St. Paul Lutheran Church

Serbin, Texas

Rev. John Schmidt, Pastor
Kelsey Schatte, Principal

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The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost **8 November 2026**

Welcome! ***The Gospel Prepares Us for Our Heavenly Bridegroom's Coming.*** The Day of the Lord is "darkness, and not light" (Amos 5:18, 20) for all who trust in their own righteousness and piety. The Lord will not accept their "burnt offerings and grain offerings," nor will He look upon their "peace offerings" (Amos 5:22). Instead, He desires a heart of faith that trusts in Him, which lets "justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24) in love for the neighbor. In order for the "lamps" of our lives to burn brightly with such love, we must be filled with the "oil" of forgiveness through faith in our Bridegroom, Jesus Christ (Matt. 25:1–4). Therefore, as we await His coming, wisdom directs us "to the dealers" (Matt. 25:9), that is, to the ministers of His Gospel. Thus we wait upon the Lord, and we "encourage one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:18). Waking or sleeping, we are prepared to meet Him when He comes "with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God," and "we will always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

We invite you all to worship with us again.

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In Our Prayers:

Those recovering from surgeries and illness:

Chris Birnbaum-recovering
Troy Bise-recovery
Patrice Caster-recovering
Ginger Clifford-recovering (sister of Nancy Kasper)
Sydney Fischer(friend of Geraldine Albrecht and Joyce Hinze)
David Gersch-recovering
Nancy Kasper
Randy Kauffman-recovering
Ruth Kluetz-recovering
Carolyn Mitschke-recovering (mother of Jonathan Mitschke and Susan Schatte)
Larry Schatte-recovering
Barbara Schmidt-recovering
Edwin Schmidt, Jr.-recovering
Gary Turner-recovering (father of Katie Jenke)
LaVerne Urban-recovering
David Wachsmann (cousin of Billy Krause)
Alton Weiser-recovering
John Boy Weiser-recovering
Linda Wilkins-recovering

Our members in nursing homes and our shut-ins.

Those fighting cancer including:

Teresita Brodrick (aunt of David Wittman)
Brandon Cleland (brother of Sonya Schautschick)
Cathy Harrel (Aunt of Laurie Kasper)
Dana Herzog (niece of Becky Weise)
Franklin Hoffman (father of Maxine Bradshaw)
John Huenefeld (friend of Craig and Melodi Oltmann)
Brenda Karisch (friend of Bonnie Wenke family)
Steven Kelly (cousin of Jessica Gruetzner, brother-in-law of Christi Bradford)
Bethany Lara (daughter of Kathy Gersch)
Ruby Maass (mother of Linda Schonhoeft)
James Mertink (cousin of Fischer family and Rusty Mertink family)
Carol Sander
Diane Sanders (friend of James & Kathy Kalbas)
Nancy Schautschick-recovering
Karen Symm (sister of Michael Symm)
Tina Warren (mother of Jason Heuermann)
Jordan Weidemann (friend of Byron Kalbas)
Judy Wesbrook (mother of Heather Krause)

Those serving in the Armed Forces including:

Steven Cutlip (brother of Stephanie Symm), Fort Bliss, El Paso
Coy Hunt (son of Shannon & Christine Hunt) Ft. Drum, NY
Dylan Robbins (cousin of Michelle Birnbaum) Jacksonville, North Carolina
Aron Marak (nephew of Mike & Susie Maass) Fr. Bragg, NC
Kyler Brown (friend of Dorthy Schautschick) U.S. Navy-Bahrain
Benjamin Symm-Camp Pendleton, California
Jacob Droegemueller Ft. Stwart, Georgia
Brittany Louden (daughter of Bryan and Antoinette Winkles) Navy, stationed in Florida
Kolton Alen (nephew of Mike & Susie Maass) Army, stationed at Ft. Sill, Lawton, OK
Henry Kalbas U.S. Naval Academy-Annapolis, MD

Those Who Rejoice:

Courtland and Jenifer Tharp as they begin their married life together

Rain

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our Sunday morning prayers either call the church office through the week or write out the request and give it to pastor on Sunday morning.

