

+The Office of Matins+

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | July 27, 2025 | 9AM



Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

The Office of Matins

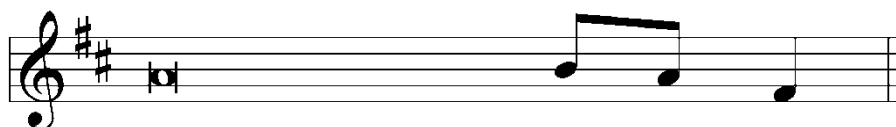
When the bells ring, please stand and face the cross.

Processional Hymn | 507 Holy, Holy, Holy

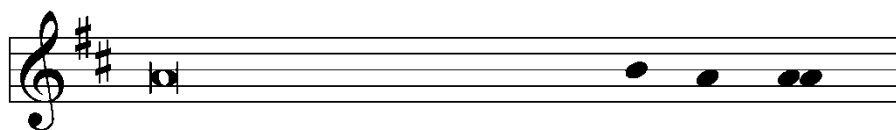
The Opening Versicles



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



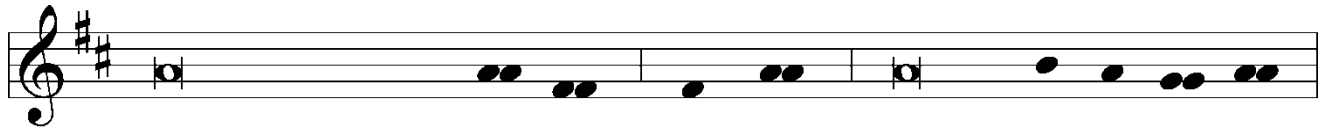
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.



The Psalmody



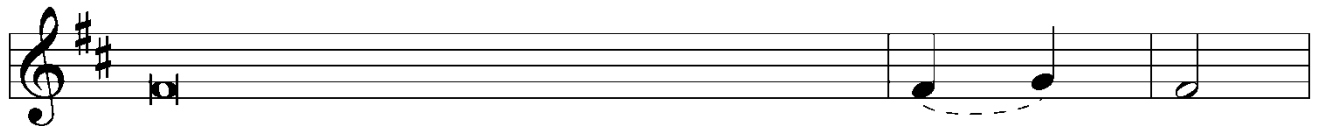
L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

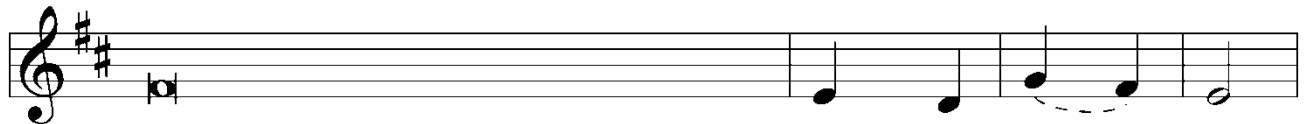
The Venite

LSB 220



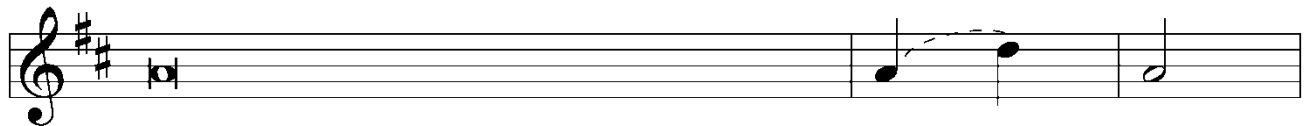
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

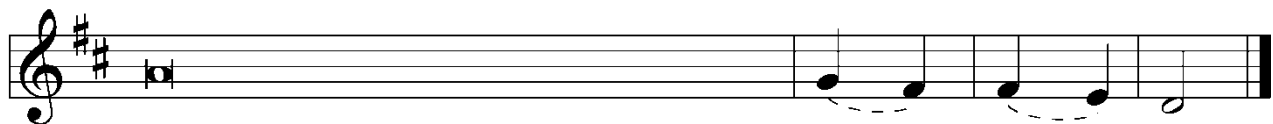


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

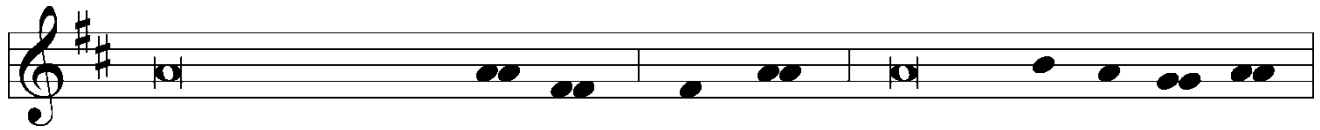
5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Additional Psalms

