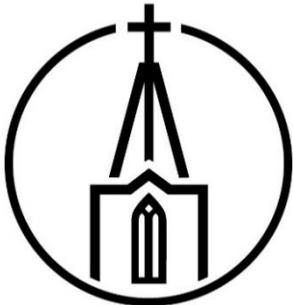


Saturday & Sunday, July 24 & 25, 2021
The 9th Sunday after Pentecost



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)
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 worshiping 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... ***Jesus Gives Life By His Faithful Word***

It sounds awfully obvious, but what a good reminder for all of us! Faithful public servants must **FIRST** be faithful in hearing and proclaiming the Word which is the only source of salvation! When that Word isn't faithfully heard and proclaimed, it only leads people away from Jesus and salvation.

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

Hymn #239 "Glory Be to God the Father"

Call To Worship

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!

C: May God give us strength to live according to His will. Amen.

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

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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 -

ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Dear Lord God, please send us Your Holy Spirit through the Word we hear today, so that we think and do what is right according to Your will. Guide all that we think, all that we say, and all that we do, so that we love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves, and so that we love You more than anything else; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

The First Scripture Lesson Jeremiah 23:1-6

God himself refers to the awesome responsibility of the shepherds of His flock. Today we'd call these shepherds - pastors. He promises that the evil shepherds, who lead people away from the truth, will be removed.

¹“Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD. ²Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: “Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done,” declares the LORD. ³“I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in

number. ⁴I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD.

⁵“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

The Psalm Psalm 119b *Let's sing the Psalm together.*

Refrain

Lord, you have the words of
ev - er - last - ing life.

Psalm tone *

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; *
then I will keep them to the end.

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; *
then I will keep them to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will keep your law*
and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your commands, *
for there I find delight.

REFRAIN

Turn my eyes away from worthless things; *
preserve my life according to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
so that you may be feared.

How I long for your precepts!*
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

**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

The Second Scripture Lesson Mark 6:30-44

Jesus shows himself to be THE Shepherd of His people. Jesus uses all kinds of opportunities to graze His flock!

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³ But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

³⁵ By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. ³⁶ Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

³⁷ But he answered, “You give them something to eat.”

They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”

³⁸ “How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”

When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”

³⁹ Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹ Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² They all ate and were satisfied, ⁴³ and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. ⁴⁴ The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

Hymn #538 “The Church’s One Foundation”

The Sermon Meditation Ephesians 2:11-22

THE CHURCH – GOD’S CONSTANT BUILDING PROJECT

¹ Remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

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 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.

The “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.*

The Offering Hymn #480, vss 1,4,5 “Almighty Father, Heaven and Earth”

- 1 Almighty Father, heav'n and earth With lavish wealth before you bow;
Those treasures owe to you their birth So richly furnished for us now.

- 4 We, Lord, would lay, at your request, The costliest off'rings on your shrine,
And when we give and give our best, We but return your gifts divine.

- 5 O Father, whence all blessings come, O Son, Dispenser of God's store,
O Spirit, bear our off'rings home— Lord, make them yours forevermore!

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.



Closing Hymn #528 “Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

WELS Connection

Serving In the Lord’s House Today

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Hirsch
Organist: Mrs. Alicia Moyer
Radio Broadcasters: Damon Weinrich & Walt Tinius
Video Tech: Chad Moyer
Elder: Chad Moyer
Ushers: Leon Sweigard & Zach Kruse
Power Point: Weinrichs (Sat.) Josephine Moyer (Sun.)

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Elder: Gary Bretschneider
Ushers: Gary Johnson & Don Lau **Power Point:**

Worshipping the Lord

Last Week’s Attendance: Sat. 6:30 PM – 38; Sun. 9:00 AM – 98; **Total = 136**
Communion Service 6:00 PM - 6
Sunday Bible Class – NA; Sisters in Faith - 10; Wednesday Bible Class – NA

Announcements

- 1) **Sunday Bible Class** will be re-booted next Sunday, August 1. We’ll continue looking at some those “oldies but goodies” Bible stories, reviewing and relearning. We’ll restart with Moses.
- 2) **Congregational/Voters’ Meeting, July 25 (10:15 AM in the basement)** Any and all members are encouraged to attend this quarterly meeting to hear information and ask questions. If/when a final decision needs to be made, the voters will take up that responsibility.

