



ST. PAUL VISITOR APRIL 2022

*The mission of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is to **CELEBRATE** and **PROCLAIM** to all the saving grace of **JESUS CHRIST** in word and deed.*



We pray for...

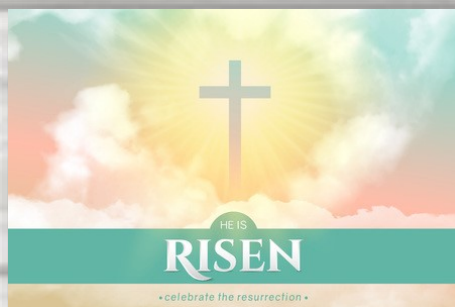
LaDonna, Anne, Jackie,
Judy, Myles, Debbie, Al,
Dave, Elizabeth, Louise, Jon,
Mace, Abby, Wayne, Tom
and James.

Shepherding God, you
are the source of life and
health. Surround those
who struggle with illness
or other difficulties of life
and bring them to
wholeness and healing.
Amen.

If you would like to add
someone to the prayer
list or have a "prayer
email" sent out please
call Kathy at 304-525-
9630.

WORSHIP

We continue to have in person worship as well as live streaming on our Facebook page. Services are also posted on our YouTube channel. We ask that you wear a mask while in the building. Beginning April 17 masks will be optional.



OFFICE HOURS

Generally someone is in the church office Monday through Thursday from 9:30am-1:30pm. If you are planning to come to the church please call beforehand to make sure Pastor or Kathy is there.

OFFERINGS

Your offering is still very important to continue the mission of St. Paul. Please mail your offering to the church address:

721 12th Avenue
Huntington, Wv 25701

CONNECT WITH US

Phone: 304-525-9630

Email:

secretary@stpaulhuntington.org

pastor@stpaulhuntington.org

music@stpaulhuntington.org

youth@stpaulhuntington.org

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE**

stpaulhuntington.org



St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Paul Lutheran Congregation
Group



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Huntington, WV

Pastor's reflections

I remember a Youth Director saying these words to a bunch of youth who were planning to go to St. Louis for the ELCA National Youth Gathering: "remember when you go to the event that you need to **PARTICIPATE not ANTICIPATE.**" The Youth Director was telling the youth to not worry about what was coming next but to be fully engaged in what is happening right in front of them. All these years those words have stuck with me. Isn't it true that we are anticipating something or someone and we forget to participate in what is happening right around us?

I have heard the phrase "monkey brain" used to describe this happening. This is when we cannot seem to stay in the present and our brains are always thinking and moving forward to anticipate what is happening next. Watch the Disney movie "Up" and see what happens when the dog Doug sees or hears a squirrel. It takes work to get out of this habit/rut. I know it does for me. There always seems to be something more important than what is happening right around me. When I realized that this was happening, I sought to correct it. It has taken a while, but I am doing much better.

Worship at its heart is a participatory event. This of course has been hard over the past couple of years. With the COVID restrictions and fear of an unseen virus spreading we have had to be careful to keep one another safe. Thankfully, hopefully, those days are starting to abate, and we can sing, greet one another, and have fellowship and meals together. Worship is about connecting with God through prayer/ praise and music. It is about calming us to hear a word of forgiveness for the week past and hope for the week to come. It seems to me that worship helps us to live in the moment to participate in life now not an hour or two days from now.

This Easter we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. This event that happened so long ago has implications for our lives today. This event has implications for how we seek to live as servants of Christ today. It is today that we have been given to live as faithful servants, not tomorrow or yesterday. Today, Christ calls us to meet him in the places we live and work. Today, Christ calls us to show love and mercy and forgiveness to all we meet and greet. Today, we live as resurrected people. Today, we know Jesus is with us and among us as we go into the world.

Do not get me wrong anticipating is not a terrible thing. It is just that we seem to have forgotten to live today. This is my prayer for all of you. That you live today and not worry too much about tomorrow. May God give you a resurrected life today.

Alleluia! Amen!