Psalm 138; antiphon: v. 3

³*On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.*

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

²**I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

³On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

⁴**All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

⁵and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶**For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
**you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.**

⁸The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

And to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now,

And will be forever. Amen.

³*On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.*

The Readings

Reading

Genesis 18:17–33

L A reading from Genesis, chapter 18.

¹⁷The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” ²⁰Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

²²So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” ²⁶And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

²⁷Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” ²⁹Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” ³¹He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³²Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Colossians 2:6–19

L A reading from Colossians, chapter 2.

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

¹⁶Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. ¹⁷These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Luke 11:1–13

L A reading from Luke, chapter 11.

¹Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ²And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

⁵And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves,’ ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? ⁸I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. ⁹And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to

the one who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; ¹²or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory (Common)

LSB 221
To Refrain



- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

The Sermon

The congregation rises for the Apostolic greeting:

L Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

It is customary for the preacher to read a section of the text for meditation here:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

At the end of the Sermon, the pastor invites the congregation to rise for the blessing:

L The peace of God which passes understanding guard your hearts and minds through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C Amen.

Stand

The Canticle

The Te Deum Laudamus | 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.



To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,
The mar-tyrs of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,



The cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim their prais-es to You bring:
Sing with the ho-ly Church through-out all the world this song:
Were cru-ci-fied for us and were placed in-to a tomb;
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;



"O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
"O all-ma-jes-tic Fa-ther, Your true and on-ly Son,
Then by Your res-ur-rec-tion You won for us re-prieve—
May we with saints be num-bered where prais-es nev-er end,



Your maj-es-ty and glo-ry fill the heav-ens and the earth!"
And Ho-ly Spir-it, Com-fort-er— for-ev-er Three in One!"
You o-pened heav-en's king-dom to all who would be-lieve.
In glo-ry ev-er-last-ing. A-men, O Lord, a-men!

Sit

The Offering

Prayer

Pastor speaks the Announcements of the Church and Prayer of the Church here.

Then he invites the congregation to stand for the singing of

The Kyrie

LSB 227



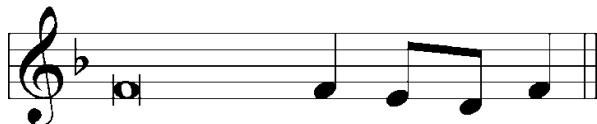
C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

The Lord's Prayer

C 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.



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.
O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

The General Prayer

from The Lutheran Hymnal

Almighty and everlasting God, who are worthy to be had in reverence by all the children of men, we give You most humble and hearty thanks for the innumerable blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which, without any merit or worthiness on our part, You have bestowed upon us.

We praise You especially that You have preserved unto us in their purity Your saving Word and the sacred ordinances of Your house. We beseech You, O Lord, to preserve and extend Your Kingdom of Grace and to grant unto Your holy Church throughout the world purity of doctrine and faithful pastors, who shall preach your Word with power; and help all who hear rightly to understand and truly to believe it.

Send forth laborers into your harvest, and open the door of faith unto all the heathen and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church, and grant unto them repentance unto life. Be the Protector and Defender of Your Church in all time of tribulation and danger; and may we, in communion with Your Church and in brotherly unity with all our fellow Christians, fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the salvation of our souls.

Bestow Your grace upon all the nations of the earth. Especially do we entreat You to bless our land and all its inhabitants and all who are in authority. Cause Your glory to dwell among us and let mercy and truth, righteousness and peace, everywhere prevail. To this end we commend to Your care all our schools and pray You to make them nurseries of useful knowledge and Christian virtues, that they may bring forth the wholesome fruits of life.

Graciously defend us from all calamities by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine. Protect and prosper everyone in his appropriate calling, and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Be the God and Father of the widow and the fatherless, the helper of the sick and needy, and the comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Accept, we beseech You, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You, which is our reasonable service.

And, as we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come; doing the work You have given us to do while it is day; before the night comes when no man can work. And when our last hour shall come, support us by Your power and receive us into Your everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



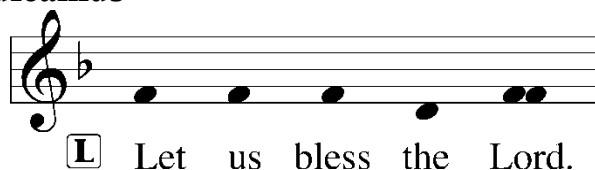
Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



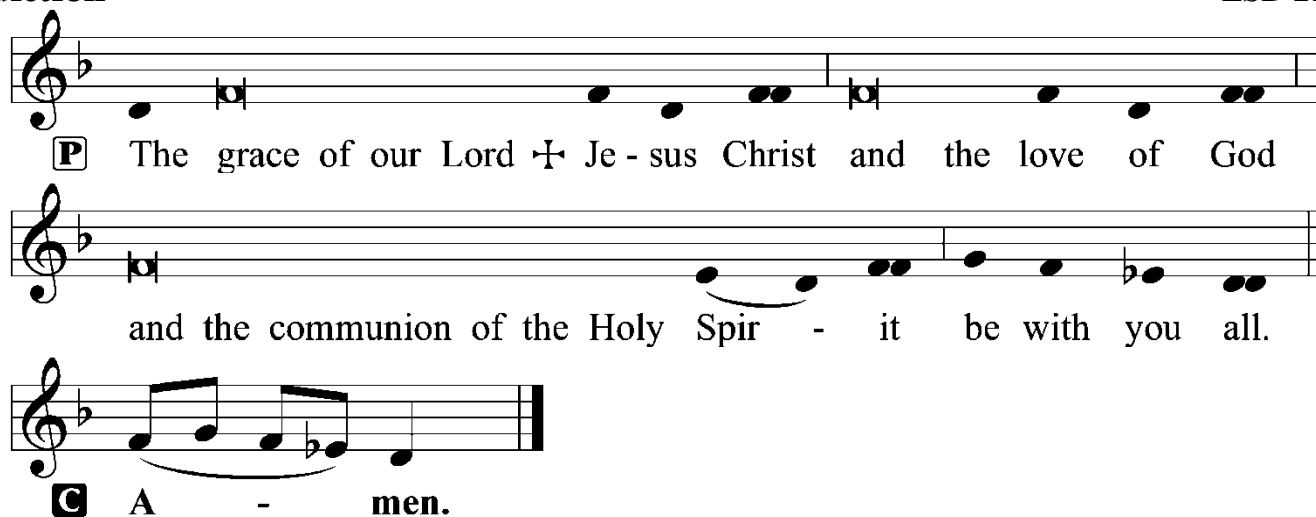
Benedicamus

LSB 228



Benediction

LSB 228



Hymn to Depart | 779 Come, My Soul, with Every Care

The Service is ended. Depart in peace!

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

A Meditation on the Word of God / Genesis 18:17-33

The historical context of Genesis 18 is that God is going to destroy Sodom soon. The destruction of Sodom will come as a result of God's righteous wrath against the wickedness of the people of Sodom, for "**their sin is very grave**" (V20). But Abraham has a nephew living in the city: Lot. Abraham desires that Lot would be spared. He asks if God would destroy a city if ten righteous people were living in it. God said, for the sake of ten righteous people, he would not destroy the city (V32). In the following chapter, Gen.19, the Lord destroys Sodom with fire and brimstone, but arranges for the escape of Lot and his family, who flee the city alive.

