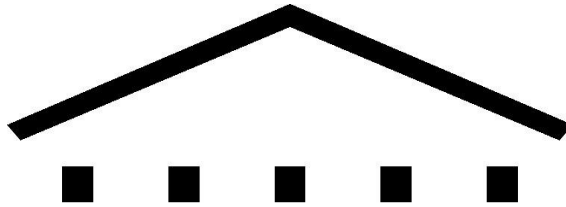


**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 3, 2026**



In my Father's house  
are many rooms;  
if it were not so,  
would I have told you  
that I go to prepare  
a place for you?



J o h n 1 4 : 2

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”**

Office..... (660) 668 - 3537  
Pastor’s Home..... (660) 668 - 0881  
Email.....office@stpauls.me  
Website.....www.stpauls.me  
Facebook.....www.facebook.com/stpaulscolecamp  
YouTube.....www.youtube.com/stpaulscolecamp



*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

Thanksgiving For Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!”

#389

## Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

page 149

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*please be seated*

Baptism

Jordyn Wienberg

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Jordyn, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

*I do.*

As you receive the gift of baptism, you are called to a life of discipleship:  
to be part of a community of faith,  
to hear God’s Word and receive the holy supper,  
to learn the tenants of our faith: the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
to faithfully read the Scriptures,  
and nurture your faith and prayer life,  
so that you may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Jordyn, do you promise to enter into this life of discipleship as you grow in the Christian faith and life?

*I do.*

Sponsors, do you promise to support Jordyn in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

*I do.*

People of God, do you promise to support Jordyn and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

**We do.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### BAPTISM

Jordyn, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray... We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Jordyn with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Jordyn, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

#### WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

First Reading

Acts 7: 55-60

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

<sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup> **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

## Second Reading

1 Peter 2: 2-10

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup> and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Gospel Acclamation

"Celtic Alleluia"

#174

Gospel

John 14: 1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Hymn of the Day

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

#380

*please be seated*

Blessing of High School Graduates

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering



*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

#182

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

## HOLY COMMUNION

At the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

### Communion Hymns

“Blessing and Honor”	#854
“You Are the Way”	#758
“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”	#759

*please stand in body or spirit*

### Post-Communion Prayer

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

### Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come † light your way  
with resurrection dawn, now and always.

**Amen.**

Sending Hymn                    “I Know That My Redeemer Lives”        #619 vs. 1-4

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

# “CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! HALLELUIA”



**Welcome:** "Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Welcome to worship on this Fifth Sunday of Easter. Today, Jesus assures us, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.' As we gather, may we find our home in him and follow where he leads. Alleluia!"

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Ellen Harms, Ken Holland, Kevin Tatum, Dennis & Claudia Moellman, Gene Beckman, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Jim Kammeyer, Fred John Kreisel and Family (cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Junior Garr, Heidi Hopp (grandmother of Nicole Rice), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eckhoff, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



**Nursing Home & Homebound:** Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash and Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *Anew*. Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten & Arlene Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *Windsor Nursing Home*.

**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen), J. Phillips Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN (nephew of Katy Schlesselman), Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



**One Stitch at a Time:** The Sewing Group will meet **every Monday** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join!



**Graduates:** We have lots of children, youth, and young adults who are transitioning between different stages of life and different levels of schooling this year! We wish them all blessings for their journeys. Some of those (those who let us know) include:

Lydia Rodewald and Reid Carver - preschool  
Sam Cash - University of Notre Dame  
Camille Schear - Missouri State University  
Camryn Schear - University of Missouri Law School

We will honor and celebrate our high school graduates in worship **Today** with a blessing and a special gift from our sewing group. Our High School Graduates for 2026 are: Lauren Brown, Jacob Daily, Garrett Elliott, Ethan Goosen, Shelby Nash, John Cramer and Madison Paxton.



**Circle:** Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **May 18th** at 7:00pm at the home of Rhonda Schlesselman.

**Confirmands:** On Sunday, **May 24**, two of our youth will Affirm their Baptism in worship as part of the Confirmation Service. Those youth are: Logan Jackson and Jace Tinney. Please join us for worship that day as we surround them on their important milestone.



**World Hunger Fish Fry:** Our annual World Hunger Fish Fry will be held on **Sunday, May 31**. Serving will be from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. As always, the menu will include fried fish, roasted turkey, green beans, potato salad, drinks, and homemade desserts. If you are able to provide filets of crappie for the event, please let Krista Poe or Angela Alcorn know. We will also need volunteers to provide homemade desserts, potato salad, or to work in the kitchen. Sign up sheets will be available soon at church, including on the Offering Cards in worship. All the proceeds from the free-will offering will be used to support World Hunger ministries and programs. Please help us spread the word!