The Order of Service– 184 of the hymnal
The Hymns: 802, 516, 781 v. 1&2, 461
Sermon Text: Matthew 25:1-13
The Sermon: **"Are You Ready?"**
K-4th Grade Anthem: ♫"*Now Thank We all Our God"*
Adult Choir Anthem: ♫ *"Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service"*

On Saturday we welcomed to God's people through the
Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Mattie Jo Symm
Mattie is the daughter of Timothy and Stephanie Symm.
Her sponsors are Andrea Goedrich, Erica Iselt, Lukas Iselt and Andre Andrews

- **The Altar flowers** are placed to the glory of God in honor of Mattie's baptism by Tim & Stephanie Symm.
- **Congratulations** to Troy and Chelsea Wiederhold on the birth of a daughter, Morgan Joy Wiederhold. She was born Wednesday, November 4th, in Austin, TX. She weighed 5lbs. 10ozs and was 18 inches long. May God bless this growing family.
- **Mission Goal**. In the Voters Meeting held on October 12, 2025 the Voters set our 2026 Mission goal at $37,500.00. To date our Mission contributions are at $37,364.82. We are **$135.18** away from meeting our 2026 goal.
- **"Stock the Cart".** The school children are collecting food items, from now to Thanksgiving, for the Giddings Food Bank. If you would like to help, please bring your items to the church office. If you would like to designate your items to a certain child, just include that child's name.
- **Countdown to National Wreaths across America Day** on December 19th. We have identified **105** veteran's graves on our cemetery. Cost of a wreath is $17.00. As of today, we have sponsored wreaths for **92** veteran's graves. Won't you please consider purchasing a wreath(s) so we can honor all of our veteran's. Please contact the church office if you have questions or need help in navigating the website. **The last day to purchase wreaths for credit to 2026 Wreaths Across America day on December 19th is November 30. Any wreaths purchased after that date will be credited to 2027.**

LUTHERAN HOUR: Next Sunday, November 15th, **"Faithful Trees"**. Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Glenn Nielsen. The tree of Christ's cross bore life-giving fruit. Genesis 1:11-12; 1 Peter 2:24. Hear *The Lutheran Hour* each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

Life Thoughts in the Church Year:
Trinity 23
As the coin for the tax belonged to Caesar because it bore his likeness (Matthew 22:21), every single person belongs to God and is precious to Him because all are created in His image and likeness. For this reason, God has "sent redemption to His people" (Psalm 111:9), through Jesus Christ, who will restore the believers to His image on the last Day (Philippians 3:21). As we wait for the day, Christians seek godly wisdom and righteousness, recognizing that "the fear of the Lord is hatred of evil" (Proverbs 8:13), which includes the wanton destruction of lives created in God's image.

THE CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Today	**Worship Service – 8:30 a.m.**
	Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
	LYF Meeting & Social – 2:00 p.m.
Monday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Tuesday	School Chapel – 8:30 a.m.
	Circuit Meeting – 8:30 a.m.
	Nominating Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	**Veterans Day**
	Youth Confirmation – 6:00 p.m.
	4-H Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
	Adult Choir – 7:00 p.m.
	LWML Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Staff Bible Study – 7:30 a.m.
Friday	Staff Devotions – 7:30 a.m.
Next Sunday	**Worship Service w/Communion – 8:30 a.m.**
	Bible Class and Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
	Acolytes: Logan Taylor and Nicholas Taylor
	Greeter: Irene Hempel

Birthdays: Today – Nathen Barnett, Janice Becker, Jennifer Dittmar, Alison Symons; 9th – Ashley Becker, Curtis Krause, Sydney Shaver; 10th – Cole Mertink, Dwan Tappe; 12th – Daniel Krause, Melissa Taylor; 13th – Bruce Prellop. God's Blessings to you.

