

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Crookston, MN

August 9th, 2026

Eleventh Sunday after
Pentecost



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

August 9th, 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/SHARING THE PEACE

OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

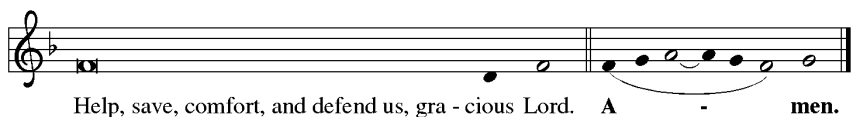
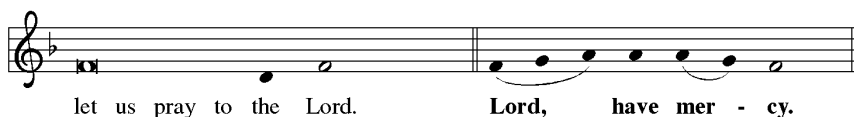
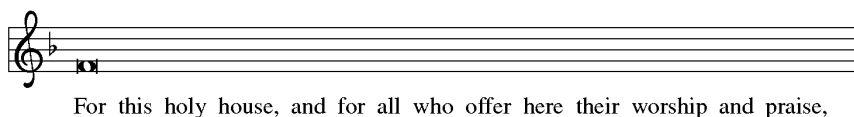
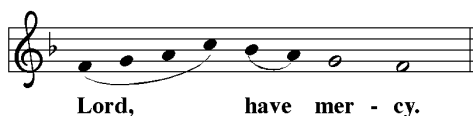
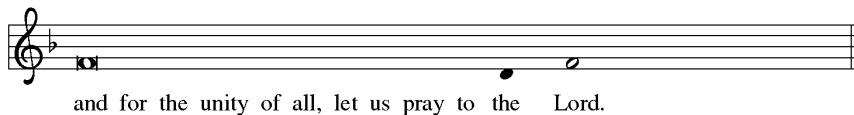
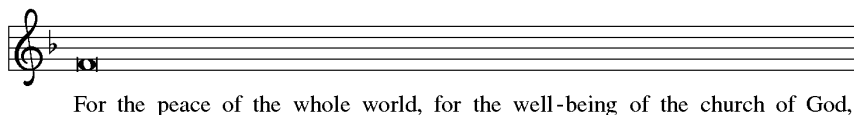
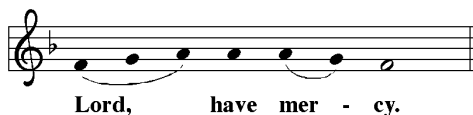
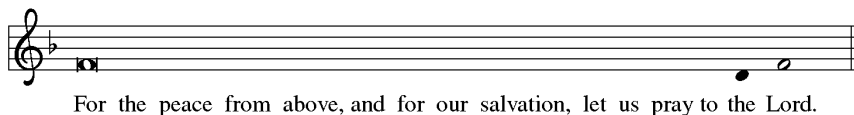
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: #823 Praise the Lord! O Heavens

GREETING (p. 203)

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.**

KYRIE (p. 138)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 140)



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC: Jim Kent "Beautiful Savior"

First Reading: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 (CEB)

Though Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, his jealous brothers sold him into slavery. Judah, who protected Joseph's life, later gives a moving speech before Joseph in Egypt, indicating that the brothers had changed their ways (44:18-34).

¹ Jacob lived in the land of Canaan where his father was an immigrant. ² This is the account of Jacob's descendants. Joseph was 17 years old and tended the flock with his brothers. While he was helping the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, Joseph told their father unflattering things about them. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he was born when Jacob was old. Jacob had made for him a long robe. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him and couldn't even talk nicely to him.

¹² Joseph's brothers went to tend their father's flocks near Shechem. ¹³ Israel said to Joseph, "Aren't your brothers tending the sheep near Shechem? Come, I'll send you to them." And he said, "I'm ready."

¹⁴ Jacob said to him, "Go! Find out how your brothers are and how the flock is, and report back to me."

