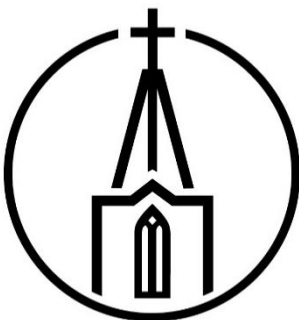


Saturday & Sunday, May 8 & 9, 2021
The 6th Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1100 Georgia Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska

Office & Website:
(402)371-1233 www.stpls.com

Times to Formally Gather around the Gospel:

Saturday: 6:30 PM Worship Service

Sunday: 9:00 AM Worship Service & 10:15 AM Bible Class (in church basement...materials provided)
6:00 PM Special Communion Service (May 16 is scheduled to be the last one)

Monday: 6:30 PM Sisters In Faith (in church narthex)

Wednesday: 10:00 AM Bible Class (in church basement)

*The Sunday service is broadcast live every week on KNEN, 94.7 FM,
and livestreamed via our website – stpls.com.
These Sunday service video recordings are also archived on Youtube.*

We welcome all worshipping God in this Service!

We're so happy that you're joining us for worship today! If you need any help, please don't hesitate asking one of the ushers. Restrooms are located in the narthex, across from the car-port entrance on the west side of the church. A cry/changing room with a live-stream is also available in that same area..

We have a two-fold mission or purpose as a congregation, with each purpose being equally important. One is that we provide opportunities for current members to grow and be strengthened in their faiths. The other equally important purpose is to reach out to our community with the Good News of free forgiveness through Jesus! No matter a person's background, Jesus is THE ONLY Savior and has died for ALL your sins! St. Paul's, pastor, teachers & members, is here to share this message with all people.

TODAY'S SERVICE THEME...

*What one word summarizes all of God's commands? Love.
Jesus himself commands us to love one another as he has loved us.*

The Order of Worship: Based on CW p. 38, "Service of the Word"

Hymn #492 "Son of God, Eternal Savior" Printed on p. 9. HOTW

Invocation

Pastor: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: 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.

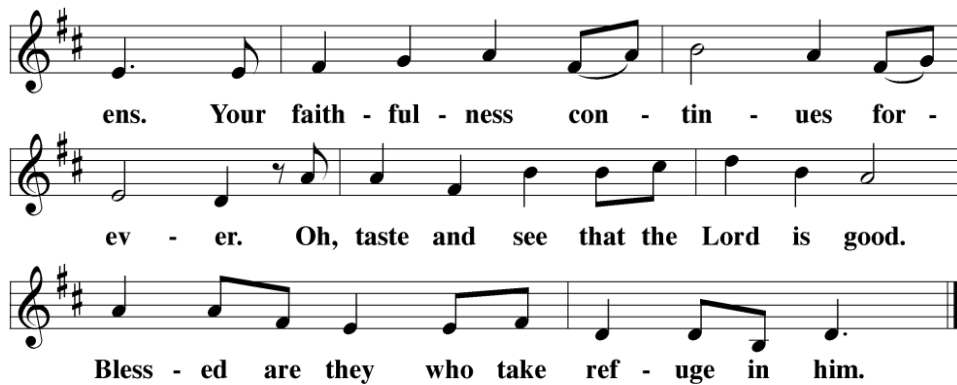
P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all our sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed our guilt forever. We are his own dear children! May God give us strength to live according to His will.

C: Amen.

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

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Son of God, Eternal Savior'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line of music is for the verse, and the second line is for the chorus. The lyrics are: 'C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -'.

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they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

All: Father of Lights, every good and perfect gift comes from You. Move us to ask for gifts that are true to Your Word and healthy for our faith. Move us to always thank You for all our gifts, so that we may always make our prayers of thanks and requests according to Your holy will; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The First Scripture Lesson

Acts 11:19-26

The Word of the Lord spreads after the first great persecution in Jerusalem. The church at Antioch experienced substantial growth, especially among the heathen.

¹⁹ 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.

The Psalm Psalm 98 *Let's sing the Psalm together.*



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.



The Second Scripture Lesson I John 4:1-12

John urges us to "test the spirits to see whether they are from God," and to love one another, since God loved us by sending his Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

¹ 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.

⁴ You, 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. ⁵ They are from the

world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We 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^[a] of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Hymn #497 “This Is My Will” *Printed on p. 10.*

The Sermon Meditation John 15:9-17

Jesus Tells Us to Stay in His Love

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I 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. ¹⁶ You 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. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

Confession of Faith The 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 shall 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.

