

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Crookston, MN

May 3rd, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

May 3rd, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

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WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/SHARING THE PEACE

OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Whoever believes in Christ will not be put to shame. Confident in this promise, let us confess our sin before God and one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Almighty God, your word offers freedom from sin, but we confess that we have not obeyed your word. We have harbored malice toward our enemies; we have been deceitful in our relationships; we have been insincere in our commitments; through gossip we have slandered our friends. Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance. Help your children long for your pure, spiritual milk that we may grow into the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ. Amen. Siblings in Christ, 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. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

HYMN: #654 The Church's One Foundation

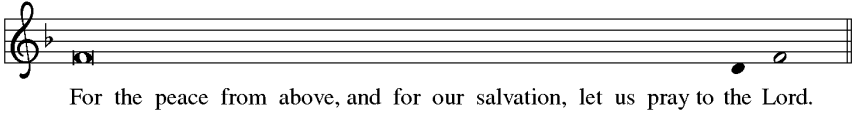
GREETING (p. 203)

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.**

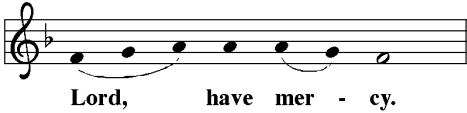
KYRIE (p. 138)



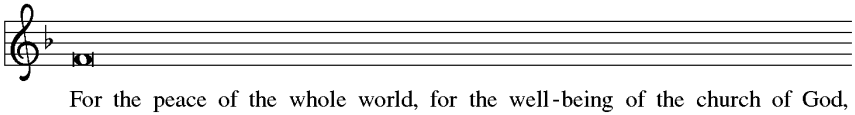
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



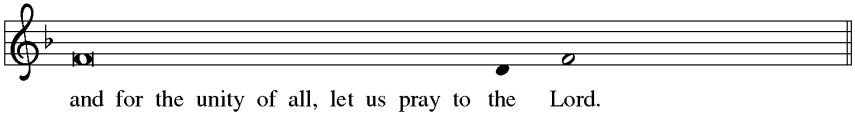
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



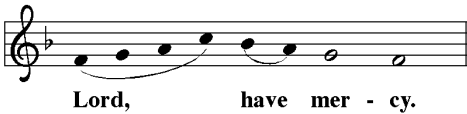
Lord, have mer - cy.



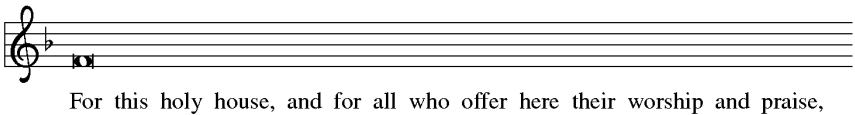
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



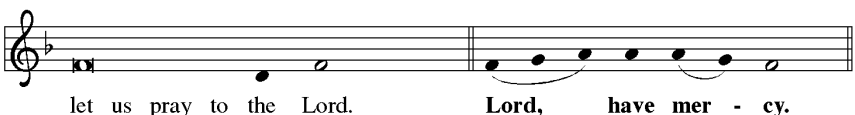
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 140)

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly; through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory. Amen.

First Reading: Proverbs 4:10-18 (CEB)

The way of wisdom is your life.

- 10 Listen, my son, and take in my speech,
 then the years of your life will be many.
- 11 I teach you the path of wisdom.
 I lead you in straight courses.
- 12 When you walk, you won't be hindered;
 when you run, you won't stumble.
- 13 Hold on to instruction; don't slack off;
 protect it, for it is your life.
- 14 Don't go on the way of the wicked;
 don't walk on the path of evil people.
- 15 Avoid it! Don't turn onto it;
 stay off of it and keep going!
- 16 They don't sleep unless they do evil;

they are robbed of sleep unless they make someone stumble.

¹⁷ They eat the bread of evil,
and they drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸ The way of the righteous is like morning light
that gets brighter and brighter till it is full day.

Psalm: Psalm 119:25-32

²⁵ My soul cleaves to the dust;
give me life according to your word.

²⁶ **I have recounted my ways, and you answered me;
instruct me in your statutes.**

²⁷ Make me understand the way of your commandments,
that I may meditate on your marvelous works.