So Jacob sent him from the Hebron Valley. When he approached Shechem, ¹⁵ a man found him wandering in the field and asked him, "What are you looking for?"

¹⁶ Joseph said, "I'm looking for my brothers. Tell me, where are they tending the sheep?"

¹⁷ The man said, "They left here. I heard them saying, 'Let's go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

¹⁸ They saw Joseph in the distance before he got close to them, and they plotted to kill him. ¹⁹ The brothers said to each other, "Here comes the big dreamer. ²⁰ Come on now, let's kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns, and we'll say a wild animal devoured him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!"

²¹ When Reuben heard what they said, he saved him from them, telling them, "Let's not take his life." ²² Reuben said to them, "Don't spill his blood! Throw him into this desert cistern, but don't lay a hand on him." He intended to save Joseph from them and take him back to his father.

²³ When Joseph reached his brothers, they stripped off Joseph's long robe, ²⁴ took him, and threw him into the cistern, an empty cistern with

no water in it. ²⁵ When they sat down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with camels carrying sweet resin, medicinal resin, and fragrant resin on their way down to Egypt. ²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, “What do we gain if we kill our brother and hide his blood? ²⁷ Come on, let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites. Let’s not harm him because he’s our brother; he’s family.” His brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the cistern. They sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver, and they brought Joseph to Egypt.

Psalm: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (CEB)

¹ Give thanks to the Lord;

call upon his name;

make his deeds known to all people!

² **Sing to God;**

sing praises to the Lord;

dwell on all his wondrous works!

³ Give praise to God’s holy name!

Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the Lord!

⁴ **Pursue the Lord and his strength;**

seek his face always!

⁵ Remember the wondrous works he has done,

all his marvelous works, and the justice he declared—

⁶ **you who are the offspring of Abraham, his servant,**

and the children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

¹⁶ When God called for a famine in the land,

destroying every source of food,

¹⁷ **he sent a man ahead of them,**

who was sold as a slave: it was Joseph.

¹⁸ Joseph’s feet hurt in his shackles;

his neck was in an iron collar,

¹⁹ **until what he predicted actually happened,**

until what the Lord had said proved him true.

²⁰ The king sent for Joseph and set him free;

the ruler of many people released him.

²¹ **The king made Joseph master of his house and ruler over everything he owned,**

²² to make sure his princes acted according to his will,

and to teach wisdom to his advisors.

⁴⁵ Praise the Lord!

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-15 (CEB)

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes about the righteousness that comes from the Law: *The person who does these things will live by them.* ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith talks like this: *Don't say in your heart, "Who will go up into heaven?"* (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ or *"Who will go down into the region below?"* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart* (that is, the message of faith that we preach). ⁹ Because if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ Trusting with the heart leads to righteousness, and confessing with the mouth leads to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, *All who have faith in him won't be put to shame.* ¹² There is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives richly to all who call on him. ¹³ *All who call on the Lord's name will be saved.*

¹⁴ So how can they call on someone they don't have faith in? And how can they have faith in someone they haven't heard of? And how can they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, *How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Before: The holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33 (CEB)

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²² Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. ²⁴ Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. ²⁵ Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed. ²⁷ Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ And Jesus said, "Come."

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!"

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

³³ Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, "You must be God's Son!"

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON "The Indispensable Chain"

HYMN OF THE DAY: #755 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he

ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

OFFERING

Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Prayer: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 145)

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: #785 When Peace Like a River

CHARGE: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Crookston, MN

Aug. 9th, 2026

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

For those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit:

Julie Love	Eunice Sondrol	Judy Luettjohann
Darleen Jackson	Katie Bakken	Julian Bertils
Marlo Moren	Evie Gunderson	Nancy Eia
Mike Ophus	Loiland family	Trevin Monahan
Nash Erdman	Stuart Hanson	Mark Peterson
Glorrayne Casmey	Lucile Torkelson	Delores Sandager
Carol Chaffee	Kari L Trudeau	Mary Ann Knotek
Leah Knotek Ellefson	Luanne Devos	

For our missionaries: Steve & Kelly Solheim
City of Joy Rwanda

For our servicemen: Brandon Johnson D.J. Brace

Please keep them in your prayers this week.