This is a story about prayer—intercessory prayer. Abraham goes boldly to God, praying for the salvation of his nephew. God hears Abraham's petitions and spares, not the whole city, but the righteous remnant living in the city, Lot and his family. Why could Abraham speak to God so boldly? Not because of his worthiness. We know that Abraham was a dirty, rotten scoundrel. Once, he gave his wife to Pharaoh, telling Pharaoh that Sarah was his sister, in order to save his own skin (Genesis 12). Once, Abraham committed adultery with Hagar at the instigation of his wife, in order to bring about a son by his own power (Genesis 16). Abraham is right to tell God that he is but "**dust and ashes**" (V27). This phrase is an acknowledgement that he is a child of Adam, and that the heritage he has received from his father Adam is sin which begets death. Abraham is unworthy to approach God in prayer on his own merit—this he knows.

So, then, how can Abraham approach God with such boldness? *Because of the Lord's grace.* God says of Abraham simply, "**I have chosen him**" (V19). Chosen Abraham for what? To be the father of a great multitude. All who share the faith of Abraham—faith in Jesus Christ—are the sons of Abraham. Abraham is chosen to be the father of that very Promised Seed who would come into the world to crush the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15-16) and save sinful Abraham and all of his descendants. Abraham, in prayer, does not cling to his own unworthiness and merit, but to the grace and promises of God. Abraham was a man of faith and was righteous not by works but through his faith in God (Genesis 15:6). Scripture calls Abraham a friend of God (Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23). Abraham was God's personal confidant (V17). God revealed his will to Abraham so that Abraham could tell his children about God's justice and mercy (V19).

This helps us understand what prayer is. Prayer is predicated upon previous knowledge of God. We will not pray aright unless we know 1. God has chosen us as his own in Baptism, and 2. His mercy to us in Jesus Christ. We share in the special status the Lord bestowed upon Abraham in Baptism. In Baptism we are all sons of God through faith. In Baptism, we become the friends and personal confidants of God. God shares his will and plans with us through his Word and we share with God our petitions in our prayers, fully expecting them to be heard and answered. Yet, like Abraham, we know that we do not deserve for God to answer one single petition we make unto him because of our wretched sin. Prayer does not depend on a status we have earned for ourselves before God or upon the beauty of the words we use. Prayer depends on the Lord's promise of his mercy. Though he is just and his judgment will come against all sodomies and wickednesses of men, he is gracious and merciful through the blood of his Son. Christian prayer clings to that mercy available to sinners through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Announcements

St. Paul

The Altar is finished and back in place after being refinished. The completion of the Altar marks the end of a year-long project to have all the wood in the sanctuary refinished. We thank the Marcus Schueler family for their donation to fund this project, Jim Schueler for heading up the project and the many trips made to south Adams County with the Church furnishings, and for all of those who helped to unload and install the Altar and other furnishings. The wood in the sanctuary looks marvelous and really ‘pops’ with such vibrant color. Thanks be to God!

St. Paul will be subscribing to the Lutheran Institute of Theology (LIT) and coming up in early August, members will be given access to its online courses and content for free. Our annual subscription as a congregation is \$1000. St. Paul will pay for this outright. Any member who would like to donate to this cause is encouraged to write a check to St. Paul with ‘Memorial Fund’ in the memo line and include with your offering. What is LIT?

It is a new organization created by LCMS pastors. Its aim is to provide solid Lutheran content through online courses for individual and congregational use. Each course (not for credit) includes 6-8 video lessons, averaging 30-40 minutes each. Their aim for these courses is to have biblically faithful, intellectually engaging, and beautifully produced made available to congregations and laypeople, and to reach out to skeptics and the non-Lutheran world. Think: do you ever listen to podcasts through your phone, watch documentaries on Netflix, or partake of any online content for the purposes of personal growth? Then you will benefit from LIT. This exciting project seeks to get theology out to God’s people in a new way. Members who take in online podcasts and content regularly will benefit from these courses. Go to www.lutheraninstitute.org to learn more about this exciting new program.

LWML Meetings, Stamps, Aluminum Cans. Did you know that all women of our congregation are automatically members of The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (Lutheran Women in Mission)? Members of the LWML meet four times a year. These meetings are held prior to the Ladies Aid meetings in February, May, August and October. Please join us! *Cancelled Stamps - Mites for Missions.* We all receive mail with cancelled stamps. Please consider saving these stamps for "Mites for Missions." What to do? Trim stamps from the envelope, leaving ¼ inch margin. Place trimmed stamps into a zip lock bag. Place your stamps in the designated basket located at the back of church. That's it! Donated cancelled stamps are sold to stamp dealers and the money received is given to the LWML Indiana District Financial Secretary and earmarked "Mites for Missions." *Aluminum Cans.* Pastor and Lynn Brege are collecting aluminum cans for Missions. Please bring your cans (preferably crushed) to 8369 N 300 W and leave them by the barn door. All proceeds will go to local missions. Thanks!

