

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

3rd Week after Pentecost + Saturday, June 8, 2024



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

WELCOME

DIALOG

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

for in your wisdom you have formed us.

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You set free those who are bound.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You raise up those whose courage falters.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You provide for our every need.

Accept our grateful praises.

You have called us from all peoples.

We rejoice and bless your name forever.

You bless your people with peace.

We bless you and praise your loving grace.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

for in your wisdom you have formed us.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE: *I Will Sing the Story of Your Love*

I will sing the story of your love, O Lord, and proclaim your faithfulness forever.

**I will sing the story of your love, O Lord,
and proclaim your faithfulness forever.**

In this place shall be heard again the sounds of joy and gladness,
the voice of the bridegroom and the bride.

**I will sing the story of your love, O Lord,
and proclaim your faithfulness forever.**

Here they offer praise and thanksgiving in the house of the Lord,
and we hear their voices shouting,

“Praise the Lord of hosts, for he is good, for his love endures forever.”

**I will sing the story of your love, O Lord,
and proclaim your faithfulness forever.**

Give thanks to him and bless his name;
the Lord is good, his love is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures to all generations,
and his faithfulness endures to all generations.

**I will sing the story of your love, O Lord,
and proclaim your faithfulness forever.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory.

Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of
the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

A reading from Genesis.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130

¹Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

²**If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?**

³For there is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.

⁴**I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him;
in his word is my hope.**

⁵My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

⁶O Israel, wait for the LORD,
for with the LORD there is mercy;
⁷with him there is plenteous redemption,
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, or hopelessness. With haste, rescue victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Come to the aid of all who seek your welcome, love and healing, especially those whose names we speak now, out loud, in our hearts or by listing online ... Give to all the hope of renewal and life in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships.

Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you. Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.**

OFFERING

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE: *How Blest Are Those Who Know Their Need of God*

***Refrain:* How blest are those who know their need of God;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.**

How blest are the sorrowful;
they shall find consolation.

How blest are those of a gentle spirit;
they shall have the earth for their possession. *Refrain*

How blest are those who hunger and thirst to see right prevail;
they shall be satisfied, they shall be satisfied. *Refrain*

How blest are those who show mercy;
mercy shall be shown to them.

How blest are those whose hearts are pure;
they shall see God.

How blest, how blest are the peacemakers;
God shall call them his children.

How blest are those who have suffered persecution for the cause of right;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs. *Refrain*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S PICNIC. Sunday, June 9, at 11:30 a.m. Invite your friends and family to join you for worship and stay for food, fellowship and games at our church picnic.

WALKING AT ROOSEVELT PARK. Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Call your friends and put on your walking shoes and meet at skating rink entrance and enjoy fellowship and walk around the park.

BIBLE STUDY.

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. We gather in the lounge on Wednesdays for fellowship and discussion around God's Word. In the Easter Season we will read and discuss the First John. This book will be read as the second reading in worship each week.

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. This study meets on Zoom. See your virtual bulletin for the link to join this study from any place.

MAKE PLANS FOR VBS. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR CAMP FIRELIGHT

"When I am Afraid, I put my trust in you." Psalm 56:3

- Friday evening, June 28, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday evening, June 29, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, June 30, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Camp Firelight St. Paul's Takeover! VBS for All of Us!

You'll want your neighbors to come and be part of this amazing adventure in learning and discipleship at the beginning of our summer!

REGISTER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. Children Age 3 through 6th grade can sign up for Vacation Bible school using the form link in the Virtual Bulletin or at the Camp Firelight Tree in the lounge.

VOLUNTEER TO SPARK THE EXCITEMENT! If you would like to use your unique abilities (and you have lots) to help make VBS a memorable experience for our children ... see Erin or Pastor Jim or use the sign up form in the Virtual Bulletin.

DONATE S'MORE STUFF AND ENJOY THE FUN! Between now and the end of June you can purchase and donate all the stuff that goes into making great S'MORES ... Graham Crackers, Chocolate (of all kinds), Marshmallows (of all kinds), sticks, and more! Leave your donations at the Camp Firelight Tree in the lounge.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME!. Sunday, July 28. Sign up to be part of the St. Paul's community cheering on the Somerset Patriots. Tickets are \$10 each; you can sign up in the lounge.

PASTOR HAS A NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS. Pastor Jim has changed his e-mail address to PastorKromholz@gmail.com. Please add this address to your contacts and delete the old address PastorJim2006@icloud.com.

DAILY PRAYER. Daily prayer is one of the means the Holy Spirit uses to keep us in faith. Here are two ways to make daily prayer part of your life: a daily service of morning prayer and a daily service of night prayer.

Morning Prayer: Start each day (Monday through Saturday) with a brief service of Morning Prayer. This service is available as an audio file on the [St. Paul's Website](#) and the St. Paul's Facebook each morning. You can listen and pray along from your home or take it with you as you exercise or commute.

Night Prayer: End your day in prayer and fellowship. This ongoing prayer group meets **on Zoom each night at 9:00 p.m.** to share what has been happening in their day, to let go of each day's trouble and to participate in a brief service of night prayer. Zoom log info: Meeting ID = 401 244 599 + Password: 042662

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

Amen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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