



St. Paul
Lutheran Church

Walking Together

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
Catonsville, MD
August 2025

A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF THE CHURCH SERVICE

Whether you have been worshipping as a Lutheran since you were two months old or are new in the last few weeks the worship service we use is a great gift. Often, we can take it for granted or it may confuse us with all the sitting and standing and kneeling. There is a nice little pamphlet available in the Narthex on the “Welcome” table entitled “A Simple Explanation of the Church Service”. Pick one up. It is filled with helpful Biblical insights into the liturgy we use and why we use it. Here are a few excerpts.

People often think Worship in the Church Service is about what we do for or toward God. The reality is quite different. In the Divine Service, God provides His service for us. God comes to us in the reading, preaching, and proclamation of His Word and in His Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. In worship, God gives His grace, and we respond with thanks and praise.

We follow this order not because we believe it is the only right way but because we believe this ancient pattern of worship most clearly and beautifully serves the purpose of worship, to deliver the gracious gifts of God.

Absolution is the announcement of forgiveness to the penitent sinner. Our Lord declares through the mouth of His servant, the pastor, that by His mercy our sins are forgiven. The Absolution speaks the Gospel into our ears in a personal way. Through these words we receive the salvation earned by Christ upon the cross.

“Kyrie” (pronounced KEE-ree-ay) is a shortened form of the Greek words “Kyrie eleison” (pronounced KEE-ree-ay ee-LAY-ee-sahn) which means “Lord, have mercy”; The Kyrie is the first prayer of the congregation as we worship with all the company of heaven. It is a cry for mercy that our Lord hear us and help us in our needs and troubles.

The Sanctus is the angelic hymn described in the heavenly vision of Isaiah 6. In this vision, the seraphim are gathered around the throne of God, proclaiming His holiness and glory. By singing this hymn in the Divine Service, the congregation participates in the heavenly chorus.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! Isaiah 6:3

And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” Matt. 21:9

Pastor Alms

NEWS FROM THE ELDERS

Meet Our New Vicar!

I called our new vicar and asked him some questions so that the members of St. Paul could be introduced to the man who will serve as our vicar for most of a year beginning August 10.

Vicar Malmstrom goes by “Tom.” He has a twin brother and a younger brother. When asked where he was born, he said Ft. Wayne, Indiana. When asked where he was raised, he said “all over!” His father was a navy chaplain and the family lived in 10 or 11 different places, some in Maryland, for example, in Odenton. His parents now live near Lynchburg, Virginia, where his father is Associate Pastor at Our Savior. In high school he ran cross country and track.

When asked what called him to the ministry, to be a pastor, he said that even as a child, things pushed him in that direction. Most particularly, he told me he was a member of Maryland Boys State in 2017, a program of the American Legion. At Maryland Boys State, participants are exposed to both the rights and the responsibilities of a citizen. The leadership training is practical with city and state governments operated by the students elected to various offices. Vicar Tom said that he did not do well at any office he was elected to except for the office of chaplain.

When asked what he was looking forward to in his vicarage at St. Paul, he said “everything,” but he is especially excited to learn more about preaching and teaching. I finally asked him what one thing the members of St. Paul should know about him, he said “Please tell them I don’t bite!” So please feel free to introduce yourselves to Tom. He will arrive at St. Paul in early August but will be installed as vicar during our church service on August 10. A welcome to St. Paul reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall with all kinds of delicious snacks hosted by the Women’s Guild and the Elders.

In His service,
Kevin Dungey,
Board of Elders

HELLO VICAR MALMSTROM!

Vicar Tom Malmstrom will begin his year of service the week of August 3rd. He will spend part of that week getting acclimated at the Lutheran Mission Society and having an orientation here at St. Paul.

His official installation will be Sunday August 10th. We will have a special reception following worship.

We will also have a Gift Card Shower on the 10th . Please welcome the Vicar to St. Paul by bringing cards and notes of welcome and by giving him gift cards to such places as Amazon, Giant Foods, and Walmart.

The Vicar’s day off will be Friday. His one day a week at the Mission Society will be Tuesday.

GREETINGS FROM THE ASSET MANAGEMENT BOARD!

Board Member News

The Asset Management Board bids farewell to Jim Kyne and welcomes Paul Lubell as our new (but returning) member. Due to his role on the Cemetery Committee, he will serve as Cemetery liaison, and Brad will transition to Investment liaison. Amanda McKay will take over Jim's duties as secretary.

Cemetery Committee Openings

The Cemetery Committee has two openings it is looking to fill. The Committee meets at the beginning of each quarter, generally at church. Between meetings, we keep in touch by email and telephone when matters require more urgent consideration. A few times a year after major holidays, we actually do some work by cleaning up the grounds, as wilted garlands start to look rather ugly. Help us maintain a mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church that has existed since 1882. Contact Paul Lubell - pdl40zb@gmail.com - for more information.

