

Sunday, August 25, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

It is a joy to gather together for worship!

St. Paul Purpose Statement

Living Christ centered lives so we may love all, serve our community, and share the Word.

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. In-person worship with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. In-person Sunday School – September – May

Communion

We celebrate Jesus' presence each week in Holy Communion. This is the Lord's Supper and Jesus invites us: whether you are a lifelong Lutheran, or just considering Christianity; if you are an infant or elderly; if your family has been in the United States for generations, or has only recently arrived; if you are LGBTQIA+ or straight; if you live with disabilities, chronic illness, or are able-bodied and currently healthy; if you are homeblessed or homeless; ... YOU are welcome at God's meal of grace at St. Paul.

Accessibility

Handicap parking, entrance, wheelchair, and restrooms are available. Sound amplifiers and large print bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Children's Offering

The August Children's offering will go to towards the shipping of the LWR School Kits that have been collected.

1701 16th Ave. Sterling, IL 61081 815-625-3069 Church email: stpaulsterling@comcast.net www.stpaulsterling.com

Prelude

"Blessed Assurance"
Phoebe Palmer Knapp

Welcome/Announcements

GATHER

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

All: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin...

P: God, our provider,

All: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

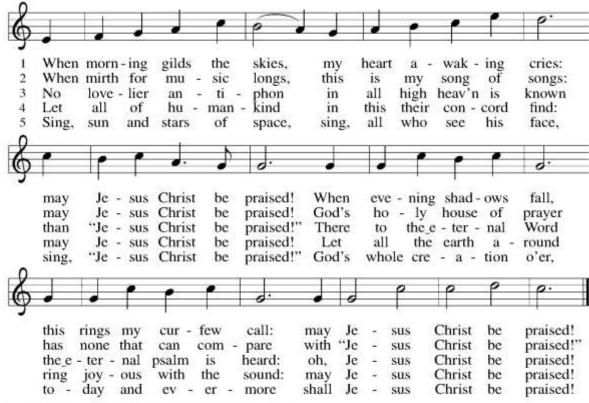
P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

All: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"When Morning Guilds the Skies"

ELW #853



Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together:

All: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may life in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

R: A reading from Ephesians,

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

R: Word of God, Word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Gospel: John 6:59-69

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 6th chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" 61But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? 62Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63lt is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Borning Cry" ELW #732



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid-dle a ges of your life, not too old, no lon ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold, you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long. I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."

I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."

I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Each petition ends with these words:

P: Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you!

P: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace in whatever way you are comfortable.

MEAL

Offering

"Take Time to Be Holy"
Tom Fettke

Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

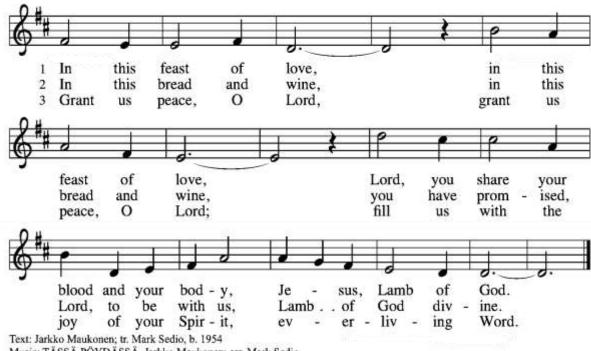
All: Our Father, who art in heaven,

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion Music

"In This Feast of Love"



Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

"Hiding in Thee"
Cindy Berry

Prayer after Communion

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

P: Let us pray

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world. In your name we pray.

All: Amen

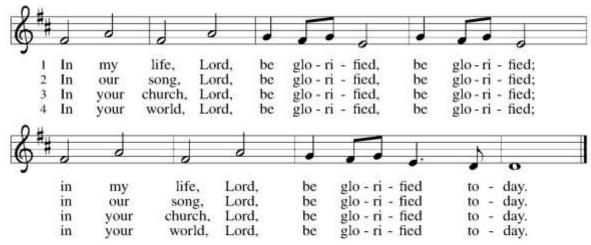
Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, \pm be upon you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song "Lord, Be Glorified"

ELW #744



Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

Text and music © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Indescribable"

Victor Labenske

We Remember in Prayer; those on our Home Visitation list and those on our prayer list: Bev Julien, Phyllis Jacobson, Lee Eilers, JoAnn Garcia, Barb Lenn, Lori Dewey, Shirley Graftaas, Betty Steinke, Michael Harting, Larry Wahler, JoDell Cruz, Harold & Sandy Julifs, Lila Edeus, and Berta Beyer.

Worship Assistants:

Presider: Pastor Leo Patterson

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Mary Ordean

Acolytes – Ordean family

Greeters/Ushers - Mel Johnson, Nancy Beck, Jim Gorman

Reader – Jim Gorman Sound – Greg Zeigler

Musicians:

Virginia Schumaker Linda VonHolten

Next week - September 1

Presider: Pastor Kathy Burkheimer

Opener/Head Usher/Closer – Greg Zeigler

Acolytes – Platz family

Greeters/Ushers – Janie Billings, Diane Yoeckel

Reader – Greg Zeigler

Sound – Greg Zeigler

Coffee Fellowship - Volunteer needed

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