



**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
17200 East 39th Street, Independence, Mo. 64055  
Becky Reynolds Church Secretary  
(Becky is in the office Monday-Friday 1-4 p.m.)  
Email: secretary172stpl@comcast.net  
Church Number: 816-373-5290

**May 17, 2026**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

To all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12

**Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>:** Church Attendance: 35  
Contributions: General Fund 5/10: \$ 1,937.00  
Total: \$ 1,937.00

**For all spiritual needs please call an elder.**

Aaron Kirchhoff 816-799-6144  
Cory Brown 816-510-9975  
Dan Martin 816-529-2283

**Happening this Week...**

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Worship Service 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, LUMA Auxiliary 9 a.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran

Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, No Bible Study with Pastor Stolle at Ascension (Class will resume in September)

**No Birthdays or Wedding Anniversaries.** If anyone has been missed let the office know.

**In our prayers:** Lillian Weinreich; Jo Walls; Dan Martin; Horst Jeske; Ben James (Dad of Crystal McDaniel); Linda King.

**Missionary:** Rev. Eric Stinnett and family--missionary work in Ethiopia

**Those in Uniform:** Sgt. Keighnan Forcum; Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Bradley Herrin, Staff Sgt. John Bodenhamer, Major Austin Gouldsmith, Grady Whiteman, Major Andrew Rossow

**Those who have cancer.**

**Our Shut-ins:** Linda Loges; Norman Morton, Lillian & Larry Weinreich

Please call the church office with prayer requests at 816-373-5290. Please leave a message if the phone is not answered.

**Thank you** so much for the jeweled pewter cross and the wooden cross stand. They are beautiful. Love, Layla

**The Lutheran Urban Mission Agency Auxiliary** will meet on Wednesday, May 20 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 711 Benton Boulevard, Kansas City, MO. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the opening devotion at 9:30 a.m. The program speaker will be Doris Cannon, Lead Victim Advocate for Jackson County, MO. The Mission of the Month collection is personal hygiene items, underwear (all sizes) and monetary donations. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by May 17 to Pat Enomoto, 816-810-0647, patenomoto@sbcglobal.net. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and all donations for the Mission of the Month collection are appreciated. Thank you!

## **We Come Boldly**

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:16 KJV).

The Epistle to the Hebrews does not invite timid speculation about God’s favor. It commands something astonishing: *“Let us therefore come boldly.”* The Greek word is *παρρησία* (*parrēsia*)—a frankness, an open access, a fearless freedom of speech. Sinners are summoned not to shrink back, but to step forward.

How can this be? Because our High Priest is Jesus Christ. Just prior to this verse, we are told that He has “passed through the heavens” (Heb. 4:14 ESV). He has taken our flesh, our weakness, even our death, into the very presence of the Father. The throne is no longer a seat of terror for those in Christ; it is a throne of grace because the Lamb who was slain now stands there.

The Law tells us the truth: we have no natural boldness before God. Like Adam, we hide. Like Peter, we deny. Like Thomas, we doubt. “In time of need” is not rare; it is constant. But the Gospel declares that mercy may be *obtained* and grace *found*. Martin Luther writes, “For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation” (*Luther’s Small Catechism*, The Sacrament of the Altar). The throne of grace is not an abstract heavenly courtroom; it is where Christ delivers forgiveness. In Holy Absolution, the risen Christ speaks peace through His called and ordained servant. In the Holy Supper, the very Body and Blood once offered are given for the forgiveness of sins. Professor Emeritus Dr. David Scaer has emphasized that Hebrews portrays Christ as the ongoing High Priest who continually mediates mercy for His Church. The throne of grace, then, is as near as font, pulpit, and altar.

We come **BOLDLY** not because we are worthy, but because He is faithful. Not because our repentance is perfect, but because His sacrifice is complete. The throne is grace because Christ Himself is there for you.

So, dear friends of Jesus—come boldly.

**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, grant us boldness to come unto Your throne of grace. Convict us by Your holy Law, comfort us by Your blessed Gospel, and feed us with Your mercy in Word and Sacrament. In every time of need, sustain us by Your grace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.*

Your Servant in Christ,

Rev. Richard S. Cody  
Fourth Vice President  
Missouri District