If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office at 218 281-3638 or our prayer chain coordinator, Marian Bakken: (h) 218-281-1584, (c) 218-275-3143, marianbakken@gmail.com.

MISSION

To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people

1214 University Avenue – Crookston, Minnesota 56716

Website: stpaulscrookstonmn.com

facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn

Phone: 218-281-3638

Email: stpauls@midconetwork.com

Ministers

St. Paul's members

Council President

Anna Peterson

Pastor

Rev. Curt Peterson

Organist

Mary Ann Knotek

Webmaster

Anna Peterson

Treasurer

Betty Arvidson

Financial Secretary

Kathie Barnes

Custodian

Marilyn Flateland

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Frohlich

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

Ushers

Paulette Wagner and Wendy and Mark Chen

Scripture Reader

Kathy Normandin

Acolyte

Offering Counters

Kathie Barnes and Dan Halland

Altar Guild

Laurie Bruley

Fellowship

Laurie Bruley

Livestream

Anna Peterson

AUGUST WORSHIP SERVICE TEAM

Our servers this month are the **Terrific August Team**! Thank you for your participation. PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD for slots that still need filling; A Communion Server and Reader are still needed next week. Thank you very much!

Kathie Barnes

Marlys Demarais

Kathy Normandin

Paulette Wagner

Laurie Bruley

Dave and Karin Danforth

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalm 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:10-28

Readings for August 16th, 2026

12th Sunday After Pentecost

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am- 2pm, and Tuesday 12-5 pm. Please leave a message after 2 pm on the answering machine/drop something in the mailbox (north side of building)/call ahead. Pastor Curt is usually in the building but may be out on other church business.

Worship via Facebook: facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn

Sunday, August 9

**8:45 am
10:00 am
11:00 am**

11th Sunday After Pentecost

**Adult Bible Study
Worship
Fellowship**

Monday, August 10

**8:30 am
1:00 pm

6:30 pm**

**LWR Quilting
Fellowship Hall reserved the rest of the day.
CYF meeting**

Tuesday, August 11

Fellowship Hall reserved all day for primary voting.

Wednesday, August 12

6:00 am

Fellowship Hall reserved in the morning.

Thursday, August 13

Friday, August 14

Church office closed

Pastor's Day off

Sunday, August 16

**8:45 am
10:00 am
11:00 am**

12th Sunday After Pentecost

**Adult Bible Study
Worship and Communion
Fellowship**

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

August 2nd, 2026

Attendance: 49

Our gifts towards Budget:

Sunday Envelopes	\$3,479.48
Loose Offering	\$ 47.00
Over and Above Benevolence	\$ 10.00
General Treas/No Benevolence	\$ 530.00

Improvement Fund	\$ 244.00
Parsonage Siding Fund	\$1,000.00

Needed weekly towards 2026 Budget:

Total received towards Budget	\$4,675.42
Total (non-budget) Receipts	\$4,066.48
Total Received	\$1,244.00
	\$5,310.48

The Council did not meet in July. The most recent Treasurer's Report was approved at the last Church Council meeting. You can review it in the bulletin or web bulletin from June 28 or contact Tammy in the office and she can provide a copy.

SPECIAL MESSAGES

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Stenshoel-Houske Funeral and Cremation Service is hosting a Grief Support Group on the third Monday of every month at the Crookston Public Library/Lake Agassiz Regional Library from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. The group is open to anyone; it is helpful for people in all stages of the grief cycle, to find a place where they can feel comfortable and be with people who understand what they are going through. The next gathering will be on **August 17**.

ST. PAUL'S WOMEN'S BOOK READ

St. Paul's Women's Book Read has announced our Summer Read - *"Lone Dog Road"* by Kent Nerburn. We will discuss this book at our Fall Kick-off Gathering on September 20th, 2026. We extend a warm welcome to all who may be interested. Join us for lively discussions and Christian fellowship!

