



St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

124 Maple Street North, Box 38
Lester Prairie, MN 55354

Phone: 320-395-2573
Fax: 320-395-2037
Web: www.stpaulp.org
Email: stpaulslp@embarqmail.com

Worship: 8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Church Staff:

Rev. Eric Nelson, Pastor; Katie Litzau, DCE; Amanda Streufert, Administrative Assistant

May 16, 2021
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion

PRESERVICE

CHURCH BELLS/WELCOME

HYMN #492: "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build" *Text copyright 1941 Concordia Publishing House Used by permission CCLI #643019; Tune: Public Domain*

1. On Christ's ascension I now build The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.
2. Since Christ returned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me obtaining.
My heart will rest in Him alone, No other rest remaining;
For where my treasure went before, There all my thoughts will ever soar
To still their deepest yearning.
3. O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully In thanks for my redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease, Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

C: O Lord, who could stand?

P: But with you there is forgiveness

C: therefore you are feared.

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

COLLECT

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, we pray, leave us not without consolation, but send us the Spirit of truth, whom you promised from the Father; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING.....Acts 1:12-26

¹² Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶ “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ “For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and “‘Let another take his office.’”

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

EPISTLE.....1 John 5:9-15

⁹ If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰ Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

HOLY GOSPEL.....John 17:11b-19

^{11b} [Jesus said:] Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

HYMN #730: “What Is the World to Me” (*Verses 1,2,4*) *Text and music: Public domain*

1. What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, My soul’s delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!

2. The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!

4. What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure.
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!

SERMON “Out of This World” (*John 17:14-16*)

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the

Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

HYMN #619: "Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior" (*Verses 1,2,5*)

Text copyright 1941 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission CCLI #643019; Music: Public domain

1. Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever, By them my hungry soul is fed.

Refrain: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

2. With Thee, Lord, I am now united; I live in Thee and Thou in me.
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted It finds its only joy in Thee. *Refrain*

5. My heart has now become Thy dwelling, O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Thy praises telling, Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain*

+++

MEMORY VERSE:

1 John 5:11 ~ "And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **BIBLE STUDY**- A new Bible study will begin on the parables of Jesus. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Bible Study will continue on May 19 and 26.

2. SANDWICH MINISTRY- Volunteers and donations are needed to help assemble sandwiches. This month's sandwich making date is: May 20th at 8:30 am. Sandwich Making events take place the third Thursday of every month at 8:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to help with this servant event. (Masks and social distancing policies will be followed).

3. SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING- A special Voters meeting will be held on Sunday, May 23 at 9:00 am in the Church Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting will be whether to allow the use of the St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church teacherage by non-St. Paul LCMS church workers. (example Zion of Mayer's Vicar.) – Chairman Fred Holasek

4. MEMBERS NEEDED- The Board of Elders is seeking individuals to serve on a team tasked with improving the livestreaming of our church services to include test for liturgy, hymns and Scriptures. Those interested should contact Gary Loontjer (952-836-6025 or garylloontjer1@gmail.com). We are hoping for a group of 6-8. No advance qualifications needed and all training will be provided.

5. OFFICES CLOSED- The offices will be closed Monday, May 31st in observance of Memorial Day.

YOUTH

6. ACT CAMPFIRE - ACT will wrap up with an outdoor campfire TONIGHT Sunday, May 16th from 6:30-8:00pm! This is open to all newly confirmed 8th graders-12th graders! This will be our last regular event of the school year!

7. GRADUATE RECOGNITION will be Sunday, May 23rd at the 9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service. This will be for all current High School Seniors. Please return your information and picture to Katie as soon as possible. If you did not receive any information, please reach out to DCE Katie.

Calendar of Events

Sun. May 16th	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION ACT Campfire
Mon. May 17 th	Noon	Deadline for Lamplighter
Wed. May 19 th	Noon 7:00 p.m.	Deadline for Bulletin Bible Study
Thurs. May 20 th	8:30 a.m.	Sandwich Ministry
Sun. May 23rd	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	WORSHIP Special Voters Meeting (Sanctuary) OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE WITH COMMUNION Graduate Recognition ACT Pre-Trip Meeting

May/June Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 16: 8:00 and 9:30 am Worship Service with Communion (Start of Summer Schedule)

Sunday, May 23: 8:00 am Worship Service (Indoors); 9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service with Communion and Graduate Recognition

Sunday, May 30: 9:00 am Joint Worship Service with St. Peter (here)

Sunday, June 6: 8:00 and 9:30 am Worship with Communion

Sunday, June 13: 8:00 and 9:30 am Worship Services

Sunday, June 20: 8:00 am Worship Service (Indoors with Communion); 9:30 am Outdoor Polka Service with Communion

Sunday, June 27: 8:00 and 9:30 am Worship Services