



I will not
leave you
as orphans;

I will
come to you

JOHN 14:18

St. Paul Lutheran Church (NALC)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

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Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad to have you worship with us today.

Our prayers include those in nursing homes and home bound: Mary Ann McCallister, Helen Lyons, Susie Leonhardt, Servicemen: Andrew Gendron.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of Esther L. Wagner by her family.

Church Council will meet Monday, May 11 at 7:30 pm.

God Squad will be having Luther Uncorked on Thursday, May 14 at 6 pm at Suburban in Bucyrus. Anyone who would like to join them are welcome to have dinner, fellowship and conversation.

Congratulations to Shawn Auck and Gage Billings on their Graduation from Col. Crawford High School.

Women of the Church invites you to join us for Potluck and Painting on Wednesday, June 10 at 6 PM. Bring a dish to share.

Women's morning Bible Study will be held May 13 and May 27. There will not be any Bible study on May 20.

Adult Sunday School will resume May 31 led by Pastor Andrea.

Dear Friends of St. Paul,

Tom is honored and thankful to be a new member of the congregation and a part of the St. Paul Lutheran Family. We were sad to have missed the welcome breakfast due to illness but so pleased to accept the beautiful potted flower and bulletin from the service that day. Thank you all so much for welcoming me into the church. Special thanks goes to Pastor Andrea for guiding me through the membership process. Bless you all.

Tom & Pam Vann

Thank you for your donation of \$1,549.02 to the Bucyrus Salvation Army.

Capt. Jared Starnes, Corps Officer

Giving for The Lord's Ministry May 3, 2026

Bell Choir	20.00
Benevolence	190.00
Current	3,526.00
Feed Crawford County	70.00
Filling Home	70.00
Lutheran Home of Mercy	75.00
Missionary	110.00
NALC Seminary	40.00
NALC Disaster Relief	35.00
Orphans and Old Folks Home	10.00
Women of the Church	40.00
Total	\$4,186.00
Attendance 114 Communion 97	

Anyone wanting to donate to the NALC Disaster Response may mark your envelopes accordingly. Donations aid tornado and other natural disaster victims.

Looking to connect with Pastor Andrea? You're always welcome to stop by during office hours: **Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9:00 AM—Noon.** If another time works better for you, feel free to call the church office or reach out directly to Pastor Andrea (614) 256-4318 to set up an appointment. She'd love to hear from you!

Those persons interested in applying for the Robert & Ruby Schimpf Scholarship can pick up information from Joyce Schanzenbach in the church office or see John Britton. Qualifications include: currently enrolled as a college senior (Fall of 2026), fulltime student (12 credits per semester), have a minimum 2.6 GPA, an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church Sulphur Springs. If no education majors apply, the scholarship is open to other major fields of study. All forms should be returned by June 1.

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday Sunday School 9 AM
 Worship 10 AM
Thursday Luther Uncorked at Suburban 6 PM
Sunday Sunday School 9 AM
 Worship 10 AM

The St. Paul worship services and sermons are recorded and available to watch on the web page at www.stpaulsulphur.com or on St. Paul Lutheran Church Sulphur Springs, Ohio YouTube. A live feed of the worship service is available downstairs in the high school room.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4707 Ridgeton Rd. Bucyrus, Ohio
419-562-5858
Pastor Andrea Taphorn
Pastor Brodie Taphorn
Charlie Britt, David Halsey, Jeff Karl Lay Assistants
Organist Kathy Sheets, Assistant Karen Schimpf
Secretary, Joyce Schanzenbach
Choir Director, Roxanne Shipman
Bell Choir, Cindy Hopkins
Church Council President, John Britton
Sunday School Superintendent, Jill Rittenour
Email: stpaul Lutheran@embarqmail.com
Web Page: www.stpaulsulphur.com
Webmaster, Sam Hopkins
samhopkins@columbus.rr.com
Pastor Andrea's number 614-256-4318
Pastor Brodie's number 614-204-3064

Never Forsaken

When Jesus went to His suffering and death, He knew how desolate His disciples would be. Deprived of His beloved presence, they would be like forsaken, homeless orphans. But He did not leave them that way. He kept His promise. After three days, He came to them again as the victorious conqueror of death and the grave. When He ascended into heaven, He sent them His Holy Spirit. Through His Spirit, He remained with them all the days of their lives.

