

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

TODAY (Sept 13) **WORSHIP (HC)**..... 8:00 am
TODAY (Sept 13) Teen's/20's Bible Class..... 7:00 pm
TODAY (Sept 13) Food Pantry Collection
TUES (Sept 15) Church Council 6:30 pm
THURS (Sept 17) **WORSHIP** 6:30 pm
FRI (Sept 18) Foundations of our Faith Bible Class-Facebook..... 10:00 am
NEXT SUN (Sept 20) **WORSHIP** 8:00 am
NEXT SUN (Sept 20) **WORSHIP**..... 6:30 pm

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: *If you happen to see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"* **Sept 15** – Casey Laabs **Sept 16** – Leahann Grossman **Sept 17** – Amy Danke **Sept 19** – Samantha Dederling

JANITOR – We are thankful to our church custodians, Terry and Cindy Williams, for their faithful janitorial work. They have given us a window of opportunity to find someone(s) to replace them. The position currently consists of cleaning work for two hours each week. The amount budgeted for the position is \$10/hour. The hours can be done each week at the convenience of the custodian(s) prior to services at church. A job description with expectations is available upon request. Talk to Pastor Ibisch at 920-878-3001 or call our church office at 920-779-6777 about your interest in serving our congregation and our Lord in this manner.



PRAYER - James Tank has played organ here as well as helped with the rebuilding of our pipe organ. Health issues are robbing him of his sight and he has also been diagnosed with stage four prostate cancer. For those who might want to send a note of encouragement, his home address is: 628 Grand Ave. #310 Little Chute WI 54140. His wife's name is Pearl.

MEDITATIONS - At this time, please do not return your expired meditations to church. They will not be reused. Please dispose of them in your recycling container.

COUNCIL – St. Paul church council will meet on Tuesday, Sept 15 at 6:30 pm downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.



Making Friends for Eternity”

Est.1859

ST PAUL EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Pentecost 15 September 10 & 13, 2020

TODAY'S WORSHIP - When it comes to being a faithful witness for God in this world, the human viewpoint falls short of the Rock-like faith God expects. We will see two examples in Apostle Peter and the Prophet Jeremiah of people we might consider good witnesses, but both fail when compared to God's standard. We may be discouraged by the level of faithfulness expected by God, but by putting complete faith in God, God can accomplish his will. And God would have all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. St. Paul by inspiration speaks to us in the Epistle lesson of making our bodies and our lives into a spiritual sacrifice to God as we live and work for God in his kingdom.

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: **#279; 465 (verses 1,2,4); 312 and 169**

Today we will sing **Psalm 121, pg 112**

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!

BELLS AND WELCOME

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

TODAY’S HYMNS: #279; 465 (verses 1,2,4); 312 and 169

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 121, pg 112

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Spoken by Pastor*)



O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



+ GOD'S WORD +

THE FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 15:15-21 (sermon text)

¹⁵ LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.
¹⁶ When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart’s delight,
for I bear your name,
LORD God Almighty.
¹⁷ I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.
¹⁸ Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?

NICENE CREED

CHILDREN’S DEVOTION

HYMN OF THE DAY # 465 (verses 1,2,4) “*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*”

THE MESSAGE TODAY: *Based: Matthew 16:21-26 and Jeremiah 15:15-21*

“A Faithful Witness”

- 1. Human viewpoint
- 2. God’s standard

After the Sermon—rise & sing Create in Me

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

THE SACRAMENT- ON SCREEN

DIST. HYMN: #312 “*Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*”

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: # 169 “*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*”

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FVL GIVING DAY - FVL’s 3rd Annual Giving Day is Tues., 9/15. Help us meet the *Let the Children Come* mortgage payment at the end of October. That annual payment is \$475K and the FVL Federation currently needs to raise another \$174K to hit the goal. Gifts can be given online, through the mail, or in person. Your gift is needed and appreciated. All gifts are tax deductible.

Visit <https://www.fvlhs.org/support-fvl/giving-day> to learn more and how you can participate this Giving Day!

You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.

¹⁹ Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.

Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰ I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,

for I am with you
to rescue and save you,”

declares the LORD.

²¹ “I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 121 (*Sing in Unison*)

SECOND LESSON: Romans 12:1-8

¹² Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart.
Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16 cf. RSV)



GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 16:21-26 (sermon text)



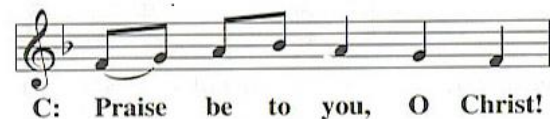
²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Our Devotion Is to God and His Church

God's Word for This Week

God and his Church are under attack on many fronts today, so we ask, "How can the Church remain strong?" The soundest encouragement comes from God himself, who urges us to cling to his unfailing promises and devote ourselves to lives of service.

First Lesson – Jeremiah 15:15-21

What was the essence of Jeremiah's lament?

Jeremiah had devoted himself with all seriousness to God's calling, yet he felt isolated, he was scoffed at, and his message fell on deaf ears. At the heart of his lament was whether God was really faithful to his promises.

As God did on many occasions with the Old Testament prophets, how did God respond?

In a gentle reproof, God reassured his servant Jeremiah that if he turned from his course of discontent with the Lord, he would use Jeremiah as a powerful instrument in sharing his Word and would sustain him against all the enemies of the gospel.

Second Lesson – Romans 12: 1-8

How do we offer our bodies as living sacrifices?

We do not view our bodies as our own personal property to use or abuse as we see fit. Rather, our physical body and all its members are to be devoted to the service of God. We do that when we bring our Christian life into conformity with the holy will of God, not to merit salvation, but as a willing obligation to him at all times and in all things.

How do our special gifts and abilities find their application in congregational life?

God gives an assortment of ordinary and extraordinary gifts to the members of his body, the Church. Some possess executive skills, others the aptitude to preach and teach, and still others the ability to apply God's Word to various circumstances of life. May we use these gifts with passion, cheerfulness, humility, and gratitude, always to God's glory!

Gospel – Matthew 16:21-26

Why did Jesus say he "must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things"?

A divine obligation was resting upon Jesus; it was a necessity which he had taken upon himself to fulfill the will of his heavenly Father by his death for all mankind.

Explain Jesus' sharp rebuke to Peter.

Peter had offered a well-meant, but all-together meddling interference with the business of Christ. His thoughts were not in line with God's will and work. It lacked the wider vision necessary in the kingdom of God. In calling Peter, "Satan," Jesus was accusing him of tempting him to do wrong. Understandably, he commanded, "Get behind me!"—for far be it from Jesus that he should ever prefer Peter's foolish, carnal wisdom over the will of his heavenly Father.

According to verse 25, what is real "life?"

He who aims to find in this world all that his heart desires will, by that fact, lose the real life—true, abounding, and everlasting—which is found in and with Christ Jesus.