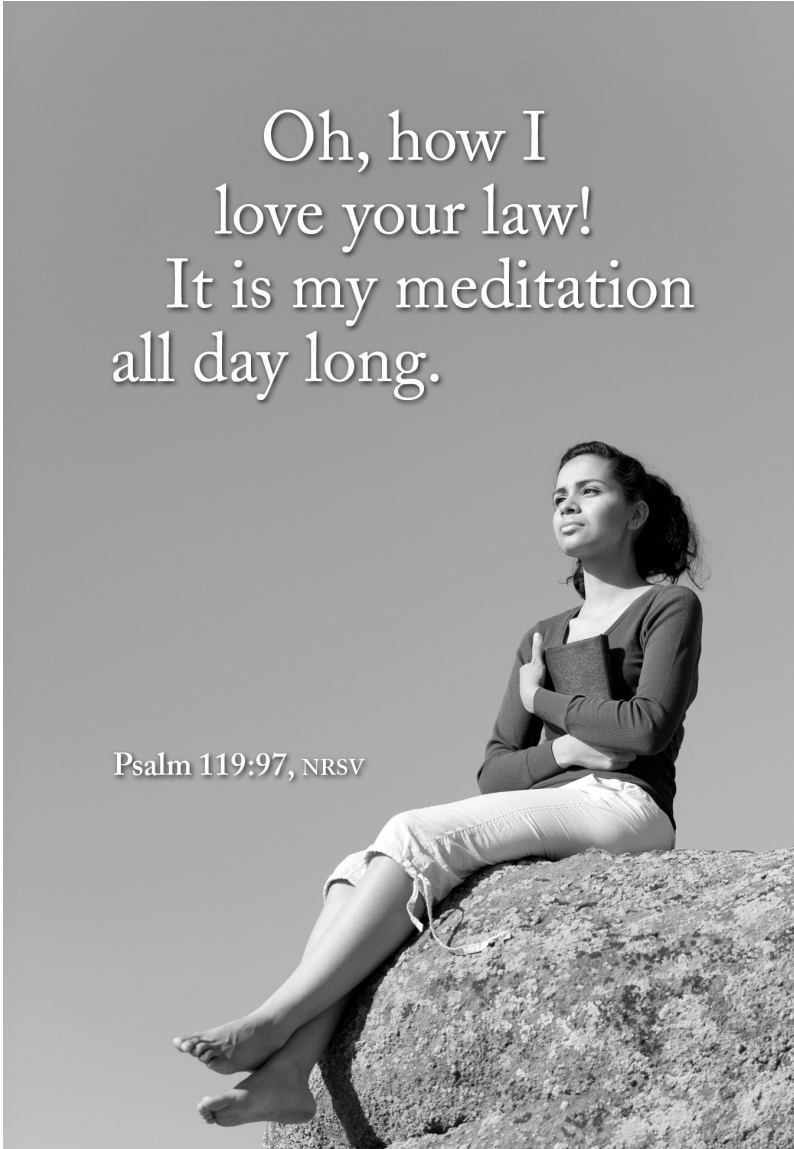


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Oh, how I
love your law!
It is my meditation
all day long.

Psalm 119:97, NRSV



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Wisconsin Rapids, WI*

January 27, 2019

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can help you find the restrooms, family room or answer your other questions.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

When it comes to Christian education, we are extremely zealous to start our children off in the way of the Lord. But our zeal for educating others (and ourselves) seems to drop off when people become a certain age. Why is that? God calls us to constantly be growing in His Word. Today, we examine how God would have us accomplish that.

The liturgical color¹ for this Sunday is green, which signifies our constant growth in Christ as we are watered with His Word.

