



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

*Hebrews 12:18–24*

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

*1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29*

*Who receives this sacrament worthily?* Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

*Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar*

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

*Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass*

#### A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

## As We Gather

As we continue to enjoy the afterglow of Easter and think about the blessing of all of the mothers in our society, there's only one thing we can do and that is praise and thank God for all his blessings that come through his love for us! Our theme for worship today is "his love endures forever".

God's blessings on your worship experience and thank you for joining us!

*Stand*

**Hymn**

God Loved the World So That He Gave

571

# ✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

**C** who made Heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O Almighty God, Merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

## Introit

*Psalm 98:1b, 3–4; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b*

Sing to the LORD a new song, Alleluia,  
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alleluia.

**His right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

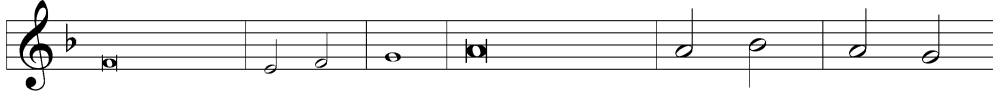
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Sing to the LORD a new song, Alleluia,  
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alleluia.

## Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

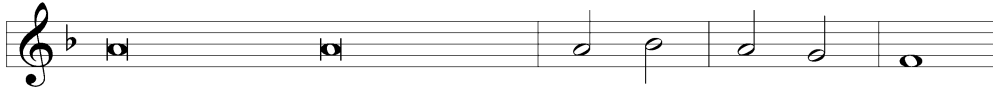
## Gloria in Excelsis



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



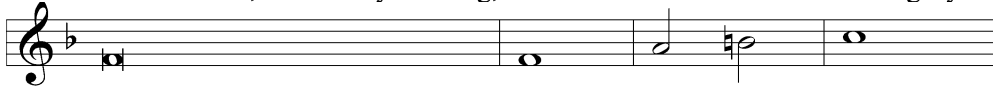
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



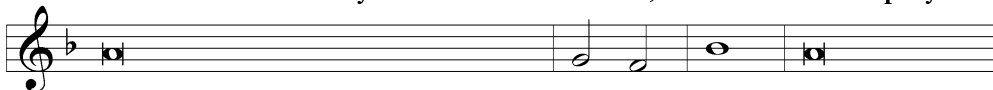
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



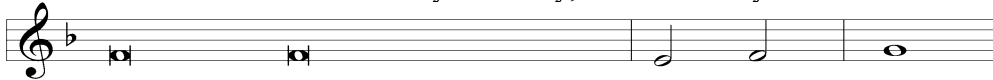
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**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*

## Old Testament

*Psalm 136*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>3</sup>Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>4</sup>**to him who alone does great wonders,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>5</sup>to him who by understanding made the heavens,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>6</sup>**to him who spread out the earth above the waters,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>7</sup>to him who made the great lights,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>8</sup>**the sun to rule over the day,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>9</sup>the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>10</sup>**to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>11</sup>and brought Israel out from among them,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>12</sup>**with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>13</sup>to him who divided the Red Sea in two,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>14</sup>**and made Israel pass through the midst of it,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>15</sup>but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>16</sup>**to him who led his people through the wilderness,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>17</sup>to him who struck down great kings,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>18</sup>**and killed mighty kings,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>19</sup>Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>20</sup>**and Og, king of Bashan,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>21</sup>and gave their land as a heritage,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>22</sup>**a heritage to Israel his servant,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>23</sup>It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;  
<sup>24</sup>**and rescued us from our foes,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever;**

<sup>25</sup>he who gives food to all flesh,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.  
<sup>26</sup>**Give thanks to the God of heaven,**  
**for his steadfast love endures forever.**

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

**He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;  
he has put all things under his feet.**

## Epistle

*1 John 4:7-16*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia & Verse

*Psalm 118:16; Romans 6:9*

Alleluia. The right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!

Alleluia.

**We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.**



## Holy Gospel

*John 3:16-21*

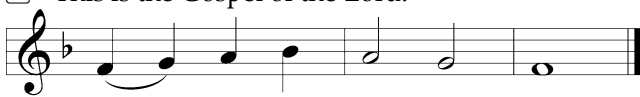
**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter



**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>16</sup>[Jesus said:] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise be to Thee, 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*

