



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1201 Main Street, Onalaska
608.783.2552 stpaulsonalaska.org

September 19, 2021



St. Paul's EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St Paul's Mission Statement: "St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to support each other with God's Word and sacraments, share Christ with our community and the world, and serve others in Christian love."

Welcome to worship at St. Paul's!

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our service we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

This week, we continue our Fall sermon series as we remember the blessings of gathering together as God's people. This week, we'll see the importance of Christian encouragement and how we are blessed by having fellow brothers and sisters in Christ who care about our spiritual well-being.

Theme: God's People Gather—The Blessings of Christian Encouragement

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Preacher: Pastor Shane Krause

Musicians: Dennis Bertolotti, Lisa Loersch, Andy Wehausen, St. Paul's Junior Choir

Service of the Word ©1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Lyrics and music printed in today's service folder and viewed on the screens are used by permission through CCLI #1906774 and OneLicense A-715642. "10,000 Reasons" Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin. "His Mercy Is More" Matt Boswell and Matt Papa. "Oh, How Good It Is" Keith Getty, Stuart Townend, Kristyn Getty, Elliott Ross Holmes. "We Give Thee but Thine Own" trad. arr. by Koine. "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name" trad., arr. by Koine.

Service of the Word

BELLS AND WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: *(spoken)* Amen.

P: I was glad when they said to me,

C: Let us go to the house of the Lord!

P: That you would allow us to gather in worship not out of duty but with joy and delight,

C: We praise you, Lord!

P: That you would bring us to a place where you promise to meet your people,

C: We praise you, Lord!

P: For the blessing of encouragement found in seeing one another,

C: We praise you, Lord!

P: For being with us in all places and through all situations, and bringing us together as members of one body of Christ,

C: We praise you, Lord!

OPENING HYMN:

“10,000 Reasons”

*Singers:
Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul
Oh, my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh, my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.*

*The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes*

Singers and Congregation:
Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul
Oh, my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh, my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul
Oh, my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh, my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul
Oh, my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh, my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

Bless the Lord, Oh, my soul
Oh, my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh, my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.
Yes, I will worship Your holy name.
Lord, I worship Your holy name.

P: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: *(spoken)* **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

SONG OF CONFESSION:

“His Mercy Is More”

Singers:

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.

Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Singers:

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?

What Father, so tender is calling us home?

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.

Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

Singers and Congregation

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!

His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.

We stood neath a debt we could never afford.

Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(spoken)* **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, bless this family of believers gathered together in your name with your never-failing mercy. Preserve us from that which would keep us apart. Bind us together with the bond of your love. Help us avoid whatever is harmful and wicked. And guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

These words of the prophet Moses remind us that the greatest way we encourage one another is by reminding each other of the gracious, saving words our God speaks to us.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON:

John 17:15-25

In his prayer known as the “high priestly prayer,” Jesus prays that his people might be united with his heavenly Father and with each other.

¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by^[a] the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

²⁰ “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(spoken)* **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

HYMN:

“Oh, How Good It Is”

Singers:

*Oh, how good it is
When the family of God
Dwells together in spirit
In faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace,
Of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence
Here among us.*

*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.*

Singers and Congregation:

**Oh, how good it is
On this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy
And weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength
The afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing
Of belonging.**

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is
To embrace His command
To prefer one another
Forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one
We all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father
And the Spirit.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

SERMON LESSON:

Hebrews 10:23-25

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Sermon Theme: God's People Gather—The Blessings of Christian Encouragement

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

BE SEATED

MINISTRY VICTORY UPDATE

GATHER THE THANKOFFERING

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry!

1. Online giving – visit our website, www.stpaulsonalaska.org and click “Give.”
2. Text giving – text the amount you wish to give starting with the dollar sign to [608-371-6891](tel:608-371-6891).
3. If you prefer to mail your offering envelope, please send to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, P.O Box 128, Onalaska, WI 54650



OFFERING HYMN: CW 485, verses 1-2

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

We give thee but thine own, whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive
And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

C: 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.

P: Grant, O Lord, that the lips which have sung your praise may glorify you in the world; that the ears which have heard you speak may be open to your Word and closed to hatred and discord; that the tongues which have confessed your name may always speak the truth without fear; that all of us who have worshiped together today may be united in true love for each other as you have loved us in Jesus.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

Savior, again to thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.

Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with thee shall end the day.
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.

Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep thy people free,
For dark and light are both alike to thee.

- P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
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: *(spoken)* Amen.

Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



This Week at St. Paul's: September 19, 2021

Prayers

† **Comfort for: Kristy Gilbertson's family - her stepfather died this past week (funeral on 9/16); The family of Chester Andersen; The family of Ann Grokowsky; The family of Darlene Lamb**

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Last week we began our 4-week worship series where we focus on the blessings of coming together as a congregation to worship and do ministry. If you've stayed away from in-person worship, consider these services to be an additional encouragement to come back and to enjoy the blessings of a church family where we gather around God's Word and Sacraments. If you know someone who hasn't been to in-person worship for some time, consider reaching out to them and extending an invitation. For those concerned about large groups of people, consider our Thursday night 6:30 pm worship service. There is always ample room in that service.

NEW HYMNAL PREVIEW

WELS National Hymn Week is HERE! We will be kicking things off during our regular services today. Our worship hour will be an opportunity to experience some of the new resources in our upcoming new hymnal. Following the 10:30 am service, we'll be hosting a **hymn sing**, where we'll hear and sing along with a video recording of choirs of students from Martin Luther College and Luther Preparatory School, and a children's choir from Brookfield, Wisconsin.



