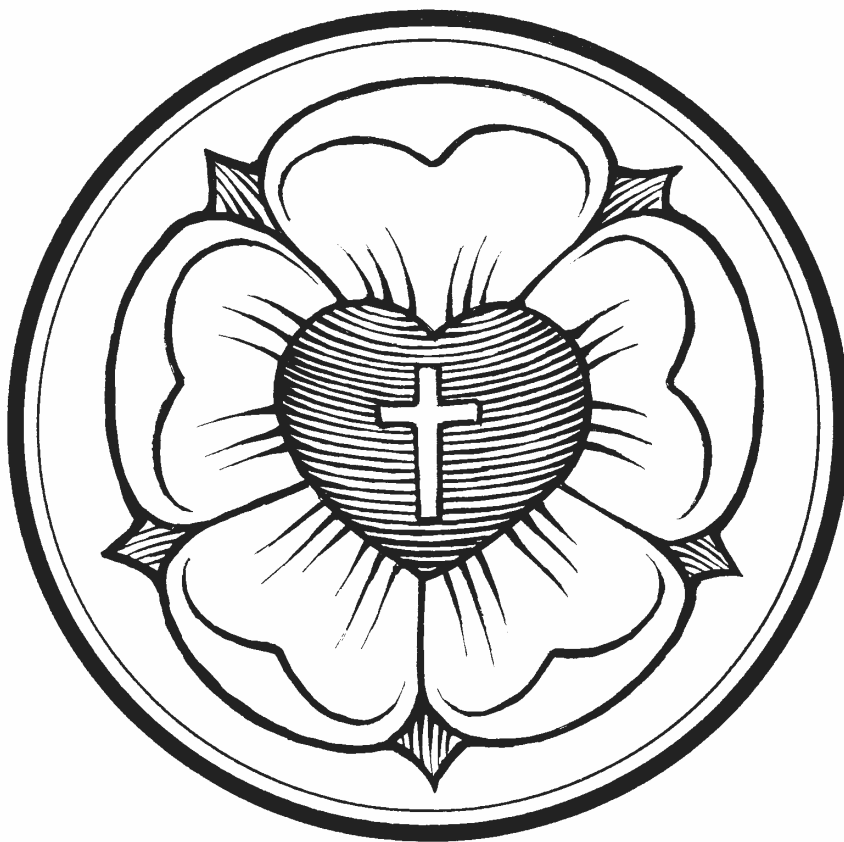


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



LORD, KEEP US FAITHFUL TO THE WORD!

*Reformation Sunday*

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

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*November 2, 2020*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. For worshipers joining us in person, we are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer.

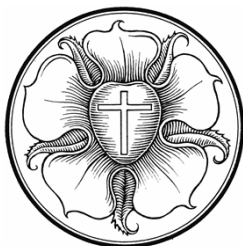
If you are worshiping online, we would love to see just what kind of impact our worship services are making. Please fill out our online connect card to let us know where you're worshiping from and how we might continue to serve you. You can find a link at [www.stpaulswr.org/watch](http://www.stpaulswr.org/watch). You can also contact us with any questions or prayer requests via email or phone ([churchoffice@stpaulswr.org](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulswr.org) or 715-421-3634).

## SPECIAL GUIDELINES DURING THE PANDEMIC

- † **Please practice social distancing whenever possible.** Keep close personal interactions to a minimum, especially when inside the building. Please feel free to worship from the Welcome Center if you feel uncomfortable with the number of people in the sanctuary.
- † **Please practice good hygiene.** Masks, hand sanitizer, and kleenex are available in the Welcome Center. Our restrooms are located along the hallway on the west side of the worship space.
- † **Large print service folders, hearing devices, and printouts of the bible readings and hymns** are available on the Information Booth in the Welcome Center, if you need them.
- † **Your offering and connect card** can be placed in the slots on the top of the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If you have a smartphone, you can fill out the online connect card. Empty offering plates will be brought forward and placed on the altar to symbolize our sacrifice to God.
- † **Children's bulletins** can be picked up at the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If your children become fussy, you can quiet them in the Welcome Center. The Children's Message will still take place. However, the children will not be invited forward. Please keep them with you in your pew.

† **Please wait for the ushers to dismiss you.** Following post-service announcements, pastor(s) will leave down the side aisles. Ushers will dismiss worshipers from the back moving forward up the center aisle, as well as the side aisles. This is to minimize personal contact. Please take this service folder with you and dispose of it properly.

## SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



Lord, keep us faithful to your Word! The Festival of the Lutheran Reformation of the Church emphasizes the true Church's unfailing reliance on the Word of God and unflinching testimony to it in the face of persecution. Jesus promised to pour out his Spirit on the Church that we might be God's mouthpiece even before kings. Today the Church prays that the Lord give us the strength to be faithful and the peace of knowing our lives are safe in his hands.

The liturgical color<sup>1</sup> for this Sunday is red, which highlights that Jesus' blood is what gives us victory and peace (Romans 3:25).

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using the questions on page 11 of this service folder.

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

# DIVINE SERVICE II

*A version of the historic liturgy of the Christian Church intended to be used when Holy Communion is celebrated.*

## WELCOME

## HYMN

*We Have a Sure Prophetic Word | CW 291  
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-All*

*Please stand.*

## INVOCATION

Minister (M): In the name of the Father and of the  
Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation (C): Amen.**

*When we are faithful to God's  
Word, we know we are guilty of sin.  
But we also know we are forgiven  
through Jesus' blood. We are  
reminded of these truths by this  
confession and absolution.*

## CONFESSION

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.**

## ABSOLUTION

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.**

## GLORY BE TO GOD

*sung to the tune in CW 334*

♪ All glory be to God on high!  
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;  
We praise you for your peace and grace,  
Your favor toward our fallen race. ♪

# The Word

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## SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST LESSON

*Daniel 6:10-23*

*Faithfulness will mean butting heads with the world. Be faithful anyway.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalms 46 | The People's Psalter*

*Refrain-All; Verses-Choir*

**Refrain**

God, the Lord of Hosts, is with us,

Ja - cob's God, the Lord of all.

Choir: God our strength and mighty fortress,  
God, our refuge day and night;  
God, whose promise is deliv'rance,  
God, whose law is truth and light;  
Though the earth with fear may tremble,  
None can shake God's boundless might.

**All: God, the Lord of Hosts is with us,  
Jacob's God, the Lord of all.**

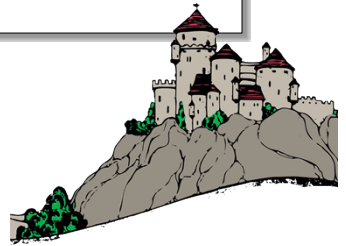
Choir: In the city of the Holy,  
Rivers flow and streams run pure;  
Where you, Lord, abide in splendor,  
There your people dwell secure.  
In their hearts your love will flourish,  
Through the faith your word endures.

**All: God, the Lord of Hosts is with us,  
Jacob's God, the Lord of all.**

Choir: Come, behold God's matchless wonders,  
See the deeds of God's own hand;  
Gifts beyond our expectations,  
Works too great to understand.  
Sound God's might in songs of glory  
Sung to earth's most distant land.

**All: God, the Lord of Hosts is with us,  
Jacob's God, the Lord of all.**

*Martin Luther used  
Psalm 46 as the basis  
for the hymn "A  
Mighty Fortress,"  
which we will sing in  
a few short minutes.*



## SECOND LESSON

*Romans 3:19-28*

*God's grace is what keeps us faithful to his 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. If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

C: **Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Alleluia.** (*John 8:31,32*)

*Standing for the Gospel is much like standing in the presence of a judge or military officer; we stand to show respect and reverence for the words and works of Jesus.*

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 10:16-23*

*Persecution makes faithfulness difficult. Be faithful anyway.*

*After the Gospel, the announcement is made:*

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*For the time being, please keep children with you in the pews for the Children's Message.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | CW 200*

*Verse 1-All; 2-Pastors; 3-Choir; 4-All*

## SERMON

**The Conflict of Faithfulness**

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*The 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 fully 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.*

## **THANK OFFERING**

*Members of St. Paul's 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. 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:** Lord, our refuge and strength, we gather to worship and praise you for your ongoing work of reformation in your Church.
- C:** **Lord, to you alone be glory.**
- M:** God of grace, in unfathomable love, you pitied us sinners and sent your Son as our substitute to deliver us from sin, guilt, death, darkness, and despair.
- C:** **For your grace, Lord, to you alone be glory.**
- M:** By your grace you sent your Spirit to call us to repentance. Your powerful gospel rescued us from rebellion and fills us with faith in you, the true and living God.
- C:** **For saving faith, Lord, to you alone be glory.**
- M:** By your grace we are heirs of your eternal Word and stewards of the inspired Scriptures, through which you proclaim your saving truth to every generation. By the Scriptures you overthrew the darkness of those who perverted your teachings and restored to your church the message of salvation by grace alone.
- C:** **For the Holy Scriptures, Lord, to you alone be glory.**



M: In these last days, Lord Jesus Christ, protect your little flock. We are like sheep living among fierce wolves. Satan stalks us like a roaring lion. Defend us from false teachers who twist your Word to satisfy the latest longing.

**C: For wisdom and watchfulness under attack, hear our prayer, O Lord.**

M: Never in the history of the world has your Holy Word been so accessible. We lack only the zeal to treasure your restored truth with lives of faithful Bible study.

**C: For the noble character to search the Scriptures daily, hear our prayer, O Lord.**

M: As we celebrate the Reformation that restored your pure gospel to your Church, we also celebrate our common confession of the pure gospel in Word and sacrament.

**C: For this unity of faith, we give you thanks, O Lord.**

M: We remember the faithful confessors of this and former generations, who have passed down to us your Word of Truth.

**C: For these faithful servants, we give you thanks, O Lord.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

M: In thanksgiving for the many amazing blessings restored to your Church through the Reformation, we now commit ourselves to your care.

**C: Be our mighty fortress, our trusty shield and weapon, O Lord. 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.

## *The Sacrament*

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**PREFACE** (*spoken*)

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**



M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, *who will soon come again in glory to deliver us forever from this present evil age.* Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - Sanctus**

*sung to the tune in CW 419*

♪ O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,  
Your glory, earth and heaven In countless ways recite.  
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,  
And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry. ♪

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power. By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven. Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

*Jesus is God's Lamb (John 1:29) who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.*

### LAMB OF GOD - *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

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

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

*Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.*

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION

- † Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness?
- † Do I believe that Jesus died on the cross to win forgiveness for me?
- † Do I believe that Jesus offers his true body and blood with the bread and wine in this sacrament?
- † Do I believe this sacrament strengthens my faith and strengthens me to live a God-pleasing life?
- † Am I a member of a church that belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)?
- † If you answered “no” to any of these questions, please hold off on communing with us today. Following worship, one of the pastors would be happy to explain why we ask you to do this.

*Please stand.*

**SONG OF SIMEON** - *Nunc Dimittis*

*sung to the tune in CW 289*

♪ **O Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, assured:  
For I have seen your promised incarnate, saving Word—  
A Light that will enlighten all gloom where Gentiles dwell;  
The brilliant, crowning glory of those in Israel! ♪**

### CLOSING PRAYER

**M:** We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### BLESSING

**M:** 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

*The Church's One Foundation | CW 538  
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-Pastors; 5-All*

# TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

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1. Read all of Daniel 6, which tells the whole story of Daniel and the lion's den.
  - a. What other biblical accounts of faithfulness in the face of persecution come to mind when reading this chapter?
  - b. What details from Daniel 6 are helpful to remember for your life of faithfulness in our current reality?
2. Romans 3 is said to have been the chapter Martin Luther was reading when he realized the truth of the gospel which had been hidden for centuries. For what reasons is the truth of verse 28 so vital to remember?
3. Write a personal prayer for help in the face of persecution based on the words of Jesus in Matthew 10:16-20. Remember, a prayer is simply saying back to God what God has said already said to you.
4. Explain/ponder how Romans 3:23-24 are perfect verses to use when summarizing and sharing the message of the Bible with someone else.



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### **The Augsburg Confession**

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

For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

## **DONATE TO THE SALE**

The Craft & Bake Sale is next weekend. Donations of vegetables for soup should be dropped off by Wednesday. Donation of crafts, bake goods, etc. should be dropped off on Friday. Thank you for your contributions.

## **VOLUNTEER THE THANKSGIVING MEAL**

*Nov. 26 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM*

In less than a month, 400-500 people will be stopping by St. Paul's to pick up their Thanksgiving dinner. Volunteers are needed to package meals, to distribute the carry out meals, to deliver meals with your vehicle, and to serve as clean-up crew. Contact Nicole Sukow at 715-572-4629 to volunteer.

## **SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT**

Buy a T-shirt or sweatshirt with the school logo on the front and the school year theme, "Rejoice in the Lord Always," on the back. Order forms can be found on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center. Orders are due by Nov. 10.

## **USE SCRIP FOR THANKSGIVING**

Support Christian education by using scrip to buy your Thanksgiving meal. Gift cards are available for local grocery stores. When you pay for your turkey and sweet potatoes with scrip, the school receives cash to buy textbooks, construction paper, and other supplies. Learn more at [www.stpaulswr.org/scrip](http://www.stpaulswr.org/scrip).

## **ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT**

Last Week's Attendance: 151

From July 1, 2020 to October 23, 2020

Actual ministry income: \$304,351

Actual cost of ministry: \$312,186

Mortgage balance: \$1,340,708

In September, St. Paul's scrip brought in \$437.10 to cover school expenses and tuition.

# CALENDAR

November 2-8

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship
<b>MONDAY</b>	11:00 AM	Worship for at-risk individuals
<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
	6:30 PM	Unified Meeting Night
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	8:55 AM	Chapel Service
	5:30 PM	Handbells in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Bible Book Group in the Family Room
	6:30 PM	Contemporary Choir in the balcony
	6:30 PM	People Close to God in the Resource Center
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	6:00 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Craft &amp; Bake Sale in the gym</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 10	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Worship at 4:00 & 6:30 PM
Nov. 26	Community Thanksgiving Dinner served at St. Paul's





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

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