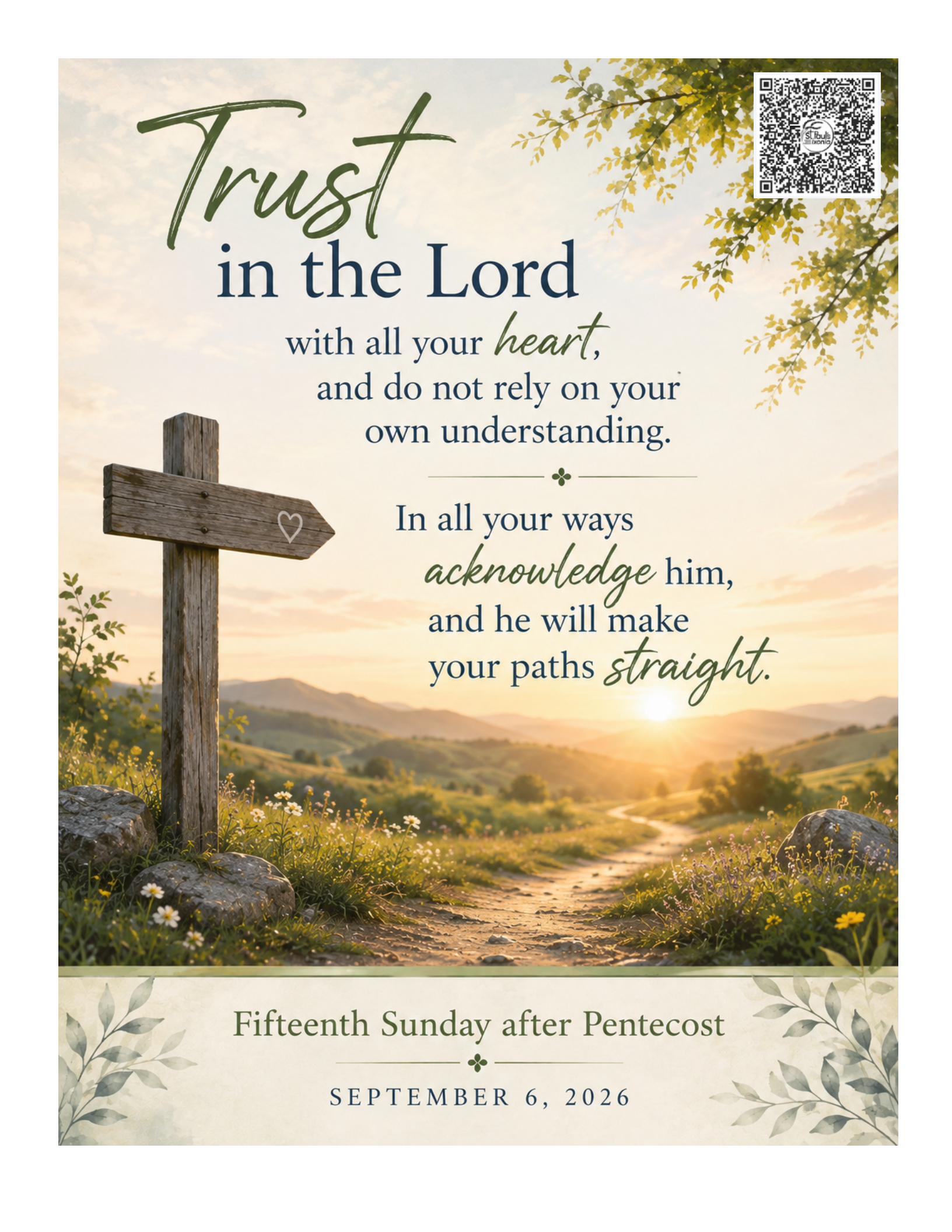




Trust in the Lord

with all your *heart*,
and do not rely on your
own understanding.



In all your ways
acknowledge him,
and he will make
your paths *straight*.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Welcome to St. Paul's! We are glad you are with us today. May God bless you with His grace and peace as we worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus. If you have questions, a prayer request or would like to speak with Pastor Free, please fill out the blue connection card in the pew folder and drop it in the offering basket or scan the QR code and contact us online. **May God bless your day!**

TODAY'S SERVICE – Setting One

You may follow along in the Blue Hymnal on **page 154** or on the screen in front.

♪ Lord, to You I Make Confession CW 653

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

♪ Lord, have mercy.

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

♪ Lord, have mercy.

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.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

♪ **Amen.**

♪ **Glory Be to God on High** CW 157

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your neverfailing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading Proverbs 3:1–8

¹My son, do not forget my teaching.

Let your heart keep my commands, ²because they will add long days and many years to your life, and peace and prosperity will come to you.

