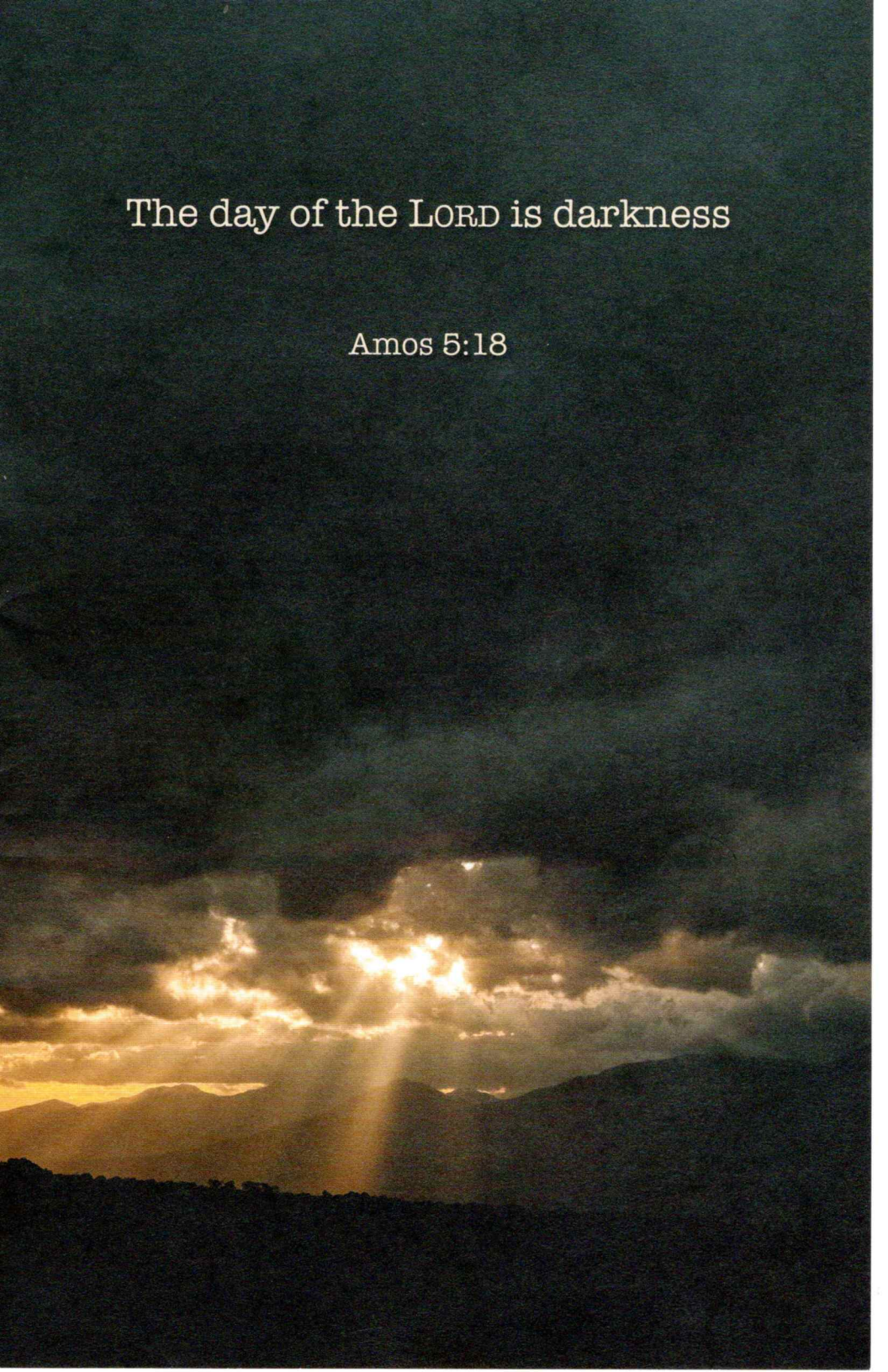

The day of the LORD is darkness
Amos 5:18

St. Paul Lutheran (NALC)

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost Nov. 8, 2026

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Prelude		
*Gathering Hymn	"O Happy Day..."	**G Hymn #351**
Announcements		
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*The Gospel Lesson		Matthew 25:1-13
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Offering		
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*Benediction		
*Closing Hymn	"My Lord What ...."	**B Hymn #627**
Postlude		

*Stand as you are able

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, Edna Armstrong, Scott Palenshus, Servicemen: Andrew Gendron.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Robertson Family in honor of all veterans.

Church Council will meet this morning after worship.

Order forms for Christmas poinsettias are in the bulletin. You may give them to Mark or Doug Ebbeskttte or Bev or Amber Robertson.

Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes are in the vestibules. Bring them to the church by November 15.

Women of the Church are collecting Cream of Mushroom soup. They can be placed in a box in the east entrance by November 22. The goal is to collect 600 cans.

Attention Shoppers!
St. Paul Helping Hands is need of volunteers to go Christmas shopping for 15 residents of the Luther Home of Mercy. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the east vestibule. Each shopper will be provided with a wish list for their resident. Thrivent has provided $250 for this project. Additional funds from St. Paul Helping Hands and a private donation will allow us to spend $60 on each resident. Shoppers will meet at the Bucyrus Walmart on Sunday, November 15 at 3pm. HO! HO! HO!

