

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Bella Vista Christian Academy
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Joel Rockemann
The Story – Chap. 5
New Commands and a New Covenant
October 2, 2022

Scripture: Exodus 24:8-18, Hebrews 12:18-24, Matthew 17:1-18

Welcome & Invocation: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

10:00 a.m. Opening Songs: *The Lion And The Lamb, Lord I Need You, No Longer Slaves*

Introit – Based on Psalm 116

P: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

C: our God is full of compassion.

P: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;

C: he heard my cry for mercy.

P: Because he turned his ear to me,

C: I will call on him as long as I live.

P: The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me.

C: I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord:

C: “O Lord, save me!”

P: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

C: our God is full of compassion.

P: Be at rest once more, O my soul,

C: for the Lord has been good to you.

P: For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

C: my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,

P: that I may walk before the Lord

C: in the land of the living.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C: and to the Holy Spirit;

P: as it was in the beginning,

C: is now, and will be forever. Amen

P: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

C: our God is full of compassion.

Collect

O God, without whose blessing we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and govern our hearts; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Lesson ... Exodus 24:8-18

8 And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. 11 And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

12 The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” 13 So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai,

and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

The Second Lesson ... Hebrews 12:18-24

18 For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest 19 and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. 20 For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 17, beginning at verse 1

17 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. 3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and

have no fear." 8 And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

9 And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead." 10 And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" 11 He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. 12 But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands." 13 Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Jesus Heals a Boy with a Demon

14 And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, 15 said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has seizures and he suffers terribly. For often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. 16 And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." 17 And Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly.

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.

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Getting our bearings at the base of Mt. Sinai.

1. We learn that in Himself, the God of Israel is t_____.

He is so indescribably powerful that it is frightening to people who encounter him throughout scripture.

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” (Ex 20:18–19)

Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. (Ex 24:17)

2. God wants a p_____ for Himself.

A. He begins that gathering of His people with Israel.

“You will be my people and I will be your God” (Ex 6:7);

“...you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation” (Ex 19:5-6).

B. God gives His commandments out of l_____ for His people, reminding them –

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” Ex 20:2).

God gives His commandments so that they might l_____ with Him as His holy people.

3. God chooses a m_____.

Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. (Ex 33:11)

“...a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” (Mt 17:5)

There’s just no approaching the One, True God apart from a mediator and J_____ is that mediator for us; forever.

(Notes: terrifying, people, love, live, mediator, Jesus)

OFFERING is collected at door and online

Prayers

Holy Communion / Confession & Absolution / Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those that 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, For ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you
May the Lord, lift up his countenance upon you
And give you peace. Amen.

10:00 a.m. Closing Song: *Your Grace Is Enough*

Announcements

Join us in the courtyard at the close of each service today for coffee & donuts!

Today is Mite Box Sunday. Empty your Mite Box into the large mite box in the entryway after each service. Cash & checks accepted. Thank you for your contribution to support local & international mission projects!

Lutheran Women's Missionary League's Fall Rally on Saturday, October 15, St. Paul's Lutheran in Merced. Event runs 10:00 am - 2:20 pm. \$13 per person or \$15 at the door. Contact Maggie Priebe at 209-914-1935 for registration.



St. Paul's is hosting Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Bounce House, Candy, Trunk Decorating Contest, Games & Prizes plus .25 cent food! Sign up to volunteer or host a trunk in the office, Church entryway or by using this QR code.

CLASS 201 - Discovering Spiritual Maturity. We will discover four habits of a healthy, growing believer in Jesus Christ. Join us for four weeks beginning Oct. 16, 2022 at 11:30 am. Register by filling in the Connection Card.

Pregnancy Resource Center of Tracy is having their Annual Fall Fundraiser on October 20. It's a Drive-Thru Dinner from 5:00 - 7:30 pm at the Holy Family Center on Corral Hollow in Tracy. Chicken & Tri-Tip for \$25.00 per meal. PRC is in need of 8 men for traffic & parking plus others to plate & bag the food. Tell Pastor Kal if you can volunteer or sign up at: bit.ly/PRCDriveThruDinner.

