



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, October 5, 2025 + 10:30 a.m.

PEACE BE WITH YOU.

Welcome! We are glad that you have joined us for today's liturgy! If you are a visitor today, please complete one of the ivory and red cards found in the pew rack and hand them to one of the ushers on the way out; we have been expecting you!

St. Paul-Reformation is the first Reconciling In Christ congregation in America, publicly welcoming the GLBTQIA+ community since 1982. We continue to welcome all people regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, or any other background to participate in the life of this congregation. You are welcome here...always.

All the baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If parents wish younger children to receive Communion, they may do so. We suggest that parents contact the pastors for information to inform children about Holy Communion. We believe that Christ is truly present with us in this Sacrament offering us forgiveness of sins and new life.

Children who attend worship with their families are more likely to participate in worship as adults, so we encourage families to include their children in weekly services! Activity bags and a children's bulletin are available in the Narthex, the ushers will be glad to help you find them.

You are invited to light a prayer candle near the front of the church either before or after the liturgy, or during Holy Communion. Please see that your candle is stabilized.

The SPR Nursery is staffed by attendant Anneli Wilson from 9:00 a.m. through 11:45 a.m. Little ones are welcome!

entrance Rite

Prelude

Ciacona in F

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Stand **Confession and Forgiveness**

Please stand and turn to face the baptismal font.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

The Presider pronounces the absolution.

#526 Entrance Hymn

God is Here!

Please face the procession as it enters the nave; it is customary to bow the head as the cross passes your pew.

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.

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

The assembly joins in singing the refrain:

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,

glo - ry to God in the high - est.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day is said by the Presider.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Sit Children's Time

First Reading + Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm + 37:1-9

The choir sings the refrain one time; all join thereafter:



Com - mit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD.

Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong. For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away. Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart's desire. *Refrain*



Com - mit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD.

Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do. The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes. Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil. For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land. *Refrain*

Second Reading + 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in

whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

The cantor sings the refrain one time; all join thereafter:



✠. You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich

Holy Gospel + Luke 17:5-10

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord!
Praise to you, O Christ!

#769 Hymn of the Day

Stand *If You but Trust in God to Guide You*

*The assembly stands at the end of the introduction by Johann Ludwig Krebs
(1713-1780)*

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.

Stand or **Prayers of Intercession**

kneel *The response to each petition is:*

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

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share the peace of the risen Christ with those near to you.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sit Preparation of the Altar

Si tuvieras fe (If You Had Faith)

Latin American Folk Song, arr. Rory Cooney and Beth Lederman

*If you had faith small as a mustard seed within in you,
so says the word of the Lord,
Then you could say to any mountain, "Get up and fly,"
And then the mountain would fly away.*

If you are giving electronically, you may use the QR code at right, which is safe, fast, and efficient! Thank you!



Stand Offertory

The assembly stands as the gifts are presented and sings:

Musical notation for the Offertory song, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

We thank you, Lord, for you are good; your mer - cy lives for-ev-er.

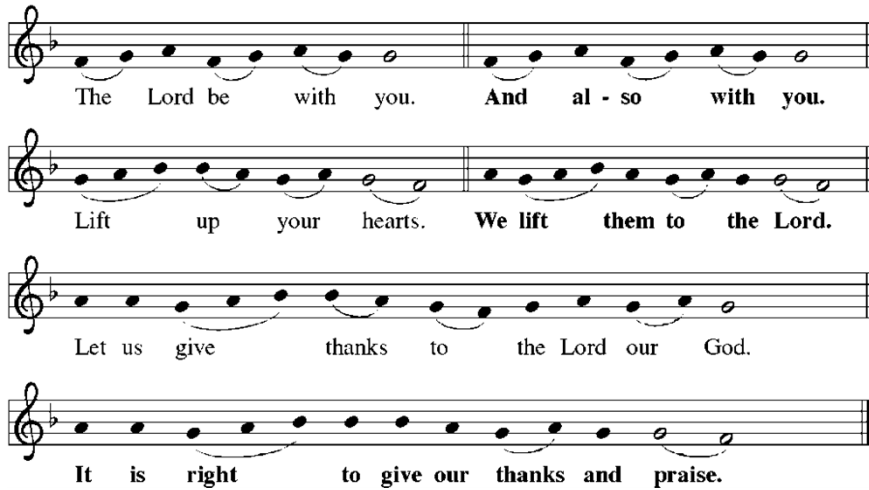
Your kind - ness from of old has stood; your love will keep us ev - er.

