

CARING CONFRONTATION

GALATIANS 2:11-21

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
HOWARDS GROVE, WI
SEPTEMBER 6 & 7, 2020



AARON T. MUELLER, PASTOR
pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.207.2316 (cell)

ADAM BODE, PASTOR
pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.224.2961 (cell)

CHAD MAROHN, PRINCIPAL
chad.marohn@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
414.323.1915 (cell)

LUTHER CURIA, STAFF MINISTER
luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.287.8575 (cell)

ERIN RADUE, SECRETARY
secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.565.3780 (church)
920.901.6167 (cell)

**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
441 Millersville Ave.
Howards Grove, WI 53083
920.565.3780
www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship during these times: We are following our county's guidelines for capacity and distancing. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Door handles and pew backs are cleaned prior to each service. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which should be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Communion is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

DVDs: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

CARING CONFRONTATION

This Week's Focus: *The Church fulfills her role as her brother's keeper. The privilege, responsibility, and importance of this task all rest in the words from our Gospel lesson that follow Jesus' divine directive, "I tell you the truth..." The keys of the kingdom have been placed in our hands. It is our privilege and responsibility to bind and to loose—to be our brother's keeper—because Christ has appointed the Church to carry out that task on his behalf.*

OPENING HYMN *The Law Commands and Makes Us Know* | 286 v. 1-3

- 1** The law commands and makes us know
 What duties to our God we owe,
 But 'tis the gospel must reveal
 Where lies our strength to do his will.
- 2** The law uncovers guilt and sin
 And shows how vile our hearts have been;
 The gospel only can express
 Forgiving love and cleansing grace.
- 3** What curses does the law pronounce
 Against the one who fails but once!
 But in the gospel Christ appears,
 Pard'ning the guilt of num'rous years.

Please stand.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins or habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray. Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness in the world and in your Church. Renew our concern for each other and our commitment to proclaim your reign of love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Galatians 2:11-21

Paul confronted Peter about holding onto grace over customs.

¹¹ When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³ The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴ When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

¹⁵ "We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles ¹⁶ know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

¹⁷ “But if, in seeking to be justified in Christ, we Jews find ourselves also among the sinners, doesn’t that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! ¹⁸ If I rebuild what I destroyed, then I really would be a lawbreaker.

¹⁹ “For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!”

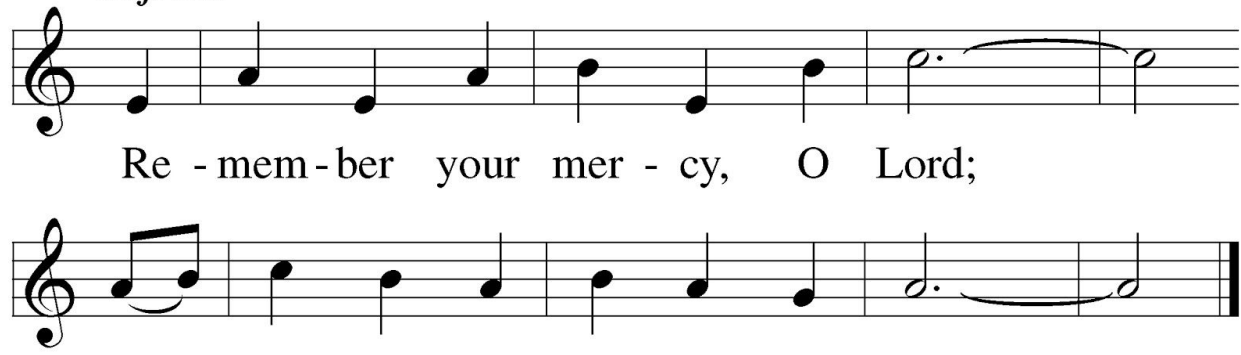
PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 32

When David confessed his transgressions, the LORD forgave the guilt of his sin.

The congregation will sing the refrains and speak the verses.

