ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

5879 Wyoming Trail, Wyoming, MN
651-462-5212

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Prelude
Welcome, Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Confession and Forgiveness
Gracious and generous God, you have planted us in your love, surrounded us with your people, and blessed us with more than we can ever count. Yet we confess that we do not always live as people of your abundance. We sometimes hold tightly to what we have rather than sharing with others. We worry about what we might lose instead of trusting in your promises. We become focused on ourselves and forget the needs of our neighbors and the world.
Forgive us, Lord, and help us grow in generosity. Open our hearts to see the blessings we have received. Give us courage to share our gifts, our resources, and our lives in service to others. Root us more deeply in your grace, grow our faith in community, and send us out to share your love with the world.
Hear the good news! God's love is not something we earn, purchase, or deserve. It is a gift freely given through Jesus Christ. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to live generously. Nothing can separate us from God's love. By God's grace, we are rooted in hope, growing in faith, and called to reach the world with Christ's love. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Gathering Song "Praise and Thanksgiving" *(hymn)* **689** vv. 1-3

[1]Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

[2]God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.

[3]Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.

Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day
God has planted us in a place where faith can take root.
We are rooted in God's grace and love.
God is growing something wonderful among us.
We are growing in faith, hope, and community.
God is calling us beyond ourselves and into the world.
We are reaching out to share Christ's love with joy!
God has blessed us with gifts to share, lives to touch, and neighbors to love.
We come with grateful hearts, ready to respond to God's goodness.
Let us pray … **Gracious and generous God, you are the source of every blessing. You have planted us in your love, grown our faith through the gifts of community, and called us to share your love with the world. As we gather today, open our hearts to your Spirit. Help us recognize the blessings we have received, trust in your promises, and respond with generous hearts. Guide us as we offer our time, our talents, and our resources for the work of your kingdom. May our lives and our congregation continue to be rooted in grace, growing in faith, and reaching out with the love of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading—1 Chronicles 29:6-9, 14-17
[6]Then the leaders of ancestral houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of the thousands and of the hundreds, and the officers over the king's work. [7]They gave for the service of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. [8]Whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the

house of the Lord, into the care of Jehiel the Gershonite. [9]Then the people rejoiced because these had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord; King David also rejoiced greatly. [14]"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. [15]For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. [16]O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. [17]I know, my God, that you search the heart and take pleasure in uprightness; in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people who are present here offering freely and joyously to you.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Acclamation (page) 151

Gospel—Mark 12:41-44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

[41]He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. [42]A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. [43]Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. [44]For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." *The Gospel of the Lord.* ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Take My Life, That I May Be" *(hymn)* **685**vv. 1-3

[1]Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

[2]Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

[3]Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Apostles' Creed (page) 127

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.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you!

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy **… Hear our prayer.**

Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution (page) 152

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!
In the night in which he was betrayed, …

Lord's Prayer

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.

A member of our prayer team will be available during communion distribution for individual and private prayer. Please meet them at the prayer room to the right of the sanctuary.

Communion Distribution and Processional Offering
Communion Music *"Prayer"* *Jeanne Richards and Janelle Albee*
Communion Blessing
Prayer after Communion
Gracious God, thank you for feeding us at your table with the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. You have filled us with your grace, strengthened our faith, and reminded us that we are never alone. Send us from this place with grateful hearts and generous spirits. Help us use the gifts you have given us to care for our neighbors, serve our community, and share your love throughout the world. Keep us rooted in your grace, growing together in faith, and reaching out with joy. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction
Sending Song "Father Let Your Kingdom Come!"

Hallelu, hallelujah, Father let Your Kingdom come!

[1]May the works of my hands bring You joy.
[2]May the words from my mouth speak Your peace.

Dismissal
Go in peace! Share Christ's love, with joy!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Acknowledgements

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Thank You and Welcome!

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church, where our mission is "To Share Christ's Love, With Joy!"

