

AUTHORITY



HONORING

**St. Paul's
Howards Grove, WI
October 18 & 19, 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 offer distanced seating on one side of the sanctuary. 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.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Today's Worship Focus: *This year, many people have questioned who is in charge and to whom we should listen. Does he have the authority to say that? Should we follow this advice or that order? Today's service calls our attention to who is in authority. We are to honor the Lord and his Word above all. We are also to honor the government as his representatives. He wants to use those representatives to bless, and to punish, commend or discipline those under their authority when appropriate. May the Lord give us wisdom and diligence to honor authority.*

OPENING HYMN

Before the Lord We Bow | 618 v. 1, 4, 5

- 1 Before the Lord we bow, The God who reigns above
And rules the world below In boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring; In joy and praise
Our hearts we raise To heav'n's high King.
- 4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own.
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship him alone.
Cast down your pride! Your sin deplore
And bow before The Crucified!
- 5 And when in pow'r he comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, And, joyful, sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

Please stand.

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Lord of all, govern the nations of the world so that your Church may joyfully serve you in confidence and peace; through 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

Daniel 1:3-21

Daniel honored the LORD's dietary laws and spoke respectfully to the king and his officials.

³Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— ⁴young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing

aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.⁵ The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

⁶ Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.⁷ The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Beltshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

⁸ But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.⁹ Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel,¹⁰ but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

¹¹ Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,¹² "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink.¹³ Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see."¹⁴ So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

¹⁵ At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food.¹⁶ So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

¹⁷ To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

¹⁸ At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar.¹⁹ The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.²⁰ In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

²¹ And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

ANTHEM

God Bless America

Sung by Men's Choir

God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her through the night with a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam. God bless America, my home sweet home.

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:15-22

Give to the ruler what is his and to God what is God's.

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?"

¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

²¹ "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored | 617

- 1 Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored, Gracious, mighty, sov'reign Lord,
God of nations, King of kings, Head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed, God o'er all, forever blest—
Pleading, at your throne we stand: Save your people, bless our land.
- 2 On our fields of grass and grain Send, O Lord, the kindly rain;
O'er our wide and goodly land Crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be O'er our commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand; Bless your people, bless our land.
- 3 Give us rulers who will be Known for love and honesty;
Let the pow'rs that you ordained Be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase Love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand One wide, free, and happy land.

SERMON

Daniel 1:3-21

When It Comes to the Government, You Watch Your Diet

*So much we can stomach * Sometimes insist on an alternate menu*

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.**

THANKSGIVING

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 in the office, 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.

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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

God Bless Our Native Land | 619

**1 God bless our native land!
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night!
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do thou our country save
By thy great might.**

**2 For her our prayers shall rise
To God above the skies;
On him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To thee aloud we cry,
God save the state!**

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HYMNS:

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER & PREACHER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

ORGANIST: Marilyn Toepel

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Nikki Leahy, Karl Leverenz, Corey Schroeder, Jim Van Alstine, and Sue Vant Hul

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: 10/11 & 10/12 - \$12,609. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$200 - FAITH FOR THE FUTURE. \$1,000 - TUITION ASSISTANCE

In our prayers this week...

1. Pray for all levels of federal and state government, leaders, and judges. Let them be upright and serve people with integrity.
2. Pray for our congregation: the workers, the shut-ins, the students in school, future growth, and all its members.
3. Pray for parents - since they are the most overlooked form of government. They raise and shape the future right in their home!
4. We have several private matters/people to pray for: those enduring chemo/radiation treatment; those recovering from surgery; those concerned about health matters.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study** - Lesson 3 on *Politics*. We are going to study, "Do you have any right to be angry?"
2. **The office will be open** Monday- Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
3. **The Monthly Newsletter** was sent out via email this past Friday, make sure to check your email. Also, if you signed up for a hard copy of the newsletter, please make sure to check your mailbox. There are a few extra hard copies available in the member room as well. Please make sure to contact the office if you would prefer a hard copy!
4. **Voters' Meeting** - Our fall voters' meeting will take place on November 1st, after the second service, at approximately 11:45. This meeting will take place in the church sanctuary. Reports will be sent out and available before the meeting.
5. **Youth Group Zoom Bible Study Tonight! When?** 7 pm **What?** Back to School: Tonight's theme is "Shine Bright". **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
6. **Sunday School** continues this weekend from 9:15 to 10:00 am. Procedures and registration are available online.
7. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** looks at a book called Prepared to Answer. Join if you like, we meet in the commons and spread out.

