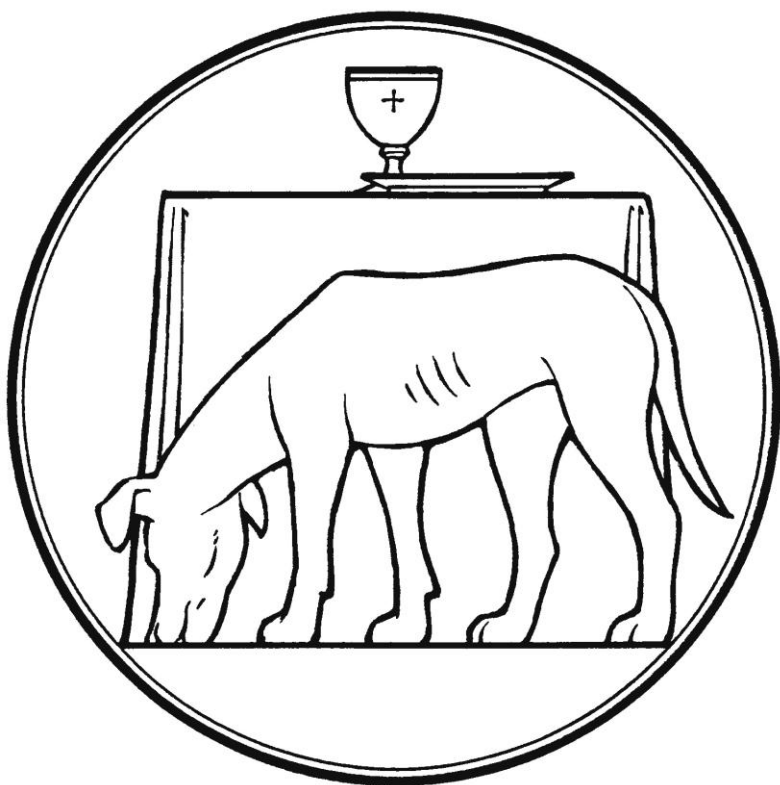


TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



AUGUST 16, 2026

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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AS WE GATHER –THE CHURCH LIVES UNDER THE CROSS OF CHRIST AND PRAYS IN THE HOPE OF HIS MERCY –By her persistent prayer that Jesus would have mercy and help her (Matt. 15:22, 24), and even in the face of His initial silence and apparent rejection (Matt. 15:23–26), the Canaanite woman boldly confessed her faith in Him (Matt. 15:27–28). Her beautiful example encourages us to cling to the words and promises of the Gospel, even in the face of the Law that accuses and condemns us. “For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable” (Rom. 11:29), and His Law “has consigned all to disobedience” for the very purpose “that he may have mercy on all” (Rom. 11:32). Hence, the woman’s faith and hope were not disappointed, but her prayers were answered in the mercy of Christ. Not only does He grant us the crumbs from His table, but He also feeds us with “the children’s bread” in the house of His Father (Matt. 15:26–27). He has brought us to His “holy mountain,” and He makes us joyful in His house, where He hears our prayers and accepts our sacrifice of praise upon the altar of His cross (Is. 56:7).

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING III P. 184-202

PRESERVICE

OPENING HYMN “JESUS SHALL REIGN ” 832

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠ P. 184-185

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT PSALM 28:1-2, 6-7; ANTIPHON: V. 8

The Lord is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**To you, O Lord, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,
lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go
down to the pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,

when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

Blessèd be the Lord!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts,
and I am helped;

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

GLORIA PATRI

P. 186



G Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE

P. 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P. 187-189

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. . . ."⁶"And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."⁸The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

PSALM 34:9, 19 ALT.

Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 11:1-2A, 13-15, 28-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . . ¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . . ²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

[P] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P. 190

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 15:21-28

[P] The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

[C] Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of

Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ

APOSTLES’ CREED

P. 193

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST” 653 (T: 528)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your Mercy, **C** Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

+ Andy Birkholz

+ Bonnie Mueller

+ Phyllis Ernst

+ Sonya Clausen

+ Scott Christenson

+ Dan Gueningsman

+ Cheryl Lueck

+ Maya Radtke

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

P. 192

✠ 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. If you would still like to come forward to receive a blessing, please signify so by crossing your arms.