HELP SHAPE OUR NEW "PARENTS' NIGHT" SERIES!

Following the wonderful turnout for our recent online safety presentation with the Polk County Sheriff's Office, we are excited to make these educational nights a regular offering for parents, grandparents, and caregivers in our community. Our next event is already in the works for this fall, featuring a dietician from Riverview Clinic who will share practical, stress-free ways to feed kids healthy meals between school, sports, and busy schedules. To help brainstorm, plan, and organize future topics, we are forming a dedicated **Parents' Night Planning Team**. If you have a heart for supporting families and equipping the adults in our community, we would love your input!



GET INVOLVED! Please contact Pastor Curt or the church office to join the team.

SNOs (SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS)

- **"Sabbath at the Lake" Women's Retreat**
SNO is hosting a women's retreat on Tuesday, August 8th, at Trinity Point on scenic Maple Lake, Mentor, MN. The event will run from 8:45 am – 3:00 pm, featuring Marilyn Grafstrom from Roseau, MN, as special speaker.
- NW MN SNO is holding it's **38th Annual Convention**, September 18-19, 2026, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Crookston.

Please see SNO insert for more information!

A big thank you to Marian Bakken for creating lovely inserts.

PARENT'S EDUCATION NIGHT EVENT

What: “Parent's Education Night”: Healthy Eating for Busy Families!

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 9th, at 6:30 pm.

Location: St. Paul's Fellowship Hall

Please join us for our next Parent's Education Night! We are thrilled to welcome guest speaker Rachel Rudolph, MS, RDN, LD, Clinical Dietitian at Riverview Healthcare right here in Crookston.

Juggling school, sports, church, and other activities can make it challenging to find time for nutritious meals. Rachel will be sharing practical strategies and tips for feeding your kids healthy foods in the midst of your family's busy schedule. Her presentation will be followed by a Q&A session, giving you the perfect opportunity to ask your specific questions. Refreshments will be provided!

We hope to see you there for this informative and helpful evening!

Please spread the word to anyone and everyone!

PETERSON'S PERRENIAL PLANT GIVEAWAY

Sandy Peterson is resizing her flower beds and removing plants: daylilies, Asiatic lilies, Stella D Oro, Russian sage, grape hyacinths, iris, and more. If you are interested (all free), stop by the Peterson Farm on Aug 15, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, with tools, shovels, boxes, pails, etc. to remove. Sandy and Verle's address is 27197 220th Ave SW, Crookston.

CROOKSTON CARE AND SHARE CENTER'S DONATION ROOM AND NEW HOPE FOOD SHELF

The Crookston Care and Share Center's Donation Room and New Hope Food Shelf is open every Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., and every Friday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The donation room is open to anyone, and there is never a fee for any item. For more information or to donate, call 218-281-4382.

GOLDEN YEARS RESOURCE FAIR

“Aging with Grace” is the theme of an upcoming senior resource fair, August 11th, at the Golden Link, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. See the black poster on the Fellowship Hall kiosk for more info.

NIGHT TO UNITE

This past Tuesday, St. Paul's had a table at Crookston Night to Unite. A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the booth, everyone who stopped by to say hello or to chat, and especially to all the kids who spent time playing LEGO bricks with us! It was a fun-filled night and a joy to be part of our community.

SCHOOL KIT DONATION TIME

Each year, our dedicated WELCA ladies put together school kits for Lutheran World Relief, thanks to the generous support of our church family. It is a wonderful time to begin purchasing supplies for the kits as school supply sales are beginning!

Each kit contains:

- 70-sheet spiral bound notebooks (4) wide or college ruled paper
- 30-centimeter ruler (or a ruler with both centimeter and inches)
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- #2 pencils (5) (unsharpened with erasers)
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (5) (no gel ink)
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½ inch eraser

Donations can be brought to the Fellowship Hall and placed in the tote on the welcome table.

THANK YOU in advance for your generous support every year!

