



7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

WELCOME! We are blessed to worship with you today!
If you are visiting, we are delighted that you're here. If you have any questions, please ask anyone near you. To find out everything going on at St. Paul's, visit www.stpaulsoke.com.

SERVING TODAY:

Reader: Ann Caine
Prayer Leader: Paula Schopflin
Ushers: Robert Adair, Russ Bainbridge, Steve Krause, Benji Sitton & Kenrick Veit
Children's Message: Tom Todd
Altar Guild: Annette Kezbers
Communion Assistants: Robert & Alana Adair, Jill & Bali Botkin, Ann Caine, Carolyn Behrens & Paula Schopflin
Video assistant: Tracy Caine
Acolyte & Crucifer: Atticus Veit & Nicholas Bainbridge

PRELUDE:

Ascension

Canticle Ringers w/ Ron Wallace

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Pause for silent reflection)*

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved and in the name of Christ your sins are forgiven. ***Amen.***

OPENING HYMN:

#393

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Vs 1, 2 & 5

A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns through-out the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia!
and with his faithful foll'wers see their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Kyrie 1 & 2

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Let us pray. O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35

¹Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;

let those who hate God flee.

²As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;

as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;

let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;

"I Am" is that name, rejoice before God!

⁵In your holy habitation, O God,

you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;

but the rebels shall live in desert places.

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people,

when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,

at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹You sent a bountiful rain, O God;

you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰Your people found their home in it;

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;

sing praises to the Lord.

³³You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;

you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

³⁴Ascribe power to God,

whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,

giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat

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

GOSPEL READING John 17:1-11

¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

6“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Tom Todd

SPECIAL MUSIC

Gospel of Grace

SPLC Adult Choir

MESSAGE

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

HYMN

#604

O Christ Our Hope

vs 1, 4 & 5

O Christ, our hope, our hearts’ desire, creation’s mighty Lord,
redeemer of the fallen world, by holy love outpoured, by holy love outpoured:

Oh, let your mighty love prevail to purge us of our pride,
that we may stand before your throne by mercy purified, by mercy purified.

All praise to you, ascended Lord; all glory ever be to Father, Son, and Spirit
blest through all eternity, though all eternity.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for you promised that the same power that was at work when you were raised from the dead would also be alive in us. Show your power to those who are powerless; reveal your love to those who feel unlovely and through your Spirit enable all your people to be witnesses of your amazing grace. (*Brief silence for personal prayer.*) To you, Lord Jesus, daily renewing your people and your creation, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in your ascension you are crowned King of kings and Lord of lords. As we worship you on your heavenly throne, prepare our hearts for the coming of your Spirit. (*Brief silence for personal prayer.*) To you, Lord Jesus, who will come back in the same way you went up into heaven, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to all of them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

Let us pray. ***Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

May the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE - **Ron Wallace**

SENDING - Go in Peace. Share the good news. ***Thanks be to God.***



Please note there is no offertory during service, our offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary, or you can give online using the link on our website, www.stpaulsokc.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAVORITE HYMNS

Our Music Director, Nancy Krause, is responsible for picking the hymns each week for worship services. During the months of June, July and August, she'd like to program your favorite hymns. If you have 1 or more favorites, either write them on the form you'll find on the Visitor's Table in the Narthex, or email Nancy at: music@stpaulsokc.com. We will do our best to incorporate them into the summer worship Sundays!

CAMP SHILOH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to cook burgers at Camp Shiloh on Friday, June 12. Cooking begins at 4:00 p.m. to serve approximately 350 children and parents. Based in OKC, Camp Shiloh is dedicated to transforming the inner city with the love of Christ through sports, arts and meaningful relationships. If you can help contact Keith Kilpatrick, 826-4861.

SPLC AT THE BALL PARK

We are having all church night out at the ballpark. The dates to choose from are July 11th and July 31st. There will be fireworks after the game on the 31st. Signup sheets will be available on the information booth in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date you would like to go, and we will choose the winning date. These sheets will be out here until June 7th. Please reach out to Abby Davis with any questions.

XYZ

Thursday, May 21, at 1:00 p.m. for a fun afternoon of Bunco. It's a fun and simple dice game. Diane Dewing is hosting and asks that you sign up in the narthex or let her know that you'll be coming so we know how many tables to set up. Come. We'd love to have you join us.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MAY

5/17- 9:30- Worship

5-7pm Youth Night

5/21- XYZ

5/24- 9:30- Worship - Pentecost

5/25- Memorial Day - Office Closed

5/31- 9:30- Worship