We are grateful you are here.

Here at St. Paul Lutheran, we share life together in all its fullness, its joys and its sorrows. We believe that every person is created in God's image and is loved by God. You are welcome here, just as you are, without exception. All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Gender-neutral restrooms are available in the education wing.

If you are new, we would love to meet you. And whether you are visiting or returning, we give thanks for your presence among us.

Our Sunday Morning Leadership

We give thanks this morning for the many people who help make our worship at St. Paul Lutheran possible. Thank you to **Pastors Dale and Carrie Stiles** for leading us in worship; **Kathie Marabella** our Worship Assistant; **Marc Marabella**, our Usher; **Kimberly Bahls**, serving in the Prayer Room; **Jeanne Richards**, our Organist; **Kim Clark**, our accompanist; **Chris Timmons** our A/V Tech; **Claudia Nelson** on Altar Guild; **Lisa Fashner and Arlie Post**, our Offering Counters. We are grateful for each and for the time, gifts, and care they share with our congregation as we gather to worship and Share Christ's Love With Joy!

Prayer Concerns

Please keep in your prayers this week: Our partners in Tanzania, the Migoli and Mtera parishes; Ruth Koehly; Josie Peterson; Lois, friend of Janelle Albee; Ron Fraley; Kathy, sister of Ron Rozeske; Julie, family of Pat Miska; Mick Byl; Jim Rauner; Aiden, nephew of Jeff and Pam Heaton; Kimberly Bahls; Adley; Karen Chapin; Dawn (friend of Cindy Gruett), Molly (friend of Ciny Gruett); Tracy (daughter in law of Wendy Krona); Jeremy and Paige; all who serve in the military; Shelby; Tom; and all law enforcement personnel.

Announcements and Ministry Opportunities

Flowers today are provided by The Kroschel Family in honor of Sam's17th birthday. The flower sign up sheet is on the wall in the narthex. Thank you for signing up!

Refreshments today are provided by Darlene Petrey. The sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Thank you for signing up!

Today is Commitment Sunday! As we continue our stewardship journey, "Rooted. Growing. Reaching.," today is our opportunity to respond with gratitude for all that God is doing in and through our congregation. You should have received a stewardship mailing this week that included your 2026 giving update and a **2027 Estimate of Giving Card.** You were invited to prayerfully consider your estimate of giving for 2027 and to bring your completed card forward with your offering today. We join today to celebrate the many ways God is at work among us. Together, let us continue to share Christ's love with joy!

Advent Midweek Soup Suppers & Worship. Join us Wednesday evenings **beginning December 2** as we gather for our Advent Midweek Soup Suppers and worship! This year's Advent theme is *"Bless This Waiting."* We'll share a meal together at 5:30 p.m., followed by our Light of the World evening vespers service at 6:30 p.m. Come enjoy a warm bowl of soup, meaningful fellowship, and a time of worship as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. **There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to help provide and serve soup one of the evenings.** We look forward to sharing this special Advent journey together!

Pass the Torch: Member Sharing Workshop Today! Join us **today** after worship at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the first workshop in our new "Pass the Torch" series! **Tom Miller** will lead a helpful conversation about our **Church Endowment Fund, estate planning, and Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)** as additional ways to support the ministry and mission of our congregation. This is a great opportunity to learn more about ways to give back to our church, ask questions, and explore how thoughtful financial and estate planning can help support future generations of ministry. While especially helpful for our senior members, everyone is welcome! Come learn, share, and discover how we can pass the torch of faith and generosity to those who follow.