ST. PAUL NOTES:

Attendance Last Week: Morning Worship- 252, Communion- 153, Bible Class- 19; Sunday School- 21, Offering- $16.00.

Offering Last Week: $15,612.91

Home:		**Mission:**	
General	$13,298.00	Mission	$725.00
Sunday School	$16.00	Mission Festival	$375.00
Use of Facility	$250.00	**Mission Total**	**$1,100.00**
ECC Operating	$948.91	**Savings/Other:**	
Received 11/1/2026	**$14,512.91**	**Savings/Other Total**	
Est. needed per week	**$33,625.00**	Total	$15,612.91
Received MTD	**$14,512.91**		
Est. needed per month	**$145,708.00**		

MEMORIALS: General: In memory of Judy Bise by Robert & Joyce Hinze - $35.00**.** **Faith Lutheran High School:** In memory of our parents by Delvin & Judy Boriack - $200.00.

Serving today: **Elders**– Keith Oltmann and Tim Weise
Organist- Susan Michael
Acolytes- Lucy Gurka and Madilyn Kalbas
Head Ushers- Donald Becker
Captain- Troy Menzel **Assistant**- Mark Jones
Ushers- Cooper Hinze, John Hinze, Scott Jones, Russell Kappler, Brooks Kasper, Kaden Kasper, Kyle Kasper, Ty Kasper, Clyde Schimank. Troy Wiederhold
Counting and Posting offering this week:
Chairman- Mason Becker
Philip Tharp, Chase Oltmann, Robert Zoch

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Goings On at a Glance:
-Monday, November 9th - Grade Check
-Thursday, November 12th - Fall Sports Photos & Archery Competition @ Home, 3pm

-Monday, November 16th - Booster's Meeting, 6pm
-Wednesday, November 18th - Early Dismissal (2:40pm) for Staff Meeting
- Thursday, November 19th - **Thanksgiving Chapel & Feast**

-Monday, November 23rd - Friday, November 27th - Thanksgiving Break

Thanksgiving Chapel and Feast
Please join us **Thursday, November 19th,** beginning at **11:00 am** for our 10th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration. We will begin with a special chapel service, and then we encourage you to stay for our pot-luck Thanksgiving luncheon. It's the ultimate Friendsgiving fellowship and feast event!

Save the Date - Schmeckenfest
Thursday, December 3rd, make plans to stroll the square in La Grange from **5-8pm** for Schmeckenfest 2026. Faith will have our traditional booth with tasty eats and award winning wassail. Come enjoy the sights, sounds, and scents of the season!

Save the Date - Faith at Christmas
Mark your calendars for our annual Christmas concert on **Tuesday, December 8th at 7pm**. The program will include a collection of choir pieces, handbell pieces, hymns, scripture readings, and more. Refreshments will be served immediately following the program. Please join us! If you're unable, this event will be livestreamed on Facebook for your convenience.

It's the Most Wonderful Sound of the Year
Listen for "The Voice of FLHS" on KTIM, 89.1 FM, KNRG, 92.3 FM, and KBUK, 104.9 FM. We have transitioned to a holiday themed ad for the rest of 2026!

Faith on the Big Screen
Get to your theater a little early to catch our FLHS ad running before every movie in both Bastrop and Brenham! Our goal is to raise awareness and grow our wonderful school.

Follow Us On Social Media!
Keep up with all the exciting things happening here at FLHS. By following us on **Facebook and/or Instagram**, you'll be in the know and help Faith grow. Just click either icon on our website landing page to find us. Currently, we are showcasing Oktoberfest auction items each day at 5pm right up until the day of. Don't miss these sneak peeks!

Free Wednesday mornings?
Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday beginning at 11:05 am.

Thrivent Action Team Grants
Thrivent member? To supplement ongoing projects and activities at Faith, we ask those willing to submit an application for a $250 grant to contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889 or kueckn@flhstx.org. Thank you for helping us access these additional funds!