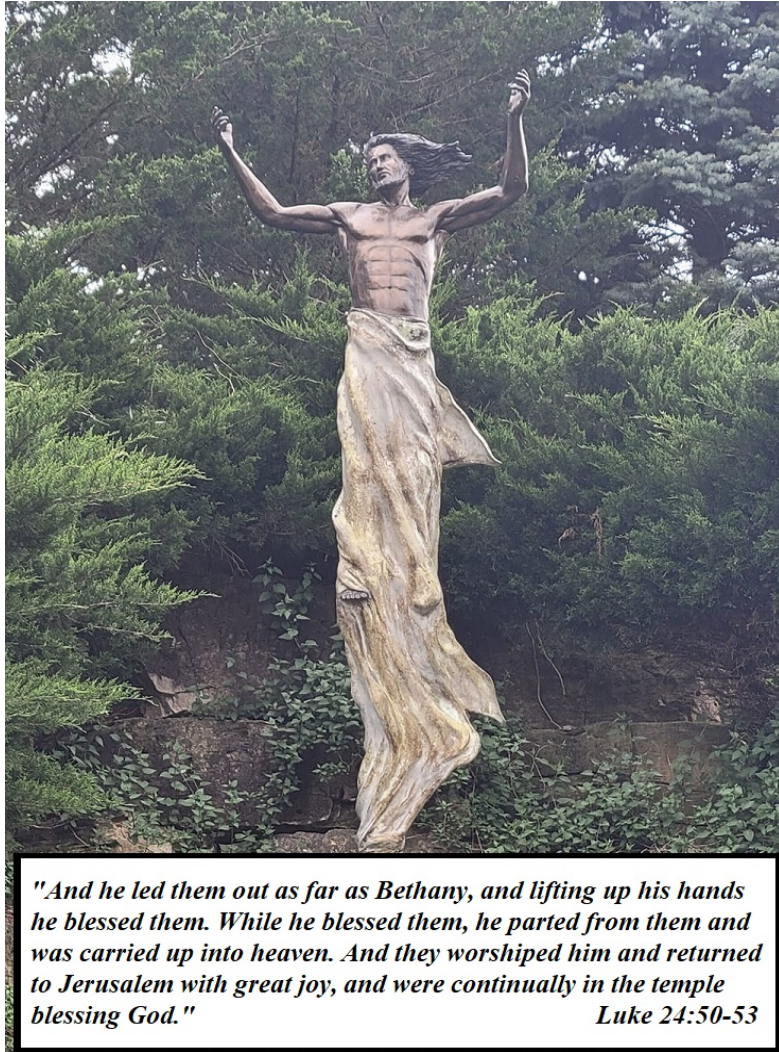


## THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

June 1, 2025, 8:30am

***“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education”***

***“Persevere With Thanksgiving”***



**Music of Preparation,**

**Welcome, Announcements, Greeting**

**Our Ministry:** We are a people of God who are: ***“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education.”***

**Welcome!** Before his death Jesus prayed that all his followers “may be one” (John 17). We gather as the one body of Christ to worship and grow. Welcome.

**Devotions & Publications** are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

### ..... WORSHIP NOTES .....

#### **\*Communion:      *The Lord’s Supper - A Reverent Sacrament***

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, “Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord’s cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord’s body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord’s body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks.” In view of the serious nature of the Lord’s Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord’s Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

**Note About Attendance Cards...**Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

**To Our Visitors...**Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don’t be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available in the main (west) entryway.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

*(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)*

**Notes for Worship:** As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper (page 308 as well as on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

### ***Before worship prayer***

*We implore You, O Lord, in Your kindness to show us Your great mercy that we may be set free from our sins and rescued from the punishments which we rightfully deserve; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

### ***We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!***

**Opening Hymn: "Up through Endless Ranks of Angels"**      *LSB, hymn #491*

Up through endless ranks of angels,  
Cries of triumph in His ears,  
To His heav'nly throne ascending,  
Having vanquished all their fears,  
Christ looks down upon His faithful,  
Leaving them in happy tears.

Death-destroying, life-restoring,  
Proven equal to our need,  
Now for us before the Father  
As our brother intercede;  
Flesh that for our world was wounded,  
Living, for the wounded plead!