Tanzania Scholarship Update: Thank You for Your Generosity!
What an incredible expression of generosity!
Our congregation received a total of **$6,925** in gifts for student scholarships in our partner congregations of Mtera and Migoli in Tanzania. That is enough to sponsor **15 students for an entire year of education!**

BEGA KWA BEGA
ST. PAUL, WYOMING
MIGOLI & MTERA PARISHES

As we celebrate Commitment Sunday and bring our stewardship journey, **"Rooted. Growing. Reaching."** to this important moment, these scholarships are a reminder that **what God is doing here doesn't stay here.** Through your generosity, we are reaching beyond our own community, sharing Christ's love, and helping provide opportunities for children to learn and grow. Thank you so much (Asante sana!) for making a difference in the lives of these students and their families.





Next Sunday, November 22, is Celebration Sunday! Join us as we celebrate the generosity of our congregation and give thanks for all that God is doing through us. Following worship, our Stewardship Team and Church Council invite everyone to stay for a **Pie Social**!

Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals. It's time to get ready for our annual Children's Christmas Program! All children and youth ages 3 through 6th grade are invited to participate. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays, November 11 and 18, from 6:15 - 7:00 p.m., and Wednesdays, December 2 and 9, from 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. If you are unable to attend all the rehearsals, please reach out to Pastor Carrie. The Program will be **Sunday, December 13, at 9:00 a.m.**

Thanksgiving Eve Worship. Join us on **Wednesday, November 25, at 6:30 p.m.** for our annual Thanksgiving Eve Worship service! As we gather in gratitude, we'll give thanks for God's many blessings and celebrate the gift of faith, family, and community. Come and prepare your heart for Thanksgiving as we worship together and give thanks to God!

Annual Greening of the Church. Help us get ready for Christmas! Join us immediately following worship on **Sunday, November 29**, the First Sunday of Advent. Many hands are needed to help decorate our sanctuary and narthex for the Christmas season.

Monthly Financial Stewardship Update

Through September 30, 2026	Actual
General Fund Offering Received	$174,521.00
Total Revenue Received	$221,861.00
Total Expenses	$216,208.00
Net Revenue	$5,654.00

Detailed monthly financial reports are located in the Church Council meeting minute binder in the church library.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, November 15
Rooted. Growing. Reaching.
Stewardship Journey
Worship, 9:00 a.m.
Pass the Torch - Tom Miller, 10:30 a.m.
Vocal Choir, 6:00 p.m.
Bell Choir, 7:00 p.m.

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Tuesday, November 17
Adult Bible Study,1:00 p.m.
Church Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 18
The Table, 5:45 p.m.
Confirmation & High School Youth, 6:15 p.m.
Christmas Program Rehearsal, 6:15 p.m.

Sunday, November 22
Rooted. Growing. Reaching.
Stewardship Journey
Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Worship, 9:00 a.m.
Pie Celebration, After Worship
Vocal Choir, 6:00 p.m.
Bell Choir, 7:00 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD

Thanksgiving Eve Worship - November 25
Advent Begins - November 29
Greening of the Church - November 29



Rooted. Growing. Reaching.

Our Fall Stewardship Journey



God has planted us here, continues to grow us as a community of faith, and sends us out to share Christ's love with the world! Join us for our five-week stewardship journey as we reflect on God's generosity and how we can respond through our gifts, our service, and our giving.

October 25 | ROOTED: Our Place
Where has God planted us?
Caring for our church home and the foundation of our ministry.

November 1 | GROWING: Our Community
What is God growing among us?
Nurturing our faith, relationships, staff, and ministries.

November 8 | REACHING: God's World
Where is God sending us?
Sharing Christ's love through local and global outreach.

November 15 | RESPONDING: Commitment Sunday
How will we respond to God's generosity?
Prayerfully considering our commitments for the coming year.

November 22 | CELEBRATING: Thank You Sunday (with pie!)
What has God done among us?
Giving thanks for God's faithfulness and the generosity of our congregation.

As we begin this new chapter in the life of our church, we celebrate all that God has done and look forward with hope to what comes next. Through prayer, reflection, and generosity, each of us has a part to play in our shared ministry. Together, we are **rooted** in God's grace, **growing** in community, and **reaching** into God's world!

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH JOY!

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