**Mid-MO Bible Camp:** Mid-MO Bible Camp will take place **June 12-16** at Camp Rising Sun in the Lake of the Ozarks State Park. This is for youth who have completed 4<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration information will be shared closer to the summer. Adult volunteers are always needed, whether for specific tasks or a few hours or a few days: kitchen help, swimming supervision (especially trained life guards), final-day cleanup, providing cookies & snacks, etc.

**Directory Update:** It's time to update the Church directory! There are copies of the directory located at the usher stands. Please update your information as needed. If everything is correct, please mark them with a checkmark. Thank you so much!



**EVERY SHEEP COUNTS!**  
*IS YOUR INFO UP TO DATE?*



**Sunday School:** It's hard to believe that it's that time of year, but our Sunday School classes will soon be taking a break for summer. The Confirmation class and Sunday School classes for children will conclude on Sunday, **May 17<sup>th</sup>**. The Sunday School class for adults will conclude on Sunday, **May 24<sup>th</sup>**. We want to thank all of our teachers for their leadership again this year, and everyone who participated throughout the year. We'll be back in the fall!

~ \* ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~ \* ~

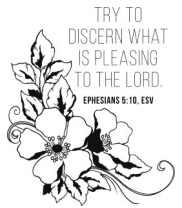
**Baccalaureate:** The Cole Camp High School Class of 2026 will have Baccalaureate following Senior Scholarship Awards (around 7:15 pm) in the High School Gym on **May 6**. We'd love to see you there!



**Outdoor Concert:** Friends and family of the Cole Camp Community; you are all invited to the 5th Annual Bluegrass Concert Event on **May 17th**, beginning at 12pm until 6pm.

The NEW LOCATION is at the Maple Street Social Club (Across from the museum) 111 S Maple downtown Cole Camp. Three groups will be performing, The Crawford Crew, Potters Wheel and The Ties That Bind. Admission is free, please bring lawn chairs as no seating structures available. If you need help walking with your chairs, let us know and a ride via club car will be provided. Call 660-619-1052 to set-up getting a lift to the event. Cole Camp Chamber will provide food and drinks, the Cattlemen's Association will be providing cobbler and ice cream, all for purchase. Open Jam session to follow, bring your own acoustic instrument. What a great way to start the summer!

**Discernment Event:** Have you ever felt a nudge to explore ways that God might be calling you to serve the church? Maybe through lay ministry, ordained ministry, or anywhere in between. Do you know someone who has gifts to serve the church whom you could encourage? Pastor Chad Langdon, Bishop's Associate with the Central States Synod, will be hosting a casual Discernment Event at different locations throughout Missouri and Kansas. Our local event will be from **7:00 pm on Friday, June 19**, through **4:00 pm on Saturday, June 20**, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 442 W US Hwy 54, in Camdenton. There is no cost, breakfast and lunch on Saturday are provided, and a hotel room can be provided if needed. You can register online at [www.css-elca.org/discernment](http://www.css-elca.org/discernment) by **June 14**. Other dates and locations are available if you cannot make that weekend. There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the Link or talk to Pastor Stephen with any questions.



**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

<b>Sunday, May 3:</b>	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS/Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar
		Graduate Recognition
<b>Monday, May 4:</b>	9:00am	Sewing
<b>Thursday, May 7:</b>	8:00am	BCHD
<b>Saturday, May 9:</b>	5:30pm	Casual Worship Service
<b>Sunday, May 10:</b>	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS/Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations



**~ \* ~ Coming Events ~ \* ~**

May 10	Mother's Day
May 13	Worship & Music Committee
May 13	Council Meeting
May 17	Ascension of our Lord
May 18	Esther Circle
May 24	Day of Pentecost
May 24	Confirmation Sunday
May 25	Memorial Day
May 27	Sunbeam Committee
May 31	World Hunger Fish Fry

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**Ministers** ..... The Whole Congregation  
**Presiding Minister** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Organist** ..... Sandy Schlesselman  
**Pianist** ..... Jeannette VonHolten  
**AV Technicians** ..... Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk  
**Altar Guild** ..... Shirley Cash & Norma Schlesselman  
**Ushers** ..... Melinda Strathman, Head Usher  
..... Nicholas Dieckman, Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett



## Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ May 3, 2026

**Assisting Minister** ..... Melisa Balke  
**Communion Assistants** ..... At the Altar  
**Reader** ..... Rhonda Schlesselman  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Acolytes** ..... Fred Goosen & Lauren Jackson  
**Flowers** ..... Teresa Viebrock



## Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 10, 2026

**Assisting Minister** ..... Darin Oelrichs  
**Communion Assistants** ..... Diann & Virgil Holsten  
**Reader** ..... Lexi Goyette  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Paul Fuelling  
**Acolytes** ..... Lexi Goyette & Logan Jackson  
**Flowers** ..... The Luther League