²⁸ **My soul melts away from sorrow;
sustain me according to your word.**

²⁹ Take from me the way of lying;
let me find grace through your teaching.

³⁰ **I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I have set your judgments before me.**

³¹ I hold fast to your decrees;
O Lord, do not put me to shame.

³² **I will run the way of your commandments,
for you increase my heart's capacity.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10 (CEB)

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

²Instead, like a newborn baby, desire the pure milk of the word. Nourished by it, you will grow into salvation, ³since you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Now you are coming to him as to a living stone. Even though this stone was rejected by humans, from God's perspective it is chosen, valuable. ⁵You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus

Christ. ⁶ Thus it is written in scripture, *Look! I am laying a cornerstone in Zion, chosen, valuable. The person who believes in him will never be shamed.* ⁷ So God honors you who believe. For those who refuse to believe, though, the stone the builders tossed aside has become the capstone. ⁸ This is a stone that makes people stumble and a rock that makes them fall. Because they refuse to believe in the word, they stumble. Indeed, this is the end to which they were appointed. ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God’s own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light. ¹⁰ Once you weren’t a people, but now you are God’s people. Once you hadn’t received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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 John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Don’t be troubled. Trust in God. Trust also in me. ² My Father’s house has room to spare. If that weren’t the case, would I have told you that I’m going to prepare a place for you? ³ When I go to prepare a place for you, I will return and take you to be with me so that where I am you will be too. ⁴ You know the way to the place I’m going.”
⁵ Thomas asked, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you have really known me, you will also know the Father. From now on you know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father; that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus replied, “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I have spoken to you I don’t speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Trust me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or at least believe on account of the works themselves. ¹² I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON: “The Map and the Maker”

HYMN: #729 The Church of Christ in Every Age

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (p. 234-236)

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **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.

Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ. **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.** (*applause*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes: God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

OFFERING

As people of God, let us offer ourselves and the fruit of our labor for God's work in the world.

Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Prayer: Almighty God, receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your astounding goodness. Make our lives to be an acceptable offering in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING / HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (p. 144)

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.

We rejoice to give you thanks and praise, God of love, because you called us to exist in your image, you filled the earth with wonder and beauty and life, and you made the children of Abraham your covenant people. You made us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, your own people, and in the death and resurrection of Jesus you show us the way, the truth, and the life. Once we were not a people, but now we are your people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION/EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
 (p. 145)**

...Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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.

LAMB OF GOD (p. 146)

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord. Let us sing:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Each group at the altar rail will be dismissed with a blessing. Please give a family Communion card to an usher. Please follow the guidance of the ushers as you come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

**Distribution Hymns: #767 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me
#810 Oh Jesus, I Have Promised**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

BLESSING

Now Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life, be with you.

Now the Spirit empower you to serve in Christ's name.

Now God, who raised Christ from the dead, keep you forevermore.

Alleluia!

HYMN: #543 Go, My Children, With My Blessing

CHARGE

Go forth to serve in the name of our risen Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SUNDAY BULLETIN

St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

May 3, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

PRAYER LIST

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
Lenny Devos	Glorryne Casmeay	Lucile Torkelson
Delores Sandager	Carol Chaffee	Kari L Trudeau
Leah Knotek Ellefson	Mary Ann Knotek	

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

Dan and Brandi Halland

Scripture Reader

Dan Halland

Communion Server

Dominik Tronnes

Acolyte

Lyla Oman

Altar Guild

Marian Bakken

Offering Counters

Kathie Barnes and John Vallager

Fellowship

WELCA

Livestream

Anna Peterson

MAY WORSHIP SERVICES TEAM

We are grateful for the Spectacular May Worship Team. Please check out the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board to sign up as soon as possible. I appreciate it! 😊