Refrain



Re - mem - ber your mer - cy, O Lord;
re - mem - ber your mer - cy and love.

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. When I kept silent, your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain

You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble. Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD’S unfailing love surrounds those who trust in him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Please stand.

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 18.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus calls us to go and talk to sinners and try to win them over using the keys.

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus Sinners Does Receive | 304 v. 1, 3, 6, 7

**1 Jesus sinners does receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve--
Jesus sinners does receive.**

- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
Are not by the Lord forsaken;
Weary souls who lost their way
Are by Christ, the shepherd, taken
In his arms that they may live--
Jesus sinners does receive.
- 6 Oh, how blest is it to know,
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe--
Jesus sinners does receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners does receive.
Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave--
Jesus sinners does receive.

SERMON

Galatians 2:11-21

How Much Is a Person Worth?

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

OFFERING

Online giving options available



In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off during scheduled office hours, or given online.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BENEDICTION

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

CLOSING HYMN

As Surely As I Live, God Said | 308 v. 1, 2, 7

Sung to the Tune of "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire", hymn 498

- 1 "As surely as I live," God said,
"I would not have the sinner dead,
But that he turn from error's ways,
Repent, and live through endless days."
- 2 To us, therefore, Christ gave command:
"Go forth and preach in ev'ry land;
Bestow on all my pard'ning grace
Who will repent of sinful ways.
- 7 Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
Forever and eternally!

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PSALM 32 REFRAIN:

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PIANIST: Kayla Sprenger

ALTAR GUILD: Sandy Bolz, Stefani Leverenz, Sheryl Nehls, and Jenny Walleser

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.-Greg Johnson, Chad Marohn, Ty Marohn, David Wehrmann, Richard Stoelb;
10:30 a.m.- Larry Schomberg, Tim Reinemann, Kevin Reinemann, Jim Truttschel, Tyler Truttschel

OFFERING: 8/30 & 8/31 - \$12,420. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$700 - TUITION ASSISTANCE. \$800 - ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FUND. \$500 - FAITH FOR THE FUTURE FUND.

Weekly Announcements

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** continues in-person this weekend. We will be wrapping up our topic of Sanctification by looking at adiaphora, things that God's Word doesn't say are right or wrong in and of themselves. We will meet in the sanctuary from about 9:20-10:00 and leave time for cleaning before and after. Weather permitting, we will have light refreshments outside prior to Bible class. Due to the additional cleaning that would be needed, we are not offering child care during Family Bible Hour this fall.
2. **The office will be open** Tuesday-Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
3. **Women Writing the Word:** This past week's passage was Colossians 3:15-16. We discussed these questions: How does the "peace of Christ" come to "rule in your heart"? In what ways does the word of Christ dwell in *you* richly? How can admonishing be done in a loving way? If you'd still like to be involved, we'd love to have you join us on the Slack app. Contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966).
4. **Youth Group:** Thanks to those who participated in the Bible study survey! A majority of you chose: 1. Sunday nights @ 7 pm (September 13-November 1) & 2. Bible Study: Back to School: The series addresses back to school issues students face, like peer pressure, how to juggle a busy schedule, how to positively influence their friends, how to stay focused on God throughout the school year and so much more. Didn't fill out the survey? No worries. Join us anyway. Can't come every time? No worries. Join us when you can. Don't want to talk? No worries. Listen. Chime in only if you want to. Who should join? All incoming 9th graders on up. Where? Online via Zoom
5. Plans for **Sunday School** have been developed, so that we have in-person and / or home options for PreK-6th grade beginning September 13. Please visit our website for more information and to register.
6. **Join Us!** Sunday, September 13th, **Living Nativity** will have a grab-and-go breakfast in the parking lot (weather pending) in-between services. A free-will donation box will be in the Narthex. The uncertainty of 2020 has led the Living Nativity Committee to make some adjustments to the normal weekend schedule. This year presentations will be on Friday 6-9 pm and Saturday 5-9 pm. There will be no presentations on Sunday. There will be no indoor activities (gym, commons, church) admittance this year and the cast requirements will be decreased. We hope to bring this bright and hopeful message of Jesus' birth to our community while still being as respectful to everyone as possible. Any questions please reach out to Marilyn Eirich or Sue Vant Hul.

7. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** will begin on September 30. We will look at subjects presented in Mark Paustian's book, "Prepared to Answer".
8. **Thursday evening Bible study** will begin on October 1. We will meet in person and study CFW Walther's book on Law and Gospel. There will be sections to read in preparation for each class. Please speak with Pastor Mueller about ordering a book.
9. **On Sunday September 20**, Sunday morning adult Bible study begins a 4-5 week series on politics. The goal of this course is to (1) study and apply Scripture, (2) unite God's people in Christ and (3) give us hope. Come to understand, address, and unload tensions in the wisdom of God! Bible study begins at 9:20 am.
10. **St. Paul's School is foregoing daily morning chapel** at 8:10 am for the first part of the school year. Devotions will take place in the classrooms with each teacher. [In the past we invited our adults to attend as able in the sanctuary. When we start this back up, we will let you know.]
11. **St. Paul's Stewardship Committee** is excited to host another **Food Truck Fest!** Join us Sunday, September 27 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. We've added one more truck (five total) and extended the event to three hours to accommodate more people. More information, including which food trucks will be there, is to come! Invite your friends and neighbors!
12. **St. Paul's School News** - Each week, our school puts out a school newsletter with information and upcoming events. If any members would appreciate regular updates on this ministry, which we support together, please let our secretary know. She can see that you receive these.
13. **Join Us for Some Softball** -Are you looking for some friendly competition or a way to get out and get some fresh air and exercise? We are planning a softball game and would like you to come and join in. Everyone is welcome! There will be a sign up sheet in the member room. Practice will be held on Thursday, September 17th at 6pm. We will play games on Saturday, September 19th starting at 1:30pm. Please contact Brandon Lis with any questions 920-226-0486.
14. **Happy Scrip-tember!** Earn funds for our school twice as fast because Kwik Trip is doubling the discount given to us through the month of September. (Now 10%). You can buy your Scrip between services or by calling or visiting the office.

15. **Food Preparation Safety Training** - COVID-19 presents challenges for us in many areas of our lives, including food service in public settings. Come to this *one hour* workshop led by member Gale Litt, (culinary arts and food science teacher at Plymouth High School), to learn best practices for serving at St. Paul's kitchen. We will cover topics like food handling, wearing of gloves, and the why behind some of the practices that make our food service as safe as possible!
When: Saturday, October 4 from 9:00 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Who should attend? Anyone who volunteers in the kitchen or assists with serving of food for events/programs
Where: St. Paul's sanctuary
16. **Church Newsletter and Information Update:** An email was sent out this past week to complete an online form to update your address, contact information, and your newsletter preference. Please fill that out at your earliest convenience. If you don't have access to a computer, please call our office and we will assist you. Thank you to those who have already completed the form!
17. **Lutheran Boy and Girl Pioneers** will not be meeting this fall in order to limit exposure amid the ongoing COVID-19 situation. This is consistent with St. Paul's School not having outdoor sports or field trips. We will reevaluate for the spring.
18. **Early Childhood Requests:** The preschool and kindergarten classes are looking for tricycles, big wheels and other outside bikes. If you have any new or used bikes that you would like to donate, please contact Ann Marohn or Molly Meitner. Thank you!
19. **Box Tops for Education** - We will continue to collect the box tops until September 30. You may deposit them in containers found in the member room or the office work room.
20. We need some **Hot Lunch Helpers** on Mondays and Fridays to help out with preparing, serving, and cleanup. (Apx. 10am-1pm). Sign up by calling the office. You can sign up for one day or come every week.
21. **Seeking Janitorial Help** - In order to handle extra cleaning and sanitizing with fall ministry, we are seeking an additional part-time janitor (9-15 hours / week). There is flexibility on which days to work. Please direct questions to John Marten (920-360-2375). Job applications are available in the office.
22. **Mindful Moms** are starting up their devotions this week Wednesday, September 9th at 10am. They will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Please contact Alycia Cameron if you have any questions. (Alycia.cameron@gmail.com, or FB messenger).

23. **The Long Range Planning Committee** has completed its research of architects and presented the name of an architect to the Church Council last Wednesday. We are meeting with that architect this week to work out pricing issues and soon put design ideas to paper.
24. **Take a Trip to Israel!** Pastor Mueller is leading a trip to Israel/Jerusalem in January of 2022. Official dates are January 11-20, 2022. This flight has no layover, just direct from Chicago to Tel Aviv. See the pages of Scripture unfold right before your eyes as you see where Paul and Jesus were imprisoned, Herod's Masada, the cliffs of Nazareth, a boat ride of the Sea of Galilee, the gates of Dan where Abraham entered, and so much more. Paperwork is available from Pastor Mueller:
pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316.
25. **In our prayers this week** - Justin and Erin Radue's sister Kaitlin is getting married Sept. 12 at St. John's Newtonburg. [Pastor Mueller is preaching and the Curia's are providing music.]

Manitowoc Lutheran High School Announcements:

1. **Call Update:** Peter Nass has accepted the call to serve part-time as vacancy Director of Mission Advancement. Peter is a current staff minister at St. John's, Newtonburg (part time there as well). He is a former board chairman; currently chairman of the mission advancement committee; a graduate; and a long-time federation member/supporter of the high school. The call is to serve during the DMA vacancy, allowing Peter the opportunity to end his service if he feels he needs to before the vacancy is filled. We will plan to call again starting in October when the teacher window is open again.
2. **Part-time Groundskeeper:** MLHS is looking for a part time groundskeeper. Duties include general lawn care and maintenance of the outside buildings. Pay will be based on experience. If interested please contact the business office or e-mail TJ Schneider at tschneider@mlhslancers.org.
3. **Care committee for MLHS called workers:** The MLHS Student Staff Services Committee (SSS) is seeking individuals or couples who like to visit and possess empathy, kindness, and love in regards to the MLHS called workers, to become a member(s) of the Care Committee for Called Workers (CCCW). Your role would be to check in with your assigned teacher yearly. Material is provided as a guide to assist the conversation. For more information, contact Steve Menges, SSS Chairperson at steven.j.menges@gmail.com or 920-901-9002.
4. **Packer Game Volunteers:** Friends of the Lancers (FOL) is the primary fund-raising group for our athletic departments. This year, we already lost our golf outing and two preseason Packer games where we host a concession stand. With that in mind, we are trying to assemble groups to set out rented seats before Packer games and other groups to pick those seats up. For every group of 30 we provide, the athletic department gets paid \$750. These slots fill up quickly, so the sooner we can reserve our group's slots, the better chance we have of securing this opportunity. MUST BE 14 years old to participate. If you are willing to help, please sign up at www.mlhslancers.org/packers. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Loberger (sloberger@mlhslancers.org).
5. **Scrip at MLHS:** Don't forget the SCRIP office is open and ready to fill all your SCRIP orders. Their office hours are: 7:30AM-3:30PM on Mondays-Fridays with additional evening hours on Thursday from 4-6PM. Visit www.mlhslancers.org/scrip today to find out the latest and read their monthly newsletter too!
6. **Repeat Performance:** We are accepting donations Monday-Friday from 9:00 - Noon. Our Facebook page is **Repeat Performance Store**. Please like us and you will receive the weekly sales listed on Sunday night for the following week. We are now having two departments on sale each week. We are hoping this will allow more of our inventory to find its way into your homes! We have many visit our shop on a weekly basis; you would be surprised what you can find! Wishing all a safe and healthy week ahead!