Pastor Mackey <><

Don't anticipate! Participate!



Dear St. Paul Congregation:

Finally, things seem to be getting back to normal, after the pandemic! We are gradually adding back the musical parts of the liturgy into the Service. Currently, we are singing the Kyrie and the Song of Praise and, starting on Palm Sunday, we will go to the full liturgy. I have chosen Setting 10 for this, as it is the most comfortable to sing. The Song of Praise uses the melody of Beethoven's Ode to Joy. We have also started singing the Hymn of the Day and will be back to our regular three hymns (Hymn of the Day plus Gathering and Sending Hymns) on Easter Sunday. Please sing out loud and proud—I love accompanying the hymns on the organ when your voices reach the choir loft.

The choir is regularly rehearsing on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm or right after the Midweek Services, at 7:30 pm (exception: we met on Sundays after Worship during weeks with Midweek Services at Christ the King). If you are interested in participating, please let me know or simply join us on Wednesdays. As always, I emphasize that the only thing you need to bring is you. If you can't read music, that's fine (it's not rocket science and we will help you getting a working knowledge quickly). If you have limited exposure to singing, no problem. We have many experienced, nice, and fun members in the choir who can lead and take you under their wings.

As before the pandemic, the St. Paul Choir will sing on Maundy Thursday. The anthem is "Remember Me" by Aaron Adams. The text depicts Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper.

Good Friday Service will be held at Christ the King. We have not done it in the past on Good Friday, but this year, our St. Paul Choir will travel to Christ the King and sing an anthem: "Amazing Love, How Can It Be" by Lloyd Larson.

On Easter Sunday (back at St. Paul), you will hear two special guest musicians: Soprano Renée Harley Knapp is joining us from Ravenswood, WV and will sing two arias with me at the piano (you may know "Let the Bright Seraphim" by Georg Friedrich Händel). In addition, Devoyne Montgomery from Ashland, KY will perform for us on the cello. Of course, your St. Paul Choir will sing, as well. Together with the choral anthem, full liturgy and our three hymns, we will have a bright and music-filled Easter Sunday Worship.

Henning



March was a month of crazy weather, one day with the temperature in the 20's with snow and another in the 70's with full sunshine. As we have pingponged back in forth in temperature, we have also experienced many new beginnings in March. We celebrate Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, St. Patrick's Day, the first day of Spring, and time change and springing forward. It is a time to reflect, repent, fast, pray, and rejoice in new beginnings and things to come.

I like to remember St. Patrick's breastplate . It is so important for us to remember Christ is always with us. Christ is everywhere! The youth have discussed prayer this month and how important it is to pray everyday whether it is by voice, heart or thought. God knows all and always hears the call. Prayer does not always have to be formal. We can pray anywhere and anytime. We are blessed to talk to God any time we want and in any way we want. Pastor Kevin gave parents and 3rd year Confirmands some insight on an app called Pause. Pause is an app that allows you to take a moment to meditate, connect, pray, breathe and to pause with God. This has served as a wonderful experience to be thankful, to praise, to affirm and to connect with God, to pause for a few minutes in the middle of our busy days. I recommend trying it out.

Our youth continue to pray and listen. The youth collected one more shipment of dog and cat food, treats, toys and bedding for CCSO. The youth helped the elderly in Cabell county with pet supplies for two months. We hope it warmed the hearts of all the animals and their owners. Our youth enjoyed painting Easter messages on canvas. "A Lot Can Happen In Three Days" and "He Is Risen Hallelujah" were the messages. Alex Mackey, Katie Dowis and Cameron May worked together to apply a cross with the many names of Jesus on the wall in the undercroft. This was a perfect addition, just before the Lenten dinners and fellowship. Take a minute to look at this new cross created by our youth.

Our youth continue to have Sunday school after worship. Our confirmands are meeting with parents, grandparents and Pastor Kevin at scheduled times. We strive to get back to normalcy and a consistent schedule. We continue to read scripture together, pray together, learn together, listen together, serve together, and enjoy fellowship together. For Easter, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt following breakfast outside, weather permitting. If you can bring in Easter candy or small Easter items, such as stickers, fun fruits, small bubbles, etc. to fill the Easter eggs, it would be greatly appreciated. Already filled eggs are welcomed as well. I will place a green tub in the Narthex and another one by our Sunday school classroom. The older youth will help fill all the eggs for the hunt.

Thank you in advance for always helping our youth. You are appreciated and loved. Thank you for helping make all events and service possible.

As April begins and we take time to appreciate all things new, allow us to appreciate that God is always with us and will always take care of us. Be thankful for His Grace!

March 30

I Will Take Care of You

"The everlasting God is your place of safety. His arms will hold you up forever.

-Deuteronomy 33:27

Trust Me with all your heart. When you get out of bed in the morning, trust Me. At school or work, trust Me. With your friends, trust Me. When you go to bed each night, trust Me. Trust Me at all times and in every situation. I will take care of you. I already have your life perfectly planned out. When everything around you seems to be going wrong, and you are just tired of trying, whisper these four words:" I trust You Jesus."

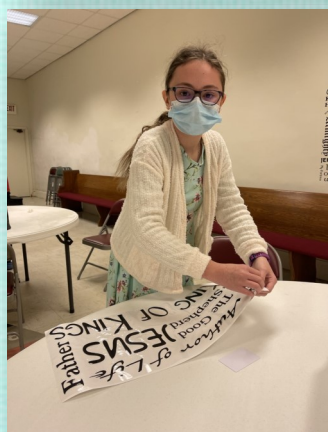
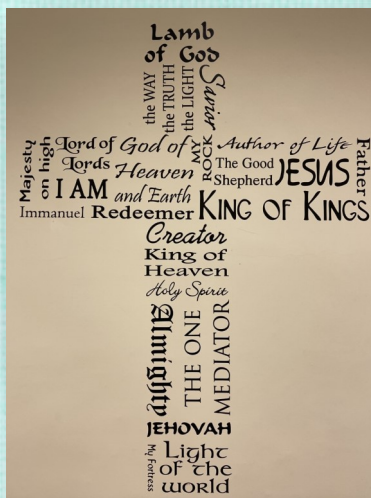
When you say this, you stop trying to fix everything yourself and you trust the plan I have for you. Let Me take care of you. Fall back into the safety of my powerful arms – I promise I'll catch you.

God's Blessings today and always,

Your loving sister in Christ,

Jill

Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
CHRIST IN ME. CHRIST OVER ME.
Christ to right of me,
CHRIST TO LEFT OF ME,
CHRIST IN LYING DOWN. CHRIST IN SITTING.
Christ in rising up, Christ in the heart
of every person who may think of me,
Christ in the mouth of every
person who may speak of me,
CHRIST IN EVERY EYE,
WHICH MAY LOOK ON ME!
CHRIST IN EVERY EAR. WHICH MAY HEAR ME!
with the ALLY 2018
- st. patrick's breastplate -



EASTER CANDY

We will be collecting candy donations for the Easter Egg Hunt that is held on Easter morning. There will be a basket in the narthex available to deposit your donations.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday

April 10 Worship at 10:00am

Maundy Thursday

April 14 7:00pm Worship at St. Paul

Good Friday

April 15 7:00pm Worship at Christ the King

Easter Vigil

April 16 7:00pm Worship at St. Paul

Easter Sunday

April 17 8:30am Breakfast and Egg Hunt

10:00am Worship at St. Paul



Please join us for breakfast on Easter Morning prior to Worship in the Undercroft. We will be having a variety of breakfast casseroles. Join us at 8:30 for Fellowship and a great breakfast. We look forward to seeing you there.

Worship Helpers for April

Altar Guild: Linda Schneider

	Reader/Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Bread Providers		
4/3	Keith Wellman	Owen Murray	Barb Garnett		
4/10	Steve Golder	Alex Mackey	Barb Garnett		
4/14 Maundy Thur.	Doug Korstanje		Kathy Mackey		
4/16 Easter Vigil	Linda Schneider/David Stuart				
	Reader/Communion Deacon	Assisting Minister	Acolyte	Bread Provider	Flowers
4/17 Easter	Bernadette Wellman/Steve Golder	Ruthann Arneson	Jacob Hale		Linda Hay
4/24	Keith Wellman/Jenny Murray	Steve Golder	DeLaney Uteley		



CAMP LUTHER

June 19-25

It's happening!! We will be having Camp this year!

Applications are available in the church office. The tuition fee is \$275. St. Paul will pay \$138 of the tuition fee. (Please make checks payable to St. Paul for \$137)

Applications, with tuition, must be turned into the church office by April 24 to insure the early bird tuition.

Late registrations will be \$295 if received by June 1 or \$300 if received after June 1.

FACEBOOK

St. Paul has three Facebook pages.

One is "St. Paul Lutheran Congregation Group". This is a closed group and the one where we have been posting our "live" worship services for the past couple of years.

Another page is called "St. Paul Lutheran Church". You can find this page by searching for the church name. This is an open page meaning that anyone who searches for the church will land on this page. It gives information such as phone number, address, and a link to the website. We are in the process of switching over to posting our services on this page so that anyone who wishes to can view the service. This is a much better evangelism tool for us to use.

The third page is called the "St. Paul Lutheran CCC/Youth Group" and is used by Jill to post information about youth activities.

If you have any question about this please call the church office or speak to Jenny Murray.

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00am Worship		9:30am Quilting	6:00pm Md-Week Meal at St. Paul 7:00pm Lenten Mid-Week Worship			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Palm Sunday 10:00am Worship	7:00pm Writers' Group Holy Week Devotional on YouTube	9:30am Quilting Holy Week Devotional on YouTube	Holy Week Devotional on YouTube	7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship at St. Paul	7:00pm Good Friday Worship at CTK	7:00pm Easter Vigil at St. Paul
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Easter Sunday 10:00am Worship 	Church Office Closed	9:30am Quilting				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00am Worship Deadline for Camp Luther registrations		9:30am Quilting				



- 3 Nola Scott
- 7 Gary Rea
- 8 Jackson McComas; Analee Maeland
- 9 Ingrid White Sturgill
- 11 Hunter Eid
- 12 Steve Murray
- 13 Doug Korstanje; Judi Korstanje
- 14 Judy Dumke; Tom Kisling; Bob Tucker
- 15 Kelly Cunningham
- 16 Arlene Hoeft
- 17 Shannon Simpkins
- 21 Beth Brown
- 23 Kenny Kirby; David Stuart
- 29 Jacob Hale
- 30 Brock Tucker



25 Larry and Jo Kendall



Please note that the price of flowers for the altar has increased from \$30 to \$35 per week. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers please sign up in the narthex.



If you would like to make a prayer request for yourself or someone else there are several ways you can do this:

Call the church office at 304-525-9630 and request a name to be put on the prayers that are read on Sunday morning.

Call the church office and request that a prayer email be sent out to the congregation

Request prayer on our Facebook page—"St. Paul Lutheran Congregation Group"

You may also email the church at secretary@stpaulhuntington.org



For the Month of April we will be collecting cans of tuna for Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry. Please place your items in the bin in the narthex.



BACK PACK SUPPLIES NEEDED!

Our supplies for the Backpack program are very low. We are especially in need of dinner items such as Spaghettios, ravioli, beefaroni, and mac and cheese.

Items should be in individually packaged containers and not contain any peanut products.

From Katherine Mansouri—

With prayers of thanksgiving, we celebrate with Carolyn Becker in the birth of her newest great-grandchild Charles Mehran Basel, born on Friday morning, March 18, at St. Thomas Midtown, Nashville, Tennessee, weighting 6 lbs. and 11 oz. A beautiful blessing from above. Sarah and Oran Basel are the proud parents, Wren and Andrew are the proud big brothers and Katherine (Becker) and Bijan Mansouri are the proud grandparents. God is good!

Gracious God, thank you for the birth of Charles Mehran Basel and the gift of new life. You have blessed us with the joy and responsibility of children. Give us gracious love, calm strength, and patient wisdom, that we may teach children to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Huntington is currently hosting an Easter fundraiser. The fundraiser is "Egg My Yard." People in the community purchase Easter eggs from us, and the night before Easter (Sat, April 16) we drive to those families' houses and scatter eggs, toys, and other treats around their lawn so when their kids wake up, the Easter bunny came! AND, parents don't have to do any of the work (parents can also choose to pick up their goodies and hide their eggs themselves, at a slightly lower cost). We take egg purchases via credit card; however, if anyone would like to purchase via cash or check they can give me a call and I can get that set up for them. Here is the direct link to the fundraising page: <https://apps.rmhc Huntington.org/open-fundraisers?PFR=166>



Daily Devotional in your inbox



The readings listed below are sent to the congregation each day (Monday-Friday) by email. If you are not currently receiving the Daily Devotional and would like to please contact the church at secretary@stpaulhuntington.org with your email address.

READINGS FOR APRIL

March 28-April 1: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

April 4-8: Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 23:1-25

April 11-15: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; I Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

April 18-22: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

April 25-29: Acts 9:1-6; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

721 12th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701
304-525-9630



CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Kevin L. Mackey, pastor
pastor@stpaulhuntington.org
cell phone: 724-212-9393
Church office: 304-525-9630

Henning Vauth, Music Director
music@stpaulhuntington.org

Jill May, Youth Director
youth@stpaulhuntington.org

Kathy Mackey, secretary
secretary@stpaulhuntington.org

Please visit us at www.stpaulhuntington.org

CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

Vice President, Jenny Murray

Treasurer, Andrew Wellman

Secretary, Bernadette Wellman

Financial Secretary, Linda Schneider

Assistant Financial Secretary, Annette DuVall

Linda Hay, Worship and Music

Carolyn Fornash, Christian Education

Doug Korstanje, Stewardship/Finance

Jenny Murray, Fellowship

Bernadette Wellman, Social Ministry

Kevin Knowles, Christian Education

Ron Pease, Property

Creigh Pemberton, Evangelism

Debbie Perkins, Fellowship

PRAYER VENTURES FOR APRIL 2022

- 1 Arab American Heritage Month** Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and advance the advocacy, witness, leadership development and support for ministries provided by ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.
- 2** Give thanks for the resources of our church, including ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving, which guides us through Lent and helps us pray, study Scripture, respond to our neighbors in need and give generously for the good of communities around the world.
- 3** Pray that we will each use our unique gifts and passions as disciples of Christ, called to share the gospel and serve our neighbors, and that we will trust the Spirit to equip, inspire and embolden us for doing God's work in the world, together.
- 4** Give thanks for the commitment and work of planning team leaders, volunteers, youth ministry leaders in congregations and churchwide organization staff who prepared for the now-canceled 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering and are now refocusing their attention on the 2024 event; ask the Spirit to guide, strengthen and enliven their work.
- 5** Remember in prayer our neighbors in countries and regions beset by conflict, civil unrest or violence, including places we have forgotten because they have slipped from the headlines. Pray for healing, hope and strength for our neighbors who suffer trauma, loss, displacement or uncertainty, and pray that leaders will work to resolve conflicts, reconcile enemies and forge new relationships based on justice, respect for human life and mutual concern.
- 6** Pray that God will comfort and stir hope and joy in those who suffer grief; ask God to help us be present with them in their sorrow, bringing empathy, respect, support and patience.
- 7** Give thanks for Women of the ELCA and women of all ages who gather in more than 4,500 locations in the United States and the Caribbean for service, study, advocacy and fellowship, mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.
- 8** Ask the Spirit to make us purveyors of grace, joy and unexpected generosity, especially to people who live with worry, despair, turmoil or loneliness.
- 9 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945)** Remember and give thanks for our siblings in Christ — past and present — who risk their lives for justice, the well-being of our neighbors and the truth of the gospel. Pray that their witness, courage and sacrifice will inspire and guide our pursuit of justice and peace in the world.
- 10 Palm Sunday** Jesus endured false accusations, betrayal by his closest followers, an unfair trial, public humiliation and the pain of death on a cross for our salvation and the fulfillment of God's promises. Give praise and thanks to the Son of God, the promised Messiah!
- 11** Pray for pastors and seminary students serving as chaplains for the armed forces, Veterans Affairs hospitals and federal correctional institutions, and for pastors serving in other contexts, including hospitals, nursing homes, hospice programs, social ministry programs, state and local correctional facilities, and organizations serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- 12** Give joyful thanks that God's boundless, unimaginable love is made known to us in ways that we can grasp: through Jesus Christ's humble birth, life of service, suffering, death and resurrection.
- 13** Ask God to renew and strengthen our commitment and courage to face the painful truth of gun violence in our country — to prevent gun violence; attend to individuals, families and communities traumatized by it; advocate for common-sense gun safety laws; and care for the perpetrators of violent acts.
- 14 Maundy Thursday** "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). Pray that we will be mindful of how we bear witness to Jesus through our humility, sacrificial service, words of love and Spirit-inspired actions.
- 15 Good Friday** Reflect on what we see in the cross, the feelings it evokes and what it represents in our faith and life. Pray that through the symbol of the cross we might see God's unconstrained power over death and God's awesome gift of grace that gives us life — both new life in the present and life eternal.

