls His disciples to take up their cross and follow Him.)

### Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

<sup>21</sup> From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

### Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, **"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."** <sup>25</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

<sup>28</sup> Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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 on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall 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 worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe 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.**

*(As we sing the following hymn we will gather our special **Student Aid** offering to encourage and support those from Saint Paul preparing for full-time ministry.)*

## **Good God Almighty**

I can't count the times  
I've called Your name some broken night.  
And You showed up and patched me up  
Like You do every time.  
I get amnesia. I forget that You keep  
coming around.

Yeah, ain't no way You'll ever let me  
down.

Good God Almighty,  
I hope You'll find me  
Praising Your Name no matter what  
comes.

'Cause I know where I'd be  
Without Your mercy.  
So, I keep praising Your name at the top  
of my lungs.

Tell me is He good? (He's good.)  
Tell me is He God? (He's God.)  
He is Good God Almighty.

You say Your love goes on forever,  
That Your mercy never stops.  
So, why would I assume  
You'd be somebody that You're not?  
Like sun in the morning,  
I know You're gonna be there every day.  
So, what on earth could make me be  
afraid.

Good God Almighty,  
I hope You'll find me  
Praising Your Name no matter what  
comes.  
'Cause I know where I'd be  
Without Your mercy.  
So, I keep praising Your name at the top  
of my lungs.

Tell me is He good? (He's good.)  
Tell me is He God? (He's God.)  
He is Good God Almighty.

Praise Him in the morning.  
Praise Him in the noon time.  
Praise Him when the sun goes down.  
Love Him in the morning.  
Love Him in the noon time.  
Love Him when the sun goes down.

Good God Almighty,  
I hope You'll find me  
Praising Your Name no matter what  
comes.  
'Cause I know where I'd be

Without Your mercy.

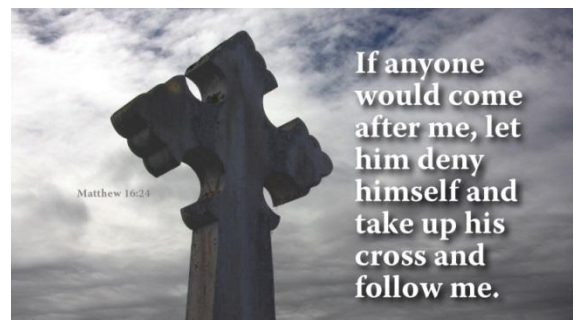
So, I keep praising Your name at the top  
of my lungs.

Tell me is He good? (He's good.)  
Tell me is He God? (He's God.)  
He is Good God Almighty.

Jesus in the morning.  
Jesus in the noon time.  
Jesus when the sun goes down.  
Jesus in the morning.  
Jesus in the noon time.  
Jesus when the sun goes down.

## Sermon – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

*What makes you lay down your cross?  
Do you follow the "Easy Gospel?"  
When Jesus tells us to deny ourselves,  
He means \_\_\_\_\_.*



## **Saving Jesus** *(Soloist Kurt Menhart)*

How could a man who's sent from  
heaven  
Ever really know  
What it's like to be alone

How could a God who's three in one  
Really understand  
The kind of lonely that I've been

Sometimes I wonder  
How can that be true  
Then I think about the cross  
And all that He went through

There was no one saving Jesus  
Nobody by His side  
No one to take His place  
Or find another way  
When he gave His life for mine

Even His father looked away  
He was all alone up on that tree  
There was no one saving Jesus  
When He was saving me

That's something I can't figure out  
Cause if I was in His shoes  
Lord knows what I would do

I would've called those angels down  
To carry me away  
But He chose to stay

There was no one saving Jesus  
Nobody by His side  
No one to take His place  
Or find another way  
When he gave His life for mine

Even His father looked away  
He was all alone up on that tree  
There was no one saving Jesus  
When He was saving me

He was up there by Himself  
No telling how he felt  
The kind of pain that God only knows

There was no one saving Jesus  
Nobody by His side  
No one to take His place  
Or find another way  
When he gave His life for mine

Even His father looked away  
He was all alone up on that tree  
There was no one saving Jesus  
When He was saving me



There was no one saving Jesus  
 Nobody by His side  
 No one to take His place  
 For there was no other way  
 When he bore His Cross and died

And with His Death he took my shame  
 And by His Blood He washed me clean

There was no one saving Jesus  
 When He was saving you and me

There was no one saving Jesus  
 When He was saving you and me

I think that Man sent from Heaven  
 Is the one who truly knows  
 What it is to be alone.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Remember the call of God through Paul in Romans 12:12:

**People: "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."**

Pastor: Rejoicing in God's promise to hear our prayers, we delight ourselves in Him, even in the difficulties of life. Together let us give voice to our constant prayers.

