

*Fifth Sunday
of Easter*



May 3, 2026

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus



Welcome to St. Paul's!

We're glad you're here!
Scan the QR Code Below to check in



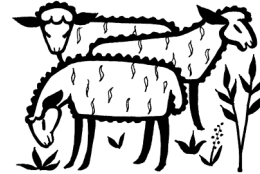
Do you have:
Prayer requests?
A need to speak to a Pastor?
Questions about joining St. Paul's?

**For this and more,
Scan the QR code above to share
your needs with us!**

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Egbertsville Campus
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026

Musician: Paul Storfer



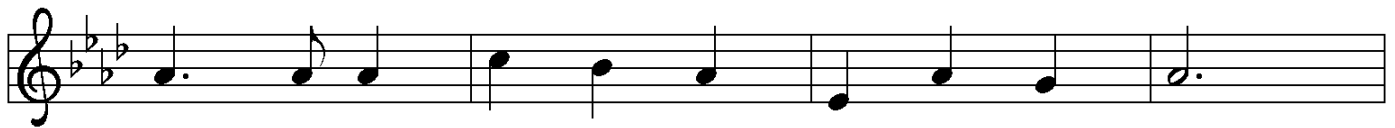
Confession

- P** We begin worship today in this Easter season in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
- C** **Lord, we confess that we are broken and imperfect. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions, by the things we've done and the things we haven't done. We get distracted and forget to love you with our whole heart; we also haven't loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may fully live into the amazing promise that we are unconditionally loved by You.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. So, it is my honor and pleasure as one of your pastors to remind you of the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

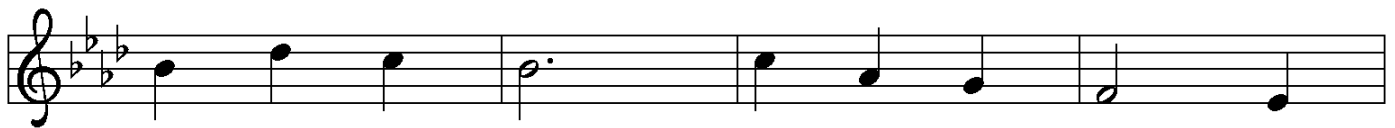
Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



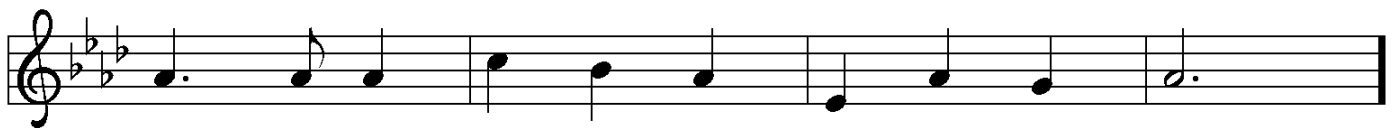
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing; O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Apostolic Greeting

P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (read responsively)

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

- A In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
- C **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**
- A Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
- C **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**
- A Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
- C **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**
- A Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

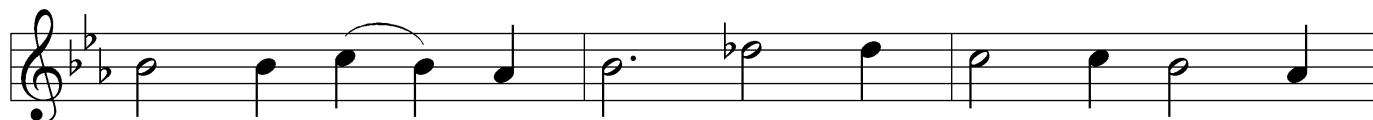


Hymn of the Day: LBW 513

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life



1 Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a
2 Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a
3 Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as con - quers death.
length; such a strength as makes his guest.
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593–1632

Music: THE CALL, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Apostle's Creed

P Together we say what we believe using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Church

A Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

QR Giving Code:



Last Week's Digital and Service Offerings: \$6,990.98

Budgeted Weekly Service Offering: \$7,488.00

P Let us pray,

C Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered here today and through our online giving. You have set a table before us, nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, amen.



Dialogue and Preface

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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: LBW 464 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace. Christ is Risen.

