# This is Your Life - Equipped



August 29th & 30th, 2021





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!

- All worshipers are asked to sign the Fellowship Cards during the offering. These are located in the card holders in the pew.
- 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.
- Hearing assistance devices are also available from the ushers.
- Out of respect for all who worship today, please silence all electronic devices.

# This is your life – Equipped

We continue our series on Paul's letter to the Ephesians which gives us an album of pictures of the Christian life. Today, we look at a picture of a Christian soldier equipped for battle.

#### **HYMN**

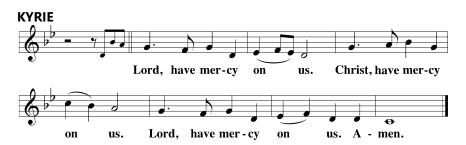
Awake, O Spirit, Who Inspired – CW 567

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) Amen.

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



- P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.
- P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, 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.

#### **FIRST LESSON**

Deuteronomy 4:1,2,6-8

Honor God with obedience

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup> Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you. <sup>6</sup> Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." <sup>7</sup> What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup> And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

#### **PSALM OF THE DAY**

Psalm 119c

We treasure God's Word





Oh, how I love your law!\*

I meditate on it all day long.

I have more insight than all my teachers,\* for I meditate on your statutes.



I have more understanding than the élders,\* for I obey your precepts.

#### Refrain

I have kept my feet from every évil path\* so that I might obey your Word.

I have not departed from your laws,\* for you yourself have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,\* sweeter than honey to my mouth!

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

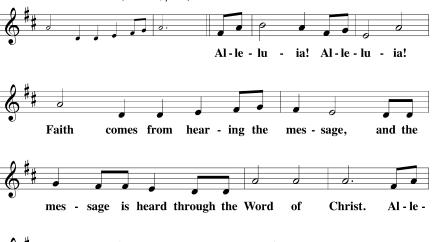
#### **SECOND LESSON & SERMON TEXT**

Ephesians 6:10-20
The armor of God

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may

be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY** (General, p. 31)



# lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## **GOSPEL LESSON**

Mark 7:1-8,14,15,21-23 Sin defiles a person



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) <sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup> He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "'These people honor

me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. <sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' <sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions." <sup>14</sup> Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and defile a person."



#### **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.

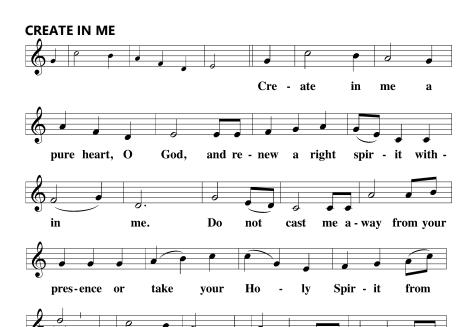
and the me evenasting. Amen

**HYMN** 

O God, My Faithful God – CW 459

**SERMON** 

Pastor Matthew Holtz







#### **OFFERING**

#### **WELS CONNECTION**

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Father in heaven,

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide - CW 541

P: 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.

## C: (spoken) Amen.

P: 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.

**HYMN** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow – **CW 334** 

© 2008 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# **Worship Notes**

Presiding Minister: Matthew Holtz

Organist: Claire Rehberger

Service Teams:

8:00 a.m. C. Woehler (Head Usher), T. Falck, A. Ziegler, D.

Olson, J. Bork, T. Falck, M. Spaude, D. Falck

9:30 a.m. D. Paulson (Head Usher), K./M./S. Paulson, J./P.

Cherney, J. Immel, M. Schlueter, E. Dvorak,

M./K./C. Runkel

6:00 p.m. R. Hoh (Head Usher), G. Petermann, B.

Hopfensperger, M./C. Krueger, T. Luehring

Greeters:

8:00 a.m. G. & L. Zimmerman 9:30 a.m. A. & J. Malueg 6:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed



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.



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

302 N. Morrison St. Appleton, WI 54911

Church Office733-9061School Office733-9061Child Care Center733-9061

# **Senior Pastor Kenneth Frey**

213-6919

kfrey@stpaulappletonwi.com

# Outreach and Family Ministry Pastor Matthew Holtz

733-9061 mholtz@stpaulappletonwi.com

# Visitation Pastor Don Ninmer

725-0168 djninmer@new.rr.com

## School Principal Jason Kelley 733-9061

jkelley@stpaulappletonwi.com

## ECC Director Candace Schulz 733-9061

cschulz@stpaulappletonwi.com

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