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	
“GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO THAT HE GAVE”	571
“WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS”	770
“JESUS COMES TODAY WITH HEALING”	620
NUNC DIMITTIS	P. 199
COLLECT/SALUTATION	P. 201
BENEDICTION	P. 202
CLOSING HYMN “LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING”	924
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	

<u>Attendance Last Week</u> Sunday: 93	<u>Organist:</u> Lynn Mueller
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CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. **HYMNALS ARE IN** – If you ordered a hymnal, they have arrived. They are located on the desk in the Upper Narthex. Payment of \$20.00 per hymnal should be made to the church.
- 2. **CPH BIBLE SALE** – Concordia Publishing House is currently offering 25% off on Bibles of all shapes and sizes. You may view them on cph.org. If you need help ordering, please contact the church office.
- 3. **CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION** – 7th and 8th Grade will meet on Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00 pm.

4. RELEASE TIME – Release time will be starting up with the new school year. This will be for grades 3-6. Registration will take place at the Lester Prairie Public School Open House on Tuesday, August 25th from 4:00-7:00 PM and by contacting Pastor Barlau.

5. LWML – It's time to collect items for School Kits that will be sent to Orphan Grain Train to distribute to kids who need them. The following are items requested by OGT. They ask not to deviate from this list. There is a sample kit on the LWML table. Light weight back packs (new or gently used). Spiral notebook (70 sheet), Pencils, Pens (like Bic), Construction Paper, 24 Count Crayons, 12" Ruler, Glue Sticks, Child Scissors, Eraser, 12 Count Colored Pencils, Pencil Sharpener, Single Pocket Folder. Place items in the bin below the table. You may also donate cash and we'll purchase the items. Thank you for your continued support to the mission work of the LWML.

6. SAVE THE DATE – Rally Sunday September 13th, "Lift High the Cross". Join us for our exciting new Sunday School curriculum!

7. MEETING – LWML invites all women to join us on Monday, September 14 at 6:30 in an education classroom. Pastor will lead a Bible study and coins (mites) will be collected for missions. A donation will be given from the treasury to Lutheran Bible Translators and Vicar Alex Nelson who is currently serving a congregation in Green Bay.

8. SERVANTS NEEDED to visit our senior members who are not able to regularly join us in the pews on Sunday mornings. All that's needed is a little time and conversation. If you are interested or would like more information, contact April Lee, alakelee@gmail.com, Jane Holasek, jfholasek@gmail.com, or the church office.

9. USHERS NEEDED- We are in need of ushers for both services throughout the year. If you sign up to usher, you will be assigned to help during 3 set months out of the year, for whichever service you prefer for generally 2 times a month. ANYONE who has been confirmed is able to help. If interested, please call Head Usher Jim Klaustermeier (320) 395-2387.

10. THANK YOU to the many students and adults who helped make this year's VBS a success!

Adult leaders/helpers: Vicki Heldt, Jane Holasek, Amanda Streufert, Patsy Schauer, Pam Barlau, Lajean Hoof, Keyla Smith, Mya Eckstein, Laura Beste, Jane Roth, Pastor Barlau and Pastor Arndt.

Student helpers: Krayton Ruschmeyer, Miriam Barlau, Lakely Thompson, Wyatt Thompson, Emmitt Christen, Hayley Schmalz, Greta Schmalz, Emily Garfunkel, Ella Novotny, and Johnny Schauer.

11. SCHEDULE – *August 23* ~ Ushers: Jeff Engen, Harrison Engen, Wayne Mathews; Acolytes: M. Schauer, W. Schauer; Greeters- Ron & Shelly Trettin; Flowers: Jane Holasek; Altar Guild: Rachel Barlau, Megan Salden; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. Aug 16	9:00 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION
Mon. Aug 17	Noon	Deadline for Lamplighter
Wed. Aug 19	Noon	Deadline for Bulletin
Thurs. Aug 20	8:30 a.m.	Sandwich Ministry
Sun. Aug 23	9:00 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMMUNION