

Produce Fruit



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
HOWARDS GROVE, WI
OCTOBER 4 & 5, 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. 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 between Sunday services. 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.



This Week's Focus: *Our God patiently seeks fruits. The Lord came to his city and his temple to teach his people, but the leaders of Israel rose up against him. During Holy Week, Sadducee and Pharisee put aside their differences to join in opposing this man who threatened their worldview and their worldly positions. When they questioned his authority, Jesus responded with three parables meant to drive the leaders to self-evaluation and self-condemnation. The parable of the two sons, the tenants in the vineyard and the wedding banquet were addressed to these men who had been given the trust of spiritual leadership in Israel, but had failed. The stories speak of family ties, contractual obligation, and the favor of a royal invitation. Each should have led to a proper response, yet each parable showed that Israel's leaders were refusing to give God the fruits of faith he patiently sought.*

OPENING HYMN

Speak, O Savior; I am Listening | 283 v. 1, 2, 4

- 1 **Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word,
That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure And my heart's most precious treasure.**
- 2 **Oh, what blessing to be near you And to listen to your voice!
Let me ever love and fear you; Let your Word still be my choice.
Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at your Word,
But to all who feel sin's burden You give peace and words of pardon.**
- 4 **As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.**

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 of 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, we, your servants, trusting not in our own merits, pray that you will not deal with us as we deserve but according to your mercy in 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

Isaiah 5:1-7

The LORD planned destruction for his choice vineyard because it yielded only bad fruit.

¹I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

²He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit.

³"Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad?

⁵"Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.

⁶I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it."

⁷The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 118

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone.

The small group will sing the first refrain and verses.

The congregation will sing the repeated refrain and join in refrains after the verses.

This is the day the Lord has made; let
us re-joice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

Refrain

"The right hand of the Lord has struck with pow'r; the right hand of the Lord is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD."

Refrain

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

Refrain sung twice

Please stand.

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 21.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-43

The landowner took his vineyard away from the murderous tenants and gave it to those who would produce fruit.

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
the Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word | 203

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would seek to overthrow your Son
And to destroy what he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,
For you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your Christendom that we
May sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife,
And lead us out of death to life.

SERMON

Isaiah 5:1-7

*Tender Love Song
Unreciprocated - Unsurpassed*

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

Almighty Father, Bless the Word | 323

- 1 Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit.**
- 2 We praise you for the means of grace
As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heav'n appear.**

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PSALM 118 REFRAIN:

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PREACHER: Rev. Adam Bode

PIANIST SUNDAY: Luke Bramstedt

PIANIST MONDAY: Megan Bramstedt

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Ann Doro, Greg Johnson, Lisa Marten, and Sandy Strauss

ALTAR GUILD: Bonnie Baumann, Jean Porter, Karen Kuhn, Joan Wehrmann

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.-Randy Wehrmann, Craig Thiel, Jordan Bramstedt, Neil Pahl, Jim Eick;
10:30 a.m.- Brian Grimm, Travis Krell, Nick Schmidt

OFFERING: 9/27 & 9/28 - \$13,317. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$200 - FAITH FOR THE FUTURE FUND.

In our prayers this week... God's blessings on Eugene and Rachel Rabe's 64th (10/6) and Lynn and David Trochta's 30th (9/29) wedding anniversaries. May God continue to bless them and grant them many more happy years together.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** - We continue to take current issues and apply Scripture to them. The aim of the course is to give greater Biblical understanding, increase our peace by relieving stress and guilt, and renew our perspective on the one thing needful. Our lesson finishes on the *fine line between Church and State*. We will look at recent headlines, evaluate persuasive speech, and apply sound Christian judgment. Bible study will be livestreamed at this link.
2. **The office will be open** Monday- Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
3. **Youth Group Zoom Bible Study Tonight! When?** 7 pm (September 27-November 1) **What?** Back to School: Tonight's theme is "Fruits of the Spirit 1". **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?** Via Zoom
4. **Sunday School** continues 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 are distancing and encouraging 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. Students will be dismissed by family starting at 10:00 as parents come to the entrance of the School hallway to pick up. Once you have your child(ren), please move to the gym or narthex or outside to reduce clustering of people.
5. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** began last week. We just dipped our feet into the material. Much more to come! Join if you like, we meet in the commons and spread out.
6. **Thursday evening Bible study** continues. If you'd like to join, it's not too late! Please speak with Pastor Mueller. We meet in the commons.
7. **Parenting Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30 (October 6-November 3)** If you aren't able to attend the Bible study in person but would like to access it online, the Bible studies will be live streamed at the following links:

October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27	November 3
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Contact Luther with any questions. 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
8. **NEW Zoom Women's Bible Study: Slinging Stones** - Join us online Thursdays, Oct 8-Nov 5 from 8-8:45pm for this 5 week Bible study. Navigate King David's battles and some of our own (Insecurity, Fear, Anger, Shame, Control) found in God's Word! So, what is your "Goliath"? What has been taunting you, mocking and belittling your faith, attacking your very being? Let's throw some stones at it, shall we? See the online church calendar for the Zoom link and password or reach out to Alycia Cameron for more info. Downloadable materials available at holyhenhouse.com, but not necessary.
9. **Muffins and Meditation Mindful Moms Bible Study** is at an ALL NEW TIME! Start your Wednesday off with a fresh dose of God's Word, friendship, and food. October 14 and 28 we will meet at **8:00am** in the gathering area in front of church to dive into God's Word together. This

semester we are covering Psalms for Moms. Contact Pastor Bode or Alycia Cameron for more information. All moms are invited!

10. **Women Writing the Word** - This week we studied Romans 6:4. How do the words "death" and "buried" emphasize how serious God is about our sinful nature? What is the difference between Godly sorrow and worldly sorrow? (See 2 Cor. 7:10) How can we apply the 10 Commandments and Fruits of the Spirit to our everyday lives as we remember our baptism? Feel free to join in our journaling plan and Slack discussion at any time! Contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966) for information on how to get connected.
11. **Living Nativity** - The sign-up sheets for this year's Living Nativity have been sent via needs email. Please sign up for your spot via ccb or contact Marilyn at 920-782-0208 or marilyn347@yahoo.com for sign-up. Remember, this year, we only are having 2 nights, Friday and Saturday, so spots will fill quickly. If you have any questions, please see Sue Vant Hul or Marilyn Eirich.
12. **The flowers in church** are to honor Eugene and Rachel Rabe's 64th (10/6) and Lynn and David Trochta's 30th (9/29) wedding anniversaries.
13. **Family Urban Artique & Craft Night** - Join us Wednesday, October 28 from 6:00-8:30 for a board and brush event on the St. Paul's campus! Adults will be in the gym working with Urban Artique from Sheboygan. Kids ages 5-13 will be creating a separate craft in the commons (\$15). Kids under 5 will be doing a building activity with Mrs. Marohn in the school hallway (no cost). *Parents don't need to create an Urban Artique project in order to sign their children up for the kids' craft. Kids can be picked up any time after 7:30 if they need to get to bed earlier.* Adult Project Choices: Porch Boards (6 choices) \$54.00; Trays (5 choices) \$46.00; Block Nativity Set \$28.00; Children's Project (age 5-13): Thanksgiving Tree \$15.00. **Register by 10/25:** Adult Registration: www.urbanartique.com/classes Children's Registration: this online form or contact the office - 920.565.3780. Click [HERE](#) for more information and pictures of sample projects! Contact Luther Curia with any questions. - 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
14. Join **Mindful Moms** for playtime! On October 7, meet in the gym at 10am with your little ones to create some Fall Fun with Leaves! This week we will read leaf books, sing leaf songs and finger plays, play a leaf game, and complete a leaf project. Contact Megan Bramstedt (920-627-3819) or Alycia Cameron (414-736-8966) for more information.
15. **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 growing list now up to 25 who are very interested! Paperwork is available in hardcopy or email from Pastor Mueller: pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316. There's a great African vendor saying, "It costs nothing to look! Looking is for free!"