# St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023

## Welcome in the name of Jesus!



If you are a guest with us today, we extend a special welcome. If you have questions or prayer requests or want to get in touch with us, please sign the guest book in the lobby (or use this QR code) or email or call.



Children's Bulletins are available in the lobby.

**Service Live-streamed In The Learning Center** Turn right when you leave the sanctuary and follow the hall around to The Learning Center if you need a break during the service.

**Prelude:** Please use the prelude as a time for quiet prayer and meditation before worship.

**Prayer before Worship:** O Lord, my creator and redeemer, as I come to worship, I pray that You would open my heart to hear your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, rejoice and praise You and grow in grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### For Those Who Desire to Receive the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. Paul in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. (Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion trays.)

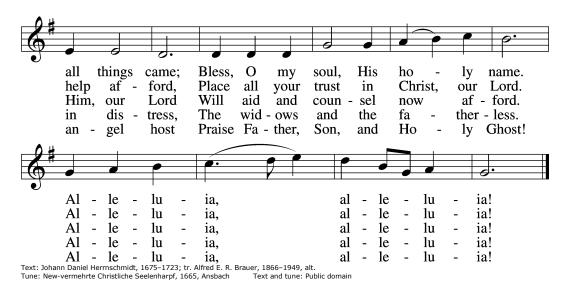
St. Paul Lutheran Church and School 2001 Old Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228 Church: 410-747-1897 School: 410-747-1924 www.stpaulcatonsville.org email: secretary@stpaulcatonsville.org Pastor Gregory Alms Renata O'Reilly, Organist & Choir Director

## Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023

#### Prelude: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

**David Schack** (b. 1947)





## Confession and Absolution

#### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

#### Kneel/Sit

Confession of Sins

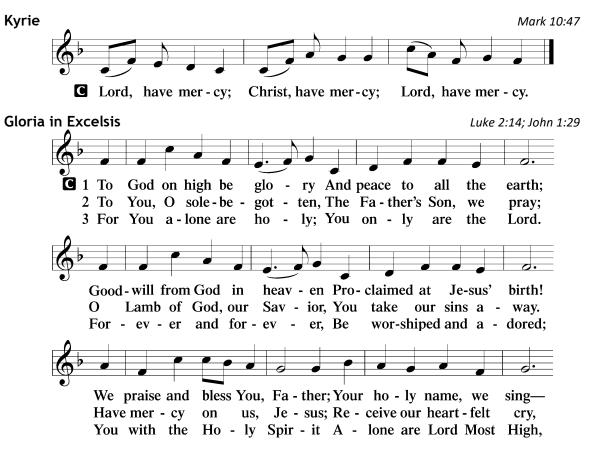
C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

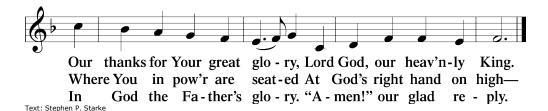
#### **Prayer for Forgiveness**

- P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### Stand

# Service of the Word





. . . . . . . . .

- Salutation and Collect of the Day
  - P The Lord be with you.
  - C And also with you.
  - P Let us pray.
  - C O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### Sit

#### Anthem: The Day Draws On With Golden Light

Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

The day draws on with golden light, Glad songs go echoing through the height, The broad earth lifts an answering cheer, The deep makes moan with wailing fear. For lo, He comes, the mighty King, to take from death his power and sting, To trample down his gloomy reign, and break the weary prisoner's chain. Maker of all, to Thee we pray, fulfil in us Thy joy today. When death assails, grant, Lord, that we may share Thy Paschal victory Amen.

#### **First Reading**

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen...

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (spoken responsively)

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.

#### Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

 $^{2}$ Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—  $^{3}$ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

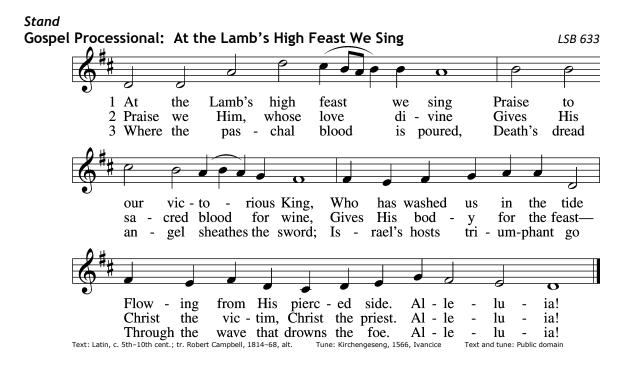
<sup>8</sup>and

"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



#### Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

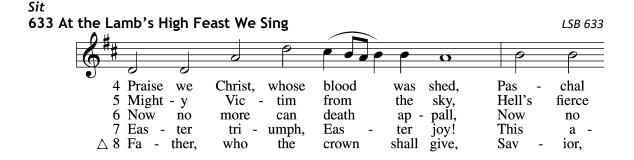
C Glory to You, O Lord.

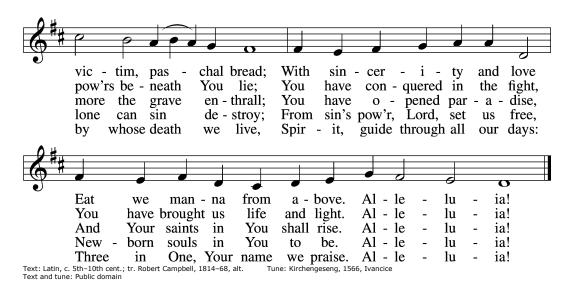
<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.





#### Sermon

#### Stand Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

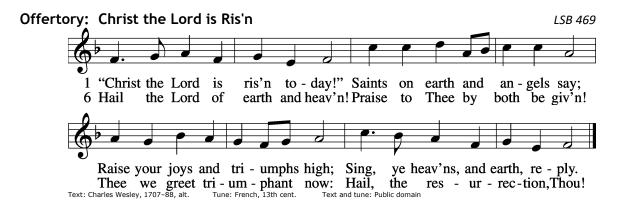
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

#### Prayer of the Church

#### Offering

(Offering plates are available in the narthex. You may also give electronically through our website at stpaulcatonsville.org/donation. If you would like to send in an electronic offering via text, text the dollar amount you would like to give to 410-888-0161.)



## Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

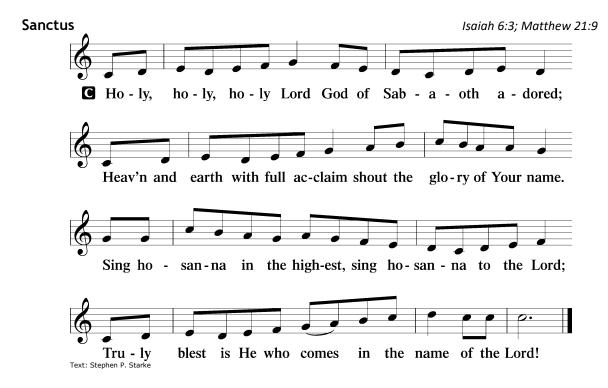
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

#### C We lift them to the Lord.

- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

#### 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.

#### The Words of Our Lord

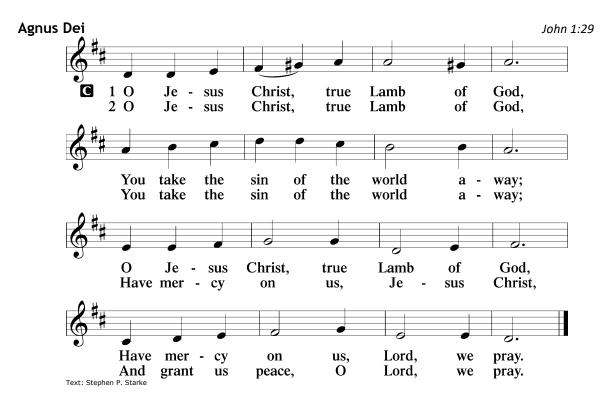
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in

My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit



411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

light. God. 1 I walk child of the to want as а 2 I want to see the bright-ness of 3 I'm look - ing com - ing Christ. for the of 0 0 d. Ι want to fol low Je sus. Ι look Je want to at sus. I be with Je want to sus. light God world. set the give the stars to to Clear Sun Righ - teous - ness, of shine on my path, When we have with pa - tience the run race, 1 ð life The of Je is star my sus. And way show me the the Fa ther. to We shall know the joy of Je sus. Refrain 0 In Him there is dark - ness all. no at 6 day like. The night and the are both a ð light of of The Lamb is the the cit -God. y 0 Shine in Lord Je sus. my heart,