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Psalm 119c. Refrain Tune and setting: © 1993 Joyce Schubkegel. Psalm Tone Tune and setting: ©1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-719903

¹ The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

HYMN

With the Lord Begin Your Task | CW 478

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Brothers and sisters, our Triune God has lovingly provided a written record of His plan to save us in the Bible. He expects that we, out of love for Him, will regularly hear and learn it. Today we are here to do that, which pleases God. As we look back on our lives, we also see how often we have neglected God's Word. Instead of mature faith, our neglect of God's Word has left our faith weak. Let us join together in asking our merciful God to forgive our neglect of His Word and to strengthen our faith.

C: **Heavenly Father, we confess how important Your Word is, but with our actions we often show we have little time for it. We do not worship with fellow Christians in Your house as often or as thoughtfully as we should. We do not take time for worship in our homes the way You desire. You offer us guidance and strength in Your Word, but we fool ourselves into believing we don't need it. We confess that without Your Word, our faith grows weak, we are lost, and Your work suffers. For the sake of Jesus, forgive us. Amen.**

Pause for personal reflection.

M: This same Word which points out our sin also points us to our Savior Jesus. Jesus Christ lived a perfect life in our place and died as the full payment for our sins. His resurrection is God's promise that you are His forgiven children, holy and dearly loved. As children of God, be assured that the Word which announces God's forgiveness to you also strengthens your Christian faith. The Holy Spirit will make us all more mature in our faith as we faithfully use God's Word.

C: **Amen.**

RESPONSE

White As Snow

White as snow,— white as snow,— though my

3
sins were as scar-let, Lord, I know,— Lord, I know

6
— that I'm clean and for - giv - en. Through the

9
pow-er of Your blood, through the won-der of your love,

12
— through faith in you I know that I can

15
bc _____ white as snow. —

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have committed to your Church the task of making disciples of all nations. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

10:30 - SONG BY SCHOOLCHILDREN

O Light of Gentile Nations
Congregation will join on the final verse.

Children - O Light of Gentile nations, O Savior from above,
Drawn by your Spirit's leading, We come with joy and love
Into your holy temple And wait with rev'rent mind
As Simeon once had waited His God and Lord to find.

Children - Dear Lord, your servants meet you In ev'ry holy place
Where your true Word has promised That we should see your face.
Today you still allow us Who gather round you here
In arms of faith to hold you As did that aged seer.

Children - Lord, when life's troubles touch us, You seem to hide your face,
And through our tears we often Can scarcely sense your grace.
Then be our joy and brightness, Our cheer in pain and loss,
Our sun in darkest terror, The glory round our cross.

ALL -



Let us, O Lord, be faith-ful, Like Sim-eon to the end So

5



that his prayer ex-ul-tant May from our hearts as-cend: "O

9



Lord, now let your ser-vant de-part in peace, I pray, Since

13



I have seen my Sav-ior, and here be-held his day."

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

The LORD commands his people to make his Word a regular part of everyday life.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 119c | CW p.111

Refrain: ♪ Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. ♪

♪ Oh, how I 'love your law!*

I meditate on it 'all day long.

I have more insight than all my 'teachers,*

For I meditate on your 'statutes.

I have more understanding than the 'elders,*

For I obey your 'precepts.

Refrain

♪ I have kept my feet from every 'evil path*

So that I might o'bey your Word.

I have departed 'from your laws,*

For you yourself have 'taught me.

How sweet are your words 'to my taste,*

Sweeter than honey 'to my mouth!

♪ Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son*

And to the Holy 'Spirit,

As it was in the be'ginning,*

Is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:7-16

We are never finished learning God's Word.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Train a child in the way he should go,

C: **and when he is old he will not turn from it. Alleluia.** (*Proverbs 22:6*)

Please stand.

GOSPEL

Mark 10:13-16

Our learning of God's Word is to be like that of a child.

After the Gospel, the announcement is made:

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.

HYMN

*Oh that the Lord Would Guide My Ways | CW 462
Contemporary Setting*

SERMON **KEEP GROWING IN CHRIST!**

1. **By equipping yourself**
2. **By serving others**

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

Everyone: 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.