8. **Thursday evening Bible study** continues on the topic of Law and Gospel. We spread out for our meeting in the commons.
9. **Parenting Bible Study: Tuesdays @ 6:30** 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. They can also be viewed later at these same live-stream links.
September 29 October 6 October 13 October 20 October 27 November 3
 The participant workbook is available online. Contact Luther with any questions. 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
10. **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 holyhennhouse.com, but not necessary for participation.
11. **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! Busy activities for little ones provided.
12. Join **Mindful Moms** for playtime! On October 21, meet in the gym at 10am with your little ones to create some Fall Fun with Pumpkins! We will read books, sing songs and finger plays, play a game, and complete a pumpkin project. Contact Megan Bramstedt (920-627-3819) for more information.
13. **Women Writing the Word** This week we studied Ephesians 2:8-10. Our natural inclination is to want to do something so that God will let us into heaven. How does this passage correct that thought? What works has God prepared for you today? (Feel free to reference the Table of Duties and 10 Commandments in the Catechism.) Join 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.
14. **Fanning the Flames - Women's Workshop** On Saturday, November 14 from 8:30am-12:30pm all women of our congregation have the opportunity to dig deep into God's Word together and encourage one another in their personal Bible Study journeys. 2 Timothy 1 invites us to Fan into Flame the gift of our faith, and we will investigate the importance of fanning the flame of faith, discuss methods for how to fan the flame, and receive encouragement from other women who have found fanning the flame of their faith joyful and trying throughout their lives. Light breakfast and lunch will be included in registration cost. Mark your calendars and plan to bring your Bible and a friend. More information coming soon!
15. **Forward in Christ Subscription:** There are forms in the Member Room to renew or sign up for Forward in Christ. Forms and payment can be deposited in the marked payment slot in the Member Room. Due date is November 23rd. Please contact the office if you have any questions. (920) 565-3780 or secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
16. **Lutheran Pioneer Update** - Discussions are taking place to resume Pioneer meetings and events in 2021. We are looking for two ladies to lead / help with Girl Pioneers. Mike Heilman will work closely with you on planning activities and other items associated with the group. We are also looking for one or more gentlemen to help with Boy Pioneers. Meetings are generally once a month with some additional planning meetings. If interested, please speak with Mike or call him at 698-1654.

- 17. St. Paul's Christmas Service:** Children (ages 4K-8th grade) from our church/school/Sunday school have a longstanding tradition of presenting the birth of Jesus in a special children's Christmas service. Due to COVID, plans for this year's children's Christmas service are unique, but we are excited to try something new! We will have three services in the sanctuary to accommodate plenty of seating. Videos of all children's recitations/narrations will be recorded PRIOR to the date and will be incorporated into the service. Your children will NOT need to present anything during the service but can enjoy Worship with their families. Please fill out the participation form by Monday, November 2. Planning for the service is underway, and we truly hope that your child(ren) will be able to participate in our St. Paul's Christmas service this year! More information, including what your child will need to record and also recording dates/times will come in November.
Forward any questions regarding the service to Luther Curia: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
- 18. 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 can be completed online or contact the office - 920.565.3780. Check out their website for more information and pictures of sample projects! Contact Luther Curia with any questions. - 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
- 19. 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.
- 20. St. Paul's PTF is throwing a Fall Festival** on October 24 complete with a Trunk or Treat. Kids in costumes can walk from trunk to trunk in our St. Paul's parking lot collecting treats as they go. **We are in need** of volunteers to decorate their trunks and pass out candy and also would appreciate candy donations. Check your email for signing up and more information. Please contact Dawn Johnson (dawn.johnson@stpaulshowardsgrove.org) with any questions!
- 21. Protecting our Kids** - The world is a scary sinful place. We recognize that we can't shield our kids from all harm, but we actively pray that we are able to use the resources available to us to help prevent spiritually and physically dangerous interactions. All parents are invited Thursday, November 12 from 6:30-8pm for a discussion on topics including sexting, internet crimes and safety, and trafficking, presented by Beth Heilman, CPS Intake Social Worker at Sheboygan County Health and Sheboygan District Attorney Joel Urmanski. Contact Beth Heilman at bethels_2000@yahoo.com with any questions. (Kids 7th grade and older welcome to attend.)
- 22. 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 nine registered and a number still very interested! Paperwork is available in hardcopy or email from Pastor Mueller: pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org, 920-207-2316.