

## THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

**TODAY** (Aug 9) **WORSHIP (HC)**..... 8:00 am  
**TODAY** (Aug 9) Teen's/20's Bible Class..... 7:00 pm  
**TUES** (Aug 11) Council Meeting..... 6:30 pm  
**THURS** (Aug 13) **WORSHIP** ..... 6:30 pm  
**SAT** (Aug 15) Vacation Bible School-St. Paul.....9-11:30 am  
**NEXT SUN** (Aug 16) **WORSHIP** ..... 8:00 am

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** *If you happen to see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"* Aug 9 – Stan Buman Aug 11 – Gloria Mihna, Bruce Roesler Aug 12 – Scott Mueller, Braelyn Huettl Aug 13 – Kyle Guyette

**MEDITATIONS** – Sept thru Nov. edition is available for members and guests to take home. They are in the basket on the entryway counter. There are several large print editions for anyone needing that size.

**THANK YOU** - to everyone who helped with the cleaning day on Monday. Great progress was made and lots of things are in the process of being sorted through. We had a great group of workers.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - We will also be needing Sunday School teachers for the fall. If any member would be interested in this very important work of the Lord, please contact the pastor at 920-878-3001. The time and manner of holding Sunday school may need to change based on the teachers' needs.

**EVENING SERVICE** - Thursday evening service continues at 6:30 p.m. It would be by **reservation only** and limited to a maximum of 14 members (due to COVID-19 social distancing concerns) and held in the Bible Study room. You would need to call in advance for the date--you could reserve well in advance if you know you will be gone on the weekends. It would be shorter than the Sunday service and would be recorded for use on our Facebook page on Sunday morning.) Call or text the church office 920-779-6777 or email [st.paullutherandale@gmail.com](mailto:st.paullutherandale@gmail.com) to let us know you are coming.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING** - The congregation will practice social distancing (six foot spacing between family groupings). The only pews to be used are the ones marked with the blue tape (every other pew). Additional seating is available in the balcony (only blue taped pews), in the entry and in the fellowship area of the basement. Masks should be worn during the singing of hymns and when unable to keep six feet from others (entering and leaving the church).



*"Making Friends for Eternity"*

Est.1859

## ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
Rev. Paul Ibsch, Pastor St Paul Office Phone 920-779-6777  
Pastor Ibsch Cell Phone 920-878-3001

## Pentecost 10 August 9, 2020

**TODAY'S WORSHIP** - In the Bible reading from Romans we have comforting good news for the uncertain believer in Christ. Before God created us, he knew us and destined us to be his. In this life he called us to faith by the gospel and justified us. Even now there are no accidents in life, no blind twists of fate. God turns Satan's evil into good for those who love him. If our gracious God has so carefully forged each link in the chain of our salvation, we can be sure he will not forget the final link as he will bring us to glory! In the lesson from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl to show us the inestimable value of the kingdom of heaven. The trusting heart will joyfully sacrifice everything to keep from being separated from it.

### **Welcome to our Guests—**

We're glad you joined us today! If you have any needs or questions during your visit with us this morning, let us try to help. Just ask an usher or the person next to you.

The liturgy and hymns will be shown on the large screen in the front of the church and the readings are printed in the bulletin due to COVID-19 safety reasons.

Today, we will use **The Common Service**

Today's hymns: **421; 620; 313; and 325**

Today we will sing **Psalm 119b**

The restrooms are located downstairs, just past the fellowship hall. There is also television & viewing area in the foyer near there with seating if your little one needs a break or you need to be close to the restrooms. Before you leave today, please take a moment to sign our guest registry in the entryway & visit again soon!

**THE SACRAMENT- ON SCREEN**

**BELLS AND WELCOME**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP:** *The Common Service, with Holy Communion.*

**TODAY'S HYMNS:** #421; 620; 313; and 325

**PSALM OF THE DAY:** Psalm 119b

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Spoken by Pastor*)



O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



+ **GOD'S WORD** +

**THE FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3:5-12**

<sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

<sup>6</sup> Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

<sup>7</sup> "Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. <sup>8</sup> Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. <sup>9</sup> So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

**DIST. HYMN:** #313 "*Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior*"

*Dear Guests, in keeping with the Lord's own instructions in his Word, this congregation practices "Close Communion." The Lord teaches us that partaking in the sacrament is, among other things, an outward way of expressing our unity in a common confession of faith. We ask our guests today, who are not members of this congregation or another WELS or ELS church, that you please speak with our pastor before communing. Christ calls on us to first establish our oneness in faith through time in His Word together so that we can openly and honestly express it in the sacrament.*

**THE SONG OF SIMEON, on screen**

**PRAYER AND BLESSING, on screen**

**CLOSING HYMN:** # 325 "*How Blest Are They Who Hear*"

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT'D**

**OFFERINGS** - The weekly offerings for July 26 and August 2 were \$2,904.00. The Vanco online offerings for weeks ending July 24 and July 31 were \$1,238.04. TOTAL \$ 4142.04