Please be seated.

THANK OFFERING

St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate. We ask that everyone, guests and members, sign the Friendship Register which will be passed out during the offering. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Let us pray to the God of all knowledge and wisdom that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission.
- M: O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.
- C: Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.**
- M: Lord Jesus, it is your will that believers continue to grow in grace and knowledge throughout their lives.
- C: Holy Spirit, fill us all with a deep love for your Word and a desire to hear and learn it.**
- M: Gracious God, use our Bible classes, together with all other opportunities our congregation offers to study the Scriptures, as workshops of your grace.
- C: Holy Spirit, nourish and strengthen the faith of many, so that we may grow together toward spiritual maturity.**
- M: Lord of the Church, as you came among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.
- C: Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.**

M: God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.

C: Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.

C: May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN

May the Mind of Christ My Savior | 467 (1-6)

Please stand.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

Everyone: 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. Amen.

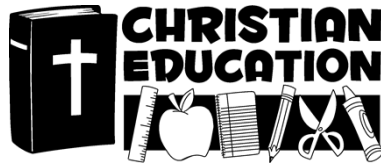
Pastor: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Everyone: Amen.

Be seated.

HYMN

I Pray You, Dear Lord Jesus | 510



THE CHRISTIAN DIFFERENCE

St. Paul's Lutheran School provides an excellent academic experience in a Christ-focused environment. Each day we weave God's Word into all of our classes. On Wednesdays, the whole school gathers together for worship at the school chapel service. On the other school days, the Word of God is taught as a separate class. Your child is prepared not only for everyday life in this world, but also eternal life in heaven!

Get more information: www.stpaulswr.org/school

Set up a tour: 715-421-3634 ext. 16 or principal@stpaulswr.org

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

To celebrate the blessings of Christian education and to promote school spirit, the students are encouraged to dress according to daily themes and to participate in special activities.

Monday ~ Pajama/Cowboy Day

Book Fair ~ 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday ~ Twin/Wacky Day

Book Fair ~ 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday ~ Dress Up Day

School Chapel ~ 9:00 a.m.

Book Fair ~ 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Thursday ~ Throwback/Superhero Day

Book Fair ~ 3:30-4:30, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Dinosaur Storytime ~ 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Friday ~ Green & White Day

Book Fair 3:30-6:00 p.m.

Panther HOME Games ~ 5:00 p.m.

(concessions available)

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. In what ways have you experienced the “graduation from church” mentality, whether in your personal life or in viewing church life in general? What do you think feeds into that mentality? What do you think solves that mentality?
2. What is the balance between Christ calling us to be like children (Mark 10:15), but also encouraging us to grow and become mature (Ephesians 4:13)? How can we do both simultaneously?
3. What is the most important word from Ephesians 4:7-16 (other than a name of God) that is absolutely necessary for this spiritual growth and unity to take place?
4. Looking at today’s first reading and Gospel, with which earthly people does Christian education start? How does that affect how we talk about Christian education, if at all?
5. In what ways can you encourage more people to invest in and cherish lifelong Christian education?

YOUTH WORSHIP QUESTIONS

(Intended for grade school-age, but useful for anyone.)

1. Sometimes, in church, we hear or see words that are confusing or big. If you come across a word you don't know in one of the songs or readings today, write it down. Then, ask your family what it means when you get home.
2. What is one thing you want to remember about today's children's message?
3. From what book of the Bible did pastor preach the sermon?
4. What did you learn about Jesus in the sermon?
5. After what you heard in church today, what is one thing you can pray for?



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY

Christian Decision-Making: What Shall I Do?

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

CHRISTIAN DECISION-MAKING

Sundays | 9:15-10:15 a.m.

On Sunday mornings, Pastor Proeber is leading discussion on the relationship between Christians and decisions. What part does God play in the different decisions I make? What if I can't decide between multiple good options? We will answer those questions and more in the coming weeks!