³Do not allow mercy and truth to leave you. Fasten them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴Then you will find favor and approval in the eyes of God and man.

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding.

⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

⁷Do not consider yourself wise.

Fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

⁸Then your body will be healed, and your bones will be refreshed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 3:1–7

¹This saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to become an overseer, he desires a noble task. ²It is necessary, then, for the overseer to be above reproach, the husband of only one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not a violent man but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴It is necessary that he manage his own household well, with all dignity making sure that his children obey him. ⁵(If a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of God's church?) ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he might become conceited and fall into the same condemnation as the Devil. ⁷In addition, he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the Devil's trap.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation 1 Timothy 2:4



Refrain



Tone



Gospel John 1:43–51

⁴³The next day, Jesus wanted to leave for Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?”

“Come and see!” Philip told him.

⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, “Truly, here is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”

⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, “How do you know me?”

Jesus answered, “Before Philip called you, while you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”

⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

⁵⁰Jesus replied, “You believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that!” ⁵¹Then he added, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

♪ **Jesus Sinners Does Receive** CW 654 vs 1-3, 7

Sermon – Who is Bartholomew? John 1:43-51

Stand

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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

*To Our Guests: If you choose to give, offerings may be given to the **General Ministry of St. Paul's** or designated for the **ECM Little Sprouts Expansion Fund**. Gifts may also be given by QR code, text (844-489-3585) or there are envelopes in back of church.*



♪ **If your beloved Son, O God** CW 559

Stand

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

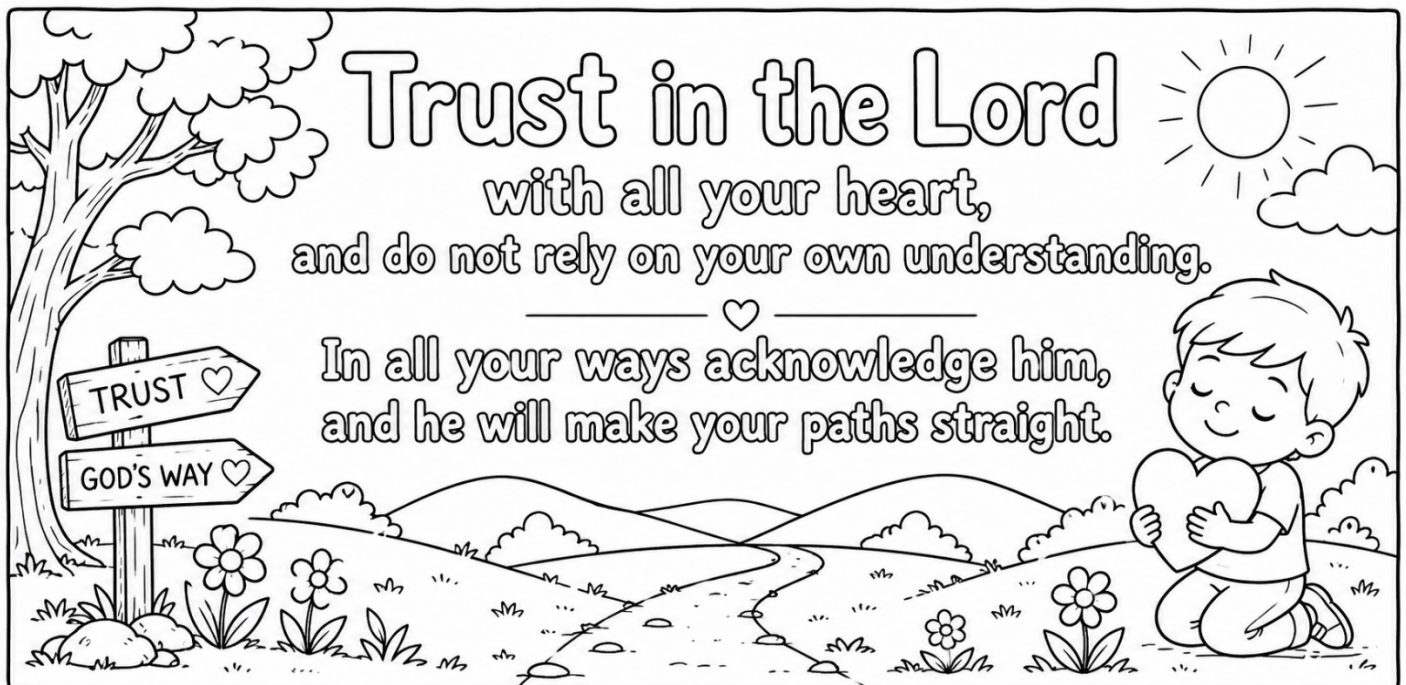
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.
Amen.

♪ **Your Works, Not Mine, O Christ** *(Favorite Hymn)*

CW 560



Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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