Learning Cottage and Cemetery House Sale

To provide a brief update on two matters voted on during the last fiscal year, efforts for getting the new Learning Cottage for the School and selling the cemetery house are still underway. We hope to have more information on both items for the September newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns for the Asset Management Board, please e-mail Brad Johnson - bjohnson2@comtechnologies.com.

Blessings to all,
Brad Johnson

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION IN AUGUST

In August our Sunday morning Adult Education series will feature a look at Pentecostals and what they believe, some fabulous hymns and what they mean, and Holy Baptism and the eternal gifts it brings. Join us at approximately 8:45 every Sunday morning in the fellowship hall downstairs. Schedule is below:

Aug 3 Bill Oldhouser --- Pentecostalism
Aug 10 Cameron Jones: Hymn Studies
Aug 17 Cameron Jones: Hymn Studies
Aug 24 Steve Haar: Baptism: What a Blessing!
Aug 31 Steve Haar: Baptism: What a Blessing!



CONFLICT AND COMMUNITY: A LOOK AT 1 CORINTHIANS

Coming in September: You think life for churches is challenging today! The Corinthian church had to navigate being a new church plant, deep divisions, sexual immorality, idol worship, bizarre worship practices, speaking in tongues and more. Pastor Alms leads a study of Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth. We begin on September 7th at 8:45 am in the fellowship hall.

ADULT CATECHISM CLASS STARTING ONLINE

Pastor Alms will be teaching Luther's Small Catechism via Google Meet beginning in the next few weeks. Interested? Know someone who might be interested? Contact Pastor Alms. All are welcome. Day and time are up for negotiation.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Thanks to all who contribute to the big Mite ox each month. I have mailed a check for \$129.25 for the quarter ending June 30th.

Ladies we are hosting an after-church reception for our Vicar on August 10th. I can still use some clean up help, please let me know if you can help.

Mark your calendars! We are hosting dinner for the Blind Ministry at Martini Lutheran church on Saturday, September 27th. We will be serving chili, corn bread and cookies for dessert. I need ladies willing to make food. We feed about 20 - 25 people that evening and we also send a bag of leftovers home with each person. We will leave from church around 4:00 and carpool to the church. Need at least 6 people to help serve. I'll be sending out an email later this summer asking for volunteers.

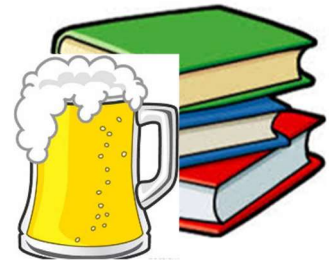
Please go online and check LWML Chesapeake Breeze. There you will find information on grants that have been funded and those still waiting to be funded. Registration form for the Christian Life Retreat to be held September 19th through the 21st in Williamsburg, VA. is also included.

Carolyn Louden

LUTHERAN BOOKS AND BEER IS COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Lutheran Books and Beer is Coming in September

Our new book is Luther: Man between God and the Devil, a biography of Martin Luther written by Heiko Oberman available here. Our first meeting this fall will be the 4th Thursday (our normal meeting day) September 25th, 7 p.m. at the Rathskellar in Elkridge. Start reading and join us!



NEEDED: A FELLOWSHIP HOUR COORDINATOR

St Paul's is in need of someone to coordinate the fellowship hour, the treats and coffee that happen after worship every week. This would involve scheduling, making sure people sign up and filling in the gaps. If you can help, please contact Pastor Alms.

NEEDED: A SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

St Paul needs someone to coordinate Sunday School. This would be scheduling teachers, ordering materials, managing substitute teachers, and (as time allows encouraging parents to bring children to Sunday School, special events and publicity.) If you can help, please contact

Pastor Alms.

ST. PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

As the old song goes, “We’ve got plenty to be thankful for”!

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, August 24, 10:00 am, when we will be celebrating our school, introducing new teachers, and asking God’s protection for the year ahead. This day will be your opportunity to meet the team members who work alongside you in our St. Paul mission to bring a loving God to the community every day.

We have some exceptional new hires for the Fall. If you attended the Voters’ Meeting, you are already familiar with our two elementary school teachers. Miss Ellen Marie Sanders is a recent graduate of Concordia, Nebraska, and will join our staff as our third-grade teacher. Miss Emma Brand, also a graduate of Concordia, Nebraska, has been teaching at a sister Lutheran school there and will join our staff to assume the position in the fourth grade.

