

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



TWO PATHS INTO ETERNITY

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

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

---

*August 25, 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**

The way to heaven is narrow. Mere outward attachment to the family of God is not sufficient--only through faith in Christ can we enter heaven. The door is narrow and Christ commands us to make every effort to enter it, so the Church prays, "that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command." Although the door is narrow, it is open to all, and the saints will come from all nations to behold the glory of the Lord.

The liturgical color<sup>1</sup> for this Sunday is green, which signifies the newness of life we find in Christ.

## **COPYRIGHT INFORMATION**

Scripture quotations marked (NIV84®) are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION © NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Hymns and liturgy marked CW can be found in the red hymnals in the pew racks, *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*. Service of the Word. Words and Music. © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-719903

"All to Me." by Scott Jeffries ©2002 Lippencott Music/ASCAP. Published by Worship Today Music Service. Used by Permission. CCLI #145043.

Psalm 103. Verse text: Hal H. Hopson © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers. Refrain music: Hal H. Hopson © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers. Verse music: public domain. Setting: Hal H. Hopson © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

"Lord I Need You." By Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, & Matt Maher. © 2011 sixsteps Music, Sweater Weather Music, Thankyou Music, Valley Of Songs Music, worshiptogether.com songs. Used by permission: CCLI#143045

---

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

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

---

*Service of the Word draws the believer's attention to the proclamation of the Gospel in the Word of God.*

## WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

*Today Your Mercy Calls Us | CW 339*

*Please stand.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

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

**Congregation (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 the strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

1. All I want, all I need; Je - sus, you are  
 2. All my words, all my deeds; Je - sus, you are  
 3. All I want, all I need; Je - sus, you are

9

all to me. All my life, all my breath; Je - sus, you are all to  
 all to me. All my hope, all my dreams; Je - sus you are all to  
 all to me. All my life, all my breath; Je - sus you are all to

14

1. me. me. So, I will lift my  
 — me.  
 —

21

voice to — glo - ri - fy you, Lord. Au - thor of all I will ev - er be,

26

you are all to me. Je - sus you are all to me.

D.S.  
**3** 1st time.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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*

# The Word

---

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 66:18-24

*God promises salvation to his faithful remnant; torment to those who rebelled.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 103 | *The People's Psalter*

*Choir will introduce the refrain first. Then all will sing the refrain a second time.*

**Refrain**

O bless the Lord; O bless the Lord.

Choir – O bless the Lord, my heart and soul;  
O bless God's holy name.  
O bless the Lord, my heart and soul,  
Forget not all God's love and mercy

### All - Refrain

Choir – We see God's might, God's deeds and ways;  
Yes, Moses saw them, too.  
God's ways were shown to Israel,  
The Lord is ever near to all who call.

### All - Refrain

Choir – As heav'ns are high above the earth,  
So is the love of God.  
As far as east is from the west,  
So far does God remove our sin and shame.

### All - Refrain

*How many times do we need God's forgiveness? It's impossible to count.  
Day after day, our transgressions should bring his anger. But over and over again, he removes our iniquities. Where are they sent? To the cross, where Jesus takes the anger and gives us compassion instead.*

## SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 12:18-24

*Sprinkled with the blood of Jesus, we enter through the narrow door.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

*This response is not meant to be simple repetition; it is a way to confess the truth and thank the Lord for speaking to us through His Word!*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death

C: **And brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.**

(2 Timothy 1:10b NIV)

Please stand.

## GOSPEL

Luke 13:22-30

*The door to eternal life is narrow!*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

## HYMN

*Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose | CW 466*

## SERMON - Where Will You Find Holiness?

*Please stand.*

## CONFESSION OF FAITH - 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.**

*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.*



## **OFFERING TOO BIG FOR THE PLATE**

*Please stand.*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**M:** O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**C:** **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

**M:** Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**C:** **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

**M:** We bring our requests for various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**C:** **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

**M:** Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**C:** **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions*

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

*Silent prayer.*

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: **Amen.**

*The Prayer of the Church is not exactly intended to focus on the theme of the day, although that does sometimes happen. Rather, it is primarily a time to pray for many different people, situations, and blessings.*

## 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

*Lord I Need You*

Verse 1

Lord, I come, I con - fess, bow-ing here I find my

— rest. With-out You I fall a - part, You're the One that guides my

8 Chorus  
\_heart. Lord. I need You, oh, I need You. Ev - 'ry hour I

13  
need You My one de-fense, my right-eous-ness Oh God, how I need You.

18 Verse 2  
Where sin runs deep Your grace is more Where grace is

21  
found is where You are Where you are, Lord, I am free; ho-li-

25  
ness is Christ in me. Lord. I need You, oh, I need You.

30  
Ev - 'ry hour I need You My one de-fense, my right - eous-ness Oh

34 Bridge  
God, how I need You to teach my song to rise to You

38  
when temp-ta-tion comes my way. And when I can-not stand I'll fall on

41 Chorus

You. Je - sus, You're my hope and stay. Lord. I

45

need You, oh, I need You. Ev - 'ry hour I need You My

49 Tag

one de-fense, my right - eous-ness Oh God, how I need You. Your my

53

one de-fense, my right - eous-ness Oh God, how I need You. My

57

one de-fense, my right - eous-ness Oh God, how I need You.

## CLOSING PRAYER

M: Let us pray together.

**C: 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.**

## BLESSING

M: Brother 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.

*Without the Lord's guidance, we would easily stray from the path to heaven. Lord, take my hand!*

## CLOSING HYMN

*Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me* | CW 439 (1)

## Sunday Morning Bible Study Topics

9:15-10:15AM in the cafeteria

Sept 1 – “With so many denominations and interpretations, who can say who is right?” and “Religion is a crutch for the weak.” (pages 111-123)\*

Sept 8 – Discussion/Presentation with Northland Representative Frank VanBrocklin

Sept 15 – Presentation by Christian Giving Counselor Jerry Ewings

Sept 22 – “Why doesn’t God answer my prayers?” and “Where is God when I’m hurting?” (p. 124-135)

Sept 29 – Open forum on call for associate pastor

Oct 6 – “The church has done some terrible things” and “Jesus never claimed to be God.” (p. 136-149)

Oct 13 – “I want to feel good about myself” and “There’s no such thing as truth.” (p. 150-162)

Oct 20 – “Do last-minute confessions get people into heaven?” and “The Christian faith is too negative.” (p. 163-174)

\* The page numbers in parenthesis are for the book *Prepared to Answer*. The readings are helpful, but not necessary for the class.

## TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

---

1. The book of Hebrews is filled with imagery from the Old Testament. The section we heard from today referred back to Exodus 19:10-25. Simply read those verses and note how serious God was. What connections can be made from this old covenant to the new covenant?
2. In Luke 13, Jesus spoke of many who would try to enter, but not go through the narrow door of salvation. What different ways do people use to try (and, ultimately, fail) to enter through the narrow door? In other words, what do people think will save them?
3. There are plenty of other parables and prophecies that use the same illustration or language that Jesus uses to paint the picture for us in Luke 13. Can you recall or find three such sections? Five sections? Eight sections?
4. The words of the First Reading are the closing words of Isaiah's recorded prophecy. What is your initial reaction to hearing those words, especially given all the other beautiful language in Isaiah? How is it a fitting way to end this prophecy?

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

---



## **THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY**

"There are hypocrites in the church"  
and "Whatever happened to tolerance?"

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

## **LIFE OUT OF CONTROL**

*Aug. 27 | 9:45-11:15 a.m.*

Do you ever feel that your life is out of control? You have lots of company. The women's bible study, Women Walking in the Word, is looking at how to bring your life under Christ's control. Come explore this topic on Tuesday mornings in the Resource Center.

## **WORSHIP WITH OUR SCHOOL**

*Sept. 25 | 4:00 p.m.*

The School's opening service is this Sunday, August 25 at 4:00 PM. The entire congregation is invited to ask God's blessings on our school year. You are also invited to the school's weekly chapel services, which take place on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. Get a midweek encouragement for your faith.

