



1301 Hogan Lane • Waco, Texas 76705

**Sunday Worship**  
8:00am & 10:30am

**Sunday School &  
Bible Class**  
9:15am

**Church office**  
254.799.3211

**Church Fax**  
254.412.0529

**On the Web**  
[www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com)

**Senior Pastor**  
Rev. Larry Krueger  
254.715.1707  
[PastorKrueger@splcwaco.com](mailto:PastorKrueger@splcwaco.com)

**Deaconess**  
Dcs. Suzanne Krahn  
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[DCSKrahn@splcwaco.com](mailto:DCSKrahn@splcwaco.com)

**Organist/Music Dir.**  
Steve Randolph  
254.709.6995

**DCE Intern**  
Megan Harcrow  
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**Administrative Asst.**  
Cindy Byrd  
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**St. Paul Lutheran WacoTx**

# Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

*The Church on the Highway... Where Life and Jesus Intersect*

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## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 12, 2021

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*“Be thoughtful - be silent - be reverent; for this is the house of the Lord. Before the service, speak to the Lord; During the service, let the Lord speak to you; After the service, speak to one another.”*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP PROTOCOLS** (as of Aug. 22, 2021): We continue to hold on-site worship at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The Board of Elders has maintained the following Sunday morning worship protocols:

- † **The wearing of masks at worship is optional.** (NOTE: The CDC is encouraging the wearing of masks in public settings.) The use of hand sanitizer is still encouraged.
- † **In the sanctuary** seating will be fully opened. This means every row of pews will be available for seating throughout the sanctuary. The pews will not be sanitized between services. (NOTE: The CDC is encouraging the practice of safe-distancing.)
- † **Registration at worship:** Registration cards will be placed in the pew racks with the request that **every attendee** please register. *Registration will be of utmost importance for purposes of tracking, just in case notice of a COVID case needs to be sent to those in attendance.*
- † **Communion distribution** will basically return to pre-COVID practices, with the exception that the common cup will not yet be resumed. Drive-thru communion has been discontinued. Those who have been participating in drive-thru communion may resume Sunday morning attendance, attend the monthly Seniors service, or make special arrangements with Pastor Krueger. The pastor and the distribution elders will continue to wear gloves, however their wearing of masks will be optional, based on individual preference. Kneeling or standing at the communion rail will be optional, based on individual preference. The communion rail will not be sanitized between tables, but will be sanitized between worship services.

**LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP SERVICES:** Our 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service is streamed live on the Internet. To view the 10:30 a.m. service, go to the church Web site at [www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com), click on the link “LIVE STREAMING” on the home page, and select which service you would like to view (current or archived). You may also view the live-stream via the church Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/StPaulWaco](http://www.Facebook.com/StPaulWaco).

### REMEMBER OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN PRAYER:

The weekly prayer list is shared via email every Monday and Friday. Also included is a children’s activity sheet/bulletin that can be downloaded in the Friday email. If you are not receiving emails through Constant Contact, please contact the church via email: [wecare@splcwaco.com](mailto:wecare@splcwaco.com).

**RECEIVED INTO GOD’S COVENANT OF GRACE** through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during our 10:30 a.m. worship this morning is Jesse James Woodall, Jr., son of Jesse Woodall and Chelsea Ayers. Sponsors for Jesse are Breanna Mayhew, T.J. Nobles, Katherine Battles, Grace Ayers, Nic Mayhew, Kevin Ayers, Brenden Woodall, and Bryson Ayers.

**FLOWERS** were placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by Lee & Cindy Sumner in celebration of their wedding anniversary, the wedding anniversary of Colton & Kelsea Sumner, and the wedding anniversary of David & Karen Hempel.

## PRAYER BEFORE DIVINE WORSHIP

Almighty God, heavenly Father, You have blessed us with the joy and love of grandparents. Father, in Your mercy look on them during times of weakness, anxiety, distress, or loneliness. Grant that they may always know care and respect, concern and understanding. Grant them willing hearts to accept help and, as their strength wanes, increase their faith with the constant assurance of Your love through Jesus Christ, their Savior. Amen.

## ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

*(Please silence your cell phones and mobile devices during our worship time.)*

### Pre-Service Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### Opening Hymn: “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”

Come, now is the time to worship,  
Come, now is the time to give your heart;  
Come, just as you are to worship,  
Come, just as you are before your God,  
Come. {Repeat}

One day every tongue will confess You are God,  
One day every knee will bow;  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly praise You now.  
{Repeat}

Come, now is the time to worship,  
Come, now is the time to give your heart;  
Come, just as you are to worship,  
Come, just as you are before your God,  
Come.