Dan and Brandi Halland

Scott and Julie Kleven

Loren and Marjean Sanderson

Alvern Wentzel

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Ezekiel 43:1-7a

Psalms 115

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

Readings for May 10th, 2026

6th Sunday of Easter

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9am- 2pm

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, May 3

8:45 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

5th Sunday of Easter

SS/Adult Bible Study

Worship and Communion

Confirmation Sunday

Fellowship

Monday, May 4

8:30 am

LWR Quilting

Tuesday, May 5

7:00 am

7:00 pm

Men's Coffee Fellowship

AA

Wednesday, May 6

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

Thursday, May 7

Friday, May 8

Church office closed

Pastor's Day off

Saturday May 9

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Fellowship Hall Reserved

Sunday, May 10

8:45 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

6th Sunday of Easter

SS/Adult Bible Study

Last day of Sunday School

Worship

Fellowship

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

April 26th, 2026

Attendance: 77

Our gifts towards Budget:

Sunday Envelopes	\$2,861.35
Loose Offering	\$ 65.00
Over and Above Benevolence	\$ 10.00
General Treas/No Benevolence	\$ 60.00
Initial Offering	\$ 5.00
Vacation Bible School	\$ 130.00

Other (non-budget) Receipts:

Improvement Fund	\$ 40.00
Food Shelf	\$ 40.00
Memorials	\$ 20.00

Needed weekly towards 2026 Budget:

Total received towards Budget	\$4,675.42
Total (non-budget) Receipts	\$3,131.35
Total Received	\$ 100.00
	\$3,231.35

St. Paul's Lutheran Church		
MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT: MARCH 2026		
	Month	Y-T-D
Amount needed to meet budgeted items	\$ 20,260.17	\$ 60,780.51
Receipts toward budget	\$ 22,075.43	\$ 59,143.78
Other receipts	\$ 5,192.79	\$ 8,720.40
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 27,268.22	\$ 67,864.18
Budgeted Disbursements	\$ 20,730.76	\$ 55,519.40
Other Disbursements	\$ -	\$ 7,072.66
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 20,730.76	\$ 62,592.06
	Income/Loss YTD	\$ 3,624.38
	Due to Benevolence	\$ (5,327.04)
	Net Income YTD	\$ (1,702.66)

SPECIAL MESSAGES

THANK YOU

A big THANK YOU to Haddie Halland for filling in to livestream the service for a few weeks. What a blessing it was for us and our online viewers.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WORSHIP TEAM HEALTH BENEFITS

Volunteering to serve on a worship service team, or in any capacity, can have a positive effect on our physical and mental health.

Research has shown that volunteering offers significant health benefits:

- Lower rates of depression and anxiety
- Reduces stress
- Greater increases in life satisfaction and self-esteem
- Lower Mortality rates
- A sense of meaning and appreciation
- Increases social interaction and helps build a support system
- Benefits to physical and mental health

We are in need of worship team volunteers and kindly ask that you pray about and consider volunteering one month of the year! Thank you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ilene Landby is going to be 90 on June 5th! The family is asking that all her Saint Paul's friends take a moment to send her a birthday greeting. She loves getting mail and it would be wonderful if she could receive lots of notices and well wishes for her 90th birthday.

Her address is:

Ilene Landby
Warroad Sr. Living Center
1401 Lakestreet SW
Warroad MN 56763

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Last Sunday we welcomed the following new members of St. Paul's. Please keep them in your prayers as they become part of our flock!

- **Becky Strand**
- **Emily Giannotta**
- **Hattie Whiting, and her children Mark and Wendy Chen** (*Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*)

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS – WOMEN OF ELCA

If you or anyone you know is a high school senior graduating this spring, and is planning to attend an ELCA College, you may be eligible for a scholarship through the SWO W/ELCA. A letter detailing the qualifications, plus a form to fill out can be found online at: nwmnsynod.org/assets/High-School-Scholarship-Letter-andApplication.pdf or contact the church office. The four criteria for eligibility are:

1. Be a graduating High School Senior with a “C” average or above.
2. Be a member of an ELCA Church.
3. Be a resident of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA.
4. Be attending an ELCA College.

If you have questions, please contact the church office.

