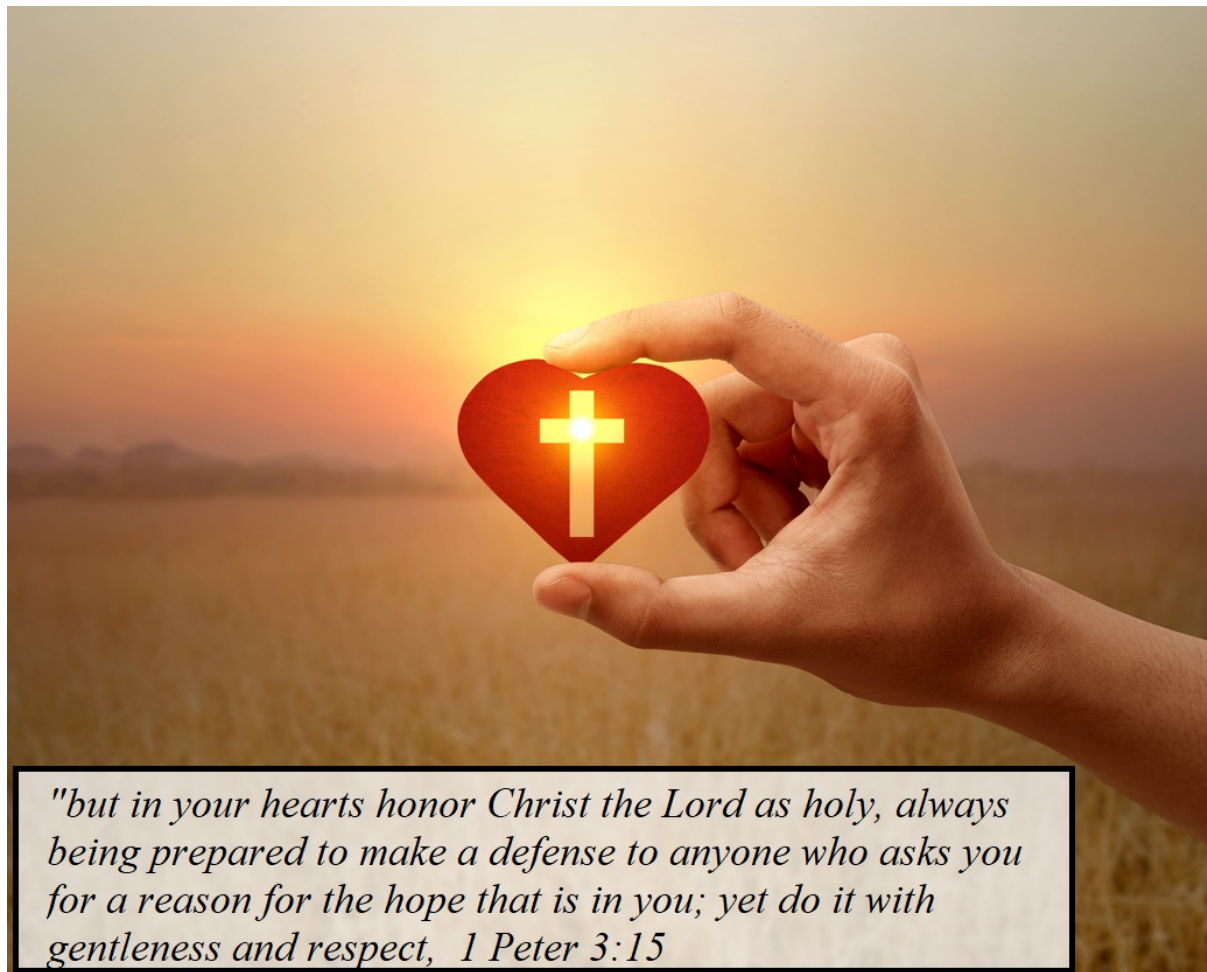


# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 9-10, 2026

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



*"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15*

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

**Welcome!** Happy Mother’s Day! Let us thank God for our families and pray that all family members may grow close in love and respect for one another. May all church families also be mindful that we are indeed “members one of another” (Ephesians 4:25).

**Devotions & Publications Available** are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

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

**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...**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 entryway.

**For All Who Worship...**If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

**For Parents with Small Children...**We love and want children in our services as a part of God’s family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We want you and your children to experience our Lord’s love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior’s name.

**Music of Preparation,  
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting**

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

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

**Notes for Worship:** As you prepare for worship 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 all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

### **Before worship prayer**

*Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

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

**Opening Hymn: "All Christians Who Have Been Baptized"** LSB, hymn #596

All Christians who have been baptized,  
Who know the God of heaven,  
And in whose daily life is prized  
The name of Christ once given:  
Consider now what God has done,  
The gifts He gives to ev'ryone  
Baptized into Christ Jesus!