To our lives of wanton wand'ring  
Send Your Spirit, promised guide;  
Through our lives of fear and failure  
With Your pow'r and love abide;  
Welcome us, as You were welcomed,  
To an endless Eastertide.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to see the Father's face!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

## **INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**      *Matthew 28:19b*
- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**      *1 John 1:8-9*
- P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.  
*(Moment of silent reflection)*
- P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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**
- P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.      *John 20:19-23*
- C: **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### This is the Feast (Sung)

*Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9*

- C:**     **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
          **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be**  
          **people of God.**  
          **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
          **Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are**  
          **His.**  
          **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
          **Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**  
          **Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen**  
          **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
          **For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**  
          **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

- P:**     The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*  
**C: (Sung) And also with you.**  
**P:**     Let us pray . . . . Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus  
          Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind  
          and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the  
          Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

## THE READING OF THE WORD

**Epistle Lesson:** Ephesians 1:15-23

*(The Power of Christ)*

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the

working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*Stand (as you are able)*

### Alleluia and Verse - Common

*John 6:68*

- C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of**  
          **eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**  
**P:**     The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.  
**C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 24:44-53

*(Jesus Ascends To Heaven)*

Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

- P:**     This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be Seated)*

## Sermon Hymn: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

LSB, hymn #821

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o’er,  
Shall our hearts forget His promise: “I am with you evermore”?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.  
As within the veil You entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
Here on earth both priest and victim In the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

## Sermon: “Immeasurable Greatness”

Ephesians 1:15-23

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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 of the world to come. Amen**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Christ has ascended to the Father but is with us in power to continue the mission of the church, the Body of Christ. Let us pray for people everywhere. For the whole church, witness to the risen and ascended Christ,

C: **that we all proclaim His victory over sin and death;**

P: for all who proclaim the Gospel,

C: **that they announce the promise of a new heaven and a new earth;**

P: and for all who have just come to faith,

C: **that the Spirit enable them to understand the fullness of Christ’s love. Lord have mercy.**

P: For the nations of the world and all relief agencies,

C: **that God guide them in seeking peace and cooperation;**

P: for all who work in business and all who help the downtrodden and distressed,

C: **that they provide all that is needed in food, clothing, and shelter;**

P: and for continued scientific research,

C: **that we may utilize the bounty of God’s good creation. Lord, have mercy.**

P: For favorable weather,

C: **that we may praise God for recreation, leisure, and the growth of crops;**

P: for those sick or injured, that God would bring them healing and comfort. We lift up before You those hospitalized this past week (*Epecially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and

all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). For all who suffer, we pray that God provide relief where it fits His plans for them,

**C: and that we may be part of His answer to prayer;**

P: for this congregation and all who work with us,

**C: that we rededicate ourselves to the mission of our ascended Lord. Lord, have mercy.**

*(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . . )*

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

**C: Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

#### **Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards**

##### **Installation/Dedication of Church Officers and Board Members**

#### **OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards**

*LSB, Hymn # 955*

**C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)*

P: The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C: (Sung) And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

*Colossians 3:1*

**C: (Sung) We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Psalms 136*

**C: (Sung) 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us

and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

#### **SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*

**C: (Sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

P: O Lord, Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

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 <sup>†</sup> 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 is my <sup>†</sup> blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*John 20:19*

**C: And also with you.**

#### **Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God**

*John 1:29*

**C: (Sung) Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*(Please be Seated)*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

### **LSB537 - Beautiful Savior**

Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!

### **LSB525 - Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

### **LSB477 - Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven**

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled—  
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:  
See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat;  
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,  
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:  
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;  
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!



## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

- P: Let us pray. . . . We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us in every way through this Sacrament, and we pray that we shall reflect our Savior's continued presence with us in all that we think, say, and do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen**

## **BENEDICTION**

- P: 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 † give you peace.
- C: **(Sung) Amen**

## **Closing Hymn: "See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph"**

*LSB, hymn #494*

See, the Lord ascends in triumph;  
Conqu'ring King in royal state,  
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,  
To His heav'nly palace gate.  
Hark! The choirs of angel voices  
Joyful alleluias sing,  
And the portals high are lifted  
To receive their heav'nly King.

