

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - OCTOBER 11, 2026



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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✚ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”

#523

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

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

#873 vs 1 & 6

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 25: 1-9

¹ O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

² For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, “See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading

Philippians 4: 1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

#873 vs. 2

Gospel

Matthew 22: 1-14

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

“Now We Join in Celebration”

#462

Apostle's Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

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

"God Extends an Invitation"

#486

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **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

"As We Gather at Your Table"

#522

"Around You, O Lord Jesus"

#468

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....Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

#547

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

"THE GIFT OF GOD'S KINGDOM"



Welcome: Welcome on this Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost. As we gather to sing, pray, and hear God's Word, we hope you experience the peace and renewing love of Christ.

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

In Our Prayers: "Unspoken prayer concerns", Vickie Fox, Todd Rusk, Suzanne Lutjen, Mary Haluptzok, Kevin Tatum, Nathan Vanderlinden, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman and Kyle Luetjen.



Carla George, Richard Lee, Colin Kabler (brother of Alexis Smith), Tom Ferguson, Tanner Huffman, Merle Fuelling (brother of Paul Fuelling), Dan Sabala, Pam Bruns (Cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Pat Higgins, Kathy Harms, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, 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: *Anew*. Shirley Cash, 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.



With Sympathy: We pray for those whose loved ones have recently died: Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan).

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 meets every **Monday** at 9:00am in the Luther League Room. Everyone is welcome to join!

Yoga: Dr. Stephanie Shirding is once again offering a free Community Yoga class! This class is held from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall **every Monday**. We thank Dr. Shirding for offering this once again! Search for "Monday Mediations" on Facebook for more information about the class.



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **October 15th**, from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.

Personal Care Kits - We at St. Paul's are invited to share God's love with our neighbors by gathering items for the **Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits**. We will be collecting the personal care through **Today**. Listed below are the needed essential items for our neighbors to stay healthy in these most challenging times. Together with a Thrivent grant and your generous giving, we hope to be able to assemble at least 70 kits. The kits, together with our quilts, will be taken to Jefferson City on Saturday, October 17.



- 2-3 bars of soap to equal 8-9 oz.
- 1 sturdy wide-toothed comb
- 1 bath towel, dark color (20"x40" or 52"x27")
- 1 toothbrush (**NO** toothpaste)
- 1 nail clipper

Heads Up!! The month of October is **Pastor Appreciation Month!** Take time this month to express to Pastor Stephen a **BIG Thank You** for his ministry among us for the past 13

years! He has served as a shepherd for us in times of our joys, through out difficulties, and in our sorrows. Now, it is our turn to reach out to Pastor Stephen with our own appreciation, with encouragement and support as he leads and serves both in this congregation and throughout community. Additionally, reach out to Pastor Kim, Pastor Sandy, and Pastor Randy for their service within the congregation and the community.

PASTOR
Appreciation



Meeting: The Church Council will meet on **October 14th** at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room.

Junior Lutherans Activity: Junior Lutherans and their families are invited to an afternoon at Pop Pop's Pumpkin patch here in Cole Camp on **October 18th** at 4:00 pm. We'll have activities with pumpkins, a Bible story, time to ride the train cars, and pet animals (llamas!). We look forward to seeing you!



Faith and Fellowship: All 9th-12th grade Luther League members are invited during the Sunday school hour (beginning at 9 am) for conversations about our Faith while we share in Fellowship with each other. There will be drinks and donuts. Bring a friend if you like! Please mark your calendars for our first date and watch the bulletin for additions: **October 18th.**

Circle: The Esther Circle will meet at 7:00 pm on **October 19th** at Sharel Wienberg's home.



Committee: The Worship & Music Committee will meet on **October 21st** at 3:30 pm in the Meeting Room.



First Communion Instruction: As one of our two sacraments, Holy Communion is important to our life of faith. Here at St. Paul's we traditionally offer First Communion Instruction to youth in the 4th grade, but the decision to participate earlier or later than that is ultimately up to each family. Pastor Stephen will host a First Communion Instruction class on Sunday, **October 18th**, right after worship. Parents are asked to attend with their child/ren. We will have lunch, ask questions to learn more about communion, and bake bread together. Those who attend will then receive their First Communion in worship on October 25th, or soon after. We will have another class in the near future for anyone unable to attend on the 18th. Please RSVP to Pastor Stephen, or reach out to him with any questions.

Reformation: We will commemorate Reformation in worship on **October 24th & 25th**. Reformation is a festival day where we celebrate and remember our history, but it is also be a day to reexamine our faith. Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. You are invited to wear red to worship that day to help us recognize the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the church!