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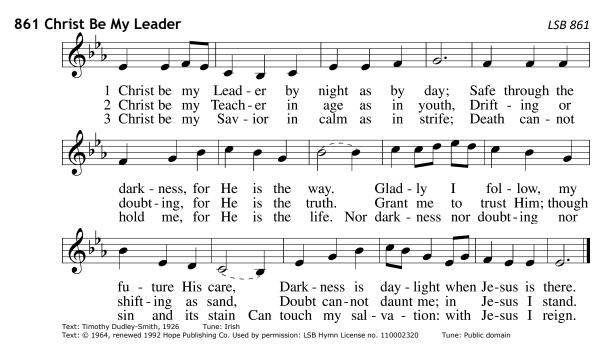
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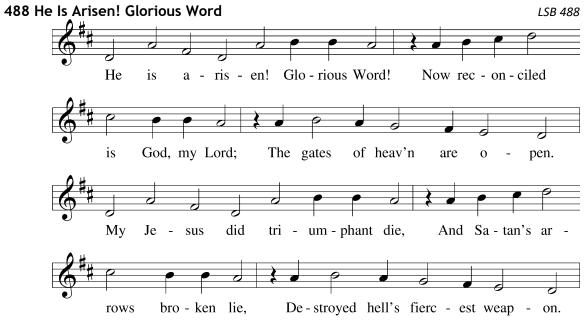


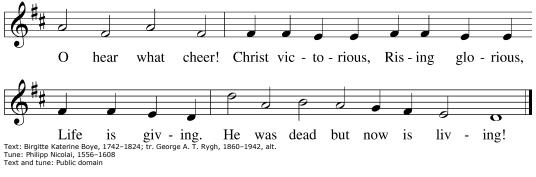
Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677-1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002320 Tune: Public domain

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#### **Post-Communion Collect**

- Let us pray. . . . А
- С Amen.

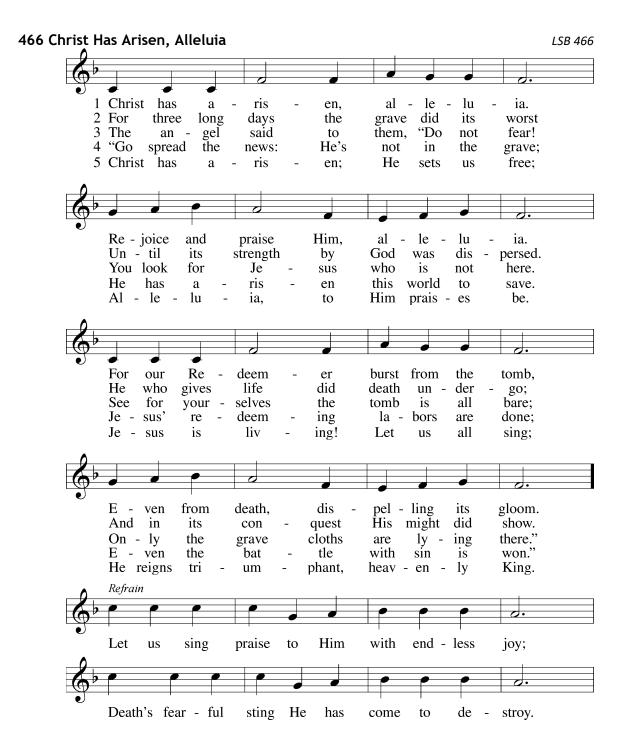
#### **Benedicamus**

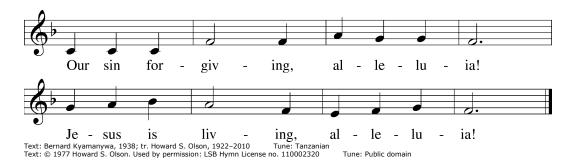
- А Let us bless the Lord.
- С Thanks be to God.

#### Benediction

- Ρ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- С Amen.