St. Paul's 14th Annual Holiday Craft Faire on Saturday, November 5, 2022. The event runs from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, in the Life Center. Contact Vi Kramer vimkramer@gmail.com or Michele Loomis at micheleloomis@comcast.net.

It's Operation Christmas Child season! Packing boxes will be available in the entryway. Collection week is November 14 - 21. If you'd like help with any part of this ministry, contact Michele Loomis at occmichele@gmail.com.

Bella Vista Christian Academy is looking for a **Part-time Middle School Art Teacher**, 2 afternoons a week. If you or someone you know would be interested, contact Principal Dave Schnurstein at 209-835-7438.

This week at St. Paul's

Sunday, 10/2

8:30 & 10:00 am - Worship Services - Church
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church
11:30 am - CLASS 101 - Admin Conf. Room

Monday, 10/3

6:30 pm - Grief Share - Parish Hall

Thursday, 10/6

9:00 am - His Scoop Study for Women - Parish Hall
10:00 am - Pastor Kal's Bible Study - Admin Conf. Room

Sunday, 10/9

8:30 & 10:00 am - Worship Services - Church
10:00 am - Live Stream of In-Person Church

Join us as a church body as we **read through the scriptures**. Here is our reading schedule (Year 1) for the week of October 3:

Monday, October 3

Ephesians 3 & 1 Kings 6

Tuesday, October 4

Ephesians 4 & 1 Kings 7

Wednesday, October 5

Ephesians 5 & 1 Kings 8

Thursday, October 6

Ephesians 6 & 1 Kings 9

Friday, October 7

Philippians 1 & 1 Kings 10

Saturday, October 8

Philippians 2 & 1 Kings 11

Sunday, October 9

Philippians 3 & 1 Kings 12

Al Renner - Treatments (husband of Sue Renner)

Quentin Rios - Successful treatments for cancer (extended family of Gamaches)

Ryan - Making job opportunity choices (son of Deb Schmidt)

Jon & Debbie Schmidt - General prayers

Jon Schmidt - Strength & safety during almond harvest

Gary Trombley - Surgery recovery (father of Ben Trombley)

Richard Vigneau - Healing

Kevin Vraa - God's will (brother of Karyn Zblewski)

Lindsay Walker - Healing & diagnosis

Karen Wardell - Surgery recovery

Cassandre Wiggins - Comfort & strength (friend of Kathy Harris)

Stephen Williams - Cancer treatment

Remember in Prayer

Prayers for our country

Prayers for the people of Ukraine

Ashley - Chemo treatments (step mom of Darby McMahon)

Bethany - Restored health without surgery (daughter of Ron Gilbert)

Bryson - Surgery recovery (grandson of Marjorie Maciel)

Bob Carpenter - Healing (brother in law of Chrissy Lew)

Don Castellon - Surgery recovery & healing

Roger Cunning - Treatments & healing

Darralee - Living with ALS (friend of Jo Culberson)

Kenny & Carlotta DeAllen - Healing from Covid (uncle & aunt of Deb Schmidt)

John Gustafson - Treatments; strength & encouragement for the family

Kevin Harper - Healing from back pain (friend of Deb Schmidt)

Kathy Harris - Continuous healing from surgery

Gale Heinrich - Healing

Skip Jenkerson - Healing

Tina Kuhlmann - Medical tests & discernment

Megan Krause - Treatments (wife of Matt Krause)

Gene Lambson - Heart attack, surgery, recovery

Jane Lambson - Healing from hip surgery

Blanche Loeber - Surgery recovery

Melissa Martin - Healing & restored health (daughter of Actkinsons)

David Ortega - Strength & healing with cancer battle (friend of Larry Actkinson)