Heavenly Father, You alone have the power to redeem Your enemies and make them friends. In the mercy of Jesus, enable us to show love to our enemies.

As You have loved us even though we never deserve it, help us to do the same to others in our lives. In Your love, O Lord,

**People: help us to love as You have first loved us.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, our hearts delight in Your goodness despite the evil of this fallen world. Restore us, renew us, and lead us! We delight in the new life You have given to all who trust in You. In Your joy, O Lord,

**People: help us to rejoice in all things.**

Pastor: Spirit of truth, You resuscitate what is dead, mend what is broken, and overcome what is evil with the goodness found only in You. Turn us again and again to Your mercy that we, having received it from You, may then extend it to others. Work mightily through each of us in our vocations at church, home, work, and society. Through it all, instill in us Your peace to guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. In Your peace, O Lord,

**People: help us to be peacemakers.**

Pastor: Be near to those who are broken in heart, body, and mind. Comfort the lonely and renew the spirit of those who despair. Clothe the naked and shelter the homeless. Let those who walk through the desert of difficulty discover the oasis of Your living water. Hear the prayers we offer for those in our family of faith who need Your healing mercies, [*including . . .*]. Your caring love for us is genuine and eternal. In Your care, O Lord,

**People: help us to care for others.**

Pastor: To You, gracious Father, be all the glory, honor, and praise, in Christ Jesus and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**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.

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### 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.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

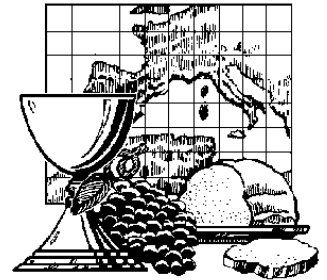
**Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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

**People:** **And also with you.**



## THE 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. ++

## Rise Up

In the dark and all alone,  
Growing comfortable.  
Are you too scared to move  
And walk out of this tomb?

Buried underneath the lies that you  
believed,  
Safe and sound, stuck in the ground,  
Too lost to be found.

You're just asleep  
And it's time to leave.

Come on and rise up,  
Take a breath, you're alive now.  
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

You're brand new,  
The power of death couldn't hold you.  
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

Rise up / Rise up / Rise up  
Out from the grave like Lazarus!

## Verse 2

When he said your name  
the thing that filled your veins  
was more than blood.  
It's the kind of love that washes sin away.

Now the door is open wide,  
And the stone's been rolled aside.  
The old is gone, the light has come.

So come on and rise up.  
Take a breath, you're alive now.  
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

You're brand new,  
The power of death couldn't hold you.  
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

Rise up / Rise up / Rise up  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

Rise up / Rise up / Rise up  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

## Bridge

He's calling us to walk out of the dark.  
He's giving us new resurrected hearts.  
He's calling us to walk out of the dark.  
He's giving us new resurrected hearts.

## Chorus

Come on and rise up.  
Take a breath, you're alive now.  
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

You're brand new,  
The power of death couldn't hold you.

Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us,  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

Rise up / Rise up / Rise up  
Out from the grave like Lazarus?

Rise up / Rise up / Rise up  
Out from the grave like Lazarus

## Word Of Life

### Verse 1

Word of life

Speak to my weary heart  
Strengthen my broken parts  
Lead me to Your open arms

Word of truth

Illuminate all these lies  
The enemy speaks inside  
In freedom I will rise

### Chorus

'Cause You called me out from the grave  
So I can live like I've been changed  
There is a new song in my soul  
And it begins when I breathe in  
Your word of life

### Verse 2

Spirit of God

Take me to a deeper place  
Take me out of what is safe  
I will not be afraid

Spirit of God

Fill me with joy again  
Springing up from within  
It cannot be contained

### Chorus

'Cause You called me out from the grave  
So I can live like I've been changed  
There is a new song in my soul  
And it begins when I breathe in  
Your word of life

### Bridge

The old has gone away  
Only Your love remains  
I am alive today ...

### Chorus

'Cause You called me out from the grave  
So I can live like I've been changed  
There is a new song in my soul  
And it begins when I breathe in  
Your word of life

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the gracious gift of Your Son's body and blood. Now that we have received His goodness in His Word and Spirit, help us to take up our cross daily and follow our Savior, who leads us with the only love that overcomes evil with good; 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** *Romans 12:21*

Pastor: Do not be overcome by evil,

**People: but overcome evil with good.**

Pastor: Go forth with the blessing of your good and gracious God:  
 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****Homesick For Heaven****Verse**

My heart belongs to a country and a King  
 Of a land I've always known but I've never  
 seen

Some call it paradise or the land of the  
 living

Well I call it home and I'm homesick for  
 Heaven

**Chorus**

I want to walk with Moses  
 On streets of gold  
 And dance with David  
 Before Your throne  
 To thank You face to face  
 For the grace You've given

I want to see my children  
 Run to Your arms  
 And worship the Savior  
 Who wears my scars

There's an ache in my heart  
 I'm homesick for Heaven

**Verse**

In my Father's house there are many  
 rooms  
 Enough for everyone enough for you  
 I know it takes some faith  
 But today you can know without question

Believe in the power of Jesus' name  
 And you're going to Heaven  
 Hallelujah in Jesus' name  
 We're going to Heaven

**Chorus**

I want to walk with Moses  
 On streets of gold  
 And dance with David

Before Your throne  
To thank You face to face  
For the grace You've given

I want to see my children  
Run to Your arms  
And worship the Savior  
Who wears my scars  
There's an ache in my heart  
I'm homesick for Heaven

### **Bridge**

No more fear no more pain  
Every tear wiped away  
Crying holy holy

Every knee on the floor  
Every voice evermore  
Crying holy holy

Oh I want to go home  
Oh I want to go home

### **Chorus 2**

To see the ones I love  
Who've gone before  
Where death is a memory and tears are  
no more  
To hear the angels praise

Can you even imagine  
I'll run as fast as I can  
Into Your arms  
'Cause I was created  
To be where You are  
There's an ache in my heart

I'm homesick for Heaven  
There's an ache in my heart  
I'm homesick for Heaven

There's an ache in my heart  
I'm homesick for Heaven



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

**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                                                                                             |
| Soloist            | Kurt Menhart                                                                                                 |
| Family Life        | Jeanette Koch                                                                                                |
| Elder              | Mark Baumgarten                                                                                              |
| Reader             | Justin Dotsin                                                                                                |
| Ushers             | Mark Baumgarten<br>Patrick Baker                                                                             |
| Greeter            | Babic Family                                                                                                 |
| Counters           | Beth Snow<br>Jane Ripper<br>Allen Ripper                                                                     |
| Welcome Center     | Kathy Verseman                                                                                               |
| Tech Team          | Curtis Kalina                                                                                                |
| Praise Team        | Kurt Menhart<br>Hannah Hughes<br>Sarah Hughes<br>Chris Englert<br>Linda Johnson<br>Alexandra Vago (Bass Gtr) |

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**Remember Our Homebound**

Karen (Richard) Schneider  
19524 Mann Court  
Northville, MI 48167

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**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall

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**Altar Flowers**

One vase in memory of Kathy Fox's birthday from Jan Paver.

One vase in memory of Janet's mother, Olga Paschke's birthday and Bill's mother, Josephine Kovalak's birthday from Bill and Janet Kovalak.

