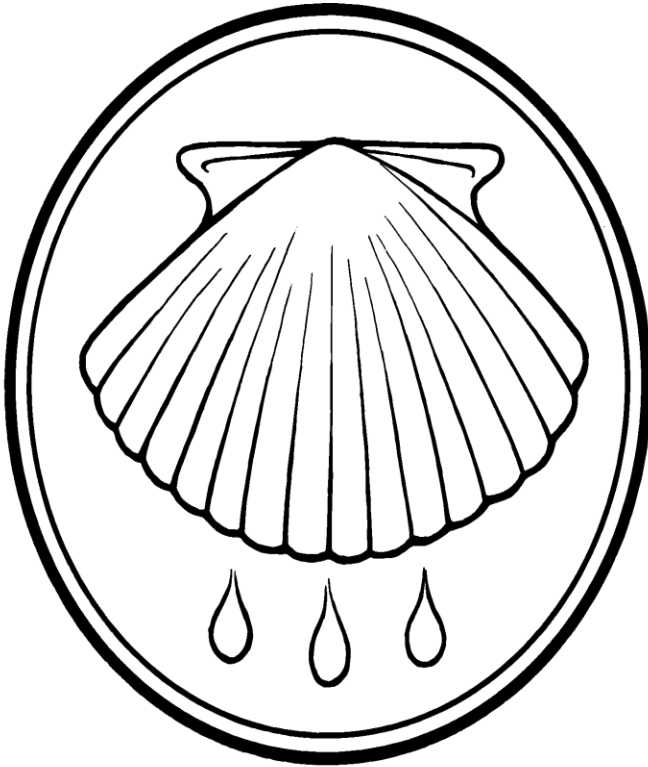


THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

124 MAPLE STREET NORTH

LESTER PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA

(320)-395-2573

Pastor Barlau: Cell (612) 394-6224

Pastor email: pastorbarlau@gmail.com

www.stpaulp.org

OPENING HYMN "LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS" 685

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠ P. 203

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT PSALM 119:28-32; ANTIPHON: V. 27

Make me understand the way of your precepts,
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

**My soul melts away for sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word!**

Put false ways far from me
and graciously teach me your law!

**I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I set your just decrees before me.**

I cling to your testimonies, O Lord;
let me not be put to shame!

**I will run in the way of your commandments
when you enlarge my heart!**

**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.**

Make me understand the way of your precepts,
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

KYRIE, GLORIA IN EXCELSIS P. 204

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

A 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

PHILEMON 1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you. ⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to

me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P. 205

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 7:37-39

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES’ CREED

P. 207

HYMN OF THE DAY “ALL CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED” 596
SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your Mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

+ Pam Barlau

+ Dan Gueningsman

+ Jeremy Radtke

+ Chad Feltmann

+ Maxine Almquist

+ Darian Litzau

OFFERING

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠ P. 208-210

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

“LORD JESUS CHRIST, WE HUMBLY PRAY”	623
“LORD OF GLORY, YOU HAVE BOUGHT US”	851
“TAKE MY LIFE AN LET IT BE”	783
“OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS”	707
NUNC DIMITTIS	P. 211
BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION	P. 212
CLOSING HYMN “GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER ”	918

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

<u>Attendance Last Week</u> Sunday: N/A	<u>Organist:</u> Jane Holasek <u>Scripture Reader:</u> Dave Wroge
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CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. DARTBALL-** Anyone interested in playing Dartball this year is invited to attend a team practice on Sunday, September 21st at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! Game schedule TBD.
- 2. ACT:** All high school students are welcome to come to Big Stone Mini Golf on Sunday, September 28. Big Stone has mini golf, a sculpture garden, yard games, and a few animals grazing. There will be a cost of \$5, so please bring cash. We will leave from church at 3:00. Email Ellie, text her at 712-299-4656, or sign up on the youth bulletin board if you want to come!
- 3. CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE SCHEDULING:** The photo appointment scheduling process has begun for our church directory project. Simply go to the Universal website, www.ucdir.com, click on the box that says "**photography appointment scheduling login**", enter **MN592** in the church code field and enter the word **photos** (in lowercase letters) in the church password field. If you choose to use your cellphone; simply access the website using the QR code on the back page and follow the same steps on your phone. If you need further assistance we will have a sign-up table before and after each Sunday morning church service. Remember, this is a terrific opportunity for a FREE professional portrait.

4. CAN YOU HELP? Six more people 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. (Training Meeting: Monday, September 22nd at 6:30pm in the church basement). If interested, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the desk in the narthex, or contact a stewardship member or 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. SANDWICH MINISTRY IS BACK! We have finally gotten in touch with the Marie Sandvick Center, and they want our sandwiches again! Praise the Lord! We will be operating on the same schedule, making the same sandwiches as we did prior to April. So, our first event will be the third Thursday in September, the 18th, at 8:30 a.m. Please come back and serve our Lord as we feed the homeless!

6. LWML-The LWML will meet on Monday, September 8 at 6:30pm in the Ed. Wing. Donations will go to Lutheran Hour Ministries KDUZ Broadcast Sponsorship and Adopt a Seminary Student (Alex Nelson). All women are invited to come and experience the joy of fellowship and the fulfillment of serving the Lord with gladness!

7. LWML - LWML will continue to collect school items. Most in need of light weight backpacks. Pick up the list on the table in the Narthex for other items. Thank you.

8. HELP NEEDED-The crew that runs the cameras for the livestream of our services needs your help! If you feel comfortable using a computer for easy tasks, you have skills that the Lord can use! Please consider serving our congregation by joining our group of servants. We will train you, and you don't work alone. Very flexible scheduling. Contact Jane Holasek or Ellie Schulteis if you want to find out more!

9. SCHEDULE- *September 14:* Ushers: 1st Service- Keith Christen, Dave Dressler, Kim Dressler; 2nd Service: Scott Christenson, Larry Clausen, Shadd Dial, Calvin Dial; Acolytes: 1st Service- C. Novotny, B. Herrmann; 2nd Service: L. Dressler, M. Schauer; Greeters- 1st Service: Nick & Karissa Rasset; 2nd Service: Chuck & Kim Reed; Scripture Reader: Evelyn Dial; Flowers: Patsy Schauer; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. Sept. 7	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION Sunday School Rally Sunday WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION
Mon. Sept. 8	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Release Time Classes LWML Meeting Council Meeting
Wed. Sept. 10	Noon 3:05 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Deadline for Bulletin 6 th Grade Release Time 7 th Grade Confirmation 8 th Grade Confirmation
Thur. Sept. 11		Release Time Classes
Sun. Sept. 14	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMM. Sunday School/Bible Study WORSHIP WITH CONT. LINE COMM.



QR Code to schedule Directory Session

Acknowledgement:

+ Memorials for Lois Holasek were received in the amounts of \$200.00 for the Sunday School Endowment Fund and \$20.00 for the General Fund.