You were before your day of birth,  
Indeed, from your conception,  
Condemned and lost with all the earth,  
None good, without exception.  
For like your parents' flesh and blood,  
Turned inward from the highest good,  
You constantly denied Him.

But all of that was washed away—  
Immersed and drowned forever.  
The water of your Baptism day  
Restored again whatever  
Old Adam and his sin destroyed  
And all our sinful selves employed  
According to our nature.

In Baptism we now put on Christ—  
Our shame is fully covered  
With all that He once sacrificed  
And freely for us suffered.  
For here the flood of His own blood  
Now makes us holy, right, and good  
Before our heav'nly Father.

O Christian, firmly hold this gift  
And give God thanks forever!  
It gives the power to uplift  
In all that you endeavor.

When nothing else revives your soul,  
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole  
And then in death completes you.

So use it well! You are made new—  
In Christ a new creation!  
As faithful Christians, live and do  
Within your own vocation,  
Until that day when you possess  
His glorious robe of righteousness  
Bestowed on you forever!

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

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**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

**Gloria in Excelsis ~Glory to God in the Highest** *Luke 2:14, John 1:29*

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
C: **(Sung) Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

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

P: Let us pray . . . O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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

**First Lesson:** Acts 17:16-31(*Paul Preaches About Jesus And The Resurrection*)

While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" - because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we are indeed his offspring.’ Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**Second Lesson:** 1 Peter 3:13-22

*(Our Hope In Jesus!)*

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

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. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel Lesson:** John 14:15-21

*(Jesus Sending The Holy Spirit)*

[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be Seated)*

**Sermon Hymn: “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”**

*LSB, hymn #575*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. *Refrain*

*Refrain*  
*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;*  
*All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev’ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

**Sermon: "Share The Hope You Have. . ."**

*1 Peter 3:15*

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*(Please be Seated)*

**Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards**

**OFFERTORY - Create In Me**

*LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193*

**C: (Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . O Triune God, You have placed Your name on us in Holy Baptism, making us Yours and saving us from death and darkness. Teach us to quiet our consciences with the assurance of all You have accomplished for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: O Triune God, we proclaim Your name in a world that does not yet know You. Bless all who bring Your Gospel to new places, and make us fit proclaimers in our homes and neighborhoods, that our words and works would witness to Jesus Christ, the risen one. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: O Triune God, those marked by Your name are not immune from suffering. We lift up to You those who are struggling, sick, and grieving. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). 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*). O God, be the helper they need most. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*(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, who has taught 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**

**BENEDICTION**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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: "Beautiful Savior"**

LSB, hymn #537

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!

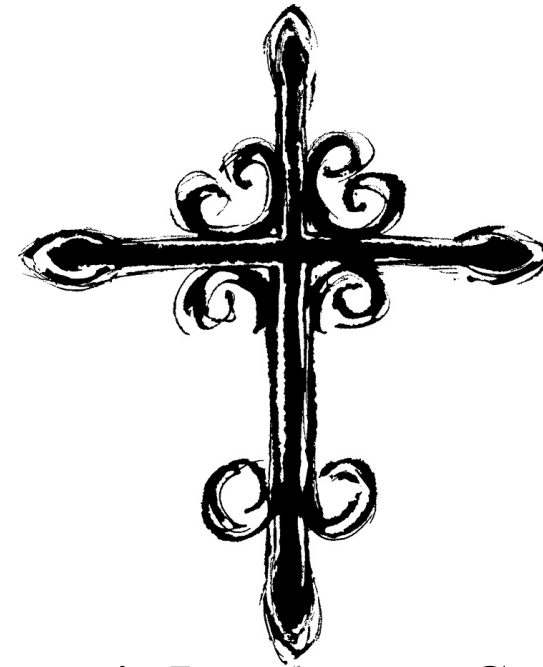
**See You In Worship Next Week!**

***After worship prayer***

*Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

*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 our son, Jim Jenkins, by Dick & Marilyn Jenkins, Amanda Fedrow and Edie Rudolf; also in loving memory of my mother, Bonnie Causer, by Jill & Bill Arseneau.



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Rev. Karl J. Koeppen . . . . . Senior Pastor  
Rev. Roger A. Drinnon . . . . . Associate Pastor  
Mr. Brian Porter . . . . . Principal

Rev. David Baker . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia  
Rev. Ross Engel . . . . . Adopt-A-Chaplain  
Church & School Office: . . . . . 932-0312

Church Campus . . . . . 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee  
School Campus and Church & School Office . . . . . 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais  
Church & School Website . . . . . www.stpaulslutheran.net

**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:**

**Music:** Music re-printed through CCLI License #640335 or through hymnal/songbook ownership or song is Public Domain and not copyrighted. LSB781 - We Give Thee But Thine Own. **HYMNS:** LSB596 - All Christians Who Have Been Baptized: © 2004 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100012920; LSB575 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less: Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4) and Music: Public domain; LSB537 - Beautiful Savior: Text and Music: Public domain