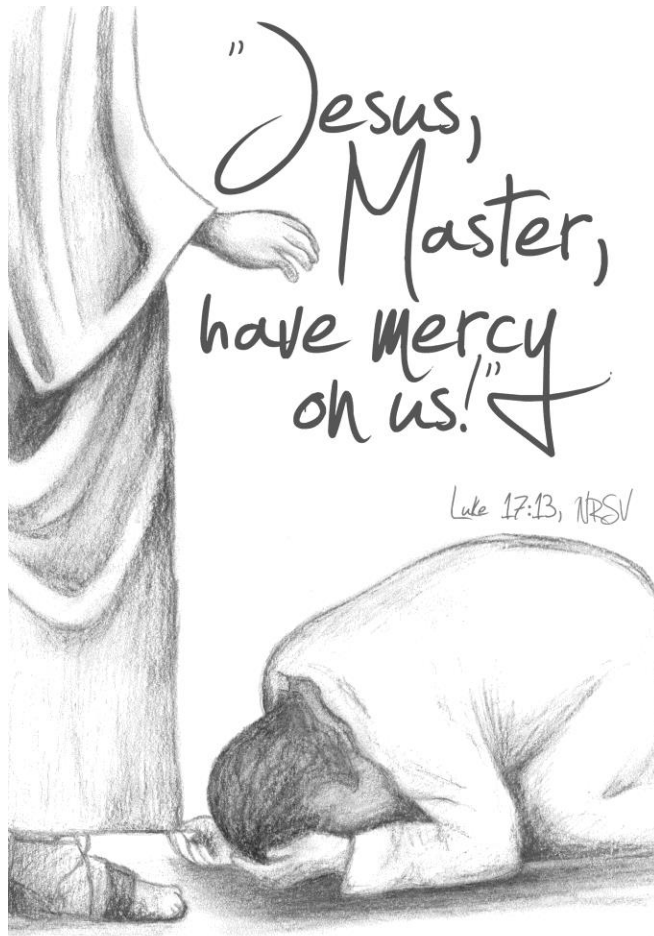


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



Cause > Effect in God's Kingdom:
Generosity > Gratitude

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Service



Gratitude is the appreciation we feel when someone does something kind to us or for us. There are two factors that effect the intensity of gratitude. First, there is the deservedness factor. Say you do a favor for your neighbor. A month later, your neighbor does a favor for you. You are grateful, but not overwhelmingly so, because you deserved his help to some degree. However, if you have been an unkind or selfish neighbor, and yet your neighbor provides help when you are in need, you are extremely grateful precisely because you know you are undeserving. Second, there is the generosity factor. Imagine you pick up the mail for your neighbor for the three days he is out of town. When he gets back, he gives you a hundred-dollar bill. You might protest, "This is too generous!" He insists, and so you are very grateful.

Apply this to God. Deservedness. How deserving are we of his blessing? What does God owe us? Generosity. What has God done for us? What blessings has he given us now? What blessings has he promised us in eternity? As we answer those questions, we are stunned by the undeserved generosity our God has shown us. The effect? We overflow with gratitude.

Those Serving in Worship

Retired Pastor Glen Seefeldt; Accompanist, Marilyn Foley; Preservice Music, Terri Dobratz

Acknowledgements

Setting Two from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) © 2017 Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

The Service

Welcome

Hymn

626 My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness

Stand

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 8:15–22

Noah expressed his gratitude for God's underserved generosity in preserving the lives of him and his family.

¹⁵God spoke to Noah. He said, ¹⁶“Go out of the ark—you, your wife, your sons, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁷Bring out with you every living thing of every sort that is with you, all flesh, including birds, livestock, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may swarm over the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.”

¹⁸Noah went out with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives along with him. ¹⁹Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever swarms on the earth went out of the ship, species by species.

²⁰Noah built an altar to the LORD and took from every clean animal and every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹The LORD smelled the pleasant aroma. The LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse the soil anymore because of man, for the thoughts he forms in his heart are evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike every living thing, as I have done. ²²While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 111

Read responsively.

¹Praise the LORD!

I will thank the LORD with all my heart

in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

²Great are the deeds of the LORD.

They are studied by all who delight in them.

³Glorious and majestic is his work,

and his righteousness stands forever.

⁴He has set up a memorial to his wonders.

Gracious and compassionate is the LORD.

⁵He gives food to those who fear him.

He remembers his covenant forever.

⁶He has declared the power of his deeds to his people,

to give them the nations as their possession.

⁷The works of his hands are truth and justice.

All his precepts are trustworthy,

⁸steadfast forever and ever,

done in truth and uprightness.

⁹He sent redemption for his people.

He commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

All who do his precepts have good understanding.

His praise stands forever.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 9:10–15

Our gratitude for God's generosity to us will naturally include a willingness to be generous with others.

¹⁰And he who provides seed to the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing, and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

¹²To be sure, the administration of this service is not only making up for what is lacking among the saints, but it is also overflowing in many prayers of thanksgiving to God. ¹³By proving yourselves in this service, many people are glorifying God, as they see the obedience shown in your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity shown in your sharing with them and all people. ¹⁴At the same time as they pray for you, they also express their longing for you, because of the extraordinary measure of God's grace given to you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 105:1

Alleluia. Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 17:11–19

Ten men believed that Jesus could save them from leprosy, but only one understood the undeserved generosity of Jesus. That one man threw himself at Jesus' feet in gratitude.

¹¹On another occasion, as Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, he was passing along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²When he entered a certain village, ten men with leprosy met him. Standing at a distance, ¹³they called out loudly, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

¹⁴When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." As they went away they were cleansed.

¹⁵One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He fell on his face at Jesus' feet, thanking him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Jesus responded, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go your way. Your faith has saved you." (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

624 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Sermon

Stand

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 truly 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

Special Prayers This Week

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Prayer of the Church

Lord God, from whom all blessings flow, we praise you for everything you provide to sustain our lives. Lead us every day to be thankful for your gifts and content with what you have given. Today we pray that you would guide us to manage your blessings wisely for the good of your kingdom.

As we use your gifts to meet our needs, move us also to support the ministry of the gospel with our offerings.

Before your Son ascended to your throne, he called us to preach the good news to every creature. In grace you created the public ministry so that we may answer his call by sending others in our place. Impress on us the immense importance of the task you have given us to proclaim your Word to the world.

In our words and in our offerings, move us to be faithful witnesses of your grace.

Work in our hearts so that our gifts do more than support a cause or meet a need. Move us to give out of love for you, our King and Redeemer.

Lead us to bring our gifts first to honor you, the Giver of all things.

Teach us to give as an ongoing part of life since the work of the gospel continues every day. Forgive us for the sins of apathy and carelessness and for giving that reacts only to urgent pleas or crises.

Help us see the wisdom of planning our offerings as a regular routine of our faith.

Teach us to determine our offerings in view of your blessings to us. The widow's coins were meager, but they were all she had. Move us to believe that to whom much is given, much is also expected.

Give us courage to bring gifts that reflect your gifts to us.

Teach us to give our offerings as a cheerful response of our faith in you and your Son. Spare us all feelings of obligation or resentment as we give. Help us to see our offerings as the vehicle that carries the gospel to the lost, and lead us to rejoice with the angels of heaven over every sinner who repents.

Help us to balance our duty to give with the joy of giving.

Special prayers and intercession

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Precious Lord, all our blessings come from you. Lead us again and again to thank you and then move us to be wise and faithful stewards of your gifts. May our gifts and offerings bring souls here and far away to the gracious gift of Jesus and his love.

Lord, hear us and grant us this blessing. Amen.

Connect Card and Offering

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card. After a few moments, the ushers will come forward to collect the offering. You may place your Connect Card and any offering you brought in the plate as it is passed. Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. 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.



WELS Connection Video

WELS Long-Range Strategic Plan: Congregations

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

562 Jesus Paid It All



Take Home Questions

Genesis 8:15-22

1. Consider Noah's first actions when he and his family got out of the ark. What strikes you when you see the sacrifices he gives? (Consider the length of time he was on the ark, the scarcity of living things, the sights he would have seen, etc.)
2. Apply the promises God gives Noah in vv. 21-22 to ourselves. What comfort can we find for our lives in those promises?

2 Corinthians 9:10-15

3. Can you identify a progression in these verses regarding our giving? What things lead to our giving? What things does our giving lead to?
4. Analyze and respond to the following statement. "I'm going to give more, so God will make me wealthy. That way I can give more."

Luke 17:11-19

5. For what reasons is the thankfulness of the one leper so surprising?

Bonus

6. Make a list of adjectives that you would use to describe the generosity of God. Now make a corresponding list of adjectives to describe our lives of gratitude in view of that generosity. In what ways can you put the second list of adjectives into practice in your life?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study Hour: Nicaea and Its Aftermath

Join us in the cafeteria at 10:30 AM

Calling a Teacher

Oct. 21 | 6:00 pm

Our first (and hopefully only) meeting to call a 1st-2nd grade teacher is Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6:00 pm. Please pray for our congregation as we go through the calling process.

Fall Congregational Meeting

Oct. 26 | 10:30 am

The Fall Congregational Meeting will held on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 am. Come hear what the Lord is doing at St. Paul's! A packet of ministry reports and updates will be available soon.

Donate to the Food Pantry

St. Paul's is serving at the FOCUS Food Pantry this week. This is a great time to make a donation to the food pantry. All non-perishable food items are welcome. You can take you donations directly to FOCUS or place them in the bin under the Ministry Table.

Scrip Bonus Fest

Every weekend in October, you can earn even more. Raise Right has 3-day bonuses all month where you can earn up to 23%. The bonuses apply whether you purchase St. Paul's or Northland scrip. Last month, St. Paul's School families earned \$548.44 for their tuition. Others directed their earning, totaling \$722.84, to our Tuition Assistance Fund. With the bonuses, maybe this month's earning will be higher!

Are You Crafty?

Do you bake? Maybe you knit, sew, or do woodwork. Your donations of hand-made items for the Craft & Bake Sale would be appreciated. The sale is four weeks away on Nov. 8 & 9, so now is the time to start a project or plan what you will make. Items can be dropped off at church on Friday, Nov. 7. If you have any questions, please contact Kierssa Rullman at 262-720-9626.



Calling All Musicians!

Do you sing or play an instrument? We'd love to hear from you! Our congregation is putting together a list of musicians of all ages, skills, and abilities—vocalists and instrumentalists alike. Whether you've been performing for years or just enjoy making music, please let the church office know. This will help us plan for future worship services and special music opportunities. *"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."* – Psalm 96:1

Volleyball Season Wraps Up

Oct. 13 | 4:00 pm

Our volleyball team will once again take on Assumption in their final home game of the season. Play gets underway at 4:00 pm. Concession will be available, so come cheer on the team. The Panthers have an away game on Thursday, and then they wrap up the season with a pizza party next week.

Trunk or Treat at Good Shepherd

Oct. 25 | 4:00 pm

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is holding a Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. If you would like to help, please plan to have your vehicle in their parking lot by 3:00 pm. Your donations of extra candy would also be appreciated. You can contact Good Shepherd at 715-325-3355.

WELS Nights at the Bucks

WELS is holding two Milwaukee Bucks outings this season. Both will feature the Wisconsin Lutheran High School alumni, Kon Knuppel, who now plays for the Charlotte Hornets. The games are on Nov. 14 and Jan. 2. For more information, visit the WELS events page, wels.net/events/.

Little Gifts Add Up

Our school recently received a gift of \$47 from Thrivent Financial as part of their Thrivent Choice Program. This program allows its clients to direct where some of Thrivent's charitable giving will go. Last year, our church and school received close to \$3,000 through Thrivent Choice, so little gifts add up. If you have a Thrivent product, we encourage you to check into whether you qualify to direct Choice Dollars to St. Paul's. Thank you to Thrivent and everyone who takes advantage of this program.

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 21 Call Meeting
- Oct. 26 Fall Congregational Meeting
- Nov. 8-9 Craft & Bake Sale



Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (3K – 5 th grade)
	3:30 PM	WELS Youth Night in Rib Mountain
Monday	11:45 AM	Serving at FOCUS Food Pantry
	1:30 PM	Spiritual Health Group in the chapel at Wisc Rapids Health Services
	4:30 PM	HOME Panthers Volleyball Game in the gym
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Sisters on a Mission in the Resource Center
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
	3:45 PM	Serving at FOCUS Food Pantry
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministers in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Vision/Traction (VTO) Update Meeting
Wednesday	8:45 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:00 PM	Catechism Class in room 110
	6:00 PM	Bible & Brews at B's Tap House
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Resource Center
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	11:45 AM	Serving at FOCUS Food Pantry
	1:00 PM	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
	2:50 PM	Principal's Bible Study in the church
	6:30 PM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Resource Center
Friday	11:45 AM	Serving at FOCUS Food Pantry
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (3K – 5 th grade)

Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 177

Next Sunday

Theme: Cause/Effect: Promises/Prayer

Readings: Genesis 32:22-30; 1 John 5:13-15; Luke 18:1-8





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