O God of gods, O sov - 'reign Lord, we bless you

now with one ac - cord: your love is ev - er - last - ing!

Prayer

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

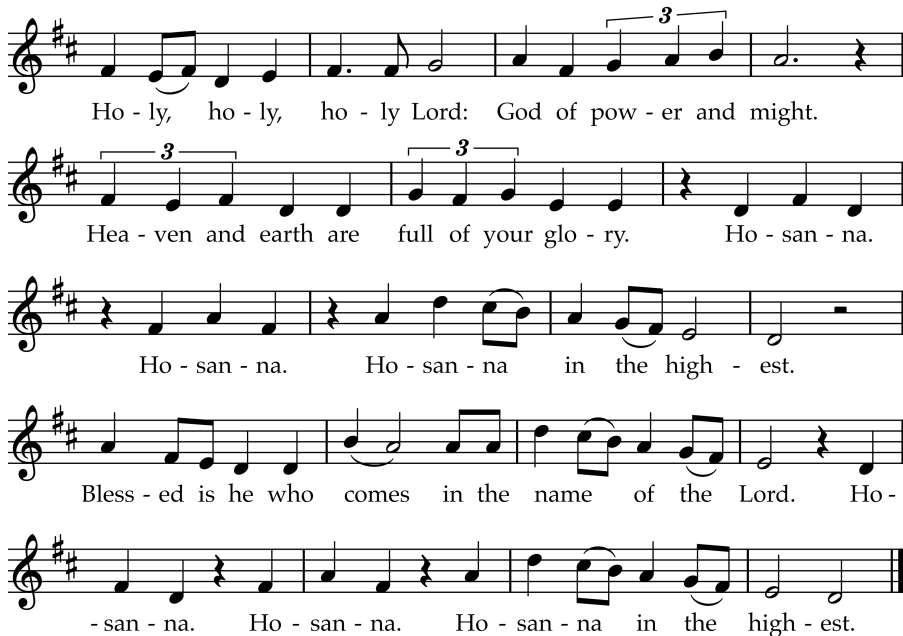
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord: God of pow - er and might.

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

- san - na. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Stand or
kneel*

Eucharistic Prayer

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power...great is the mystery of faith:



Lord, we pray that in your goodness...in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and blessing is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.



Stand

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father/Mother/God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy things for holy people!

One is holy, one is Lord: Jesus Christ to the glory of God!

Sit **Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace.

The invitation to communion comes from the Lord Jesus himself: all baptized Christians are welcome to receive the body and blood of the Lord; no one is turned away. Holy Communion will be distributed by common cup (silver chalices), or by intinction (glass chalices). If medical or health reasons dictate that you cannot receive one of the elements, please remember that the Church has always taught that Christ is present in either element alone; gluten-free wafers are available. Those wishing to receive a blessing rather than communion are invited to cross their arms.

Hymns at the Distribution

#527 *Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

“O Rest in the Lord” from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

O rest in the Lord. Wait patiently for him and he shall give thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto him and trust in him, and fret not thyself because of evildoers. — Psalm 37

Stand **Prayer**

SENDING

Sit **Announcements**

Stand **Benediction**

Dismissal

The eucharist is ended. Go in peace, do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praeludium in G Minor

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Acknowledgments: Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-703900. All rights reserved. Printed by permission of CCLI License # 22240557 and streamed by permission of CCLI License # 22240564. Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS003656. Mass of St. Thomas Words © 2000 The Archbishops' Council (Admin. by Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd). Music © 1995 David Thorne. Psalm 37 by Dorothy Christopherson © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Gospel acclamation © 2025 Stacie Lightner. Si tuvieras fe/If You Had Faith: Latin American folk song arr. Rory Cooney and Beth Lederman © 2016 GIA Publications. We Thank You, Lord, for You Are Good text © 1985 John G. Dunn. Music by Severus Gastorius, public domain.

