



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
HOWARDS GROVE, WI
SEPTEMBER 13 & 14, 2020



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**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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**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!

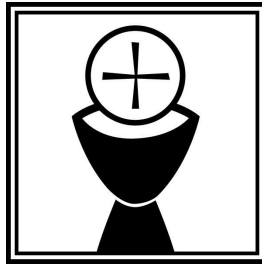
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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.



THE COMMON SERVICE

Today's Worship Focus: *The Church forgives as God forgives. Anytime we try to imitate God, we quickly realize our inadequacy. Yet today God tells us to model our forgiveness on his: a boundless, free, and loving forgiveness based on the sacrifice of Christ. How could our sinful hearts ever forgive like that? We ask that the mercy and grace of God precede us and follow after us, that we might love God with undivided hearts—hearts always ready to forgive as God does: sins are forgiven, forgotten, forever.*

WELCOME

HYMN

Love in Christ Is Strong and Living | 490 v. 1, 3

- 1 **Love in Christ is strong and living,
Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving—
May his will in us be done!**

- 3 **Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life's end.**

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: God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins. For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;

C: Father, forgive us.

M: For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;

C: Father, forgive us.

M: For failing you by what we do, and think, and say;

C: Father, forgive us.

M: For being drawn away from you by temptations in the world around us;

C: Father, forgive us.

M: For withholding mercy and grace from others, even as you sent your Son
Jesus to be the embodiment of your unconditional love for us;

C: Father, forgive us.

HYMN

Oh, Love, How Deep | 371 v. 1, 5

**1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!**

**5 For us, by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us he gave his dying breath.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only
Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

**C: May we, like Christ, be unwavering in how we serve and love others.
Amen.**

HYMN

Oh, Love, How Deep | 371 v. 6, 7

6 For us he rose from death again,
For us he went on high to reign;
For us he sent his Spirit here
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

7 All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad,
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray. O God, you reveal your power by showing mercy and love. Grant us your grace to receive what you have promised and to forgive as we have been forgiven 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

LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph forgave his brothers, for God used their wrongs for good to save many lives.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Please stand.

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 18.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus teaches us to forgive our brother from the heart, just as God has had mercy on us.

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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 fully 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive | 493

- 1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us;
How great our debt to you!
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love
Our lives will spread your peace.

SERMON

Genesis 50:15-21

Know Your Place
I. Before those you've wronged
II. Beneath Him who forgives
III. Beside others for good

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF INSTALLATION [SUNDAY 8:00]

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.

Please stand.

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND 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: 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 ANTHEM

10,000 Reasons

Led by Duet

Based on the Psalm of the Day, Psalm 103

Duet: Refrain

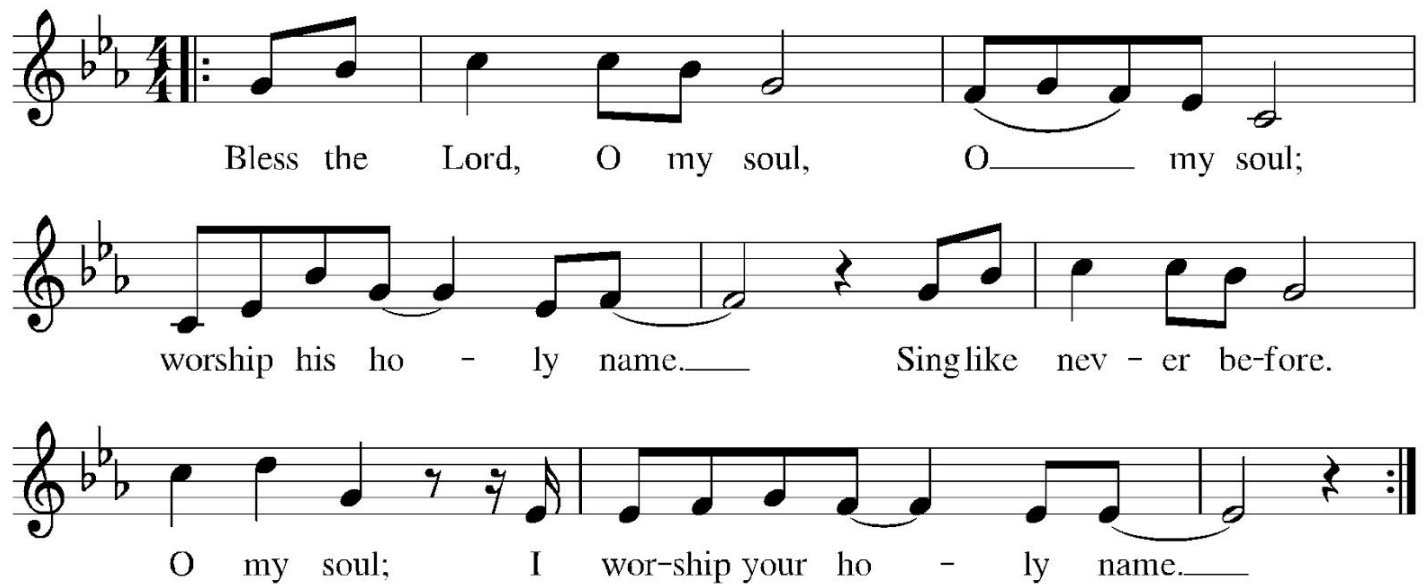
Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship his holy name. Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship your holy name.