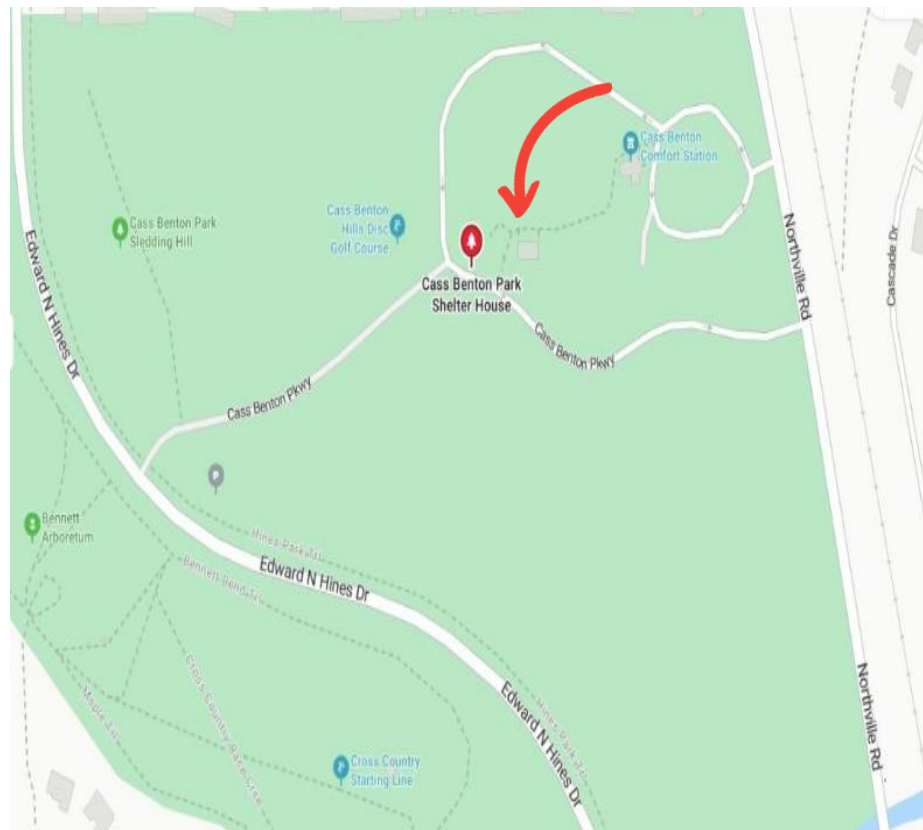
*Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11 am service.*



**Attendance** Last week: 8.23.2026– Attendance – 8:30am – 124 + 11:00am – 100 = 224

Received week of 8.23.2026 for **Church** (Envelopes + loose plate)- **\$6,598** total includes online giving  
**School - \$0**

|    |          |                |                                                                    |
|----|----------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 | AUG, SUN | 8:30 – 9:30am  | Worship w/ Communion                                               |
|    |          | 9:45 – 10:45am | Sunday School & Youth Bible Study                                  |
|    |          | 7 – 9pm        | Adult pick up basketball - check notes for availability school gym |
| 1  | SEP, TUE | 9 – 10am       | Yolanda M. - Parish Hall                                           |
|    |          | 5 – 8pm        | Family of God Dinner                                               |
| 2  | SEP, WED | 3:45 – 5pm     | PTL MEETING                                                        |
| 3  | SEP, THU | 4:30 – 5:30pm  | Choir Practice                                                     |
|    |          | 5:45 – 7pm     | Bell Choir Rehearsal - church                                      |
| 4  | SEP, FRI | All day        | NO SCHOOL                                                          |
|    |          | 7 – 9pm        | AA Mtg. church parish hall                                         |
|    |          | 9 – 11:30pm    | Yuta Basketball Rental gym                                         |
| 5  | SEP, SAT | 12 – 5pm       | Wild Card Bible Quizzing Tournament                                |





**Rally Day is Sept. 13, 2026.** It's also Grandparents Day. Please plan to celebrate this special day at an outdoor service. There will be one service at 10:30 am. The location is Cass Benton Park in Northville. The address is 18005 Northville Road, Northville. You may enter Cass Benton Park from either Hines Drive or Northville Road. The park is located between 6 and 7 mile. There is a nice pavilion, rest rooms, play ground and parking. There is no fee to enter the park. There will be a potluck lunch following the service. Watch for a Sign up Genius to volunteer to bring a dish. We look forward to praising our Lord among the trees, flowers, birds and all the natural beauty.



**Thank You, St. Paul Lutheran Church**  **for Supporting the**

***Baby Bottle Drive!***

Thanks to your generous hearts, **\$1,577** was raised in the Baby Bottle Drive to support Another Way Pregnancy Center. Your gifts help extend Christ's love to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies, offering hope, healing, and life-affirming care.

