ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713



Growing in faith. Growing in community. Welcoming all in Jesus' name.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, July 20, 2025

10 AM Service of Holy Communion



Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!" — to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

We believe all people are created in God's image. Rooted in Jesus' ministry of liberation, unconditional love, and hospitality, we strive to welcome all into our community. This welcome explicitly includes those who have traditionally been marginalized in the church and society due to their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, racial and ethnic background, physical ability, developmental ability, citizenship/documentation status, and socioeconomic status.

We hope that our young people experience God in our gathering together. Families are welcome to use the Prayground in the rear corner of the sanctuary if you want more space, and to use the Prayground in the narthex if you need a break from the activities in the sanctuary. Most of all, know that the joyful noise of young people in our worship is welcome!

Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex. If you need any other help with worship, please speak with an usher at the doors to the sanctuary.

+ GATHERING +

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Upon entering the sanctuary, the people pray silently or engage in quiet meditation allowing the music to focus their attention on God and God's kingdom.

PRELUDE

Partita on "The God of Abraham Praise" arr. Jacob B. Weber YIGDAL

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

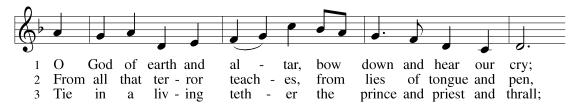
GREETING

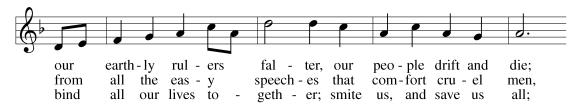
In due time, the God of Abraham and Sarah fulfilled a promise almost to wonderful to imagine. Awake us to the workings of your will in our midst and keep us attentive to the things that matter. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

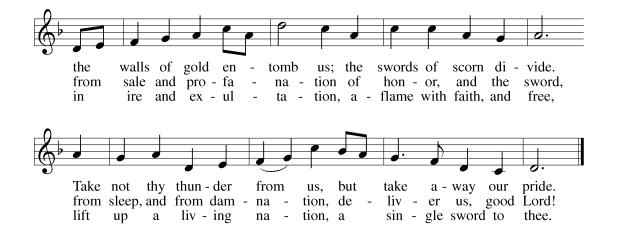
OPENING HYMN

O God of Earth and Altar

LBW 428







Text: Gilbert K. Chesterton, 1874–1936 Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ WORD +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:1-10a

The hospitality of Abraham and Sarah to three visitors of the LORD

A reading from Genesis:

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

God of justice, your word is light and truth restoring us to walk in your way, seeking justice and doing good.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 15

- ¹ LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?
- ²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

- ³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.
- ⁴ In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING Colossians 1:15-28

Hymn to Christ, the firstborn of all creation

A reading from Colossians:

¹⁵ [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of

glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

God of justice, your word is light and truth restoring us to walk in your way, seeking justice and doing good.

Please stand, as you are able.



ELW Setting 3



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 10:38-42

Jesus says: Martha, your sister Mary has chosen the better part

The Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸ Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

Please stand, as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Faithful Women ELW 419; Verse 7—Martha and Mary



- 1 For all the faith-ful wom en who served in days of old,
- 2 We sing of bus-y Mar tha who toiled with pot and pan
- 3 All praise to God the Fa ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



you shall thanks be all, their stor giv - en; to si - lence to while Mar - y hear the word sat in a - gain. All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis-dom gave. Christ, keep our hearts at - ten - tive to truth that you de - clare, With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit-ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save. and strength-en us for ser - vice when work be - comes our prayer. we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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PROFESSION OF FAITH

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair, especially those on our prayer list and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...(brief silence). Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or who are discredited by others. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. We pray especially for our partners in ministry, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Wilmington and Lutheran housing projects throughout Delaware. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints, especially Edith who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Trusting in your loving kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

Blessed be Christ, our peace, who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly exchanges Christ's peace in word and gesture, saying, **Peace be with you.**

Be seated.

+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

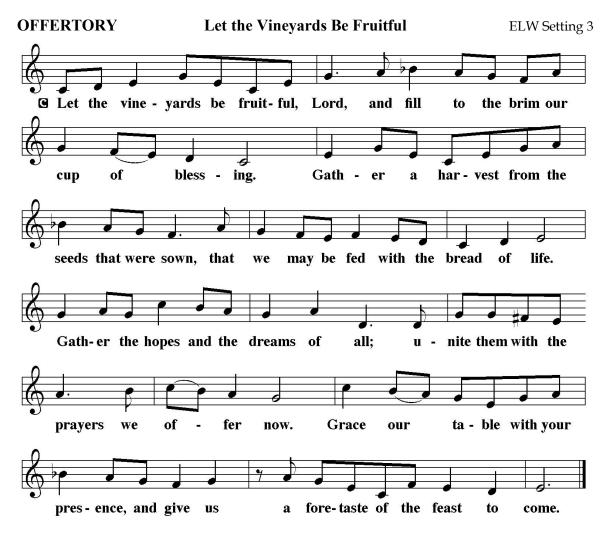
In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts for service and mission.

At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask visitors to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask members to update any changes to their information, so records are maintained.

ANTHEM

"Behold the Lamb" Summer Choir Lloyd Larson

Please stand, as you are able, and sing as the gifts are presented and the table is set.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,

the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

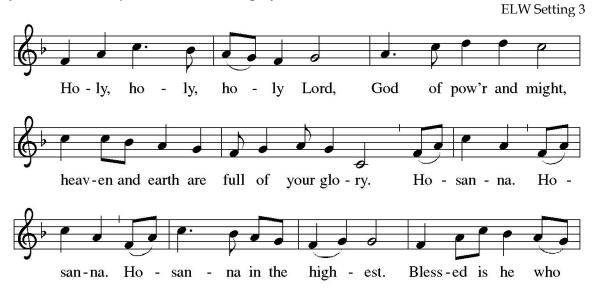
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

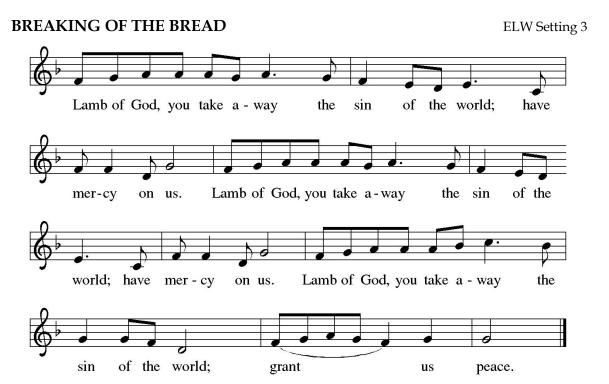
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. **Welcomed, we come to the welcome feast.**



Be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Those who choose not to commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.



Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.

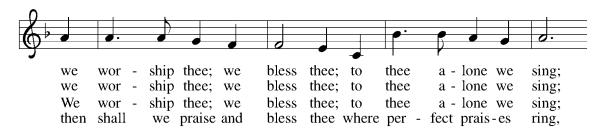
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

O Savior, Precious Savior ELW 820 (harmony)



- 1 O Sav ior, pre-cious Sav ior, whom yet un-seen we love;
- 2 O bring er of sal va tion, who won drous-ly hast wrought,
- 3 In thee all full-ness dwell-eth, all grace and pow'r di-vine;
- 4 Oh, grant the con-sum ma tion of this our song a bove,







Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak ELW 676 (harmony)



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

After all have communed and returned to their places, remain seated.

BLESSING AND PRAYER

Strengthened by the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and kept in his grace, we pray.

