

**6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - JULY 5, 2026**



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



## Commemorating the United States Semiquincentennial

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*please stand in body or spirit*

Confession & Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of all mercy, **we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of + Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

"Before You, Lord, We Bow"

#893

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*please be seated*

## First Reading

Zechariah 9: 9-12

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsive Reading

Psalm 145: 8-14

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

## Second Reading

Romans 7: 15-25a

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Gospel Acclamation

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

#611 vs. 1



Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Zechariah 9: 9a

Gospel

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup> “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, <sup>17</sup> ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ <sup>18</sup> “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” <sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Hymn of the Day

“This Is My Song”

#887

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering



*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

#611 vs. 2

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.....Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

## HOLY COMMUNION

At the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

### Communion Hymns

“God of Our Fathers”

(See next page)

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

#650

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

#697

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray....We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Blessing

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, + one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.

**Amen.**

Sending Hymn“

“O Beautiful For Spacious Skies”

#888

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

**Thanks be to God.**

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# God of Our Fathers

1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y hand  
2 Your love di - vine has led us in the past;  
3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,  
4 Re - fresh your peo - ple on their toil - some way;

leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
in this free land by you our lot is cast;  
make your strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.  
lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies:  
oh, be our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay;  
Your true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;  
fill all our lives with heav'n - born love and grace

our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.  
your word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.  
your boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
un - til at last we meet be - fore your face.

# “THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH IN US”



**Welcome:** "Welcome! Today we gather to celebrate the blessings of freedom, community, and the 250th birthday of our great nation. We are so grateful to have you worshipping with us. May God bless you and your family!"

*We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!*

**In Our Prayers:** “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Mary Haluptzok, Judie VonHolten, Jill Logan, Ken Holland, Kevin Tatum, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman and Kyle Luetjen.



Dan (Friend of Dan & Julie Cronin), Betty Harms, Pam Bruns (Cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Pat Higgins, Heidi Hopp (grandmother of Nicole Rice), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eckhoff, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



**Nursing Home & Homebound:** Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash: *Anew*. Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten, Arlene Schlesselman & Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *Windsor Nursing Home*.

**Prayers:** If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



**Military:** Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen), J. Phillips Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN (nephew of Katy Schlesselman), Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



**Our Ice Cream Social was a BIG success**, thanks to our members who stepped up to serve the burgers, hot dogs, chips and, of course, the sweets - pie, cake, and ice cream. Thanks to those who helped with kitchen clean up and those who put up the tables and chairs. Thanks to Ryan Schlesselman and his crew for preparing 40 pounds of hamburger for the meal! AND a BIG thanks to the Ice Cream Social Committee: Nicole Rice, Victoria Kruep, Katie Jackson, and Hannah Schweitzer. "Hats off", ladies!! Thank you to our congregation and the community for their generous donations to the Cole Camp Swimming Pool and the Fred J. Kresiel family (who lost their home in a fire earlier this year). Our free will donations totaled \$1,590. The committee estimated that approximately 175 people came out to enjoy some good food and fellowship.

**One Stitch at a Time:** The Sewing Group will meet **every Monday** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join!



**Council:** The Church Council will meet on **July 8th** at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room.

**Health Care:** The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **July 9th**, from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.





**Mid-MO Bible Camp:** This year's Mid-MO Bible Camp will be **Sunday, July 12th - Thursday, July 16th**, at the usual location, Camp Rising Sun in Lake of the Ozarks State Park. It's for youth who this summer have completed 4th - 9th grades. Friends are invited! Cost is \$100 per camper, and St. Paul's will pay for half of the fee for our members and friends. Registration forms are on the usher's stands at church. The deadline to register and receive a t-shirt has passed, but you can still submit your registration ASAP to attend. The campers always enjoy homemade cookies and desserts as a snack during the week, so if you can contribute those please bring them to church by Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Let Pastor Stephen know if you have any questions!

**Vacation Bible School:** Join us for Vacation Bible School **July 20-24!** Youth from Pre-K (potty-trained, please!) through 6th grade are invited to a fun week of VBS for the theme of "Magnified" where we will explore God's awesome creation to discover just how big and powerful God really is! We'll gather each evening from 6:00-8:30 pm here at St. Paul's for fun activities, games, crafts, snacks, stories, songs, and more! Registration for participants AND volunteers is live online at: <https://www.myvbs.org/stpaulsvbs2026-magnified>. Anyone in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up is invited and welcome to volunteer at VBS, but please register to do so online. Contact Emily Kullman with any questions. Mark your calendars!



**Committee:** The Worship & Music Committee will meet on **July 22nd** at 2:30 pm in the Meeting Room.

**Sunbeam:** The Sunbeam Committee will meet on **July 29th** at 2:00 pm in the Gathering Space.



**thrivent** If you are a Thrivent member and haven't yet used one or either of your Action Grants for this year, please let us know and we can put them to use! Contact Pastor Stephen if you have an Action Grant available. Thanks!

**BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING DRIVE & SALE:** The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance is holding the annual Back to School Clothing Sale on Saturday, **August 1<sup>st</sup>**, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, here at St. Paul's. You can help in many ways:



### **Clothing Donations**

Drop off gently used clothing here at church for the Back to School Clothing Sale. All clothing is accepted, but clothing for children and youth is always needed. It is greatly appreciated if you can sort and label the donations by gender and size. Donations can be dropped off in trailer behind the church or in the Fellowship Hall during office hours or other activities. (There are signs behind the church directing where to drop off.)

### **Undies Sundays**

In addition to clothing available for purchase, families with young children will be given new undergarments at the Clothing Sale. We are again requesting **financial contributions** instead of in-kind donations. We will purchase bulk clothing items and repackage them into smaller packs to provide for a more equitable distribution of undergarments to local families. Those contributions can be made at any time, but our Undies Sunday will be the weekend of July 19 & 26. (We will still accept packages of underwear if you have already purchased those items.)

### **Happy Feet**

We will once again offer vouchers for children (until they run out) that will allow them to purchase a new pair of shoes at JCPenny in Sedalia on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Financial contributions for that can be made to "Happy Feet" and dropped in the offering plate or shoeboxes at the back of the church.

### **Volunteering**

This year we will be sorting and arranging clothing all week, Monday through Friday, July 27 – 31, in preparation for the Clothing Sale on Aug 1. Volunteers are welcome to stop by any day, starting at 9 am, to offer some time sorting. We will also need volunteers the day of the sale to assist shoppers and straighten up the clothing tables, and clean up starting at 1:00 pm.

~In Our Community~



**Fish Fry:** The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance is hosting their annual **Community Fish Fry** on Saturday, **July 11**, at First Baptist Church, 1110 W Butterfield Trail. Serving will be from 5:00-7:00 pm. The menu includes fried fish, sides, hot dogs, homemade desserts, and more. A free-will offering will be collected to support the work of the Church Alliance, in particular their Happy Feet project that strives to provide a new pair of shoes to local children for each school year. Local musicians will provide bluegrass music for entertainment during the meal. Please join us!

**Salvation Army Kids Meals:** For the past few years, the Salvation Army of Benton County has been providing weekly kids meals to families with children to help supplement their food needs. Last year they provided over 41,000 meals to hundreds of families across our county during the summer months!! They expect that number to grow even bigger this year, and with the rising grocery costs they will need our help. If you would like to financially contribute to this effort, you can include that in your offering at church (designated for Kids Meals) or mail it directly to: Salvation Army, PO Box 1432, Warsaw, MO 65355 (be sure to mark your donation as “Kids Meals.”)



# PATRIOTIC PARFAIT

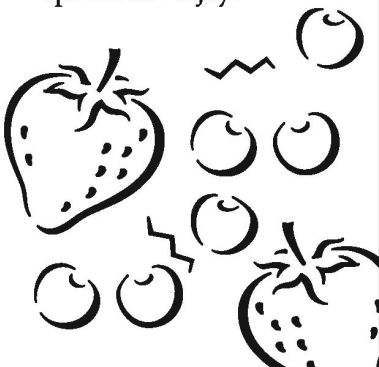
On the 4th of July, make this healthy, festive dessert to share with family and friends.

## What you need:

- Clear glasses or plastic cups
- Spoons
- Vanilla yogurt
- Cut strawberries
- Fresh blueberries
- Coconut, whipped cream, red and blue sprinkles (optional)

## What you do:

1. Place a couple of spoonfuls of vanilla yogurt at the bottom of each glass or cup.
2. Add cut strawberries to cover the yogurt layer.
3. Add more yogurt over the strawberries.
4. Add a layer of blueberries.
5. Repeat the layers until you reach the top of the glass or cup.
6. For extra fun, add coconut, whipped cream and sprinkles. Enjoy!



# PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4<sup>th</sup> craft.

## What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



## What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

<b>Sunday, July 5:</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service Holy Communion at the Altar
<b>Monday, July 6:</b>	9:00 am	Sewing Group
<b>Tuesday, July 7:</b>	5:00 pm	Float Work
<b>Wednesday, July 8:</b>	6:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
<b>Thursday, July 9:</b>	8:00 am	BCHD
	5:00 pm	Float Work
<b>Saturday, July 11:</b>	5:30 pm	Casual Worship Service
<b>Sunday, July 12:</b>	10:00 am	Worship Service Holy Communion by Stations



**~ \* ~ Coming Events ~ \* ~**

July 8 .....	Church Council Meeting
July 12-16 .....	Mid-MO Bible Camp
July 20-24 .....	Vacation Bible School
July 22 .....	Worship & Music Committee
July 29 .....	Sunbeam Committee
August 1 .....	Back-to-School Clothing Sale

# Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**Ministers** ..... The Whole Congregation  
**Presiding Minister** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Organist** ..... Sandy Schlesselman  
**Pianist** ..... Jeannette VonHolten  
**AV Technicians** ..... Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk  
**Altar Guild** ..... Melisa Balke & Joyce Schlesselmann  
**Ushers** ..... Melinda Strathman, Head Usher  
..... Chad Schlesselman, Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman and Steve Triplett



## 6th Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 5, 2026

**Assisting Minister** ..... Darin Oelrichs  
**Communion Assistants** ..... At the Altar  
**Reader** ..... Lynn Schear  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Pastor Stephen Zeller  
**Acolytes** ..... Charlotte Zeller & Evan Randall  
**Flowers** ..... Amy Brown



## 7th Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 12, 2026

**Assisting Minister** ..... Anne Goosen  
**Communion Assistants** ..... Tara Anderson & Ruth Ann Kreisel  
**Reader** ..... Kyler & Macoy Tinney  
**Children's Sermon** ..... Paul Fuelling  
**Acolytes** ..... Hudson Kullman & Fred Goosen  
**Flowers** ..... Ruth Ann Kreisel