Written by Brian Doerksen ; © 1998 Vinyard Songs (UK/Eire); CCLI License # 1801824

### Rite of Holy Baptism (10:30 a.m.)

#### Invocation

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: **Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution** (based on Psalm 116, ESV)

Pastor: I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**Response: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**Response: I suffered distress and anguish.**

Pastor: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

**Response: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Response: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

**Response: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit and sustain us by your Word so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Response: Amen.**

**Psalm Response** (based on Psalm 116, ESV)

Pastor: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

**Response: Our God is merciful.**

Pastor: The LORD preserves the simple;

**Response: When I was brought low, he saved me.**

Pastor: Return, O my soul, to your rest;

**Response: For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.**

**Song of Response: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"**

Lord I lift Your Name on high;  
Lord I love to sing Your praises.  
I'm so glad You're in my life;  
I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay;  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord I lift Your Name on high. {Repeat}

## **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Response: Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4–10**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. <sup>7</sup>But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. <sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. <sup>10</sup>Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle Reading: James 3:1–12**

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup>Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading: Mark 9:14–29**

<sup>14</sup>When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. <sup>15</sup>And immediately all the crowd, when they saw [Jesus], were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. <sup>16</sup>And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” <sup>17</sup>And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. <sup>18</sup>And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” <sup>19</sup>And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” <sup>20</sup>And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. <sup>21</sup>And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. <sup>22</sup>And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” <sup>23</sup>And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” <sup>24</sup>Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” <sup>25</sup>And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” <sup>26</sup>And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” <sup>27</sup>But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. <sup>28</sup>And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” <sup>29</sup>And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **Children's Message**

## Offering

### Song of the Day, 696: "O God, My Faithful God" vv. 1-4

1. O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,  
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:  
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within  
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.
2. Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing  
Whatever You command, My calling here fulfilling;  
That I do what I should While trusting You to bless  
The outcome for my good, For You must give success.
3. Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;  
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;  
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,  
Then to my words give grace Lest I offend the weak.
4. Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,  
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.  
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small  
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.

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**Sermon: "Lessons from the Book of James: Taming the Tongue".....James 3:1-12**

## Prayer of the Church

### 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 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.**

## **Benediction**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Response: **Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story"**

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.  
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true.  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story!  
'Twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story  
Of Jesus and His love.

2. I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story; It did so much for me,  
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

Refrain

3. I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat  
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own Holy Word.

Refrain

4. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song.  
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

Refrain

Words by A. Catherine Hankey; Music by William G. Fischer; © 1997 by Word/Integrity Music; CCLI License # 1801824

## **Post-Service Music**

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# Classes for All Ages

***Join us for Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:15 a.m. Sunday mornings  
(Masks are optional for all classes/events).***

## **Adult Bible Class, in the Family Center**

This group is going through the study, *Every One His Witness*. This study considers real-world context in which Lutherans find themselves as witnesses of Jesus Christ. What is witnessing? Why do we witness? Participants will learn the “how-to” of witnessing, using the **LASSIE** approach: LISTEN-ACT-SEEK-SHARE-INVITE-ENCOURAGE.

## **Men’s Bible Class, in classroom behind the Parish Hall**

This group is studying various topics, applicable to everyday life; utilizing archived sermons by Rev. Walter Albers.

## **Ladies Bible Class, in the Conference Room**

This group going through the study “God’s Relentless Love.” Discovering God’s real, unconditional love in this relatable, approachable Bible study.

## **Nursery - Grades 7 in classrooms**

These classes learn about God’s love through lessons, crafts, and music.

## **Grades 8-12, in the Youth Room**

This age group is using a blend of regular Bible studies including music and videos.

## ***Other Bible Study Opportunities:***

## **College Student Evening Bible Study/Fellowship**

This group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. (Rogers 207, Baylor campus).

## **Sunday Evening Bible Study, in the Family Center**

This group will resume meeting on Sunday, September 12, at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Paul Family Center for a time of Bible Study and fellowship, continuing the study on Angels. Attendees are invited to bring your own supper, to begin eating at 5:00 p.m. with Bible study to follow.

## **Youth Confirmation/Catechesis Training**

These classes meet on Wednesday evenings:

- Confirmation Classes for 7-8 Grade, 6:30-7:45pm (Family Center)
- Midweek School for 5-6 Grade, 6:30-7:30pm (Parish Hall)

***There’s a place for EVERYONE to be immersed in  
God’s Word and fellowship with other Christians!***

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12-19, 2021

**LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP SERVICES:** Our 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service is streamed live on the Internet. To view the 10:30 a.m. service, go to the church Web site at [www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com), click on the link "LIVE STREAMING" on the home page, and select which service you would like to view (current or archived). You may also view the livestream via the church Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/StPaulWaco](http://www.Facebook.com/StPaulWaco). The Sunday worship folder for this Sunday can also be found on the church Web site ([www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com)).

**CHILDCARE AVAILABLE:** We offer childcare for infant and nursery age children **during the 9:15 a.m. Sunday School hour and both worship services**. We also offer a weekly **children's bulletin** as well as quarterly devotion books for children in the Narthex on the table near the Sunday bulletins.

**GRANDPARENT'S DAY:** This morning following both worship services we celebrate Grandparents with a small token of appreciation from our Board of Fellowship. Please stop by the welcome desk to pick up your gift this morning!