## **GOD WANTS TO BE CLOSE TO YOU**

*Sept. 5 | 6:30 p.m.*

During the class *A People Close to God*, you will learn about what keeps us from being close to God and how God is drawing us to be close to him. The class is a great opportunity for both new and seasoned Christians to dig deeper into the main teachings of the Bible. The class will meet on Thursdays for about 1-1/2 hours. Please sign-up at the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center, so we have enough materials prepared. If that day and time does not work for you, please talk to Pastor Proeber about other options (989-780-3184 or [pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org](mailto:pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org)).

## **FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND FUN**

*Sept. 8 | 6:00 p.m.*

High Schoolers, don't miss the first gathering of St. Paul's Youth (SPYs). It starts in the SPYs room in the west wing and goes from there. If you have a Christian question or topic you want to discuss about that night, text it to Pastor Proeber at 989-780-3184. (Questions and requests will be kept anonymous.) You can even bring a friend from school, from your community sports team, or even from another church to join us! Pastor Proeber and Mr. Pahl look forward to seeing you!

## **PARKING ON SCHOOL DAYS**

Our school utilizes the south end of our parking lot as part of their playground, for kickball and other games. When school is in session, please park on the north end of the lot, closest to the church, as much as you are able. Please also use the north driveway if you see kids at play. Thanks for helping our students have a safe place to play!

## **BE A JOYFUL RINGER**

*Sept. 5 | 5:30 p.m.*

We are looking for more ringers for our handbell choir. Practices are on Thursdays at 5:30 PM and will begin September 5. A musical background is helpful. For more information, please contact Marilyn Foley at 715-697-1511.

## **THE NEIGHBORHOOD TABLE**

*Sept. 19*

Our congregation is scheduled to serve at the community meal at The Neighborhood Table on Thursday, Sept. 19. We have some key people in place already, but will need lots of volunteers to greet people, serve food, wash dishes, and clean up. Please contact Edna Haferman for more information (715-423-3776).

## **USE AMAZON SMILE**

If you shop amazon.com, you could be giving a gift to the church at no cost to you. Instead of shopping amazon.com, just go to smile.amazon.com. It has the same products and prices as the regular website, but you can select St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive donations based on your purchases. We would receive 0.5% of the cost of eligible product. We recently received a donation of \$22.40 from the AmazonSmile Foundation. Thank you to everyone who uses smile.amazon.com.

## **SCRIP THAT YOU CAN USE ANYWHERE**

Do you shop at Aldi or other businesses that don't have their own scrip, but you wish they did? If that business takes credit cards, as most do, you CAN use scrip! Both VISA and Discover prepaid cards are available through the scrip program for both St. Paul's Lutheran School and Northland Lutheran High School. Buy your items, pay with the prepaid card, and you donate to Christian education or earn school tuition at no cost to you. For more information, visit [stpaulswr.org/scrip](http://stpaulswr.org/scrip) or [nlhs.org/scrip](http://nlhs.org/scrip). You can also check the scrip table in the Welcome Center for scrip order forms and more information.

# CALENDAR

August 25-September 1

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Worship
	4:00 PM	Opening School Service
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:30 PM	Worship
<b>TUESDAY</b>	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
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 AM	Chapel Service
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the Cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Worship

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 26	First Day of School
Sept 4	Confirmation Classes Start
Sept 5	A People Close to God Starts
Sept 8	Northland Sunday
Sept 8	St. Paul's Youth

## ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last Week's Attendance: 237	
Year-to-date average attendance: 242	
From July 1, 2019 to August 16, 2019	
Actual ministry income:	\$109,532
Actual cost of ministry:	\$131,104
Mortgage balance:	\$1,480,534



25<sup>th</sup> Annual  
WILDCAT OPEN

Sept. 14 at 11AM

four-person scramble  
Pine Valley Golf Course  
In Marathon, WI

Benefits NLHS Tuition  
Assistance Fund

Register at [nlhs.org](http://nlhs.org)



[www.stpaulswr.org](http://www.stpaulswr.org)

311 14th Ave S | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 | 715-421-3634 | [churchoffice@stpaulswr.org](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulswr.org)  
Pastor Lucas Proeber | 989-780-3184 | [pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org](mailto:pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org)