Psalm 103:1





Postlude: Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing J.

Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)



**Daily Readings:** *May* **7:** Lev 20:1–16, 22–27, Luke 11:37–54; *May* **8:** Lev 21:1–24, Luke 12:1–12; *May* **9:** Lev 23:1–22, Luke 12:13–34; *May* **10:** Lev 23:23–44, Luke 12:35–53; *May* **11:** Lev 24:1–23, Luke 12:54–13:17; *May* **12:** Lev 26:1–20, Luke 13:18–35; *May* **13:** Lev 26:21–33, 39–44, Luke 14:1–24.

#### Acknowledgments

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## News & Notes

#### Altar Flowers

Flowers on the altar today are given by Doris Schascheck in celebration of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Flowers are also given by the Dungey Family in celebration of Sadie's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### St. Paul Lutheran School Music Expo

Join us this Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. for the school Music Expo.



Sunday May 21 will be our Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic. Don't go to church that Sunday, go to the park! There will be no Sunday School or Bible class on that day. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side to share. If you can bring a dessert, please sign up on the bulletin board.

#### **VBS Prayer**

Please pray during this time as we prepare and lead up to Vacation Bible School. A new prayer will be added each week, this week pray for our director. "Lord, be with Kirsten as she plans and prepares for our VBS this year. Keep her healthy in body and mind before, during, and after VBS. Allow opportunities for her to share the good news of who you are with kids. Give her creative ideas to reach children, give her peace when times get stressful, and fill her heart with joy as she faithfully completes your work."

#### Stellar VBS in SPACE!

Join us for an out-of-this-world event! June  $26^{th}$  – June  $30^{th}$  from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration is NOW OPEN for ages 3-5 and for children entering  $1^{st}$  through  $5^{th}$  grade in the fall. Go to <u>stpaulcatonsville.org</u> to register for VBS.

	This week	This week Next week	
Cantor	JB Jaeger	JB Jaeger	
Reader	Michelle Johnson	Jay Barringer Brian Erwin Jay Barringer	
Usher	Kevin Dungey		
Usher	Taylor Dungey		
Acolyte	Rachel Johnson	Charlotte McKay	
Greeter	Debbie Oldhouser	Karyn Borth	

#### Serving at St. Paul

# Prayer List

#### **CHURCH MEMBERS**

Debbie Frech (cancer, for favorable test results) Carolyn Louden (recovering from neck surgery) Jeff Piegols (recovering from heart valve replacement surgery) Rik Johnsson (recovering from shoulder surgery) Rich Foks (recovering from knee surgery) John Gay (cancer) Lindsey Gay Paula Staudinger (strength and recovery from a back procedure) Bruce Staudinger (strength and grace as Paula's full time caregiver) Marilyn Haberl (scleroderma) Ken Waibel, taking a short term (2 month) interim position as Director of Hope Academy in Virginia Beach, VA. Pray for Ken, for the Congregation of Hope Lutheran, and for their

ECC and Kindergarten programs.

#### SHUT-INS

Mildred Klein, Betty Blackburn, and Janet Conklin.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bill Schrott, friend of the Kyne's (in rehab after shoulder operation) 4/9

Corey Brown, father of 3 young boys, son of Doreen McDonald's coworker (kidney failure/dialysis) 4/9

Tammy Brown, friend of Doreen McDonald (possibly malignant cyst) 4/9

Cooper McGeath, new Marine son of Heather Kraket's friend (safety on his first deployment) 4/9 Martha McGlynn, LWML president of the Baltimore Zone (prayers for positive test results) 4/2Arianna and Ian Grams, niece and nephew of Dana Stigdon (peace and wisdom as they learn to navigate life without parents) 4/2

Anita Cohen (cancer) 4/2

Ed Cohen, husband of Anita (strength and peace as caregiver) 4/2

Pastor Steve Schafer, father of Alicia Dreessen (skin cancer treatments) 4/2

Prayer is a great gift and privilege for Christians. To add people to the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please email pastoralms@stpaulcatonsville.org or dana.stigdon@splscatonsville.org or call the church office at 410-747-1897. Family and friends will automatically be removed after one month. If you want your request to stay on for another month, just contact the office.



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Sermon Notes