January 27 – What Shall I Do?

February 3 – Decisions and Adiaphora

February 10 – Be Willing to Follow Where God Leads

February 17 – Do Not Fear When Unclear

February 24 – Freedom, Not a Blueprint



PASTOR CALLED

On Jan. 21, we called Rev. David C. Naumann to serve as our associate pastor. Rev. Naumann currently serves as an associate pastor at St. Paul's in Saginaw, Michigan. He and his wife Rebecca are expecting their fifth child in March. Please keep Pastor Naumann, his family, and his congregation in your prayers over the next few weeks as he deliberates this call. Pray that the Lord would lead him to a peaceful decision.

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP

There are still plenty of openings in February for Huddles with Pastor Proeber. Get to know the pastor and let him meet your family. You can sign up at the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center, by emailing the church (churchoffice@stpaulswr.org), calling Pastor Proeber (715-421-3634 ext. 13), or by using the link on our website or facebook page.

VOLLEYBALL STARTS THIS SUNDAY

Feb. 3 | 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Men and women are invited to Adult Co-ed Volleyball This Sunday afternoon. Get some exercise and have some fun. The group will get together each week through spring. You are welcome to bring your friends.

BOOKFAIR OPEN TO ALL

Jan. 27-February 3

Our school is holding a bookfair in the school library this week. Proceeds from the book sales will support the library. Stop in after church and browse.

DINOSAUR STORYTIME

Jan. 31 | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Toddlers through 2nd grade students can put on their favorite pajamas and join us for a night of stories, songs, a craft and refreshments! We will meet in the 3K-4K room, at the end of the school hallway. Parents can stay with their kids or shop the bookfair while they wait.

HELP A NEIGHBOR IN NEED

Thank you to everyone that responded to our plea to help some new residents who moved here after losing everything to flooding. Their home is becoming more comfortable and not so bare. Some things are still needed. Please see the red sheet that was in your mailboxes last week. If you have items to donate, please contact Jan Peronto at 715-421-3365.

HELP WITH DISTRICT DERBY

February 9

The district level pinecar derby will be held here at St. Paul's on Saturday, Feb. 9. Extra help is needed with concessions and duties. To volunteer, please contact Kent & Kristie Schroeder at 715-421-4202 or knks@wctc.net.

MARRIAGE RETREAT IN RAPIDS

February 22-24

The With This Ring Marriage Retreat is a fun way to grow closer as a couple. There will be music and comedy as well as discussions on relationship-building and the covenant of marriage – all here at the Hotel Mead. For more info, visit www.withthisringretreat.com.

MEN'S CONFERENCE QUICKLY APPROACHING

February 9

The Men of His Word Conference in Oshkosh is less than two weeks away. Ticket prices go up after this Monday, so sign up today at www.menofhisword.org.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last week's attendance: 262

Year-to-date average attendance: 273

From July 1, 2018 to January 18, 2019

Actual gifts to ministry: \$ 559,809

Actual cost of ministry: \$ 559,867

Mortgage Balance

\$ 1,558,159

CALENDAR

January 27- February 3

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Dining Room
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship
MONDAY	6:30 PM	Worship
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Catechism Class (grades 6-8) in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Choir in the balcony
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	5:30 PM	Handbell Practice in the balcony
	6:00 PM	Dinosaur Story Time in the 3K-4K room
	6:30 PM	A People Close to God in the Bible Study Room
	6:30 PM	Men's Devotionals Basketball in the gym
FRIDAY	5:00 PM	Panther HOME games in the gym
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Dining Room
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball in the gym

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 27-Feb. 3	Book Fair in the Library
Feb. 9	District Pioneer Pinecar Derby at St. Paul's
Feb. 17- Mar. 10	Community-wide Hygiene Drive
Feb. 23	With This Ring Marriage Retreat at Hotel Mead





www.stpaulswr.org

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