Save the Date—Right to Life Workshop at St. Paul, Preble. When: September 20th, 2025 9am-12pm. The workshop will take place at St. Paul Lutheran Preble. This workshop is open to adults and students 7th grade and older. *Please register here <https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/right-to-life-workshop--preble>.

Let us know in the "comments" block of the form who is coming! For questions, please call 260-471-1849 or email lucy@ichooselife.org. Registration by cash is available at the door.

Voters minutes from the voters meeting in July are available in the narthex and attached to this email. Mark your calendars for the next voters meeting on **Tuesday, Oct 21**. A special SGO presentation will be given at the start of the meeting from Scott Schumacher (all welcome).

Wyneken

Open Positions at WMLS. As of Tuesday, July 22, we have individuals who have interviewed for and been selected for positions of 4th grade teacher, 5th grade teacher, interim Principal, two aides, and one part-time instructor of Music. We are waiting on signed contracts to release the names, but parents can rest assured we will have excellent educators to teach our children next year. A big thank you to the Personnel Committee of the School board for their hard work in recruiting excellent candidates, getting them interviewed, and on board just in time for school!

Golf Outing—Fundraiser. The Wyneken class of 2027 is hosting a golf outing fundraiser to support their upcoming trip to our nation's capital! We're looking for sponsors to help make this incredible learning experience possible. Whether you're a business owner, golf enthusiast, or just want to support young people's education, your sponsorship would mean the world to these students. <https://bit.ly/2025GolfSponsor> Of course, they are also looking for golfers too! Come and enjoy a day of golfing at Cross Creek on Sunday, September 21. Check in is at 11 a.m. with a noon shotgun start. The cost is \$75 per player or \$300 for a foursome. A pulled pork meal will follow at 5 p.m. If you don't golf but would like to enjoy the meal, you can purchase a meal ticket from any Wyneken 7th grader for \$12. All proceeds goes to Wyneken's Class of 2027's Washington DC trip. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Clemons at 260-706-3213. Thank you for helping the class with their fundraising activities!

Youth

Sunday, July 27; 3-5:30 p.m. – Slip-n-Slide Kickball (High School only)

Sunday, August 10; 5 p.m. – Wyneken Kitchen Clean Up (Middle and HS) Youth volunteers are needed to help clean up the Wyneken kitchen. Please note the start time of 5 p.m. *The date of this event has changed from Aug 3rd as previously listed. The date is Aug 10th.*

Sunday, August 17; 12-5:30 p.m. – All-Youth Back-to-School Bash at Pine Lake (Middle and HS) The current plan for the Back-to-School Bash at Pine Lake Waterpark is to meet in the St. John, Bingen parking lot at 12 noon on Sunday, August 18 and carpool to Berne. The cost for youth is \$5. Chaperones are free as always. You may bring food and beverages in a cooler to be consumed at the picnic tables near the parking lot at Pine Lake. You may also bring additional cash to purchase concessions such as hamburgers, nachos, ice cream, etc.

TinCaps Game. (MS/HS Youth) Sunday, August 31; 5:00 p.m. – Tin Caps Game We will leave at 5:00 p.m. from the Bingen parking lot for the 6:05 p.m. game. We plan to return around 10 p.m. Please let your pastor know if you're going by August 11.

Community

The Friends of Wyneken will host an ice cream social at the historic Wyneken House on **Sunday, July 27 from 2-5 PM.** There will be ice cream with lots of fixings, as well as games and a water slide for the kids. Come see what's new at the house and learn more about Rev. Friedrich Wyneken, a pioneer circuit rider who also served as the president of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod from 1850 to 1864. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

Singing With The Saints Hymn Festival: Sunday, November 2, 3 p.m. You are invited to join us at Zion Friedheim for an afternoon of singing and fellowship. We are currently planning to include a Festival Adult Choir (high school and older), a Festival Children's Choir (2nd grade-8th grade, unchanged voices), and instrumentalists. **You do not need to be members of Zion Friedheim in order to participate!** Text Allison Ulmer at 361-236-5507 or fill out this short google form <https://forms.gle/925uVAhhsPHhuZDF8> **no later than August 20** if you or your children are potentially interested in participating. Rehearsals will start after Labor Day and will be scheduled based upon the information from the form.