16 Pray that we will bear God's grace, mercy, hope and kindness to incarcerated youth and adults who experience isolation from society, our communities and the church.

17 *Easter Day* "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Hallelujah! Shout prayers of joy and thanksgiving for the enduring, trustworthy gifts of love, forgiveness, healing and new life fulfilled by God in the resurrection of Jesus Christ — our Savior, teacher, hope and salvation.

18 Give thanks for faith-based preschools and day care centers that encourage faith, support parents and serve communities. Pray that their teachers, staff and administrators will be strengthened for their work providing safe and nurturing care for children.

19 Pray that the gifts of forgiveness, love and new life we receive through Jesus will fill us with joy, moving us to share the good news and work for healing and justice in the world.

20 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Western Iowa Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

21 Pray that the Spirit will lead us into conversations about faith and the good news of Jesus Christ with people we encounter in our daily lives; pray that we will see God working through us even when we feel uncomfortable or imperfect in expressing our faith.

22 *Earth Day* The mysteries and awe of creation defy our comprehension and stir wonder in us. Give praise, gratitude and recognition for all God has made for our sustenance and joy; pray that we will be wise, generous, responsible stewards and restorers of the earth's resources for the glory of our Creator.

23 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Alaska Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

24 What nagging questions do you have about Scripture, faith or God's actions in the world? Amid a life of doubt and uncertainty, ask God to grant us reassurance and insight; pray that our faith and belief will grow deeper and stronger through the work of the Spirit, the support of our siblings in Christ and the opportunities for study, prayer and discernment in our communities of faith.

25 Pray for church leaders and congregations participating in Valparaiso University's Institute of Liturgical Studies, a source of renewal and re-creation through worship, music, study and reflection on the church's challenges and opportunities after the pandemic.

26 "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 150:6). Consider how each thing you do today can glorify God.

27 Pray for congregations and communities preparing for severe weather, that they might preserve human life, respond to community needs, and prove resilient in the face of natural disaster. Give thanks for our ability to respond to disasters through Lutheran Disaster Response in collaboration with companion churches, disaster response organizations and ecumenical partners.

28 Give thanks for ELCA Young Adult Ministries, Young Adults in Global Mission and their work of providing inspiration, opportunities, connections and resources to young adults and people facilitating young adult ministries.

29 [Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana, Northeastern Minnesota and Arkansas-Oklahoma synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.](#)

30 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Minneapolis Area Synod, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.