Giving for The Lord's Ministry
November 1, 2026

Benevolence	250.00
Current	3.406.00
Feed Crawford County	170.00
Filling Home	100.00
God Squad	70.00
Lutheran Home of Mercy	130.00
Missionary	45.00
NALC Seminary	80.00
NALC Disaster Relief	190.00
Orphans and Old Folks Home	50.00
Special Projects	1,045.00
Total	$5,536.00

Attendance 119 Communion 101

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

Looking to connect with Pastor Andrea? You're always welcome to stop by during office hours: **Tuesday & Wednesdays 9:00 AM-Noon.** If another time works better for you, feel 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!

United In Harmony Concert will be at 4 PM today at St. John's Lutheran Church in New Washington. A freewill offering will be taken. A meal will be served following the concert.

Thank you to Church Council for the wonderful meal last Sunday. Everything was very good and the tables were beautifully decorated. Thanks also to Tom Bush for his beautiful music. Everything was appreciated very much.
Charles & Margaret Brinkman
Kate Britton
Richard & Joyce Schanzenbach
George & Kathy Sheets

Thank you to the Church Council for the wonderful meal last Sunday.
Dick & Betty Vance

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM
	Catechism 9 AM
	Worship 10 AM
Monday	Dartball Home with Windfall UCC 7 PM
Wednesday	Women's morning Bible Study 9:30 AM
Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM
	Catechism 9 AM
	Worship 10 AM
	Shopping for Luther Home of Mercy 3 PM

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, Oho
419-562-5858
Pastor Andrea Taphorn
Pastor Brodie Taphorn
Lay Assistants, Charlie Britt, David Halsey, Jeff Karl
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: stpaulluthran@embarqmail.com
Web Page: www.stpaulsulphur.com
Webmaster: Sam Hopkins
samhopkins@columbus.rr.com

Justice Warriors

Have you ever been wronged, or has someone you hold dear been on the receiving end of unfairness or didn't receive what he or she should have? Did that circumstance cause you to pray for justice?

So it was in the days of Israel. The people cried out for what they thought was coming to them, for what they thought was fair. Yet our Lord told them to think twice. You may pray to escape a dog, only to find a tiger in your path.

It's important for all of us to understand that we, too, will be judged. Therefore, we must not become comfortable in our sin. As we judge others, we should not think that our own sin will go unjudged. So what do we do? We repent daily. We cannot rely on our good works or our own righteousness. Instead, we cling to Christ and pray for His mercy.

There is no sacrifice we can offer that will put things right with God. There is only the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Do we pray for justice? Yes, to be sure. But we pray that it might come to us as a gift we do not earn or deserve by our own merit. Let justice roll down like waters, like water and blood flowing from the crucified Christ.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for taking the judgment of my sin upon Yourself. Amen.

PORTALS of PRAYER

Adapted from *Portals of Prayer* © Concordia Publishing House
cph.org/magazines



About the Cover: The day of the Lord is not a day of light but of darkness for the complacent who have abandoned the ways of the Lord. God's Law strikes the knell of coming judgment. That Law is in our hearts today. But through prophets like Amos, the Lord gives us His Word so that we will repent before the day of judgment, turn from our sin, and turn toward our Savior. The fear of the dark day of judgment is removed in the light of Christ alone (John 8:12).

Scripture: ESV®
Cover verse: Amos 5:18
Cover image: © Shutterstock.com
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26112



2026 Poinsettia Sale

Red ● Ice Crystal ● White

$11.00 each

Please give orders to Bev or Amber Robertson or Mark or Doug Ebbeskotte by Sunday, November 22

Make checks payable to St. Paul Helping Hands

Name _____ Phone _____

Flower	Quantity	Price	Total
Red	_____	@ $11.00 ea.	_____
Ice Crystal	_____	@ $11.00 ea.	_____
White	_____	@ $11.00 ea.	_____
	Total Amount Enclosed		_____

In honor of _____

_____

In memory of _____

_____

The Word of God



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 8, 2026

Prayer of the Day

Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house
and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

Psalm 70*

[1]Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;*
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
[2]Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogeth- | er dismayed;*
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and | be disgraced.
[3]Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over | me turn back,*
because they | are ashamed.
[4]Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;*
let those who love your salvation say forever,
"Great | is the LORD!"
[5]But as for me, I am | poor and needy;*
come to me speedi- | ly, O God.
[6]You are my helper and | my deliverer;*
O LORD, | do not tarry.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

[13]We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. [15]For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. [16]For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

[1]{Jesus said to the disciples,} "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8]And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' [10]And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. [11]Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' [13]Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

For the Return of Jesus
Everlasting God, your Son promised he would return to the earth one day. Help us to be ready for his return, that our lamps would be lit and our hearts would be open to Jesus' second coming. Remind us that because of our faith there is nothing to fear and everything to look forward to as Jeus will judge us innocent, having taken our place on the cross. Lord in your mercy...
C. Hear our prayer.

For Those in Authority
Lord God, ruler of all, you desire that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Let your blessing rest on our civic leaders and all whom you have placed in positions of authority, that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives, godly and respectful in every way, free to pray and work in your service. Lord in your mercy...
C. Hear our prayer.

For Good Weather for the Harvest
Lord of the harvest, grant favorable weather for all the farmers who are bringing in the crops this season. Watch over them and prevent accidents or injuries as they work around large machines. Provide for our daily bread and make us truly grateful for all we have. Lord in your mercy...
C. Hear our prayer.

For Those Who Struggle
Merciful God, as a sign of your holy reign, grant that this congregation will identify with the suffering, the sorrowing, and the sick in both our local and global communities. By your Spirit empower us to seek ways to serve and reach out to those on the fringes in loving and tangible ways. We offer pray this day particularly for....Lord in your mercy....
C. Hear our prayer.

Lessons for Next Week: Zephaniah 1:7-16; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

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* The Book of Common Prayer verse numbers for this psalm are different from the numbering in the ESV.