On Wednesday evening, September 22 at 6:30, you are invited to a presentation to hear more about the new hymnal. If you'd rather learn about the new hymnal from your home, links will be available for **WELS worship presentation** videos on a range of hymnal and worship-related topics. A link to a **concert video will also be available**, featuring LPS and MLC choirs, the WELS Chamber group *Canticum*, and a liturgical ensemble, *Trinitas*.

Look for a display in the church lobby with more information about the new hymnal and with a handout that lists online links to concerts and presentations. Here also is a link that answers questions and gives more information about our new hymnal: <https://www.christianworship.com/resources/qa>.

The St. Paul's board of elders has approved the purchase of new hymnals and resources for our congregation; please check out the St. Paul's wish list or contact Wendy Schibbelhut for more information.

Let the message about Christ dwell among you richly (Colossians 3:16).

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The fall semester of Sunday School has just started. Sunday School classes will run from 9:15 am to 10:15 am (in between our early and late Sunday services).

Prek-K meet in Room #130

Grades 4-6 meet in Room #135

Grades 1-3 meet in Room #136

Sunday School for all meets in Room #125

SUNDAY FALL BIBLE STUDIES

“The Bible” will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 9:20-10:20 am and 10:30 to 11:15 am. Teen Bible class will be held in the Teen Room at 9:20-10:20 am. “Starting Point” class will join the 7TH and 8th grade BIBLE class in the sanctuary at 9:20-10:20 am.

SMALL GROUPS STARTING UP

Pastor Ehlke is working to form some small group Bible studies starting in October. If you’re interested in getting connected with a small group, head to our website and click on the Small Group Bible Study link:

www.stpaulsonalaska.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Printed copies are available in the church lobby outside the church/school office of the July through August 2021 Financial Report.

TEEN HELPERS NEEDED FOR BIBLE CLASS HOUR CHILD CARE

Teens, we are in need of your help! St. Paul’s needs child-care for our young children during our adult Bible class hours on Sunday mornings. Our two Bible class time slots run 9:20-10:10 am and 10:10-11:00 am. If you can help, please contact Pastor Krause by call or text, 608-217-5660.

INTERIM CUSTODIAL HELP NEEDED

A big thank you to those who have helped out with cleaning so far! We are looking for more volunteers as we continue to seek additional custodial staff. A cleaning service has been hired in the interim, however, they are not able to start for a few weeks. Please prayerfully consider helping out after school even if it is only for one hour. To sign up, call the church/school office. All help is greatly appreciated in this time of transition. Thank you for your consideration.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

St. Pauls’ Lutheran Church and School will be collecting much needed items for the Afghan refugees as they resettle in new locations throughout the US. The need is great, and items are needed as soon as possible. **There is a list of needed items available on the collection tables.** Items may be brought in at any time and placed in the collection boxes located in the church lobby. Thank you for considering helping as we share the love of Christ with those who are in need around us. For questions contact Heide Mueller or the church/school office.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking to hire a **Food Service Director** to replace Mrs. Stacy Waldner. This position requires approximately 20 hours/week during the school year, and some hours during summer months.

A job description is available upon request in the church/school office.

Requirements for Employment:

- Minimum high school diploma
- Minimum one year experience with school nutrition programs (could be volunteering with our hot lunch program)

We are also looking to fill our **Food Service Assistant position** as soon as possible.

Approximately 11:00 am - 1:00 pm each school day

Duties include: set up, serve, clean up of lunch, and manage the serving and ordering of lunch when the Food Service Director is unavailable.

2 afternoon Surround Care positions (3:00-6:00 pm) are open

Actual hours depend on family requests

Provide care for students ages 3 and up in the Surround Care room

Applications are available in the school office. Resumes will be accepted in place of an application.

Deadline to apply: September 30, 2021

Questions? Contact Benjamin Bain (bbain@stpaulsonalaska.org or 608-783-4822 ext. 222)

SCRIP

Scrip will be sold on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:15 am and 10:15 -10:30 am at the Scrip table near the church office and on Wednesday mornings by the school gymnasium from 7:30 to 7:50 am. If you are coming to school to purchase SCRIP, **please enter through the gym doors only**. Contact Katy Miller with any questions about scrip at kmiller@stpaulsonalaska.org.

UPCOMING MLC CONCERT

The choir will be performing a sacred concert at St. Paul's on Friday evening, October 15, at 7:30 pm. Two choir members are also members of our congregation: Grace Bain and Cameron Schroeder.

We are looking for host families for this 65-member choir. If you are able to help, please contact Wendy Schibbelhut, or look for a sign-up on the member information table in the church lobby.

WOMEN IN CHRIST UPCOMING EVENTS

- Women In Christ will meet for their **monthly meeting** on Monday, September 27 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- The **WIC Fall Fellowship event**, Fall for Jesus, He Never Leaves You, will be Sunday, October 3rd at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- The **Fall Winona Circuit LWMS Rally**, Preparing, Planning, Proclaiming!, will be hosted by St. Paul's on Saturday, October 16. Registration will begin at 8:00 am. Out of love for those in attendance, masks are suggested, but not required. Online streaming will be available at stpaulsonalaska.org.

MEN OF HIS WORD FALL CONFERENCE

Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN on Saturday, October 23. Registration forms are available in the church lobby. **The Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study group will be providing 10 "scholarships" to pay for the registration fee. Please call Steve Loehr at 608-792-3464 to register.**

PASTORAL CONTACTS:

Pastor Brett Ehlke (608) 799.2717

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