- 3) **Pioneer Day/Night** The 2nd annual Pioneer Day will be held Saturday, September 4, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. This is the time when vendors will be here for a flea-market. If anyone from here would like a table, please contact Jeff Jensen (402.750.9009). This year we're also trying something new, a Pioneer Night, to be held on the green-space east of school. This will include food trucks, activities for kids (bounce houses), music, and the opportunity for some fellowship with one another and our community over a cold beer or two (which will be carefully supervised)! The tentative timeframe for Pioneer Night is 6:00-9:00 PMish. Let's enjoy each others' company as well as building some more bridges with our community!
- 4) **Red Cross Cookies** In the past August was the month St. Paul's Church donated cookies for the Red Cross Tuesday Blood Drives. If you would be willing to do it again there is a sign-up sheet on the communication shelf with more information.
- 5) Plan are in the works to **reboot Sunday School** after Labor Day. Generally speaking, Pre-K – 4th Grades will be included, divided into two age groups. Would you consider helping as a teacher for these kids?! We're working HARD for is to have multiple teachers per level so that just one or two are not doing the lions' share of teaching. If you have questions, or know already you'd like to help, talk to either Hannah Markgraf (920.539.5547) or Pastor Hirsch (402-649-9268).
- 6) **The dates for this year's CAMP MESSIAH are Sunday, August 1 (afternoon) – Wednesday (noon) August 4** at Camp Calvin Crest, just south of Fremont. It's too late to participate and get a T-shirt, but if it turns out some would still like to come, call or text Pastor Hirsch (402.649.9268).
- 7) We're heading to Sioux city this upcoming **Friday, July 30th** for a **Sioux City Explorers baseball game!** The game starts at 7:05 PM, but we're looking to get there early for some tail-gate grilling and fellowship. There's a group of 16 who've signed up and have tix reserved, but if you and yours would still like to join, we'd love for your tail-gate company, and buy a ticket at the window. Talk to Pastor Hirsch (402.649.9268).
- 8) St. Paul's is hosting a **free soccer camp this week, Tuesday-Thursday, July 27-29** for kids entering Preschool-8th Grade. This will be held on the field just west of church (9:30-11:30 AM), and lunch will be served afterwards! Questions? Contact Mr. Markgraf (920.248.2223).
- 9) Help support St. Paul's with your Amazon purchases! **Amazon SMILES** is a part of Amazon that donates .5% of your purchases to the charity or church of your choice. In your church boxes is a small insert with easy steps on how to sign into and use Amazon SMILES! Thanks!

- 10) **Sisters in Faith (a women's fellowship group)** will be starting a new book called *12 Extraordinary Women of the Bible* by John MacArthur. I have one copy to preview at the Communication Center along with a sign-up sheet so that we can get enough copies for everyone. We will start the new book July 19th. If you have a question, talk to Lisa Lindemann.
- 11) The **“Greeter Program” is re-starting**, and consists of several friendly faces in the narthex welcoming members and guests to the service. Sign-up sheets for this are at the Communication Center.

SO MANY BLESSINGS!!

We first and foremost thank our gracious and generous God for so many blessings, but also to so many here at St. Paul's who have been so helpful and generous this past COVID situation. Thanks for all the help in technology which is so helpful to so many in our community and the country (on-line services)!

Thanks for the continued generous financial support through our offerings! Logic says we should have gotten in trouble through that challenge, but that's not the case.

And thanks for the new mowing and landscaping arrangements. So many people are rolling up sleeves in new ways and it all looks so nice! THANK YOU!! May we all keep those sleeves rolled up in many different ways as we continue to serve Him and our community with the Gospel.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!

SOME CHURCH FUNCTIONS THIS WEEK:

Sunday, 7/25 = Worship Service, 9:00 AM
Congregational/Voters' Assembly, 10:15 AM

Monday, 7/26 = Sisters in Faith, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, 7/27 – Thursday, 7/29 = Free Soccer Camp (Pre-8, field west of church),
9:30-11:30 AM, with a lunch served afterwards!!

Wednesday, 7/28 = Worship Service Broadcast on Local Cable 12, 9:00 AM
NO Bible Class with Pastor Schlieue

Saturday, 7/31 = Worship Service w/ Communion, 6:30 PM
Organist: Mrs. Diane Herbolsheimer

Sunday, 8/1 = Worship Service w/ Communion, 9:00 AM
Coffee / Bible Study, 10:15 AM

Church Cleaning Teams:

July 25 & Aug. 1 – Team 6 (Kristin Bauer, Linda Jensen, Kelly Meysenburg,
Dan & Karen Pufahl, Barb Reeves, Carol Wachter, Veryl Winter)

Aug. 8 & Aug. 15 – Team 1 (Chad & Alicia Moyer, Kathy Janovec,
Bill & Sue Ulrich)

St. Paul's Contact Information

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St. Paul's Website: www.stpls.com
WELS Website: www.wels.net