O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ SENDING +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH – ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace, in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ELW 834 (harmony) Found on p. 17

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

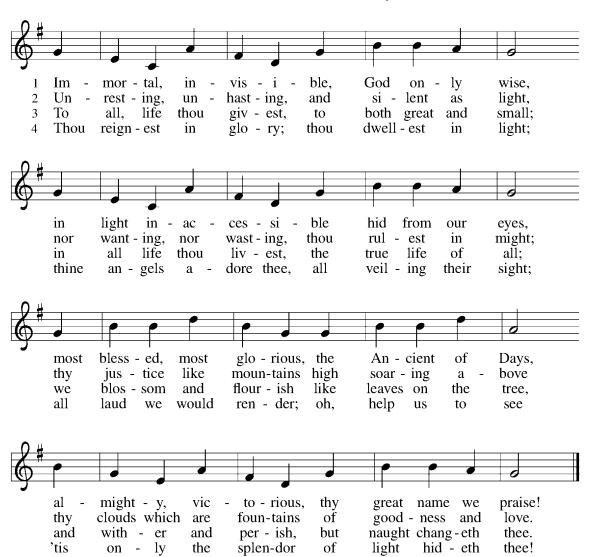
POSTLUDE

Finale on
The God of Abraham Praise"

YIGDAL

arr. Jacob B. Weber

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

Blessed are those who hold the word fastin an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance. Luke 8:15

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister:

Lector: Cheryl Johnson

Bread Provider: Linda Brammer

Altar Guild: Janet Mease Flower Guild: Keith Tyson



The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and praise of God in celebration of the marriage of Michael and Emily (Pierce) Mascaro yesterday afternoon here at St. Paul's.



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JOIN US IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

We join with Martha, Mary, Luke, the ancient Yahwist narrator, the later editor of Genesis, the anonymous poet of the Psalm, the author of Colossians, and perhaps even the Colossian community singing its hymn to welcome Christ to our table and hear his word. This is no "ordinary" Sunday.

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20, 2025

SUMMER CHOIR

It's never too late to join the Summer Choir. Come to rehearsal at 9:30 AM in the choir loft to learn a simple anthem to be sung in the service the same morning. Can't make it every week? Come, when you can, through the end of this month.



June 2025 Avg. Sunday Attendance		YTD Average Sunday Attendance		
82		89		
Note that all activity is through June 26, 2025.	June 2025 Activity (\$)	YTD Balance (\$)	Budget YTD (\$)	Over/Under YTD + (-) (\$)
TOTAL INCOME	35,174.42	167,132.42	182,520.00	(15,387.58)
TOTAL EXPENSES	40,822.10	192,287.34	181,705.00	10,582.34
DIFFERENCE	(5,647.68)	(25,154.92)	815.00	

- **Income:** YTD is 8% (\$15,387.58) behind YTD budget projections. Pledged giving is 4% ahead of budget, while unpledged giving continues to lag budget by 58%. For pledges that are fulfilled at the beginning of our Fiscal Year, the received income is evenly distributed into the operating budget over the course of the year. The above figures reflect the YTD portion of that income.
- Admin Expense: YTD is 6% (\$449.64) above YTD budget due to office supplies, postage, admin, retreat and office equipment expenses.
- Worship & Music Expenses: YTD are 55% (\$1,868.44) above budget due to vocal music, instrumental music, online resource licensing, instrumental maintenance & tuning and miscellaneous worship expenses. Several of these items are seasonal, annual or semi-annual expenses.
- Total Property Expenses: YTD are 25% (\$9,733.10) above budget YTD due to high gas, cleaning supplies, contracted building services, HVAC repairs and inspections expenses. Several of these items are annual, semi-annual or seasonal expenses.
- All other expense categories are at expected spending levels.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.



The Reverend Cris Frigm Pastor 302-368-0064 ext. 104 pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Jerilynn Hinrichs
Office Administrator
302-368-0064 ext. 101
office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Church Council

Anne Sullivan, *President*Greg Johnson, *Vice President*Heidi Burch, *Secretary*Mary Collins, *Treasurer*Kristine Cassar, Phillip Gerecke,
Winnie Hull, Ian Kenyon, Susie Olson

St. Paul's Online Prayer MinistrySend prayer requests to:
prayonstspauls@gmail.com
tl

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Nalini Janaki Business Administrator 302-368-0064 ext. 102 business@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Dr. Rae Watts
Early Education Director
St. Paul's Lutheran School
302-368-0064 ext. 118
stpaulschool701@outlook.com

Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at y 10 AM. Late submissions will be shared the following week. Please send articles to the church office at office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH? THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE

