



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

MINISTRIES

CHURCH • SCHOOL • CHILDCARE

302 N. Morrison St. Appleton, WI 54911

November 2020

Holy Communion

Part 2: Preparation

"Who, then, is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?"

"Fasting and other outward preparations may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words: 'Given' and 'poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.' But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words 'for you' require nothing but hearts that believe." (Luther's Small Catechism)

Suppose you were invited to dine with the President of the United States. How would you prepare to attend a state dinner at the White House?

You have a date to dine with the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He beckons you to his table and invites you to feast with him. How will you prepare for your date with Jesus?

Holy Communion isn't a black-tie affair, of course. God invites you to commune with him without regard for the cleanliness or quality of your clothes. Come barefoot and dressed in rags, if that's all you have, and your Savior will not turn you away.

But doesn't your Master and Your King deserve your very best? Doesn't a date with your Savior warrant reflection and preparation, as you come to meet your Lord?

Scripture teaches us that we are to worship God with reverence and with awe. (See Hebrews 12:28-29) Dining at our Savior's banquet table is not a formal wear occasion, but it's certainly nothing casual or common, either.

Just like any special occasion, preparation for Holy Communion begins long before the meal itself. Preparation for Holy Communion begins as we reflect upon who we were by nature, who we are by grace, and who it is who invites us to his table. "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28)

We are sinners who once were lost and separated from God. We've been brought near to God through the blood of Jesus. Holy Baptism sealed our place in God's family. The

one who invites us to commune is none other than the author of our salvation, Jesus himself.

The invitation to commune with Christ in the sacrament is the highest calling a human being can receive. We are fed the very body and blood that purchased our salvation, and we are served by Jesus himself. There is no finer dining experience! It is elegant. It is awe-inspiring. It is a rich feast of love.

Before you commune, reflect upon what you are about to receive. That reflection calls for more than a last-minute arrival at church and realizing, "Oh, there's Communion today!"

Fasting before Communion is not is not required to commune worthily, but it's a fine custom with a long history in the Christian church that can help you reflect on the sacrament you will receive.

Personal preparation calls for soul-searching and reflection. Are you conscious of your sins against God? If you are unaware of where you have offended God and how deep is your need for forgiveness, all you need to do is review the Ten Commandments; they'll convict you in a hurry.

Are you holding on to pet sins? Are you rebelling against God's will and unwilling to submit to him? Do not presume to commune with God, for it will be a lie! An unrepentant heart stands squarely under God's judgment. Repent!

Are you overwhelmed with a burden of guilt? Do you grieve over your sins and sense acutely your unworthiness to meet your King? Then by all means commune! Heed your Savior's invitation to receive forgiveness and peace in his feast of love! Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." (Matthew 5:6)

This, finally, is the soul that is prepared and worthy to commune. It is the soul who comes humbly – yet eagerly and joyfully – to receive the precious gift of salvation. For the words, "Given and poured out *for you*," require nothing but hearts that believe.

Pastor Kenneth Frey

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Worship Schedule

Sunday services: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

***Beginning 11/8, there will no longer be a 9:15am Sunday service.**

Monday evenings: 6:00 p.m.

Our 8am Sunday services are on facebook live and can also be heard on WNAM 1280 AM.

11/1, 11/2	First Sunday of End Time: Reformation – Welcome Home: Where you are free to be yourself
11/8, 11/9	Second Sunday of End Time: Last Judgement: Welcome Home: Where you are perfectly safe
11/15, 11/16	Third Sunday of End Time: Saints Triumphant – Welcome Home: To an everlasting family
11/22, 11/23	Last Sunday of End Time: Christ the King – Welcome Home: To Christ's glorious kingdom
11/25	Thanksgiving – Don't forget the Lord your God (6pm Wednesday Service)
11/29, 11/30	First Sunday in Advent – Get ready! He's coming

Official Acts

Transfer In:

Paula Leiberg

Marriages:

Lauren Eaton & Scott Evers on Sept. 19th, 2020

Ericka Thompson & Keegan McNamara on Oct. 10th, 2020

Forever with the Lord:

Donald Spaude departed this life on October 12th, 2020 at the age of 81 years, 3 months, and 10 days.

Doris Moericke departed this life on October 15th, 2020 at the age of 96 years, 7 months, and 20 days.

Financials through Sept. 30th, 2020

	Sept.	July – Sept.
Income	\$ 212,426	\$ 512,286
Expense	\$ 174,580	\$ 515,322
Behind / Ahead	+\$37,846	\$ -3,036

All bills are paid; all obligations are met.

Report Date 10/21/2020

UPDATE ECC MORTGAGE-INVESTORS BANK

Original Note Date	4/10/2015	Next Maturity Date	10/20/2021
5 year locked interest (4.40%)			
Regular Payment for October 2020	\$9,170	P-\$8,715.49	I-\$454.51
Extra Payment on Principal For September 2020	-----	P-\$17,395	

Starting Mortgage Value	11/20/2015	\$ 2,000,000.00
Amount paid off of Principal as of	10/21/2020	\$ (1,899,831.80)
Mortgage value as of	10/21/2020	\$ 100,168.20

ECC Debt Retirement Effort directly to debt	\$ 1,613,087.16
Money applied from normal monthly payment to debt	\$ 286,744.64
Total Payments on Principal	10/21/2020 \$ 1,899,831.80

Total interest saved over 20 years at 4.4% by ECC Debt Retirement Program

ECC Debt Ret.	Int %	Interest Saved
\$ 1,613,087.16	4.4%	\$ 1,419,516.70

To make an offering for ECC Debt retirement use any envelope in your packet or a normal envelope. Your envelope number must be on the envelope so your contribution can be recorded. **TO HAVE IT APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE OUTSTANDING BALANCE OF THE LOAN, WRITE "ECC DEBT RETIREMENT" ON THE ENVELOPE. To God be the Glory.**

ECC CHALLENGE 2020

A family in our congregation has issued a matching challenge to reduce or eliminate the ECC debt by the end of December 2020.

- ❖ The match will be up to \$60,000 in donations towards the ECC dept.
- ❖ We have 3 months to accomplish our goal- Oct-Nov-Dec
- ❖ This offer provides for a great opportunity for corporate matching gifts or designated end of the year gifts to immediately impact the loan for the ECC.
- ❖ All income will be sent to the bank as a principal payment along with the normal \$9170 mortgage payment
- ❖ Already contributed November 15th payment \$5,975 -- Payment will go out on the 12 or 13 of November

Gifts		Applied	
Month	amount	Goal	\$ 60,000.00
October 15, 2020	\$ 17,395.00	October 15, 2020	\$ 17,395.00 PD
November 13, 2020	\$ 5,975.00	November 13, 2020	\$ 5,975.00 PENDING
December 15, 2020	\$ -	December 15, 2020	\$ -
December 30, 2020	\$ -	December 30, 2020	\$ -
Amount Gifted	\$ 23,370.00	Still Needed	\$ 36,630.00

School News

Mission Statement:

Using God's Word as our guide, St. Paul Lutheran School will raise up future generations of Christians in our community by assisting parents in the Christian teaching of their children and by striving for excellence in all areas of instruction.

Veteran's Day Celebration: Due to Covid-19 concerns, our Veteran's Day Program will be a little different this year. The children are busy learning their class songs and presentations and look forward to performing them for you, however, the program **will be virtual**. It will be uploaded to the St. Paul Lutheran Ministries facebook page and www.stpaulappletonwi.com and ready for you to view on Thursday, November 12th, or any time after that. We thank all of our veterans for their service to our country and wish you God's richest blessings.

A Note from the Principal: The LORD has continued to bless our school with continued health and healing over the past 9 weeks of in person instruction at St. Paul

Lutheran School. We know that God has commanded us to pray to Him, and He has promised to listen to our prayers and answer our prayers! Just as our faculty and staff pray for your continued health and healing, please pray for our faculty and staff that they remain strong and healthy during this time period. As we are battling against rising COVID-19 numbers within our community, we are also aware that the cold and influenza season is approaching. We thank our school families for being diligent in conducting daily health checks for any signs or symptoms of illness and keeping children home if they exhibit signs or symptoms of illness.

Our faculty and staff have been diligently cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting numerous times throughout the day. Please reinforce proper handwashing techniques and proper usage of the face masks with your children. This, as well as other health and safety precautions that we are taking on a daily basis appear to be working for us at school so that we have low absentee rates. If you have any questions as we partner together for our children's Time and Eternity, please contact us.

*In His Service,
Jason Kelley*

LWMS

Thank you St. Paul members for supporting missionaries here and around the world through your generous offerings! A total of \$686.50 was collected in October through the door offering and the mission box for home and world mission projects that are not budgeted by the WELS.

- Our regular scheduled LWMS meeting is Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the church basement. Please consider joining us to learn more about how you can support missionaries and their families! Contact Connie Frey if you have any questions about LWMS, 920-428-5623 or conniefrey@hotmail.com.
- BAM Birthdays ~ Staff Minister Jerry Worden on November 28th. He serves at The Word - Steven's Point Campus Ministry, (smjworden@divine-word.com).

A message from Greg Bey, Friendly Counselor in Southeast Asia:

Having had opportunities to serve in Southeast Asia (1990-1992), Eastern Europe (1996-2011) and Southeast Asia again (2011 to present) means having had the blessings of seeing just how amazing God's grace is as it works in the hearts of people of various cultures, languages, and nations. The same amazing grace has also allowed our synod to recognize and capitalize on new methods for sharing the good news. Looking at how things have changed in a short 30-year period truly is amazing as one compares then and now.

Some of us started our ministries with manual typewriters and bottles of correction fluid. The first piece of technology that helped in reaching out with the gospel was the personal computer (PC). PCs created paperless storage of material in an electronic format, which allowed for easy revisions and reproductions of material.

Following on the heels of PCs, laptops, notebooks, tablets, Android phones, and iPads was the creation of the internet, which has connected the world in ways never before seen in history. Many of our older expatriate servants tell stories of when a letter would take three or four weeks to go from foreign fields to stateside committees that oversaw the work abroad. Now communication is instantaneous. Committee personnel and field representatives meet monthly face-to-face to discuss the ministry via video chat programs like Skype.

Evolving technology has brought changes in how people worship, study the Scriptures, encourage one another, and share their faith. Back then high-tech presentations of the Word in various venues meant using an overhead projector and transparencies. Now there's PowerPoint, which can be updated with ease. We really do have everything available at our fingertips via handheld cell phones that connect to the internet. Rather than carrying a Bible, we have it on our phones and in various translations plus all the materials for study and witnessing that are available on the Cloud.

Then and now – how technology has changed and with it the methods we use to share the unchanging message of God's amazing grace!

Greg Bey, Friendly Counselor in Southeast Asia

Women's Ministry November meeting

The November meeting ***MAY*** be cancelled again due to COVID concerns. Watch for an email and/or announcement as we draw closer to our next meeting date of Nov 10. Thank you.

Kids Only – Cancelled

Sadly, as with so many other large gatherings and events during these uncertain times, we will be unable to hold our annual "Kids Only" shopping event. With the large number of children shopping and vast number of volunteers needed to hold this event there is surely no way to social distance or ensure everyone's safety. We look forward to offering it again next year!

Holiday Cards

The Women's Ministry has individual Thanksgiving cards available for sale now in the church basement for \$0.75 each or 3 for \$2. Christmas cards will be available on November 1st. These will be in boxed sets for \$5 per set.

Police Lights of Christmas



St. Paul Lutheran Ministries is once again partnering with Q90 FM and our local police, fire, and rescue departments to help those in need over this Christmas season. There are many individuals right here in our neighborhood that are homeless or

are having trouble making ends meet that we'd like to help, but how can we find them? No one knows this better than our emergency services departments. We are teaming up with them so they may give out food, clothing, and other necessities to these people when they need it most. Last year, over 750 backpacks filled with necessities were prepared for hand out, as well as \$75,000 worth of gift cards. St. Paul Lutheran Church, School, and ECC will be a drop off location this year. We will be collecting men's deodorants, body washes, and individually packaged snacks (oatmeal, fruit snacks, chips, etc.) in bins located in the church basement, ECC lobby, and near the Harris Street entrance of the school beginning Sunday, 10/25. Monetary donations may also be given through Community First Credit Union, or can be dropped off in the church office (cash or checks made payable to 'Lights of Christmas'). Donations will be accepted now through November 23rd. To learn more about this program, check out this link: <https://lightsofchristmas.us/the-vision>.

ECC Update

The 2-year-old room here at St. Paul Early Learning Center, is very busy! Each and every day we enjoy exploring and learning something new! Our current topics have all been centered on Fall Fun! We started out exploring apples. Our favorite part about exploring apples was tasting them! We tasted red, yellow and green apples. Can you guess which one was our favorite? (It was green!) Yum! We moved on to talking about farming and harvest topics next. Learning all about farm animals, tractors and what farmers grow for us to eat! We drove some small tractors through brown paint to make muddy tracks. That is always a hit in our room. This week, we are exploring pumpkins! We will cut a pumpkin open to see what we can find inside. Some of us are brave enough to touch the seeds, others are more content to just watch.

Over the summer months, we had a lot of fun walking to City Park! This is a favorite activity of all of our 2-year-old friends. It's always so fun to see what we can see along the way. We also had some sprinkler days this summer. Is there anything better than running through the sprinkler on a hot day?? We were so blessed with nice weather this summer. How blessed to be outdoors to enjoy all of God's creation!

Lastly, I want to share with you how much we love to read! We are very blessed here at St. Paul with so many books to choose from! In our classroom, we have a nice sized couch that we can sit on to read as many books as we would like. We haven't met a book we don't like!

Our classroom is full of joy, laughter and learning! At this age, we are changing every day. We are growing in our knowledge and in God's Word. We are using the One in Christ curriculum for our daily Bible lessons. We are currently learning all about Abraham and Sarah. What a blessing to receive their son, Isaac, from our Gracious God! It's a wonderful blessing to share God's Word with these little ones and their families too. If you would like more updates, please check us out on the St. Paul Ministry Facebook Page.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church and School Project Wish List

1.	ECC Loan	\$126,000
2.	Push Bars for Door	\$2,000
3.	ECC Playgrounds	\$10,000+
4.	Classroom in Basement	??
5.	ECC Basement	??

Any donations (large or small) given toward these items is greatly appreciated. Some of these items/projects have been purchased/completed and we are looking for members to help in covering any part of the costs involved.

For a closer look at these items as well as giving options, including 'Easy Tithe', please follow this link: [Wish List Giving](#). As always, THANK YOU for your support.