Duet: The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning. It's time to sing your song again. Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the ev'ning comes. Refrain

Duet: You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great and your heart is kind. For all your goodness I will keep on singing ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Refrain*

Duet: And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come, still my soul will sing your praise un-ending ten thousand years and then forevermore.

ALL: Refrain sung twice



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
worship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore.
O my soul; I wor-ship your ho - ly name.

Duet: Yes, I will worship your holy name. Lord, I worship your holy name. Sing like never before, oh, my soul. I worship your holy name. Yes, I will worship your holy name. Lord, I worship your holy name.

PASTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.

THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - - men.

Be seated.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: *St. Paul's invites up to Communion instructed and confirmed members of this congregation and the Wisconsin Synod (WELS). If you are visiting us and are not a member of either, we would love to have you join us - just after we have established a shared faith in Jesus with you on the basis of God's Word. Please speak with one of our pastors after the service so we can make this happen.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Members are free to depart after receiving the Sacrament.

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PREACHER: Rev. Adam Bode

ORGANIST: Dawn Johnson

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Greg Johnson, Nikki Leahy, Nathan Meitner, and Jim Van Alstine

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: 9/6 & 9/7 - \$12,909. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$500 - DEBT REDUCTION

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** pauses for today for the Living Nativity Breakfast. A new topic arrives next week on *Politics*. Come to wrestle with God's word and find comfort in this often challenging area.
2. **The office will be open** Monday-Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm.
3. **Youth Group Zoom Bible Study** begins this Sunday! **When?** Sunday nights @ 7 pm (September 13-November 1) **What?** 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. **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?** Speak with Mr. Curia.
4. **Sunday School** begins this weekend! Students in 1st-6th grade may be dropped off as early as 9:00 in the school wing. Temperatures will be checked at the classroom door. Class runs from 9:15 to 10:00 am. We will practice distancing and encourage compliance with our governor's mask mandate for those who are able. We also have a remote option for PreK through 6th grade. Registration is required and can be done online or on paper near the school hallway. Our Sunday School staff is being installed this weekend: Craig Schuenemann, Sandra Weber, Kayla Sprenger, Heather Langdon, Andrea Fischer, Ann Doro, Courtney Athorp, Luke Bramstedt, Megan Bramstedt, Ann Marohn, and Debbie Van Alstine. May the Lord bless their service in Jesus' name!
5. **Did You Know?** St. Paul's Sunday School was first begun in 1931? The church library has scrapbooks containing pictures and information about the 89-year history of our Sunday School. Take a look!
6. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** will begin at the end of the month on September 30.
7. **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 (you can also order directly from NPH.net.).

8. **Women Writing the Word:** This week's passage was 1 Corinthians 15:57-58. We discussed these questions: How does the resurrection give you hope? What problems threaten to shake Christians today? How can we work on "giving ourselves fully" to all the work we do, to give glory to God? 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).
9. **The September Church Newsletter:** If you have already signed up to receive a newsletter in your mailbox, it should be there. The September Newsletter is also available for you to take from the counter in the member room.
10. **Church Newsletter and Information Update:** We're asking you to fill out our online form to update your information and your preference on how you would like to receive our monthly newsletter. If you don't have access to a computer, please call our office and we will assist you in signing up. You can request an emailed link from the secretary.
11. **Living Nativity** breakfast is **today** between services! A donation box is available. Thank you for your support in this event.
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. **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.
14. **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!
15. 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.

16. **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. Not only will there be amazing food, there will be live music, giant bubbles, a balloon launcher, and.... THE BALLOON LADY! Invite your friends and neighbors!
17. **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, or you can sign up online. 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.
18. **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.
19. **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 3 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
20. **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.
21. **Mindful Moms** are now meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 10am for mini-Bible studies. Please contact Alycia Cameron if you have any questions. Alycia.cameron@gmail.com, or FB messenger).
22. **The Long Range Planning Committee** began working with Abacus Architects this past week to begin basic site planning and develop renderings for

presentation to the congregation. For further information, please contact Tim Doro.

23. **Take a Trip to Israel!** Pastor Mueller is leading a trip to Israel/Jerusalem in January of 2022 (with three other pastors). Official dates are January 11-20, 2022. There are only 55 seats available (on the bus). With four pastors coming and promoting the trip means securing a seat sooner than later is optimal. I have a list of more than 20 who are interested, and the first registrant signed up this week! Paperwork is available from Pastor Mueller:

pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316.

24. **In our prayers this week -**

1. Betty Probst, the mother of Dave and Christi, died this past week. We grieve with the family and rejoice in the hope Christ's resurrection gives.