We’re also happy to welcome Mrs. Erica Krabitz, a Catonsville native, who has taken over as our ECC Director. She comes to us with a degree in education, as well as experience in ECC, and elementary school. We’re excited to have her running our ECC program and look forward to many years of successful partnership.

Not only do we have new teachers for the 2025/26 school year, but we are also opening our doors to new students, as well as our returning families so they have daily contact with our loving Savior here. We expect to have a full house in our ECC, and our elementary enrollment currently stands at 72 students.

You are consistently generous to the missions of St. Paul, supporting them with prayers, helpful hands, and financial contributions. Thanks be to God that, in His wisdom, grants are also available to our school that can help us maintain our campus and improve its security.

These grants helped us with several projects over the year:

1. A Safety and Security Grant of approximately \$2,500 was used to reinforce the glass in our Fellowship Hall windows, making them less likely to shatter in the event of any impact.
2. This same grant also covered the replacement of the security cameras on the playground side of our complex at a cost of over \$5,000.
3. There have been intermittent issues with our sewer line backing up. That line was replaced by securing a grant of approximately \$15,000, which completely covered the cost of the replacement. We expect the final work on the playground to be completed shortly.
4. We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our Learning Cottage, which will house our 5th-grade class. This Cottage will be paid for with the school ERC grant fund that we have on hand.

Looking forward to celebrating your school on August 24 at our 10:00 worship service.

CATONSVILLE 4TH OF JULY PARADE

St Paul Church and School returned again this year to the Catonsville 4th of July parade, and we had a spectacular showing! Over 20 members of our church and school family showed up for a wonderful collaboration in decorating our float and making Biblically-based fans to hand out to parade patrons on that hot summer day. Our float proudly showed off our hope in Christ, our church and school's Foundation. Then a dozen of us walked alongside the float among 20,000+ parade partitioners and we even won best in show among the faith-based floats! It was a great showing and invitation from our St Paul family to our community.



“SPARE No One – Helping the Needy”

BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 25 – 5:00-7:00

Severna Park Lanes – Gobowlingsevernapark.com

840 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park

Your Registration includes:

Two Games and Shoe Rental (Ten Pin or Duck Pin Lanes)

Pizza, Soda, Dessert

Great Silent Auction, Raffles, Prizes – Sponsorships Available

\$45 per person (max. 5 per lane)

**\$30 non-bowlers (includes pizza and soda
ticket)**

REGISTER at www.ogt.org/md

Questions? Contact Marie Fries weezie68@verizon.net

*Founded in 1992, Orphan Grain Train is an all-volunteer ministry to the
needy, here and around the world. Visit us at www.ogt.org/md*



ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

Have some free time this summer? Why not join us at the warehouse in Millersville and sort clothing, help receive donations, make/stack boxes, or work outside doing some lawn care. Volunteer hours: Monday and Tuesday mornings 9a.m. to 12, Tuesday evenings 5 – 7 p.m. and 2nd Saturday of each month 9 am –12 noon.

SERVING IN JUNE AND JULY

	Reader	Greeter	Usher 1	Usher 2
Aug 3	Ken Waibel	Irene Giguere	Ken Waibel	Jon Brooks
Aug 10	Rik Johnsson	Dave Carnes	Bruce Staudinger	Paul Lubell
Aug 17	JB Jaeger	Sari Nguyen	Jim Kyne	David Nguyen
Aug 24	Rik Johnsson	Pat Wesselman	Roy Krakat	Ed Kester
Aug 31	Michelle Johnson	Ed Cohen	Ben Haberl	Jim Baeder

Daily Readings

	Aug. 3 (Prop. 13)	Eighth S. after Pentecost	Eccl. 1:2, 12– 14; 2:18–26	Psalms 100	Col. 3:1–11	Luke 12:13–21
	Aug. 10 (Prop. 14)	Ninth S. after Pentecost	Gen. 15:1–6	Psalms 33:12– 22	Heb. 11:1–16	Luke 12:22–34 (35–40)
	Aug. 17 (Prop. 15)	Tenth S. after Pentecost	Jer. 23:16–29	Psalms 119:81– 88	Heb. 11:17–31 (32–40); 12:1–3	Luke 12:49–53 (54–56)
	Aug. 24 (Prop. 16)	Eleventh S. after Pentecost	Isaiah 66:18– 23	Psalms 50:1–15	Heb. 12:4–24 (25–29)	Luke 13:22–30
	<i>or</i>	St. Bartholomew	Prov. 3:1–8	Psalms 121	2 Cor. 4:7–10	Luke 22:24–30 <i>or</i> John 1:43– 51
	Aug. 31 (Prop. 17)	Twelfth S. after Pentecost	Prov. 25:2–10	Psalms 131	Heb. 13:1–17	Luke 14:1–14