*"Let all that you do be done in love."  
— 1 Corinthians 16:14*

*Thank you for being a part of this life-affirming mission!*



**THANK YOU TO OUR TABLE SPONSORS!**

- FAMILY LIFE RADIO
- ALLIANCE CATHOLIC CREDIT UNION
- HILL CITY CHURCH
- FARMINGTON HILLS CHURCH OF GOD
- OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH
- NOVI RIGHT TO LIFE
- ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
- CNS HEALTHCARE
- ESSENTIAL FAMILY CHIROPRACTOR
- IMPACT CHURCH
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 4401
- MICHIGAN NURSES FOR LIFE/LIFESPAN
- REACHOUT WORLD
- WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED

**Check out the Lost and Found basket on the shelves as you enter the church.**

**We would like to purge the basket soon!**

**There is even a hearing aid in a case that is pinned to the bulletin board above the basket**



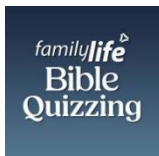



### Maui Vacation in your Plans?

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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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](http://biblequizzing.azurewebsites.net/Tournaments) or talk to Jake Fairbairn <[jakecfairbairn@gmail.com](mailto:jakecfairbairn@gmail.com)>, (248) 231-9684.



#### **St. Paul Bible Quizzing - Kids & Adult Volunteers Needed!**

Bible Quizzing is a great way to learn Scripture with friends and with the motivation of competition. This year we'll be going over the Gospel of John, which is a great place to get started in Scripture! Kids in 2nd-12th grade are welcome to join. Membership at St. Paul is not required. All experience levels welcome (no prior Bible knowledge required!).

Join us for a 20 minute Bible Quizzing demo with short games, activities, and Q&A in the school building on August 16 and August 23.

We'll run it after both services, so make it to whichever one works best for you. No commitment required. Check out what Bible Quizzing is all about!

Interested in quizzing or volunteering? Talk to Jake Fairbairn <[jakecfairbairn@gmail.com](mailto:jakecfairbairn@gmail.com)>, (248) 231-9684>.





### **OUR NEW MEMBERS**

**Lisa and Francis Murkowski** are the newest members to our St. Paul family. Lisa has a Science and Language arts background, she is a retired teacher and she enjoys writing, reading and crafts. In her previous congregation she was a "Divorce Care Facilitator" and has served with VBS and Mission Trips. She would like to be a reader here. Francis is a retired Marketing Manager and likes reading and fishing. He would like to serve here as a reader and help with marketing.

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 a member of the prayer chain. She would like to help with FOG meals and serve as a reader.

We are 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."

Your Voice. Our School. Our Future.

We want to hear from you! We're asking everyone in our congregation to take a few minutes to complete a survey about our school. Your feedback matters. Your thoughts, ideas, and experiences can help us to celebrate what's going well and identify ways we can make our



school even stronger. Please take the survey and let your voice help shape the future of our school! Scan this QR Code to access the survey

(Paper copies are also available in the narthex hallway and can be turned in at the school office or with Debbie Jenter).

The Family of God meal on Wednesday, August 19th went well thanks to our volunteers who stepped up. The menu was Chicken a' la king (with peas and carrots) over biscuits, cranberry sauce, crunchy coleslaw, brownies, bananas, and beverages. Chris and Dawn Englert, Barbara and Will Hoffmeier served the meal to about 75 people with most of them coming back for seconds to make about 120 meals. The brownie bakers were Alison Babic, Gretchen Hasse, Beth Hempel, Megan Kutz, and Sue Poole. Barbara did the shopping and Nancy and Doug Berg helped her prepare the meal in the school kitchen. Will Hoffmeier prepared the meat the day before. The cost per meal was about \$2.35 - pretty amazing compared to a meal they would get at a fast food restaurant! The funds in the designated account to pay for our groceries with for these meals is running a little low. If YOU would like to contribute to this mission project, you can write a check to "St Paul Lutheran Church" and on the memo line put "Family of God meals." Your contributions will be greatly appreciated so we can continue this ministry to our brothers and sisters in Christ in southwest Detroit. If YOU would like to help this mission, please contact Barbara Hoffmeier #248.756.3035 or Sue Poole #248.904.9080. Thank you. With many hands the work goes quickly and smoothly. Will YOU be a volunteer for us?