Who is this that comes in glory  
With the trump of jubilee?  
Lord of battles, God of armies,  
He has gained the victory.  
He who on the cross did suffer,  
He who from the grave arose,  
He has vanquished sin and Satan;  
He by death has crushed His foes.

While He lifts His hands in blessing,  
He is parted from His friends;  
While their eager eyes behold Him,  
He upon the clouds ascends.  
He who walked with God and pleased Him,  
Preaching truth and doom to come,  
He, our Enoch, is translated  
To His everlasting home.

Now our heav'nly Aaron enters  
With His blood within the veil;  
Joshua now is come to Canaan,  
And the kings before Him quail.  
Now He plants the tribes of Israel  
In their promised resting place;  
Now our great Elijah offers  
Double portion of His grace.

He has raised our human nature  
On the clouds to God's right hand;  
There we sit in heav'nly places,  
There with Him in glory stand.  
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;  
Man with God is on the throne.  
By our mighty Lord's ascension  
We by faith behold our own.

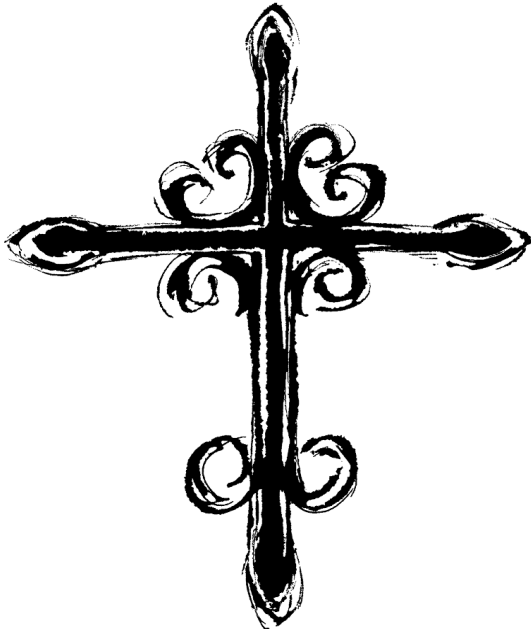
## **See You In Worship Next Week!**

***After worship prayer*** - Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that in our daily need, and especially in all time of temptation, we may seek Your help and, by a true and lively faith in Your Word, obtain all that You have promised; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

*There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.*

*Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.*

**Altar Flowers** Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my mom, Eugene Wood, by Rob & Mary Wood; also in loving memory of Mr. Les Jennings.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

<b>Rev. Karl J. Koeppen</b> . . . . . Senior Pastor	<b>Rev. David Baker</b> . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia
<b>Rev. Roger A. Drinnon</b> . . . . . Associate Pastor	<b>Rev. Ross Engel</b> . . . . . Adopt-A-Chaplain
<b>Mr. Brian Porter</b> . . . . . Principal	<b>Church &amp; School Office:</b> . . . . . 932-0312
<b>Church Campus</b> . . . . . 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee	
<b>School Campus and Church &amp; School Office</b> . . . . . 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais	
<b>Church &amp; School Website</b> . . . . . <a href="http://www.stpaulslutheran.net">www.stpaulslutheran.net</a>	

COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS (PK)

**Portions of this service may be copyrighted under:**  
Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Scripture quotations taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society®. Used by permission. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.  
**COVER IMAGE:** photo - Karl Koeppen  
**Music:** Music re-printed through CCLI License #640335 or through hymnal/songbook ownership or song is Public Domain and not copyrighted. **HYMNS:** LSB491 - Up through Endless Ranks of Angels: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100012920; LSB821 - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus: Text (sts. 1–5) and Music: Public domain; LSB537 - Beautiful Savior: Text and Music: Public domain; LSB525 - Crown Him with Many Crowns: Text (sts. 1–5) and Music: Public domain; LSB477 - Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven: Text (sts. 1, 3) and Music: Public domain; Text: admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, number 100012920.; Text (st. 2): © 1982 Jubilate Hymns Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, number 100012920; LSB494 - See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph; Text and Music: Public domain;