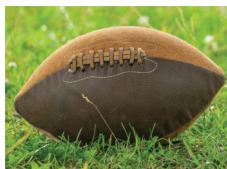


All Saints: On **November 1st** we will commemorate All Saints in worship. All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As part of our worship service, we will remember those members of St. Paul's who have either been baptized or have died over the past year. As we gather for Communion, we will hear the names of departed loved ones read to be reminded of the communion of saints who surround us each day. If you would like a name or names of friends or family members to be read that day (they do not have to have been a member) please write it on the Offering Card or submit it to the Church Office by **October 27**.

ELCA Youth Gathering: Can you “Imagine More” courage, joy, love, grace, welcome? That’s the theme of the upcoming 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering: *Imagine More*. The Gathering will take place **June 28 - July 2, 2027**, in Minneapolis, MN. Youth who have completed 8th through 12th grades are invited to attend.



~*~ In Our Community ~*~



Fields of Faith: The Cole Camp FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) will host “Fields of Faith” at the Cole Camp Bluebirds Football Stadium on **October 14th**. Tailgate starts at 6:00 pm, the program will begin at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend (youth groups, other schools, etc.).

Class Dinner: The Class of 2028 will be holding a Soup Dinner fundraiser at Cole Camp High School on Sunday, **October 18th**, from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Menu items will include Broccoli & Cheddar or Rustic Baked Potato Soup, Fixings and Bread Sticks, Salads and Desserts. Ticket pricing is \$15 for ages 13+, \$12 for ages 6-12 and under 5 is free. To purchase tickets, please contact any Junior class member. Thank you for your support.



Cornhole Tournament: Join us for a Cornhole Tournament on **Saturday, November 7, at 10:00a.m.** At the LSA Gymnasium, 204 E. Butterfield Trail, Cole Camp, MO. Registration is \$20 per person and limited to the first 128 participants. Register early! This tournament is a fundraiser supporting Men's Club scholarships for future Christians. Come enjoy a day of fellowship, friendly competition, and supporting a great cause!"

SERMON NOTES **for kids**

AS YOU ATTEND CHURCH SERVICE WITH YOUR FAMILY, USE THIS SHEET TO HELP YOU PAY ATTENTION AND LEARN. WE WANT YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US BY SINGING TO GOD AND LISTENING TO THE MESSAGE!

WHO IS SPEAKING? _____

DATE: _____

MESSAGE TITLE: _____

WHAT IS THE MAIN PASSAGE WE ARE READING TODAY?

BOOK: _____

CHAPTER: _____

VERSE: _____

WHAT ARE YOU LEARNING ABOUT FROM THIS PASSAGE:

DRAW SOMETHING YOU HEARD IN THE SERMON OR IN A SONG TODAY!



MY QUESTIONS & NOTES



THINGS I HAVE QUESTIONS ON TODAY:



IMPORTANT POINTS / VERSES FROM TODAY:

MY FAVORITE SONG FROM TODAY WAS...

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, October 11:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Adult/SS Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, October 12:	9:00 am	Sewing Group
	6:30 pm	Yoga
Wednesday, October 14:	6:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
Thursday, October 15:	8:00 am	BCHD
Saturday, October 17:		NO Casual Worship Service
Sunday, October 18:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	Adult/SS Class
	9:00 am	Luther League Faith & Fellowship
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
		First Communion Instruction
	AW	
	4:00 pm	Junior Lutheran Event



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

October 14	Church Council Meeting
October 18	Junior Lutherans Event
October 19	Esther Circle
October 21	Worship & Music Committee
October 25	Reformation Sunday
October 28	Sunbeam Committee
November 1	All Saints Day

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	Susan Goosen & Debbie Vaughan
Ushers.....	Melisa Balke, Assistant Head Usher
.....	Scott Gerken, Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs, Mike Schlesselman



20th Sunday after Pentecost ~ October 11, 2026

Assisting Minister.....	Anne Goosen
Communion Assistants	Erin Oelrichs & Greg Bredehoeft
Reader.....	Mason & Evan Randall
Children’s Sermon	Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes.....	Hudson Kullman & Kelsey Viebrock
Flowers	Tiffinay Nash



21th Sunday after Pentecost ~ October 18, 2026

Assisting Minister.....	Tom Oelrichs
Communion Assistants	Luther League
Reader.....	Tiffinay Nash
Children’s Sermon	Paul Fuelling
Acolytes.....	Mason Randall & Kyler Tinney
Flowers	Theila Luetjen