Our merciful Savior gives this sweet and precious promise to us: "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14:18). In His Holy Spirit, He came to us in our Baptism and comes daily to us in His Word. Through faith in Him, His Spirit dwells in our hearts and teaches us to pray, "Abba! Father!"

Though father and mother forsake us, though we are like lonely orphans or grief-stricken widows and widowers in this world, He does not leave us comfortless. He comes to us in His divine Word with this cheering promise: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). In Him, we have a rich provider, an almighty protector, and a blessed home in heaven.

God, help us faithfully follow Your Son, abiding with His comfort. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PORTALS of PRAYER

Adapted from *Portals of Prayer* © Concordia Publishing House
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About the Cover: God's hand is always with us. In Christ, we have been adopted into the very family of God. Because we are members of this eternal family, Christ, our Brother, the Son of God raised from the dead, will never leave us as orphans. Through Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection, our Father in heaven sees us as His sons and daughters. Today, Jesus comes to us through His Word and Sacraments. One day, He will return to raise us and take us to be with Him as part of His eternal family forever.

The Word of God



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

Prayer of the Day

O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for {Silas and Timothy} at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babblor wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" – because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of

heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.' ²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Psalm 66:7-18*

⁷Bless our | God, you peoples;*

make the voice of his praise | to be heard;

⁸**Who holds our | souls in life,***

and will not allow our | feet to slip.

⁹For you, O | God, have proved us;*

you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.

¹⁰**You brought us in- | to the snare;***

you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.

¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads;

we went through | fire and water;*

but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.

¹²**I will enter your house with burnt offerings**

and will pay | you my vows,*

which I promised with my lips

and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.

¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the | smoke of rams;*

I will give you ox- | en and goats.

**¹⁴Come and listen, all you | who fear God,*
and I will tell you what he has | done for me.**

**¹⁵I called out to him | with my mouth,*
and his praise was | on my tongue.**

**¹⁶If I had found evil | in my heart,*
the LORD would | not have heard me;**

**¹⁷But in truth | God has heard me;*
he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.**

**¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,*
nor withheld his | love from me.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

¹⁵{Jesus said,} “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

Lessons for Next Week: Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 68:1-10;
1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

* The Book of Common Prayer verse numbers for this psalm are different from the numbering in the ESV. The Word of God - Weekly Scripture Inserts. Scripture taken from 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. Psalms are taken from the Book of Common Prayer (public domain). Logo and art by Sola Publishing (www.solapublishing.com). Permission is granted for subscribers to reproduce this sheet for local congregational use.

For Christ's Church

You abide with your church, O God. As you nourish and sustain all living things, by your Word and Sacrament nourish and sustain the whole body of Christ. Empower us with your Spirit, so that your people speak and live the love revealed in Jesus. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer

For Mothers and Those Who Nurture

Heavenly Father, strengthen the hearts of those who provide mothering care in any situation, so that Christ's love would be revealed in the generosity shown to all our children. Bless mothers and those who love with a motherly love. Comfort those whose mothers have entered into the saints in light and those who carry the pain of barrenness. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Faithful Government

You abide with the nations, O God. Reveal our truth, so that nations and peoples govern in peace and advocate for justice. Guide and direct leaders of nations that they may govern faithfully and with justice. We ask for peace in places where violence and oppression are a daily reality. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Those in Need

You abide with the needy, O God. Cheer the sorrowful, protect the orphan, support the grieving, and heal the sick. We pray particularly for those on the prayer list of this congregation and those we name now either silently or aloud. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.