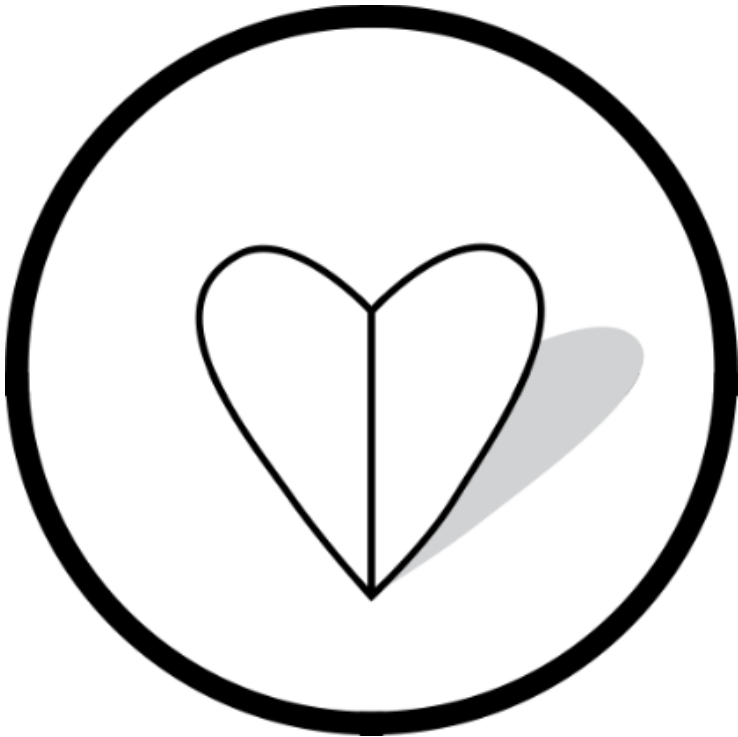


_____Sixth Sunday of Easter_____

Connected by Love



If you choose to take a hard-copy bulletin:
please either take it with you or dispose of it after the service. They will not be re-used. Thank you!

May 9th & 10th, 2021



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

— MINISTRIES —

CHURCH • SCHOOL • CHILDCARE

Connected by Love

This Easter season, as we will look God's Word in the Easter lessons, we will find a connection that cannot be broken. The Church is connected by love. Loved by Christ, let us remain in his love so that we can love each other.

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus – **CW 411**

INVOCATION

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

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven you all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: ♪ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

Your Word, O Lord is eternal;

it stands firm in the heavens.

Your faithfulness continues forever.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *Ĳ Amen.*

FIRST LESSON

Acts 11:19-26

The church in Antioch

Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 98

We praise God's love





Sing to the LORD a new song,*
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known*
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness
to the house of Israel;*
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,*
burst into jubilant song with music;

make music to the LORD with the harp,*
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.*
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:1-11

God is love

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and

even now is already in the world. ⁴You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood. ⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: 🌿 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL & SERMON TEXT

John 15:9-17

Remain in Jesus' love

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

C: 🌿 Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN

Son of God, Eternal Savior – **CW 492**

SERMON

Pastor Kenneth Frey

Christianity is a love/hate relationship

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HYMN

This Is My Will – **CW 497**

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure

hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 🎵 Amen.

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: 🎵 Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing – **CW 332**

Worship Notes

Presiding Minister: Matthew Holtz
Organist: S. Kraus / M. McCarthy

Service Teams:

8:00 a.m.	P. Abitz (Head Usher), J. Volhard, D./V. Sheldon, J./S. Dunsirn, P. Tiedt
10:30 a.m.	C. Woehler (Head Usher), T. Falck, A. Ziegler, D. Olson, J. Bork, T. Falck, M. Spaude, D. Falck
6:00 p.m.	C. Waack (Head Usher), J. Ings, C. Feidt, P. Rooyakkers, J. Kaepernick

Welcome

In an age of anxiety we still believe that peace comes from Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In an age of confusion we still believe that the Bible is the word of God, inerrant and infallible.

In an age of doubt we still believe that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.

In an age of guilt we still believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of the world, bringing complete pardon and joy to all believers.

In an age of reason we still believe that God is at work in the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

In an age of change we still believe in one unchanging God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.



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Worship Broadcast at 8:00 on
WNAM radio, 1280 AM

Videos of our service today can be
found on our Facebook page or our
website:
www.stpaulappletonwi.com