

*Set free from sin,
present your members as slaves to righteousness*

Romans 6:18, 19



St. Paul Lutheran Church (NALC)

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026

Prelude

Gathering Hymn "His Eye is on the Sparrow" **C Hymn #624**

Announcements

Favorite Hymn "Faith of our Fathers" **G Hymn #500**

*Brief Order of Public Confession and Forgiveness Page 56

*The Apostolic Greeting Page 57

*The Kyrie Page 57

Hymn of Praise Page 58

*The Prayer of the Day Insert

Special Music Tom Bush

First Lesson Jeremiah 20:7-13

The Psalm Psalm 91:1-16

Second Lesson Romans 6:12-23

The Verse "Alleluia" Page 62

*The Gospel Lesson Matthew 10:5, 21-33

Children's Sermon

*Sermon Hymn "Children of the..." **G Hymn #383**

Sermon Pastor Andrea Taphorn

Apostles' Creed Page 65

Offering

Offertory Psalm "Create in me.." Page 75

*Prayers/Lord's Prayer Page 76

*Benediction

Closing Hymn "You Who Dwell..." **B Hymn #779**

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, Servicemen: Andrew Gendron, Brodie Taphorn.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Amber Robertson in honor of her parents 46th wedding anniversary.

God Squad will be having their outreach community picnic on June 25 at 5:30 at the firehouse in Sulphur Springs. All are encouraged to attend.

There will not be any Adult Sunday school on June 28 or July 5.

On June 28 United in Harmony will be singing during worship. God Squad will be serving lunch after worship. All are invited to stay. United in Harmony will be doing a few songs. If any would like to make a dessert for the meal please sign the sheet in the east entrance.

Thank you to Pastor Andrea and the congregation for the prayers and concern during my recent surgery. Also thank you to God Squad for the gift card, it was greatly appreciated.

Rachel Webber

Thank you to the Women of the Church for the recognition of the graduates and the gift, and the nice reception after church on May 24th. I really appreciated it. Thanks also for the cards and gifts from members of the congregation.

Julia Evak

Thank you to God Squad for the gift card upon the birth of our daughter, Margo. Sincerely.

Connor and Lexi Custenborder

Giving for The Lord's Ministry June 14, 2026

Bell Choir	20.00
Benevolence	85.00
Current	2,506.00
Feed Crawford County	85.00
Filling Home	5.00
God Squad	20.00
Lutheran Home of Mercy	5.00
Missionary	40.00
NALC Seminary	35.00
NALC Disaster Relief	60.00
Orphans and Old Folks Home	40.00
Special Projects	20.00
Women of the Church	30.00
Total	\$ 2,951.00
Attendance 101	

Noisy Change June 7 \$88.36

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!

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM
Thursday	God Squad Community Picnic 5:30 PM
Sunday	Sunday School 9 AM Worship/United in Harmony 10 AM God Squad lunch after worship

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
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Pastor Brodie Taphorn
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Organist Kathy Sheets, Assistant Karen Schimpf
Secretary, Joyce Schanzenbach
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No Fear!

In Jesus' day, five sparrows would sell for two pennies, and yet "not one of them is forgotten before God" (Luke 12:6). "And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father" (Matthew 10:29). In addition, "your heavenly Father feeds them" each day (Matthew 6:26).

God values and cares for sparrows, though their market value makes them nearly worthless. And if God cares for such comparatively worthless creatures, will He not care for us as well? Absolutely! We are of supreme value in His sight.

After all, God did not send His Son into the world to die for sparrows, nor even for angels. He sent Jesus to die for us and only for us! Moreover, Jesus didn't just die for us on the cross; He was also condemned in our place. At that moment, Jesus cried, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Mark 15:34). Then, after Jesus took our place and served our sentence, God redeemed His life from the grave.

Therefore, let us have no fear! We are of more value than many sparrows. In fact, God's knowledge and care of us is so complete that even the hairs of our head are all numbered.

Father, help us to have no fear in Your care. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PORTALS of PRAYER

Adapted from *Portals of Prayer* © Concordia Publishing House
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About the Cover: In Christ, we bask in the glory of God's freedom. He has broken the shackles of sin on the cross, where He died once and for all time. This grace of God that gives us freedom from sin is not freedom to sin. As people baptized into Christ, our members are now His for Him to use as slaves of righteousness. But He is not a taskmaster. "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14).

The Word of God



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026

Prayer of the Day

For those who love you, O God, you have chosen and prepared what no eye has seen nor ear heard. Pour into our hearts a loving affection for you, that we may choose you in and above all things. For only then shall we have what you promise, which far exceeds all we can desire; 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: Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

Psalm 91:1-10 [11-16]

¹He who dwells in the shelter of | the Most High,*
abides under the shadow of | the Almighty.

²He shall say to the LORD,

**"You are my refuge | and my stronghold,*
my God in whom I | put my trust."**

³He shall deliver you from the snare | of the hunter*
and from the | deadly pestilence.

⁴He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge un- | der his wings;*
his faithfulness shall be a | shield and buckler.

⁵You shall not be afraid of any ter- | ror by night,*
nor of the arrow that | flies by day;

⁶Of the plague that stalks | in the darkness,*
nor of the sickness that lays | waste at mid day.

⁷A thousand shall fall at your side
and ten thousand at | your right hand,*
but it shall | not come near you.

⁸Your eyes have only | to behold*
to see the reward | of the wicked.

⁹Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,*
and the Most High your | habitation,

¹⁰There shall no evil hap- | pen to you,*
neither shall any plague come | near your dwelling.

[¹¹For he shall give his angels charge | over you,*
to keep you in | all your ways.

¹²They shall bear you | in their hands,*
lest you dash your foot a- | gainst a stone.

¹³You shall tread upon the li- | on and adder;*
you shall trample the young lion
and the serpent un- | der your feet.

¹⁴Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I de- | liver him;*
I will protect him, because he | knows my name.

¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will | answer him,*
I am with him in trouble;

I will rescue him and bring | him to honor.

¹⁶With long life will I sa- | tisfy him,*
and show him | my salvation.]

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. ²⁰For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

^{5a}These twelve {disciples} Jesus sent out, instructing them,
²¹“Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²²and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. ²⁴A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household. ²⁶So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

Lessons for Next Week: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 119:153-160;
Romans 7:1-13; Matthew 10:34-42

For Father's Day

God and Father of us all, by whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named: Grant that all on earth who bear the earthly name of father and those who may not bear the name yet still share a fatherly love for the children around them may reflect your grace and care. Strengthen their witness to the love that you have for all your children everywhere, and lead us by their example to be people of faith. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Vacation Travel

Lord God of the Sabbath, as you rested on the seventh day, you hallow our times of rest as well. Be present with your people as they travel in these summer days. Keep them safe from harm and accident; refresh them in their play time, and open their eyes to the wonders of your good creation. Bring travelers safely home, renewed in joy and zeal for you. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Those Serving in the Armed Forces

We give thanks to you for the vocations you grant to all your people. Keep safe from harm and danger those whose work is dangerous. We hold before you in prayer those who have answered the call to military service that at the completion of their work, they may return home safely. Be present with families who wait and watch for their homecoming. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Wholeness and Healing

God of mercy, you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Restore our cities, towns, and rural communities. Use us to build houses for the homeless, give bread to the hungry, cover the naked, comfort the grieving, and give care to those suffering in body, mind or spirit. May we serve as instruments of your saving Gospel. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.