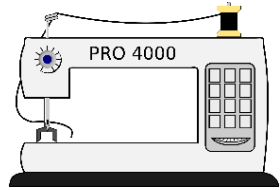
ST. PAUL'S WOMEN'S BOOK READ

Thursday, May 21st - We are planning to watch the soon-to-be released movie "**Remarkably Bright Creatures**" together as a group. We will gather at the church. Please Bring-Your-Own-Beverage and we will serve popcorn for this delightful movie night with friends. All are welcome! **Movie begins at 6:15 - 8:15 pm.**

Come early at 5:30 pm to talk about Books! Please BRING YOUR GOOD BOOK SUGGESTIONS and Ideas for next year! We hope to choose our Summer Read and select our book titles for the upcoming year.

QUILTER'S WISH LIST

As people are doing their spring cleaning, the quilters would appreciate any of the following items: sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads, bed skirts, blankets, bedspreads, comforters, drapes, curtains, tablecloths, fabric, and yarn. Many of these items are fillers for quilts; the age/use of them is not significant. **Thank you!**



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **Sunday, May 10th** Last day of Sunday School
- **Wednesday, May 13th** Online Safety Presentation
- **Sunday, May 17th** Quilt presentations to St. Paul's graduating seniors

SPRING OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the church office hours have been updated. All remains the same except Tuesday hours will be 12:00 – 5:00 pm. Thank you. 😊

RHUBARB FESTIVAL

Trinity Lutheran Church is hosting their annual Rhubarb Festival on Thursday, June 18, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. There will be a luncheon, dessert, and bake sale. Cost is \$12.00 per person. Take out is available.

LWR PACKING

The wonderful ladies of our Lutheran World Relief Quilting group will soon be packing and sending another shipment of quilts, baby kits, and health care kits. If you are able to help on May 21st, beginning at 8:30 am, we would be very grateful. 😊



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Today is a very special day in the life of our church! Four of our youth are completing their confirmation journey by affirming their baptism during worship. Congratulations to:



- Lyla Oman
- Tanner Owens
- Colton Tronnes
- Dominik Tronnes

Please join us for cake following service in honor of the confirmands!

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION? Confirmation is seen as a rite of passage where young people take personal responsibility for their faith, transitioning from the promises made by parents and sponsors at their infant baptism to a public, mature confession of their own. Common promises:

- ❖ To live among God's faithful people.
- ❖ To attend services, hear the word of God, and share in the Lord's Supper.
- ❖ To proclaim the good news of God in Christ.
- ❖ To serve all people, following the example of Jesus.
- ❖ To strive for justice and peace on all the earth.

Confirmation Update

Confirmation has officially concluded for this school year! We wrapped up our regular sessions by celebrating with a wonderful night of fun, fellowship, snacks, and some classic Veggie Tales.

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday School: The Ascension

Today, our Sunday School classes are learning about the Ascension! The kids are reading about Jesus giving his disciples an important mission before being lifted up into the clouds; they (we) are to be his witnesses and tell his stories to friends, family, and everyone they meet.

At-Home Activity: Today's lesson includes a special prompt for families. We encourage adults to share their favorite story about Jesus with the young people in their lives and then invite the kids to tell a story in return!

ONLINE SAFETY PRESENTATION

Keeping our kids safe in the digital age we live in: Information every parent, grandparent and guardian needs to know.

May 13, 2026

Wednesday evening @ 6:30 pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1214 University Avenue, Crookston MN

St. Paul's is hosting the Polk County Sheriff's Office on Wednesday, May 13, to present a timely program that highlights topics of concern for families, including:

- Sextortion
- On-line predators
- Privacy and content
- Parental monitoring
- Resources



There will be time for questions. All parents, grandparents and guardians are invited.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Is the “dwelling place” (John 14:1–14) of which Jesus speaks a place for us after we die, or does it include our life in the present? What does Jesus mean when he says that his disciples “will do greater works”? What does it mean to pray “in Jesus’ name”?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus, as I serve you this day, let not my heart be troubled. Help me to believe with conviction that you are with me, and I am in you, and you are in God. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Faithful God, my rock and my fortress, into your hands I commit my spirit. As darkness falls, let your face shine upon your servant, and keep me in your steadfast love. Amen.

Prayers for Our Youth

Please keep our ninth graders in your prayers as they affirm their baptisms this morning. This is a joyous and important milestone! We also ask for your continued prayers for all of our young people as they continue to walk with Jesus, learn, and grow in their faith.