## Hymn of the Day

God Loves Me Dearly

392

Sermon

Offering

*Stand*

## Offertory

**C** 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.

## Prayer of the Church

*At the end of each petition:*

**P** Let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

# ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

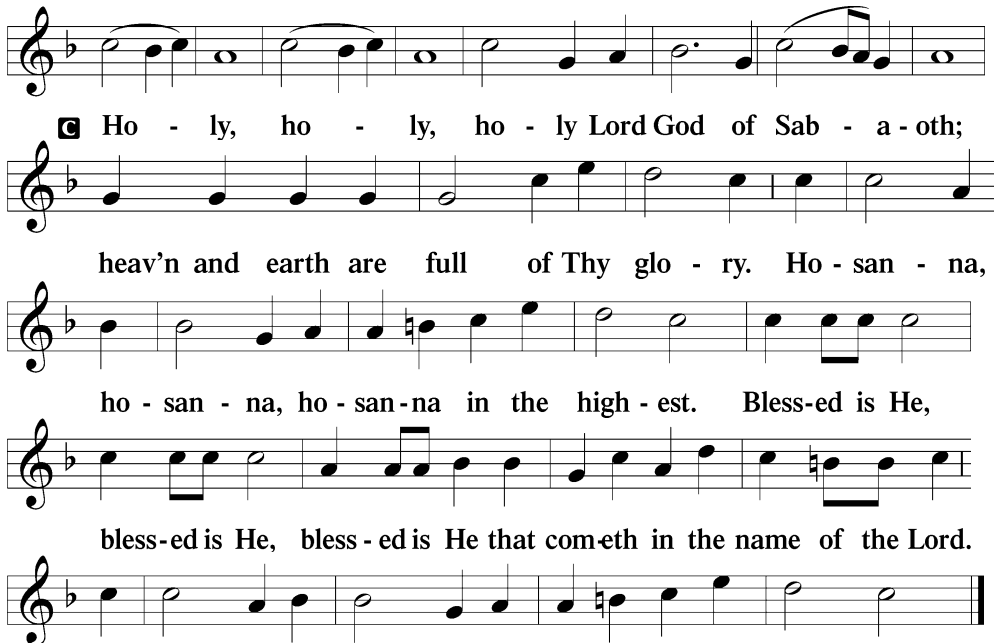


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Peter, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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 Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

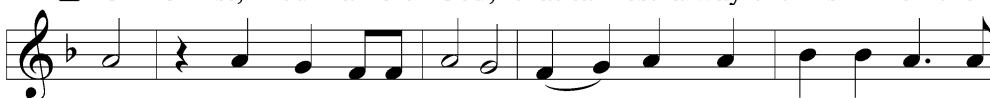


**C** A - men.

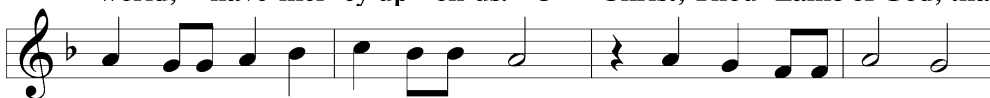
## Agnus Dei



**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



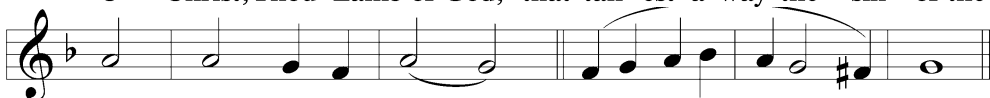
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

487

Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

737

What God Ordains Is Always Good

760

Stand

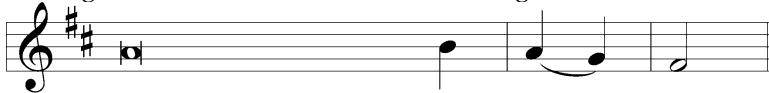
## Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

**P** O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Hymn

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

924

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by LSB © 2025 CPH.

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*"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"*

# BULLETIN NEWS

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, May 11	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
Saturday, May 14	5:00am	BOD Meeting	Library

## BIRTHDAYS

05/21 – Joel Moreno Jr.

## ANNIVERSARIES

05/23 – Edward & Suzi Malsack

## SOCIAL MINISTRY – CANNED FOOD DONATIONS

We have been collecting canned food for the past several months. Please continue to place your canned foods on the Social Ministry cart in the Narthex. These donations will be taken to the West Valley Community Food Pantry housed at St. John's Lutheran Church, 7205 N. 51st Ave, Glendale.

## OTHERS TALK, WE HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: The Promotion of "Rogue" Seminaries in the LCMS, The Movie "Thunderbolts," A Christian's Joyful Countenance, The Biblical Foundation for the Nicene Creed and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.



# LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at [info@stpaulslutheran-az.com](mailto:info@stpaulslutheran-az.com). Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

## ON-GOING CONCERNS:

**Mary Howard**, recovering a recent fall; after Mary will undergo physical therapy.

**Suzi Riley-Malsack**, undergoing physical therapy after a fall.

**Charlie Cook** – exp. procedure to heal bladder

**Kevin Stamm** – health issues

**Nigel Proctor** – suffering from severe digestive issues

**Jorge Jimenez** – fighting cancer

**Wayne Bartels** – ongoing health issues

**Rose Tressler** – ongoing health issues

**Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas**

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Jonathon**, great-nephew of Dorothy Paxton, recovering from an ATV accident.

**Karen Reed** (daughter of the late Dolores Charlesworth) recovering from a stroke.

**Sharon Wies** (wife of Vickie Hulteen's cousin) has a brain tumor, suffering from seizures, and cannot walk.

**Rei Irmer** (sister of Louise Ahrens) prayers for continued healing.

**David Wies** (cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with leukemia and will be undergoing treatment.

**Nick Koontz** (husband of Mary Howard's stepdaughter) diagnosed with leukemia.

## MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

## PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Vernon Ermeling and family

The Rev. Jeff Proctor and family

Sunday School teachers & children

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

Lexington Life Academy families & staff

**OUR NATION:** For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

**FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY** (*members, friends, or relatives*): **Jackson Buffington, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Juan Garcia, Robert Gilmore, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Ethan Peterman, Andy Smiley, Jacob Wilson**

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Anne Smith