

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Exaudi: The Sunday of the Ascension

Expectation Sunday



“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.”

John 15:26

Exaudi: The Sunday of the Ascension or “Expectation Sunday”

24 May A+D 2020

Welcome in Jesus’ name to our guests this holy day. We pray God’s richest blessings to you as we hear His Word and receive His gifts. Please sign our friendship folder in the pews and if you’re visiting for the first time, our guestbook in the narthex.

Worship at St. Paul’s is conducted according to the historic, liturgical worship patterns of the Christian Church throughout the ages. The rhythm of worship is from our God to us, and then from us back to Him. He gives His gifts, and together we receive and extol them.

The Lord’s Supper is offered every Sunday of the month at both services. St. Paul’s observes the biblical practice of close communion. Members of sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are encouraged to commune with us. *We ask visitors who are not members of the LC-MS to speak with one of our pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices.*

Exaudi: The Sunday of the Ascension “His Ascension to Bless His People.”

The Spirit of Truth Bears Witness to Jesus

The Spirit of Truth bears witness to Jesus, who is the truth. But the world does not receive the truth. It loves its own and hates those who are of the truth. Just as Jesus was scorned, so is His Church. *“The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God”* (John 16:2). Yet it is by Jesus’ suffering and death that we are saved. Therefore we rejoice to share in His sufferings that we may also share in His resurrection glory (1 Pet. 4:7–14). Through the ministry of the Spirit of Truth, we are cleansed from the deceit of our idols and given a new heart and a new spirit, the heart and Spirit of Christ (Ezek. 36:22–28). He now works in us fervent, self-giving love for one another, love which covers a multitude of sins, *“that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen”* (1 Pet. 4:11).

Service Notes: Benjamin Waggoner will be the Kantor for the 10:45 service.

Prayer: O Lord, our God, as we come before You to worship You in spirit and truth, we ask You to open our hearts to the ministry of Your Word. Lead us to truly repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.



Divine Service

Setting One

Prelude: *Partita on WIE SCHON LEUCHTET* (LSB #913 "O Holy Spirit, Enter In")..... Jan Oskar Bender

913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

LSB 913



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
 2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,



Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
 from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
 in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
 That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
 That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love



us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
 ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
 and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.



That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
 Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
 Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er



Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
 And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
 Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

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Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the $\cdot\ddagger\cdot$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we**

have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: Ps. 27:7a, 8b, 9a

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Teach me your way, | O LORD;*

give me not up to the will of my adver- | saries;

for false witnesses have risen a- | gainst me,*

and they breathe out | violence.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alle- | luia.*

Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alle- | luia.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

C This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:22–28

²²Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees

²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 51:10–12

LSB #956 (Kantor)

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

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Epistle

1 Peter 4:7–11

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

458 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

LSB 458 st. 1

1 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
For our offenses given;
But now at God's right hand He stands
And brings us life from heaven.
Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of alleluia!
Alleluia!

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Holy Gospel

John 15:26—16:4

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth and sixteenth chapters.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

¹“I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ²They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

¹“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer

LSB 539



1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,
2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,
3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,
4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,



The font of heav'n-ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,
Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.
And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant-ly.
All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,



The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done
And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne
And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.



Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.
And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.
Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.
Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

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Sermon ~ “Comforted and Emboldened by the Spirit of Truth” ~ John 15:26-16:4

Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering "*Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*"*Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna. Hosanna.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 162

Pax Domini

LSB 163

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

LSB 622 sts. 1-4, 8



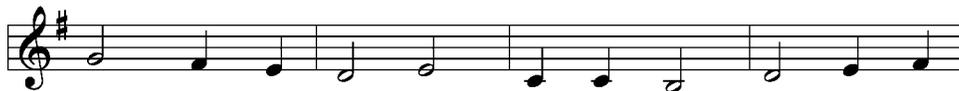
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
 hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence
 hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
 e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



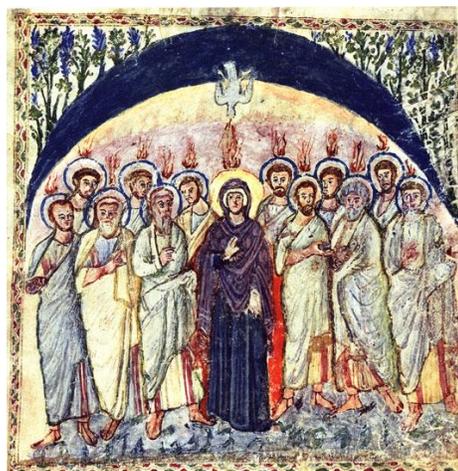
As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
 And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
 Be praised throughout all ages!
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
 The world against it rages.
 Grant that this sacrament may be
 A blessèd comfort unto me
 When living and when dying.