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

You Are the Way

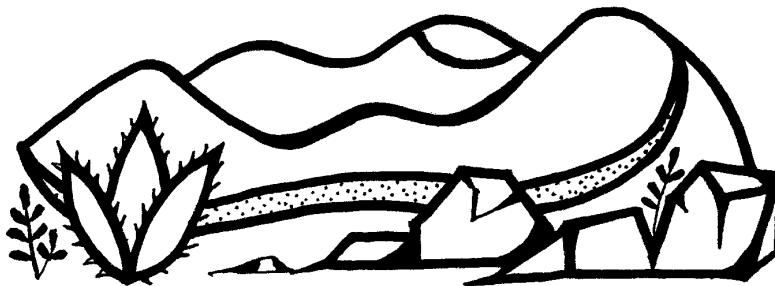


1 You are the way; through you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart, his will, his mind!
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 3-10, 2026

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus

- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:00 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
11:00 am: Following the 10:00 am Worship Service: Inside/Outside Church Cleaning
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
7:00-8:30 pm: Waiting in Hope Meeting
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)
- Wednesday:** 8:00-10:00 am: Amherst Family Support Center Meeting
1:00 pm: Pinochle Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** No Events Planned
- Friday:** No Events Planned
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:00 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School

Deacons: 5/3: Sara Gallagher; 5/10: Martin Troutman

Ushers: 5/3: Mike & Michele Degen; 5/10: Scott & Mimi Fierle

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Betty & James Aprile; Martin Burch (Lois O'Brian's brother); Sondra Howe; Claudia Staines; Maurice Saxton; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; Sylvia McLaughlin; Sue Epstein

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (indicates new names or changes added this week)*

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Jack Gallagher: Amberleigh, 2330 Maple Road, #183, Williamsville, NY 14221

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Sylvia McLaughlin: 44 Sherwin Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Charles Scofield: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, Williamsville, NY 14221

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Prayer Team Ministry: Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2026 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Forum Schedule: 5/3: Topic to be determined; 5/10-5/24: Craig Maefs—An Overview of Current Events in the Middle East

Thursday, May 14 at 7:15 pm at AC: Book Club; book for May reading: Rent Collector by Carmon Wright

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, or by referral. The pantry hours for May are different than normal in order to meet FeedMore WNY requirements: Saturday, May 9 and May 16 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm; and Thursday, May 14 and May 28 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for May: salad dressing, coffee, tea.

Grief Share: Are you grieving a loss? Beginning Wednesday, May 6-July 29, 2026 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm, at Abiding Savior Church, 1134 Ruie Road, North Tonawanda, NY, 14120. For additional information contact Karen Himle, 716-694-2514



LET'S CLEAN UP



ST. PAUL'S!

Let's Create a Cleaner
Egbertsville Campus Together

Daily Bread
Food Truck
will be on site
serving a
delicious meal to
all volunteers!

Sunday, May 3
11:00 am - 12:30 pm



Join us for our St. Paul's Spring Cleaning!
We will be picking up sticks, preparing the
garden beds for planting, and working on a
general outdoor beautification! We are also
asking people to help indoors by assisting with
attic clean out and dusting and cleaning pews in
the Sanctuary.

Any amount of time you can come help out is
much appreciated!



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH
AFTER 10 AM WORSHIP
WE WILL VOTE ON EGGERTSVILLE
HOUSE & NEW COUNCIL
MEMBERS

QUESTIONS?

office@stpaulseggertsville.com

(716)-835-0407

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the St. Paul's Amherst Campus church building. The building is a two-story structure with a central gable end. The gable is painted a light cream color, while the rest of the building is made of red brick. A large, simple wooden cross is mounted on the central door of the gable. Above the gable, a tall, white, cylindrical steeple rises into the sky. The sky is a clear, bright blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on this image.

**You are cordially invited to join us for a special last
Worship Service at
St. Paul's Amherst Campus**

**Saturday, May 23, 2026
5 pm**

**We will gather in gratitude, reflection, and hope. .
This sacred service will be a time to give thanks for
all that has been, to honor the memories we hold
dear, and to entrust the future to God's care.**

Cake & Light Refreshments served after the service



*+ St. Paul's Mission +
To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.
We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

*President: Robert Simpson
Vice-President: Tim Johnson
Treasurer: William Niblock
Secretary: Janet Schmidt
Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein
Sara Hannon Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue Barbara Walter*

Pastoral Leaders

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com
Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com*

*Directors of Music: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)
Christian Education Coordinator: June Piette; Email: scs@stpaulseggertsville.com
Youth Ministry: Jordan Dywan; Email: youth@stpaulseggertsville.com
Digital Ministry: Andrew Gruszka
Facilities Manager: Jeff Stein*

Church Office Staff

*Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary
E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com
Telephone: (716) 835-0407
Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com*

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus
4007 Main Street
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

*St. Paul's Amherst Campus
5125 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221*

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm

