

Sunday & Monday July 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025



## ON THE PRIVILEGE AND PURPOSE OF PRAYER



**ST. PAUL**  
LUTHERAN MINISTRIES



# ST. PAUL

---

## LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

*As Christians united in common faith, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to nurture believers and bring the lost to faith in Jesus through God's Holy Word and Sacraments.*

### **Welcome!**

- Restrooms are in the church basement located just at the bottom of the front stairs. Changing tables are available to parents.
  - An elevator is available on the north side of the church entrance.
  - The basement is available to parents needing to quiet small children. The area is equipped with closed circuit TV.
  - Out of respect for all who worship today, please silence all electronic devices.
  - Children's Activity Bags are available in the narthex. Please return them to the 'used' bin after service.
-

## ON THE PRIVILEGE AND PURPOSE OF PRAYER

*In a sense, prayer comes naturally to us. We want so we ask. We hurt so we cry out. We are frustrated so we vent. We are blessed so we give thanks. Natural! What does not come naturally, however, is a proper understanding of the privilege of prayer. Prayer is a privilege, based entirely on the unique and unearned relationship we have with God, our Father. And the purpose of prayer is really not to tell God what we want, but to claim that which God wants for us. Prayer provides the opportunity to bring our will into conformity with God's will, not the other way around. This week, we give our undivided attention to what God says about this access we call prayer. Along with Jesus' disciples we say, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).*

---

Service Setting 2, CW p. 172

### With the Lord Begin Your Task

CW 776

*Stand*

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### Confession

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

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

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**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*

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.  
**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the melody. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his'. The third staff continues with 'peo - ple on earth. Lord God,'. The fourth staff continues with 'heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we'. The fifth staff continues with 'wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your'. The sixth staff concludes with 'glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord God,

heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

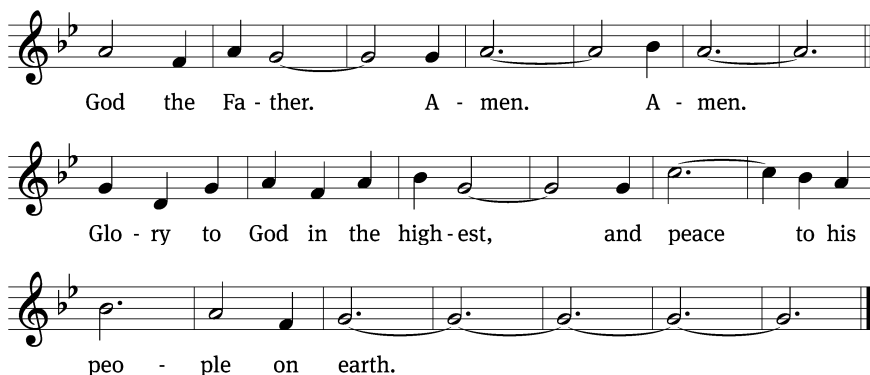
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of



Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703831

## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Genesis 18:20-32

*Abraham prays on the basis of what he knows about the LORD: that the LORD is a just judge, that the LORD shows mercy, and that the LORD invites us to be bold in our prayers.*

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous <sup>21</sup>that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with

the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

<sup>26</sup>The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

<sup>27</sup>Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, <sup>28</sup>what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five people?"

"If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it."

<sup>29</sup>Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?"

He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it."

<sup>30</sup>Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?"

He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."

<sup>31</sup>Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?"

He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it."

<sup>32</sup>Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?"

He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Lord, Teach Us How to Pray

CW 719

### Second Reading & Sermon Text

1 Timothy 2:1–7

*Paul teaches us that the ultimate purpose for everything we ask is that God's will would be done.*

<sup>1</sup>I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— <sup>2</sup>for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. <sup>7</sup>And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

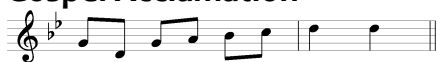
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

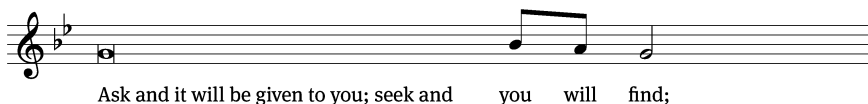
Luke 11:9



### Refrain



### Tone



### Refrain



Tune: © 2010 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703831

## Gospel

Luke 11:1-13

*Jesus teaches us how to pray and how our Father will answer.*

<sup>1</sup>One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

<sup>2</sup>He said to them, “When you pray, say:

“ ‘Father,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>Forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation.’ ”

<sup>5</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ <sup>7</sup>And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.



9“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

11“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **When in the Hour of Utmost Need**

CW 723

**Sermon**

**Pastor Matt Holtz**

*Stand*

### **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.**

*Be seated*

### **Prayer of the Church**

# Offering

## Luther's Morning and Evening Prayer

(Sunday sing Morning Verse, Monday sing Evening Verse)

CW 782

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## Blessing

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.

**Amen.**

## What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CW 721

---

### Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

---

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

Preacher: Matt Holtz

Presiding Minister: Justin Shrum

Accompanist: Dan Vogel

### Service Teams:

8:00 a.m.      Team Blob; AV: C. Woehler

9:30 a.m.      Team Woehler; AV: P. Tiedt

6:00 p.m.      Team Waack

# 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.

Scan the QR code below for access to the Church Center App.



## St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

302 N. Morrison St.  
Appleton, WI 54911

### Admin Offices

920-733-9061

#### Coordinating Pastor

**Matt Holtz**

970-576-1154

[mholz@stpaulappletonwi.com](mailto:mholtz@stpaulappletonwi.com)

#### Associate Pastor

**Justin Shrum**

920-512-4318

[jshrum@stpaulappletonwi.com](mailto:jshrum@stpaulappletonwi.com)

#### Visitation Pastor

**Philip Birner**

920-414-2040

[pmbirner@gmail.com](mailto:pmbirner@gmail.com)

#### School Principal

**Jason Kelley**

920-733-9061

[jkelley@stpaulappletonwi.com](mailto:jkelley@stpaulappletonwi.com)

#### ECC Director

**Candace Schulz**

920-733-9061

[cschulz@stpaulappletonwi.com](mailto:cschulz@stpaulappletonwi.com)

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

Videos of our service today can be found on our YouTube page or our website:

[www.stpaulappletonwi.com](http://www.stpaulappletonwi.com)