The Thank-Offering

If you haven't already, please place your thank-offering in the plate located in the back of church. Scanning this QR code works too. Thanks for your generous gifts! God blesses a cheerful giver!



Malachi 3:10 *Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.*

Thank-Offering Hymn

Our offerings are brought to the Lord as we sing!

#486, vss 1&2 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Glad - ly,
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine of your
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by

count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the
you, at length be - lieve That more hap - py and more

e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.
bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.

Prayer of the Church & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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 forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Closing Hymn #411 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Printed on page 11.

#492 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior,
 2 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us,
 3 Bind us all as one to - geth - er
 4 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers,

Source of life and truth and grace, Word made
 King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the
 In your Church's sa - cred fold, Weak and
 So may we for oth - ers live. Free - ly

flesh, whose birth a - mong us, Hon - or
 storm of strife and pas - sion; Bid its
 health - y, poor and wealth - y, Sad and
 have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly

all our hu - man race, You our head,
 cru - el dis - cords cease. By your pa -
 joy - ful, young and old. Is there want
 may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold

who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will
 tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent
 or pain or sor - row? Make us all the
 and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of

ev - er plead: Fill us with your love and
 hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered thirst for
 bur - den share. Are there spir - its crushed and
 land and sea; We but stew - ards of your



pit - y; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
 plea - sure; Stem our self - ish greed for gain.
 bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.

#497 "This Is My Will"



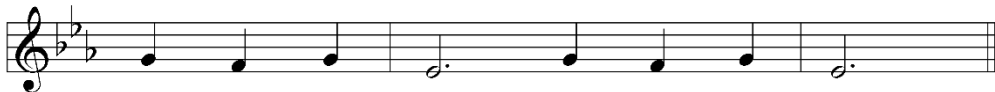
1 "This is my will, my one com - mand,
 2 "No great - er love can an - y have
 3 "I call you now no long - er slaves;
 4 "You chose not me, but I chose you,
 5 "All that you ask my Fa - ther dear



That love should dwell a - mong you all.
 Than that one die to save his friends.
 No slave knows all the mas - ter does.
 That you should go and bear much fruit.
 For my name's sake you shall re - ceive.



This is my will, that you should love
 You are my friends if you o - bey
 I call you friends, for all I hear
 I chose you out that you in me
 This is my will, my one com - mand,



As I have shown that I love you.
 What I com - mand that you should do.
 My Fa - ther say, you hear from me.
 Should bear much fruit that will a - bide,
 That love should dwell in each, in all."

#411 What A Friend We Have In Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a



griefs to bear! What a priv - i - lege to car - ry
 an - y - where? We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—
 load of care? Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—



Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we of - ten
 Take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so
 Take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends de-spise, for -



for - feit, Oh, what need-less pain we bear, All be -
 faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share? Je - sus
 sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his



cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
 knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a sol - ace there.

Serving In the Lord's House Today

Worship Leader: Pastor Richard Schliewe

Organist: Mrs. Alicia Moyer

Radio Broadcasters: Ron Kraemer

Video Tech: Lisa Lindemann

Elder: Dave Nelson

Ushers: Eric Nunnenkamp & Joe Myers

Power Point: Jett Leuthold (Sat.) Noah Doescher (Sun.)

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Elder: Miles Spreeman

Ushers: Curt Dinkel & Randy Anderson

Power Point: Hallie Spreeman

Worshipping the Lord

Last Week's Attendance: Sat. 6:30 PM – 112; Sun. 9:00 AM – 151; **Total = 263**

Special Communion Service - 8

Sisters in Faith - 7; Wednesday Bible Class – 15

Some Announcements

- 1) **THE ADVERTISED OUTDOOR SERVICE PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED AND SCHEDULED FOR PENTECOST, MAY 23 IS POSTPONED!!** There's just a lot of things going on right now, so for the sake of doing this as well as possible, the out-door service date has been pushed back to **Sunday, June 13**. We're still looking at having some extracurriculars with this, like a meal afterwards (some kind of pot-luck w/ burgers provided), and a corn-hole tourney?! More details will be coming soon.
- 2) There's a new edition (May 30-August 28) of the **Meditations** devotional booklet available, along with some recent May issues of **Forward in Christ** at the communication Center.

- 3) **Student Enrollment** is now open for the 2021-2022 school year for both Little Lambs pre-school and K-8th Grades! You can access the application by going to our website (www.stpls.com) and clicking on “2021-2022 Enrollment.” If you have any questions, please speak to Mr. Markgraf or Mrs. Mullen.
- 4) **On-Line Devotion Opportunities** Our Wisconsin Synod offers a number of online opportunities for a regular, daily connection to God’s Word. Go to, wels.net, scroll down a bit and on the right side of the home-page there’s the heading “Daily Devotions.” If you click on that day’s daily devotion, it’ll also give you the info to subscribe to it so you can receive it on whatever device you want. There’s a number of good resources on that right side of the home-page.
- 5) **Special Sunday Evening Communion Service** Due to decreasing numbers at these Special Communion Services, Sunday May 16 is scheduled to be the last special Communion service, at least for now. If the need arises again in the future, this certainly can and would be resurrected.
- 6) **NELHS 3-on-3 Tourney** Saturday, May 29 is the date for this fund-raiser to purchase “The Gun” BB shooting machine. Details and contact info are on the poster at the Communication Center.
- 7) **Spring Band Concert** Mark your calendars! Our Spring Band Concert will be held on Thursday, May 13 at 6:30pm in the church sanctuary. We will play a variety of songs as a whole group and also feature small group ensembles as well! All are welcome to attend. This event will also be livestreamed.
- 8) **St. Paul’s School Graduation/Awards Night** is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, @ 6:30 PM in the church. All congregation members are invited to attend this service as we thank God for so many blessings throughout a very unique year!

THANK YOU!!

“To those who made, packaged & delivered food on Thursday, April 29 –

Thank you for the delicious ham, scalloped potatoes, corn, and dinner roll. You even included a drink – water & dessert – yummy cookies!! What an unexpected surprise!!! You all went more than the extra mile!!!!

*Sally Stahlecher,
Norfolk Public Library*

SHARE THE GOSPEL AS A PEN-PAL

Do you find it intimidating to share your faith with a stranger? How about with a convicted felon? Jesus tells us to share our faith and minister to those in prison. I have the privilege of doing this by being a pen pal with men who are incarcerated. As a pen pal, I have discovered many things about my faith and about myself. The experience has changed my ideas about the nature of grace, forgiveness, and the gospel.



I was nervous. These are the bad guys, right? I knew that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, but certainly these guys had fallen a little further than I. Shame on me. The experience of being a pen pal has made it clear that people are not that different from one another. We are all sinners in need of a forgiving and merciful God.

I may not see the fruits of my labors on this side of heaven. I have not handled every situation well. And, on occasion, I have disclosed too much. Christ does not command that we witness perfectly, just that we do it. And, thankfully, we have the promise of the Holy Spirit's help. I assure you that this is the case. Jesus looked beyond a person's sin to see someone in need of the Gospel's saving message. As a pen pal, I have learned that the limits of God's grace and forgiveness are much broader than I could imagine. Looking beyond someone's particular crimes and seeing the person loved by God has made grace and forgiveness more tangible and meaningful for me.

Consider becoming a pen pal. It is safe and anonymous. You will be giving much needed encouragement as you share the Gospel of Christ. The experience will change you. You will gain much more than you give. Contact WELS Prison Ministry (welspm@newulmtel.net) for more information on how to become a pen pal.

SOME CHURCH FUNCTIONS THIS WEEK:

Sunday, 5/9 = Worship Service, 9:00 AM
Bible Study, 10:15 AM

Monday, 5/10 = Sisters in Christ, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, 5/12 = Worship Service Broadcast on Local Cable 12, 9:00 AM
Bible Class (Schliewe), 10:00 AM

Thursday, 5/13 = Spring Band Concert, 6:30 PM

Saturday, 5/15 = Worship Service w/ Communion, 6:30 PM
Organist: Mrs. Karen Pufahl

Sunday, 5/16 = Worship Service w/ Communion, 9:00 AM
Bible Study, 10:15 AM

Church Cleaning Teams:

May 9 – Team 6 (Kristin Bauer, Linda Jensen, Kelly Meysenburg,
Dan & Karen Pufahl, Barb Reeves, Carol Wachter, Veryle Winter)

May 16 & May 23 – Team 1 (Chad & Alicia Moyer, Kathy Janovec,
Bill & Sue Ulrich)

St. Paul's Contact Information

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pahirschki@gmail.com

Jeanette Leuthold, Secretary
School Office: (402) 371-1233
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St. Paul's Website: www.stpls.com
WELS Website: www.wels.net