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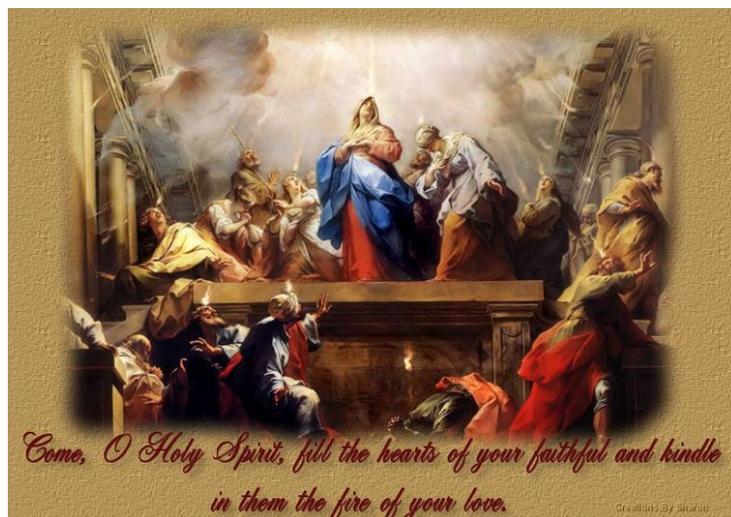


818 In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818

1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
 2 Since He is ours, ——— We fear no pow - ers, Not of
 sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
 earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -
 heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
 tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the
 wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
 sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -
 cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
 joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for
 pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
 glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him
 To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
 And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

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756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.
 Trust Him still, When He sends me sad - ness.
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood



For me won When His life was giv - en?
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.
 For my good, By His death to save me.

5 Now in Christ, death cannot slay me,
 Though it might,
 Day and night,
 Trouble and dismay me.
 Christ has made my death a portal
 From the strife
 Of this life
 To His joy immortal!

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Thank the Lord

LSB 164

**☞ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
 He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
 with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 166

Postlude: *Allegro con brio*.....*Felix Mendelssohn*

482 This Joyful Eastertide

LSB 482



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
 riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
 slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:
 My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
 Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,



Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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In our prayers we remember: Chris Rochleau and Janice Damon (cancer treatments), John Lusajo's mother, Richard Paul, Carol Brockmann, Mary Ann Wege, Elizabeth Bowerman, Ashley Mohling, Greg Rummel (friend of Pastor Sherrill), Allen Timm, Jean Volkens, Bill Storey, Helen Nelson, Gertrud Rossbund, Chris Lindau, Brad White, Don Calkins, Earl Rollins (father of Mike Rollins), Larry Skinner (Jean Volkens brother), Susan Wurdeman (Dan Wurdeman's mother), Cindy Goodin, Elaine Goodwin (Pastor Tews & Karen Burns sister), Steven DeLorme (Christine Shockey's uncle), Donny Kadereit (Don & Marsha Kadereit's son);

Beth French and all other St. Paul's Shut-Ins;

Rev. Daniel Steeb and the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Logan;

Those serving in the armed forces...Claire Burgdorf, Dustin Bathen, grandson of Virg & Jan Steenbock, David Letcher, Charles Bowerman, Nathan Moeller -members of St. Paul's, Andrew Cohrs, (husband of Lauren Hardick Cohrs), Justin Carlton, husband of Kathryn Charlton, granddaughter of Bill Johannes, Matthew Bandomer, grandson of Art & Mabel Bandomer, Joey Greiner, nephew of Joni Doiron, Matthew James Harris, nephew of Mark & Erika Harris, Joseph Finch, (son of Bob & Dianna Finch), Jared Naja (nephew of Laura Goodwin).

Those celebrating a wedding anniversary: Ed & Jane Hawks, Dale & Julia Burris.

News and Notes

Please note that we will be practicing social distancing.

The offering will be placed in the narthex of the church. You can place your offering on your way out.

Communion will be offered. In accordance with the recommendations from the state we will offer communion “...in a manner to minimize close interaction.” We will invite you to the altar in small groups, keeping an appropriate social distance from others.

After the service has ended, the ushers will excuse congregants pew by pew beginning from the front.

Bible Study will resume today in the sanctuary, while practicing social distancing.

Communion will be offered by appointment during the week.

If you would like to order flowers for the altar in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, please call the church office (322-4729) Cost: \$42.50.

Rosemary will be out of the office Tuesday and part of Wednesday.

Opportunities for Growth: May 24 – 31, 2020

Sunday: 5/24/20

8:00 a.m. – Worship - C

9:30 a.m. ~ Bible Study

10:45 a.m. – Worship - C

Sunday: 5/31/20 - Pentecost

8:00 a.m. ~ Worship - C

9:30a.m. ~ Bible Study

10:45 a.m. ~ Worship – C



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center

St. Paul's Music Conservatory

Two Locations

One Word

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Church

239 Frank St.

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503

712-322-4729

Pastor – Nathan Sherrill

Cell: 712-310-4248

nathansherrill1978@gmail.com

Associate Pastor – Timothy Frank

Cell: 712-269-3683

pastorfrank239@gmail.com

Director of Music /Head Organist

Dr. J Gordon Christensen

Home: 712-352-0298

drjgordonchristensen@gmail.com

Secretary – Rosemary Paul

rosemarypaul57@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

School

1500 N. 16th St.

Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

712-322-3294

Director – Lisa Preston

director.stpauls@gmail.com



Secretary – Heidi Bernhards

hb.stpauls@gmail.com

School Office Hours:

Monday – Friday ~ 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.