PARISH announcements

PRAYERS Please remember in your prayers all those sick in mind, body, or spirit: especially, John Whalen, Hilary Hund, Jennifer Walding, Leo Treadway, LeRoy Sorenson, Joni Ripley, Janice Erickson, Susie Adams, Shirley Heyer, Anna Swenson-Seleen, Victoria Smith, Anthony Hedlund, Joe McKinney, Denine Harrell, Janyce Kovach, Cypress Stupica, Janis Lundin; *those having birthdays:* Tina Proctor, Eric Beckman, Jeff Kopseng, Lay'Ani Stuart, Shirley Heyer, Gwen Peyton, Brian Olson, Sharon Torkelson, Solveig Harriday, Cynthia Peyton, Tom Webb, Matthew Entenza, Jean Milton, Sarah Matala, Nicole Verdugo, David Kohn, Sara Swenson-Seleen, Pamela Peyton; *Sympathy is extended to* Sue Tomalka, Fred Sandberg, and Deb Livdahl on the death of their brother, Mark Sandberg

A NOTE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION:

SPR has slightly changed how Holy Communion is distributed. In addition to continuing to offer a chalice for intinction (the glass chalices), we will now also offer communicants the common cup (silver chalices). What does this mean? As you come forward for communion and receive the bread, either move to the glass chalices for intinction; OR consume the bread and then move to the common cup.

If you are taking the common cup, be of good courage: **firmly** take the chalice from the hand of the assistant and take a sip. This is most stable if you firmly grab the entire chalice, rather than...some awkward dance where we pour it down your throat. The common cup is then wiped and turned for the next person. **A note on hygiene:** numerous studies have been undertaken that have concluded that the common cup is as sanitary – *and in some cases more sanitary* - than intinction. Why? Because a.) the wine does not come into contact with fingers, one of the most germ-ridden parts of people's bodies; b.) the silver of the chalice has anti-microbial properties that naturally reduce the number of germs as the chalice is turned for each communicant; and c.) the chalice is wiped with a purificator, reducing the amount of bacteria by almost 90% (according to a CDC study on this very matter). Believe it or not, if you are concerned about germs...then you should consider the common cup. Yay, Science! *You do you...whatever works best for you!*

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE + Thank you to all who participated in SPR's Capital Campaign Feasibility Study; your input and feedback was invaluable. We have now received the report of Mark Davy & Associates (our Capital Campaign fundraising consultant), and – according to the study – SPR does have both the capacity and the will to undertake this campaign.



What happens next?

A **Congregational Meeting** will be held **NEXT Sunday, October 5** immediately following the 10:30 a.m. liturgy (about 11:45) to approve the launch of the campaign “Built in Hope, Renewed in Faith.” (Agenda can be found on the back cover of this bulletin) All confirmed members are eligible to vote on a motion to proceed with the Campaign. *See you there!*

BIBLE MATTERS + Please join us this coming **Wednesday, October 8, at 10:00 a.m.** in the lower level for this time of study, fellowship, and learning as we look forward to the coming week's lectionary texts.

BREAKFAST CLUB + After the Congregational Meeting **TODAY**, members are welcome to gather at the Louisiana Café, St. Paul. This informal time of fellowship is simply to help you get to know your SPR neighbors better. No reservations are required.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is on hold until our new Associate for Faith Formation is hired (stay tuned!).

CRAFTACULAR! + The 14th Annual “Craftacular!” will once again be hosted at St. Paul-Reformation. A variety of wares from local artisans and homemade baked goods will be available for purchase on **Saturday, November 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, November 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY + In addition to all the other things going at SPR this fall, a diligent team of members has been working behind-the-scenes on putting together a new photo directory. This time around, we have decided to do this work in-house thanks to new technology. Here's how you can get a photo of your household in the directory:

1. **Use your own photo:** Fill out a "Member Information Form" (located in the Narthex) for your household, and then email a picture of your household to Katie Christ at office@stpaulref.org.
 - . The same **form is also available electronically** by using the QR code to the right, through the Friday e-mail, or by visiting www.stpaulref.org. There, you can upload a photo directly.
2. **Have your picture taken in-person:** We have a photographer coming to SPR on the mornings of Sunday, October 12th and Sunday, October 19th, and in the evening on Wednesday, October 15th. You can sign up for a slot in the narthex.
 - . *How will time slots work?* There are spots for 4-5 households in each 30 minute time slot. Please arrive at the beginning of your slot, and begin filling out an updated information form. As households finish their forms, the photographer will take their photo. That household is then finished and free to go. This setup allows flexibility for both the photographer and you! We will **not** be providing a physical print copy, but you will have the option of providing an email for us to send you a digital copy of your photo!

Questions? We're here to help! Please reach out to Katie Christ in the church office by phone (651-224-3371) or email (office@stpaulref.org).



WELCOME, SISTER DOTTIE! + St. Paul-Reformation is delighted to welcome Sr. Dottie Almoney, the Directing Deaconess of the ELCA Deaconess Community as she joins us today. Sister Dottie leads the approximately seventy Sisters of the ELCA in their various ministries. Tracing their lineage to 1836 in Kaiserworth, Germany, Deaconesses have historically run hospitals, worked among the poor, and served neighbors in need. Welcome to St. Paul-Reformation, Sr. Dottie!