**CONGREGATION MEETING:** A meeting for the Congregation will be held at **NOON** on Sunday, September 26. Following the Church Bylaws, this is an informational meeting for the Call Committee to present the names of candidates being considered for a call as Senior Pastor. **No vote will be taken at this meeting.** Please continue to keep those serving on the call committee in your prayers as we move forward to the next steps in calling a pastor. If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact any member of the call committee.

**CHURCH APP:** Have easy access to live streaming, current events, on-line giving and more! Simply, go to the app store on your mobile phone. Search for St. Paul Lutheran - Waco, TX. Then, download the app. OR, use this web link for direct access to the app: <https://www.churchsolutionsco.com/paulwaco.html>. Either way, download it today!

**LWML CENTRAL TEXAS ZONE RALLY:** Please join us on Saturday, September 11, at Peace Lutheran Church, Hewitt. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., with the event beginning at 9:30 a.m. Philip Hohle of "Driving Hope of Texas" will be the guest speaker. There will be a light breakfast services, and the ladies of Peace will serve a salad lunch following the meeting. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 7, to Peace Lutheran by calling 254.420.4729. The cost of registration is \$10 per person.

**65TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND RE-DEDICATION OF THE FAMILY CENTER:** Everyone please make plans to join us on Sunday, October 3, 2021 as we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of St. Paul Lutheran Church. We will have one worship service that morning at 10:00 a.m., with a lunch following. There will be no Sunday School or Bible Class that morning to allow everyone the opportunity to attend worship and the luncheon. We will also be re-dedicating the Family Center, to be named the Albers Family Life Center, in honor of Rev. Walter & Mrs. Elna Albers. The Albers children and families will be present for the re-dedication that morning. We ask that anyone planning to attend the lunch **please RSVP** online at [www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com), or by filling out a reservation card in the narthex, or by calling the church office (254.799.3211). **Deadline to RSVP is Sunday, September 19**, to allow the caterer time to prepare. Members are kindly asked to bring their favorite desserts to share for the lunch.

**DISASTER RELIEF:** Thanks to the generosity of contributors, LCMS World Relief and Human Care Disaster Response is able to respond immediately to the needs caused by recent disasters in Haiti and the southern United States. In addition, a new online volunteer system enables people to determine quickly and efficiently where their service will be of greatest benefit to those who face challenges because of Hurricane Ida. For donations and updates, visit: [lcms.org/disaster](http://lcms.org/disaster). For Hurricane Ida volunteer opportunities, visit: [lcms-lert.org/event](http://lcms-lert.org/event).

# MEETING AND ACTIVITY NOTICES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 12-19, 2021

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 8:00 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 a.m.: Adult Bible Class (Family Center)
- 9:15 a.m.: Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)
- 9:15 a.m.: Men's Bible Study (Classroom behind the Parish Hall)
- 9:15 a.m.: Ladies Bible Study (Conference Room)
- 9:15 a.m.: Sunday School (grades Nursery through 6, in various classrooms)
- 10:30 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m.: Ayers Family (Parish Hall)
- 5:00 p.m.: Sunday Evening Bible Study (Family Center)

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 10:00 a.m.: Quilting Group (Parish Hall)
- 7:00 p.m.: AA/Al-Anon Meetings (Classrooms)

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 10:00 a.m.: Tri-Cities Ministries (Parish Hall)
- 7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)
- 7:00 p.m.: College Bible Study (Rogers 207, Baylor Campus)

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 6:00 p.m.: Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m.: Confirmation Classes (Family Center)
- 6:30 p.m.: Midweek Classes (Parish Hall)

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 7:00 a.m.: Lawn/Building Maintenance
- 9:00 a.m.: Circuit Winkel (Sanctuary/Family Center)
- 6:30 p.m.: CTMI/LCMS Meeting (Youth Room)
- 7:00 p.m.: AA/Al-Anon Meetings (Classrooms)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- Tri-Cities Ministries (Parish Hall, by appointment only)
- 7:00 p.m.: AA Meeting (Classrooms)

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

### ***Deadline to RSVP for 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration***

- 8:00 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion
- 9:15 a.m.: Adult Bible Class (Family Center)
- 9:15 a.m.: Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)
- 9:15 a.m.: Men's Bible Study (Classroom behind the Parish Hall)
- 9:15 a.m.: Ladies Bible Study (Conference Room)
- 9:15 a.m.: Sunday School (grades Nursery through 6, in various classrooms)
- 10:30 a.m.: Worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

- Sunday: 1 Thess. 1-5
- Monday: 2 Chronicles 7-9
- Tuesday: 2 Chronicles 10-13
- Wednesday: 2 Chron. 14-16
- Thursday: 2 Chron. 17-19
- Friday: 2 Chronicles 20-22
- Saturday: Psalm 100-102

### ATTENDANCE TOTALS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

8:00 a.m. Worship.....	64
10:30 a.m. Worship.....	125
Sunday School/Bible Class.....	57
Live Stream Views of Worship last week.....	98 total views