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - Postcards inviting children to our Vacation Bible School were mailed to all homes with children in the Larsen, Winneconne, Fremont and Hortonville zip codes. They were hand delivered by the pastor to the post offices in Dale, Winneconne and Larsen, to the Winneconne Library, to Kwik Trips in Winchester Twp and Winneconne and the BP station in Dale, to the Arther Marble Park Swimming Facility, distributed to the childcare center at the Y in Greenville as well as put on the windshields of vehicles at our park here in Dale. Please share post cards with others you know in the area as our next VBS is August 15 at 9 a.m. We had a wonderful staff for the first day of our VBS including Cami Gettendorf, Emma Mindock, Caitlin Broehm, Abby Gentz and Elisabeth Gentz. Most are graduates of our Fox Valley Lutheran High School. All will be able to help on August 15. May God bless us with more students.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. <sup>11</sup> So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, <sup>12</sup>I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

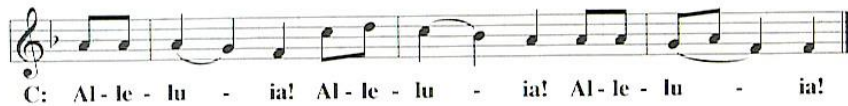
**PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 119B** (*Sing in Unison*)

**SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:28-30**

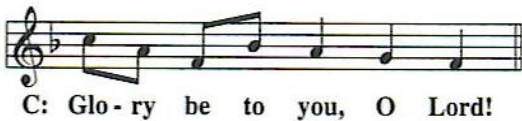
<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. (John 6:68 cf. NIV)



**GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:44-52**



<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup> When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

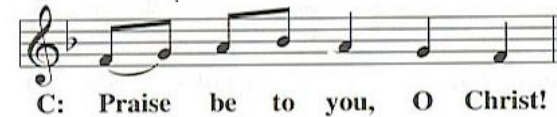
<sup>47</sup> “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. <sup>48</sup> When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. <sup>49</sup> This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup> “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

<sup>52</sup> He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**HYMN OF THE DAY # 620** *“To You, Our God, We Fly”*

**THE MESSAGE TODAY:** *Based on : 1 King 3:5-12*

**“Voters’ Guide: What to Pray For”**

1. Wisdom for candidates
2. Wisdom for us

*After the Sermon – sing Create in Me*

**OFFERINGS** - Offering baskets will be kept in the entry area and will not be passed during the service.

## God's Word for This Week

God in heaven has blessed us in untold ways. Take a moment to consider just how many blessings you have. Chances are that most of what you considered was temporal, that is, for this life only. More important than all that, certainly, is our salvation in Christ Jesus, the only blessing that offers us an assurance of life eternal. This blessing is ours through the precious Word of God alone.

### First Lesson – 1 Kings 3:5-12

What excellent role model does Solomon provide for us as we undertake tasks in life?

*Young King Solomon was poised to begin his reign as ruler of Israel, replacing his father, King David. This was certainly a daunting task. So Solomon correctly subjects all earthly things to the important spiritual things and seeks God's wisdom to carry out the demands of his new position in a God-pleasing way. In the words of the hymn-writer: "With the Lord begin your task, Jesus will direct it."*

Since Solomon placed godly things first, what else did God provide?

*In addition to the wisdom Solomon requested, God also granted him riches, power, and fame unparalleled in any other human. Remember the words of the Savior: "Seek first the kingdom, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Luke 12:31).*

### Second Lesson – Romans 8:28-30

How does God call us for his purpose?

*As in days past, God still calls us through the means of grace—his gospel found in the Word and sacraments.*

A wonderful chain of events is described, beginning long before we came to be. If God intricately wove his plan for us through all these steps, what continuation of these steps will he most certainly bring to pass?

*From eternity God foreknew us and predestined us to be conformed in the likeness of Jesus Christ. Through the gospel, he called us and justified us by faith in the promises that he himself made. Since God carefully planned each of these steps, bringing us into our current relationship with him, we can with confidence expect that he will bring that plan to completion by glorifying us one day as we enter heaven itself. Note that Paul's confidence in this is so strong that he speaks of it as if even the final step had already occurred.*

### Gospel – Matthew 13:44-52

What do both the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value represent?

*Each represents the kingdom of heaven—a prize of priceless value. Each parable indicates that nothing else should be considered so highly as to risk losing this most precious possession.*

The parable of the net teaches of the final judgment. How does its message also extend the thought of the first two parables?

*While its main teaching is of the final judgment, this parable implies the importance of our faith in God's promises. May that faith remain strong so that our stake in the kingdom of God is not lost!*