FALL ADULT EDUCATION...COMING UP:

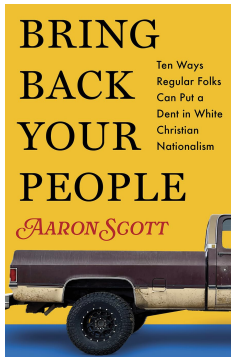
For the autumn months, SPR will read three books together in efforts to understand – and confront – White Christian Nationalism.



BLESSED: A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PROSPERITY GOSPEL

September 21, October 5, October 12, 9:10 a.m.

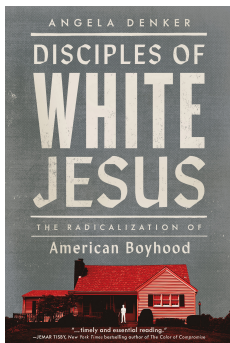
The first of the three books we will be reading together is “Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel.” The merging of religion and politics begins with the merging of religion and wealth, and Kate Bowler’s thinking lays the foundations for the second and third books in our series. Join us for one...or all, of the four sessions. *Books are available in the narthex, with a reading schedule, for \$25; it is also available on Kindle (and other electronic forms) for significantly less.*



BRING BACK YOUR PEOPLE: TEN WAYS REGULAR FOLKS CAN PUT A DENT IN CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

October 19 & 26, November 2 & 9, 9:10 a.m.

The second of these is “Bring Back Your People: Ten Ways Regular Folks Can Put a Dent in White Christian Nationalism.” Christian people are called to confront twisted readings of the Gospel that harm neighbor, and Aaron Scott gives us practical tips on how to do it. Led by SPR member Carla Hagen. *Books available mid-September, \$16 each.*



DISCIPLES OF WHITE JESUS: THE RADICALIZATION OF AMERICAN BOYHOOD

November 16, 23, & 30, December 7, 9:10 a.m.

The third of these is “Disciples of White Jesus: The Radicalization of American Boyhood.” In this book, author Angela Denker examines how racism, masculinity, and religion mix together in dangerous ways, creating the toxic brew of White Christian Nationalism. *Books available mid-October, \$14 each.*

saints and holy ones this week

William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536; Monday, October 6, 2025 + Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor, died 1787; Tuesday, October 7, 2025 + Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1986 (TFF); Saturday, October 18, 2025 + A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF 10/5

Sunday, October 5

9:10 a.m. Adult Forum: *Blessed*
9:30 a.m. Confirmation
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting:
Capital Campaign
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
12:00 p.m. Breakfast Club

Tuesday, October 7

12:00 p.m. Pastors' Text Study

Wednesday, October 8

10:00 a.m. Bible Matters
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 12

9:00 a.m. Directory Photo Sessions Start
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum: *Blessed*
9:30 a.m. Confirmation
10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

LEADERS IN THIS LITURGY

Rev. Dr. Patrick H. Shebeck	<i>Presider</i>
Sr. Stacie Lightner, DMA	<i>Cantor</i>
Sr. Dottie Almoney, Amy Rouillard	<i>Assisting Ministers</i>
Victoria Smith, Shirley Henning	<i>Lectors</i>
Jan Swenson, Margaret Schuster,	<i>Ushers/Greeters</i>
Kristen Damberg	
Erica Perl	<i>cantor</i>
Alexander Salo	<i>Acolyte</i>
Marjie & Steve Ruth	<i>Coffee and Treats</i>



ST. PAUL-REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregational Meeting + Sunday, October 5, 2025

AGENDA

1. Prayer;
2. Establishment of Quorum (see note below);
3. Motion to proceed with Capital Campaign:

Resolved: That the Congregational Council of St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church is authorized to proceed with a Capital Campaign, and to make all necessary financial and logistical provisions to do so.

4. Motion to adjourn;
5. The Lord's Prayer

Quorum is established by the SPR Constitution, C10.04: A quorum shall be constituted by 40% of the average worship attendance as determined by the most recently submitted Parochial Report.

Avg. weekly worship attendance: 110; 40% is 44 people.



ST. PAUL-REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

I N T H E C I T Y F O R G O O D

100 OXFORD STREET NORTH, SAINT PAUL MN, 55104 + WWW.STPAULREF.ORG