

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**  
**May 3 – May 9**

**Sunday**

**9:00am**      **Worship Service**  
10:30am      Adult Bible Study  
10:30am      Confirmation Class

**Monday**

**Psalm 144 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
12:30pm      Prayer Shawl  
7:00pm      Men's Bible Study

**Tuesday**

**Psalm 145 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
6:00pm      Grief Share  
6:00pm      Stephen Ministry Training

**Wednesday**

**Psalm 146 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
9:30am      Myth or Faith Bible Study  
11:30am      Home School (FH)  
6:00pm      Stephen Ministry Training  
7:00pm      Myth or Faith Bible Study

**Thursday**

**Psalm 147 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
8:30am      SSHS – Fellowship Hall & Ed Building  
7:00pm      Elders Meeting

**Friday**

**Psalm 148 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
6:00pm      Youth Event @ Activate (Oak Brook)

**Saturday**

**Psalm 149 (Daily Bible Reading)**  
7:00am      Men's Bible Study



# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6201 Vollmer Road  
Matteson, Illinois 60443  
708-720-0880

[www.stpaulonline.org](http://www.stpaulonline.org)

Pastor Larry Ruger (630-742-7824)

Pastor Matthew Troester (708-772-3685)

Paul Szymanski – Youth Director

A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

***“Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!” Luke 11:28***

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### SOIL & SEED SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

#### Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a,51-60 p1163

Epistle Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10 p1294

Gospel Reading John 14:1-14 p1146

**Altar Flowers** are given in thanks and praise to God and in memory of Bill Mitchell, Judy Johnson's brother.

#### SERVING THIS WEEKEND

Elder – Carollee Junge

Acolyte – Sky Habenicht

Ushers – Randy & Kathy Dahlman

Pianist – Carol Schoeling

Praise Team - Cheryl Ruger, Kathy Smith, Rob Lyke,  
Pete Whalen, and Bradley Coen

Tech Team – Mitch Troester, Paul Szymanski & Jack Fleming

Altar Guild – Judy Johnson & Angie Lyke

Counters – Joan Mohler & Dennis Schmeckpeper

Sacred Grounds – Dottie Hagestad & Yvonne Blume

**Activate - Our next youth event will be at ACTIVATE in Oakbrook on Friday, May 8th.** We will leave church around 6pm and head up to Oakbrook to play active games for about an hour or so. We will stop for a quick bite afterwards. No cost for the games, but please bring money for food. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Friends are welcome. See Paul Szymanski for more details.

**Ladies Aid - Please join us Tuesday, May 12th at noon in the Narthex.** Bring a salad to share. Ladies, please come regardless of bringing a salad there is always more than enough for all. Desserts & drinks will be provided.

**Ascension of Our Lord Worship - Thursday May 14,** we will celebrate the ascension of our Lord with a worship service including The Lord's Supper at 11:00am. Join us for Word and Sacrament, and a lunch afterward. Valerie Pieper will coordinate the lunch, so please reach out to her if you would like to help. This will be our final chance to say – HE IS RISEN!

**Alaska Mission Trip Fundraiser - The May Fundraiser is Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>,** at Panera in Matteson between 4:00pm - 8:00pm. 25% of all sales will benefit the 2026 Alaska Mission Trip. Tell your family, your friends, your neighbors and come out for good food, good fellowship, and a good cause. More information and fliers are on the information table in the Narthex.

**Board Game Night -Our next game night will be Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7- 9pm.** Snacks will be provided. Bring a friend and your favorite games.

**Sunday School (Fall of 2026) - While this school year is winding down, we are looking ahead to the Fall of 2026. We need 4 people that would be willing to teach Sunday school on a rotational basis,** as well as provide ideas and insights as to how we can provide solid Lutheran Catechism to our littlest students. Please see or call Pastor Ruger if you feel led to support this critical ministry.

**Support Our Troops - Please remember to keep writing our troops letting them know how much you appreciate all they do to protect and Serve our Country.** Please place all finished notes and letters in the done basket on the top of the Military table. While you are shopping it would be greatly appreciated if you would pick up individually wrapped snack items for our troops and put them in the bin under the military table. Thank you!

**Generosity – 1 Peter 2:9 – “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”** God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The apostle Peter says that God chose us so that we might share in His glory and “proclaim the excellencies of

Him” who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy to our hearts as well.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Focus Mission is the St Paul 2026 Alaska Mission Trip** – The 2026 Alaska Mission Trip will be St. Paul’s 12<sup>th</sup> mission trip to Alaska the last weeks of July. This year, we will be performing “hammer and nail” projects around Copper Center and, something new, a youth sports camp along with Vacation Bible School. Contributions to the Alaska Mission Trip from anyone defray the costs of air transportation, ground transportation, meals, and supplies. Please keep our Alaska Mission Team in your prayers.

**Thank you to everyone who came out to support** the Alaska Mission Trip at Buona Beef in Flossmoor & Frankfort on April 15<sup>th</sup> - we raised \$196!!

**Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL)** – What makes Someone a “Champion” of Religious Liberty? See <https://lcrifreedom.org/champions> to learn more about becoming a Champion for Religious Liberty.

### IN OUR HEARTS & PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Peggy Smutny, Ethel Habel, Barb Stege, Dale Habenicht, Jamie Tadsen, Laraine Jennings, Sharon Hart

**College Students** – Alex Hagestad & Courtney Hagestad

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St Paul Lutheran Church



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### TOGETHER BEING CHURCH

Weekly	Needs	Receiving
Current	\$10,652.42	\$5,986.40
Building Fund	\$1,086.54	\$300
Mission	\$1,886.06	\$200

Discretionary Fund-\$390; St Matthews-\$20; Returning Citizens-\$300; St Paul Alaska Mission Trip-\$420; Sacred Grounds-\$29; National Youth Gathering - \$25

### MARY’S CORNER

As we begin the month of May, we watch everything come alive. We are reminded by God, how much he loves us and how wonderful this world He created is. He invites us to change, evolve and transform in his Love. Let us embrace this month as an opportunity to renew ourselves in Christ. Together let’s choose joy each day and share it with the world around us. Let’s remain open to the lessons and blessings God has planned for us. When we take time to admire all God created, we become closer to God. So, we all should open our eyes to the beauty of May and remain open to the lessons and blessings God gives us this month.