

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



AUGUST 3, 2025

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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DIVINE SERVICE SETTING III P. 184-202

FAITH IN CHRIST IS RICH TOWARD GOD- To live for earthly things “is vanity and a striving after wind,” and work that is driven by such vanity “is an unhappy business” (Eccl. 1:13-14). The man who lives like that has nothing to show for “all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun ... all his days are full of sorrow” (Eccl. 2:22-23). So, too, your “covetousness, which is idolatry” (Col. 3:5), makes a god out of that which cannot give you life or happiness. For “one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15). But “Christ who is your life” (Col. 3:4), in giving you Himself, gives you all the wealth of heaven. Instead of striving to lay up treasures for yourself, be “rich toward God” in Him (Luke 12:21).

OPENING HYMN

“PRAISE THE ALMIGHTY”

797

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

P. 184-185

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

PSALM 49:7-8, 13-14A; ANTIPHON: VV. 1-2

Hear this, all peoples!

Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

both low and high,

rich and poor together!

Truly no man can ransom another,

or give to God the price of his life,

for the ransom of their life is costly

and can never suffice.

This is the path of those who have foolish confidence;

yet after them people approve of their boasts.

Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;

death shall be their shepherd.

But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,

for he will receive me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hear this, all peoples!

Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
both low and high,
rich and poor together!

KYRIE, GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P. 186-189

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26

²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . .¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. . . .¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find

enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL **ROMANS 10:15B, 18B; ISAIAH 52:7B, ALT.**
How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news, who publish peace and bring good news of salvation. Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.

EPISTLE

COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P. 190

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 12:13-21

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ

HYMN OF THE DAY “GRACIOUS GOD, YOU SEND GREAT BLESSINGS” 782
NICENE CREED P. 191

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your Mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

+ Family and friends of Harlan Stender

+ Deb Zebell

+ Darian Litzau

+ Dan Gueningsmann

+ Chad Feltmann

+ Karen Strei

+ Jeremy Radtke

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

P. 192-193

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠ P. 194-199

The Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His true body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation, to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any

refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us (Matt. 26:26-28; 1Cor. 11:23-29; Matt.6:15).

We practice closed communion. Why? (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Because our Lord says those who eat and drink His body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. If not yet instructed, in doubt, or holding a confession differing from that of the LCMS, you are lovingly asked not to commune at this time. Pastor is happy to make an appointment to discuss adult catechesis or questions you have regarding the Sacrament of the Altar.

Examination Questions: Please prepare by asking yourself — Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior from sin? Do I believe that I am receiving the body and blood of Christ along with the bread and wine? Will I try, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers for “Before communing” and “Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament” are printed on the front cover of the hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	
“ALL DEPENDS ON OUR POSSESSING”	732
“CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE”	611
“I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE”	618
NUNC DIMITTIS/SALUTATION	P. 199-202
BENEDICTION	P. 202
CLOSING HYMN	“CHRIST BE MY LEADER” 861
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	

<u>Attendance Last Week</u> Sunday: 123	<u>Organist:</u> Jane Holasek
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CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. LWML will meet on Monday, August 4 at 6:30 at the home of Jane Holasek (1502 185th St, LP). Please bring a lawn chair if the weather is nice. All women of the congregation are invited to join us for God's word, treats, and fellowship.

2. THANK YOU: Stewardship Committee would like to thank Pastor Barlau, wife Amanda and daughters for riding on the float in the Prairie Days parade. Thank you also to Paul Logelin for driving and providing the trailer and four-wheeler. We would also like to acknowledge the monetary donation Paul made this year to rebuild the cross attachment on the back of the trailer. Paul's annual commitment to helping the stewardship committee for this event is very much appreciated

3. NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY / MARK YOUR

CALENDARS: The Stewardship Committee is planning a new church directory event coming this Fall. Photo appointment slots in the church building will be available on October 1st, 2nd, and 3rd from 2pm to 8:30pm and on October 4th from 10am to 4pm. Each sitting will receive one FREE church directory; one 8x10 photo and have the opportunity to purchase additional photos (no pressure sales). All photos will be shipped directly to your home. Please make sure the church office has your current phone number, street address AND PO Box number (if applicable). Mark your calendars and stay tuned for scheduling details in August.

4. SERVANTS NEEDED: Host/Hostess servants are needed to assist with checking families in during the church directory photo sessions on Oct 1st thru Oct 4th. You will be required to attend one simple training meeting, at the church, prior to the directory photo event. If interested, please contact a stewardship member or call the church office at 320.395.2573. We appreciate your service. Darlene Schmidt 320.583.3022; Julie Dial 952.484.4436; Kimberly Reed 612.281.4759

5. THANK YOU to our Lester Prairie Days burger stand workers Jim Klaustermeier, Gaylen Schoenfeld, Jim Hlavka, Audrey Litzau, Jane & Fred Holasek, and Michael Foust. The Lester Prairie Days Committee appreciates all of the volunteers that helped to make 2025 Lester Prairie Days such a success! Thank you!

6. SAVE THE DATE! Rally Sunday will be held on Sunday, September 7! Kids from ages 3 - high school will meet to celebrate the start of the Sunday school year! Watch the website, Facebook page, and your email for registration information.

7. RELEASE TIME Release time will start the week of September 8. Ellie will have a table at the Lester Prairie school open house with more information about registering your child. If you're unable to attend, email stpauldce@gmail.com or call her at 712-299-4656

8. SCHEDULE- For August 10 (one service)~ Ushers: Gregg Machemehl, Chris Schultz, Neil Hecksel, Nick Rasset; Acolytes: B. Rasset, C. Novotny; Greeters- Christine Feltmann; Flowers: Jane Holasek; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. Aug. 3	9:00 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION
Mon. Aug. 4	6:30 p.m.	LWML Meeting at Jane Holasek's
Wed. Aug. 6		Deadline for Bulletin
Sun. Aug. 10	9:00 a.m.	WORSHIP

General Fund Update

Weekly Average Needed To Make Budge	\$ 6,806.74
Weekly Average (= Sunday deposits + \$ transferred from Gift Fund Endowment Buildings & Grounds, Undesignated)	<u>\$5,270.25</u>
Net + / - Per Week	Short Weekly -1,536.49