

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - JULY 19, 2026



GATHER THE WEEDS
FIRST AND BIND THEM IN
BUNDLES TO BE BURNED,
BUT GATHER THE WHEAT
INTO MY BARN.

MATTHEW 13:30, ESV

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.”

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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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

#694

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

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

#689 vs. 1 & 2

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 44: 6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸ Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalms 86: 11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Reading

Romans 8: 12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

#689 vs. 3

Gospel

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " ³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

#693

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

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

#693 vs. 4

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **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

by Stations

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.

Communion Hymns

“Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word”

#663

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#733

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep
you in his grace. **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray....Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our
hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we,
through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared
with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing
us now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today
and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

#550

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

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"THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH IN US"



Welcome: "Welcome to worship on this Eighth Sunday after Pentecost! Today, we gather in the green and growing season of Ordinary Time—a season meant for community celebration and deepening our discipleship. May the radical abundance of God's grace nourish you today through word and sacrament."

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

In Our Prayers: "Unspoken prayer concerns", Suzanne Lutjen, Mary Haluptzok, Jill Logan, Ken Holland, Kevin Tatum, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman and Kyle Luetjen.



Tom Ferguson, Tanner Huffman. Merle Fuelling (brother of Paul Fuelling), Dan (Friend of Dan & Julie Cronin), Pam Bruns (Cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Pat Higgins, Kathy Harms, 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: *Anew*. Judie VonHolten, Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten, Arlene Schlesselman & Larry & Judy 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!



Vacation Bible School: VBS begins this week!! It will be held Monday through Friday, **July 20-24**, from 6:00 - 8:30 pm each evening. This year's theme is "Magnified" where we will explore God's awesome creation to discover just how big and powerful God really is! We ask for your prayers for a fun, safe, and joy-filled week of learning and growing! And we look forward to sharing stories about what we've learned this week in worship next weekend!

Committee: The Worship & Music Committee will meet on **July 22nd** at 2:30 pm in the Meeting Room.



Sunbeam: The Sunbeam Committee will meet on **July 29th** at 2:00 pm in the Gathering Space.

Cole Camp Food Pantry: Thank you, St. Paul's, for your ongoing support of our local food pantry. Over the next month or so, in addition to the regular donations, the food pantry could use donations of canned chicken. Donations can be left in the boxes at the back of the Sanctuary.



BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE & SALE: The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance is holding the annual Back to School Clothing Sale on Saturday, **August 1st**, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, here at St. Paul's. You can help in many ways:



Clothing Donations

Drop off gently used clothing here at church for the Back to School Clothing Sale. All clothing is accepted, but clothing for children and youth is always needed. It is greatly appreciated if you can sort and label the donations by gender and size. Donations can be dropped off in trailer behind the church or in the Fellowship Hall during office hours or other activities. (There are signs behind the church directing where to drop off.)

Undies Sundays

In addition to clothing available for purchase, families with young children will be given new undergarments at the Clothing Sale. We are again requesting **financial contributions** instead of in-kind donations. We will purchase bulk clothing items and repackage them into smaller packs to provide for a more equitable distribution of undergarments to local families. Those contributions can be made at any time, but our Undies Sunday will be the weekend of July 19 & 26. (We will still accept packages of underwear if you have already purchased those items.)

Happy Feet

We will once again offer vouchers for children (until they run out) that will allow them to purchase a new pair of shoes at JCPenny in Sedalia on August 8th. Financial contributions for that can be made to "Happy Feet" and dropped in the offering plate or shoeboxes at the back of the church.

Volunteering

This year we will be sorting and arranging clothing all week, Monday through Friday, July 27 – 31, in preparation for the Clothing Sale on Aug 1. Volunteers are welcome to stop by any day, starting at 9 am, to offer some time sorting. We will also need volunteers the day of the sale to assist shoppers and straighten up the clothing tables, and clean up starting at 1:00 pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, July 19:	10:00 am	Worship Service Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, July 20:	9:00 am	Sewing Group
	6:00 pm	VBS
Tuesday, July 21:	5:00 pm	Float Work
	6:00 pm	VBS
Wednesday, July 22:	2:30 pm	Worship & Music Committee
	6:00 pm	VBS
Thursday, July 23:	8:00 am	BCHD
	5:00 pm	Float Work
	6:00 pm	VBS
Friday, July 24:	6:00 pm	VBS
Saturday, July 25:	5:30 pm	Casual Worship Service
Sunday, July 26:	10:00 am	Worship Service Holy Communion by Stations Undies Sunday



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

July 20-24.....	Vacation Bible School
July 22.....	Worship & Music Committee
July 29.....	Sunbeam Committee
August 1.....	Back-to-School Clothing Sale
August 12	Church Council Meeting

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	Melisa Balke & Joyce Schlesselmann
Ushers	Melinda Strathman, Head Usher
	Chad Schlesselman, Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett



8th Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 19, 2026

Assisting Minister	Tom Oelrichs
Communion Assistants	Luther League
Reader	Tiffinay Nash
Children's Sermon	Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes	Lena Smith & Kelsey Viebrock
Flowers	Carolyn Eickhoff



9th Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 26, 2026

Assisting Minister	Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants	Virgil & Diane Holsten
Reader	VBS Service
Children's Sermon	Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes	Fred Goosen & Gannon Elliott
Flowers	Melisa Balke