
Faith in the Public Square | A 5-Week Deep Dive
Sundays | 9:45–10:45 AM | L1/L2
April 12, 19, 26 | May 3, 10

Led by Pastor Paul, this five-week series explores the ELCA statement on civic life and what it means to live out our faith in the public square.

Ever feel like your faith and your newsfeed are at odds?

Most people know what they believe, but figuring out how those beliefs should show up in a voting booth, a protest, or a community meeting is another story.

Join Pastor Paul for a 5-session study on the Lutheran statement on Faith and Civic Life. We're moving past the "church vs. state" clichés to explore how we can show up for our neighbors in a complicated world.

What to expect:

- No gatekeeping: You don't need a theology degree or a history of Lutheranism to join.
- Real talk: We'll tackle hard questions about power, civic engagement, and why "loving your neighbor" can be a political act.
- Action-oriented: This isn't just about reading; it's about finding your voice in your community.

The Details:

- When: Sundays April 12-May 10, 10:45-11:45 AM
- Where: L1-L2
- Who: Open to the curious, the skeptical, and the passionate.
- Come for the coffee, stay for the conversation that actually matters.



Week 1: Where Is God in Civic Life?

Where might God be at work in the world around us?

Have you ever wondered how your faith connects to what happens in the wider world? In this opening session, we'll gently explore how God's hope for shalom—wholeness and well-being—extends beyond the church and into everyday life.

Together, we'll reflect on how God continues to work through imperfect people and systems, and how we are invited into that work through love of neighbor and a spirit of openness.

Week 2: Faith Isn't Private—It's Shared

What if your voice and presence in the world are part of your calling?

Our faith shapes not only who we are, but how we show up in the world. This week, we'll consider how our baptism invites us into lives of connection, participation, and care for our communities.

Come be part of a thoughtful, respectful conversation about how faith communities can nurture discernment, compassion, and meaningful engagement.

Week 3: Faithfully Living Within Our Civic Life

How do we live out our faith within the systems we're part of?

While no human system is perfect, we all share in the life of our communities and country. This session offers space to reflect on the ideals behind our civic structures and how they might serve the well-being of all.

Together, we'll explore how we can participate thoughtfully and faithfully, even in the midst of complexity.

Week 4: Faith, Freedom, and Our Shared Life

What does it mean to live out our faith alongside neighbors of many beliefs?

Religious freedom is a gift that allows each of us to live out our beliefs while honoring the dignity of others. In this session, we'll explore how faith and public life can coexist in ways that are respectful, balanced, and life-giving.

Join us for a conversation rooted in mutual respect and a shared desire for the common good.

Week 5: Living Our Faith in a Complex World (Combined Session)

How can we stay grounded in faith while navigating a complex and sometimes divided world?

In our final session, we'll reflect together on how we can engage public life with both humility and hope. We'll consider how the church relates to public institutions, and how we can remain rooted in our identity as God's people while participating in the world around us.

We'll also explore some of the challenges of our time—like division and media influence—while keeping our focus on what it means to seek the well-being of all. This is an opportunity to listen, learn, and encourage one another as we practice living out our faith with grace and intention.