Craft for a Cause. Attention Ladies! *Our first event was such a success we are doing it again this fall!!!* You're invited to join the Women of Bethlehem for Craft for a Cause on **September 20th from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm.** Lots of food, fellowship, prizes and 12 hours of crafting FUN!!! SPACE IS LIMITED and will fill up! Be sure to register EARLY! Questions? Text or Call Deann Oliver at 616-894-0144 or via email at deannrene@outlook.com.

Fall Banquet: Right to Life of Northeast Indiana will be **October 14, 2025 at the Memorial Coliseum!!!** We are excited to share our keynote speaker with our eight counties! **Kirk Cameron**, well known actor and author. He is known by millions as "Mike Seaver" from the 1980's hit sit-com, "Growing Pains." Kirk is also known for his family-focused films, "Fireproof" and recent film, "Life Mark." Last year we were blessed to have 3000 attendees for our banquet, which made the banquet a record-breaking event for the United States!!! This year we are hoping to break the record with having 3200 attendees. We are hoping you are able to join us to share in this amazing event! Here is the link with more information: <https://ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/fallbanquet>. We are thankful for your continued support for our mission to protect LIFE from conception to natural death through education, advocacy and public policy.

Immanuel, Union. From the Circuit Visitor, Rev. Sam Wirgau: At a Special Voter's Meeting held on Sunday, July 20 the members of Immanuel Lutheran Church (Union Township) in Decatur, IN elected to Call the Rev. Paul M. Doellinger of St. Paul Lutheran Church Cassopolis MI as their pastor. Please keep Rev. Doellinger, Immanuel - Union, and St. Paul - Cassopolis in your prayers as Rev. Doellinger receives and deliberates this call.

Prayer of the Church

- +**Those who mourn:** the family of Debbie Koenemann (Mr. Koenemann's mother), fell asleep in Jesus July 19.
- +**Sick and Recovering:** Steve Kreigh; Jerry Gallmeyer; Tom Korte; Lisa Engstrom.
- +**Pr. Yeager**—Divine Call to Immanuel, Bristol, CT.
- +**Expectant mothers:** Halei Faurote; Taylor Selking; Maddie McCullough.
- +**The Homebound:** Lurna Bulmahn, Marilyn Werling, Cindy Gallmeyer, Warren Scheumann (all at Woodcrest); Mike Hoffman (Golden Years, Fort Wayne); Gene Bulmahn (Christian Care, Bluffton); Don Haines (home), Ron Selking (Residences, Chesterton, Indiana).
- +**Birthdays 7/27-8/3.** Jeff Smelser, Charlie Faurote, Duane Ehlerding, Jeff Schueler, Rebecca Hoffman, Micah Borne, Jennifer Faurote, Emmie Bulmahn, Jazper Huff.

Acolyte 7/27

9AM Lucas Blum

Attendance

Wednesday, July 16 15 Sunday, July 20 169

Stewardship for 7/13/25

Offering: \$8,085.55 Online Offering: \$1,029.50 Total for the week: \$9,115.05
vs. weekly goal: -\$1,589.45 vs. Year to Date: -\$78,971.33

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 27	9AM The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost—Matins
Wednesday, July 30	7PM The Divine Service
Sunday, August 3	9AM The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost—Divine Service

Saint Paul Ev. Lutheran Church—Preble, Indiana

A Congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

4510 W. 750 N., Decatur, Indiana 46733 | 260.547.4176

Church Email: stpaulpreble@gmail.com

Webpage: stpaulpreble.org

Rev. Andrew T. Yeager, Pastor | 260-226-0375 | andrewtyeager@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege, Pastor | 260-223-1962 | djbreg@hotmai.com

Seminarian Ryan Skove, Field Worker | 909-263-7695 | ryan.skove@ctsfd.edu