

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).

FOX CITIES JOINT REFORMATION WORSHIP

A Joint Reformation Service will be held on Sunday, November 1st at 4:00 pm in the Fox Valley Lutheran High School auditorium (5300 N. Meade Street, Appleton). Guest preacher is Pastor Mark Jeske (Senior Pastor at St. Marcus, Milwaukee). We plan to worship in person with social distance seating provided. We will follow any mask mandate in place at the time of the service. There will be no fellowship following the worship service. More information to follow regarding the live streaming of this service on the WELS United Facebook page – www.facebook.com/WELS-United.

Grief Share: Surviving the Holidays

November 21, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

St. Luke Lutheran Church (705 E. Greenfield Drive, Little Chute, WI)

Help and hope as you navigate the Christmas season. Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing that everything has changed and that happy memories from past years can't be recreated? Pre-registration is required at <https://www.griefshare.org/holidays/events/33824>.

Our Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to discover hope for your future

Early Learning Center Job Posting

Bethlehem Lutheran Early Learning Center, 126 N. Pine St., Hortonville, WI, is looking for a caring and energetic Lead Infant or Two Year Old teacher. Experience is preferred but is not required. Pay is based on experience and education. If interested, please contact our ELC director Elaina Mercier. Email: elcdirector@bethlehem-wels.com Phone: 920-779-6761 ext 325.



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 16 **September 17 & 20, 2020**

TODAY'S WORSHIP - Cain after killing his brother Abel responded to God's question about the well-being of his brother, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Today, the devil plants in people's minds the thought that they should keep their nose out of other people's business when people make bad choices. God expects us to confront sinful behavior and warn others. We owe God and our neighbor a debt of love. God has made us our "brother's keeper." In the Gospel lesson Jesus lists the steps we are to take in approaching others about sin. It is intended to keep us safe while establishing the truth of what has really happened. The goal is that people repent of their sin and avoid the consequence of losing the gift of heaven. God will stand with us in whatever we ask to accomplish his will.

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 Service of the Word**

Today's hymns: # **479; 492; 499 and 329**

Today we will sing **Psalm 51a** in unison

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 Service of the Word*

TODAY'S HYMNS: #479; 492; 499 and 329

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 51a, pg 86

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Spoken by Pastor*)



Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



+ **GOD'S WORD** +

THE FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰“Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

TODAY (Sept 20) **WORSHIP & Sun. School**..... 8:00 am
TODAY (Sept 20) **WORSHIP** 6:30 pm
TODAY (Sept 20) Teen's/20's Bible Class 7:15 pm
THURS (Sept 24) **WORSHIP (HC)** 6:30 pm
FRI (Sept 25) Foundations of our Faith Bible Class-Facebook..... 10:00 am
NEXT SUN (Sept 27) **WORSHIP (HC) & Sun. School**..... 8:00 am
NEXT SUN (Sept 27) **WORSHIP (HC)**..... 6:30 pm

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: *If you happen to see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"* **Sept 21** – Kristen Ashauer, David Thiel
Sept 25 – Daniele Lutz, Danielle Menting **Sept 26** – Morgan Calmes, Deborah Grunwald

FORWARD IN CHRIST magazine – Our subscription is ending in October. Council has decided that we would again be offering this publication to members at a reduced rate of \$12.00 per year. Please indicate on the signup sheet on the table in the entryway by October 11 if you would like to receive this magazine for another year. Payment would be due no later than October 18. Cash or check made out to St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church. Please give your payment to our secretary, Sandy Meyer. Distribution would be the same as this year with pickup in church. Thank you.

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.

EVENING SERVICE – Sunday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. They are by **reservation only** and limited to a maximum of 14 members and held in the Bible Study room. Call or text the church office 920-779-6777 or email st.paullutherandale@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.

OFFERINGS - The plate offerings for September 6 and 13 were \$3250.00. The online offerings for weeks ending September 5 and September 12 were \$1025.00. TOTAL \$4,275.00.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 51a (Sing in Unison)

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:1-10

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ²Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

⁶This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. ⁸Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Alleluia. (Philippians 4:4 RSV)

SING VERSE OF THE DAY RESPONSE (pg 40/or on screen)

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 18:15-20

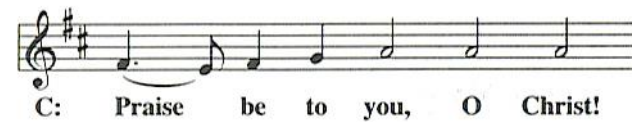
¹⁵"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if

they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



CHILDREN'S DEVOTION

HYMN OF THE DAY #492 "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

THE MESSAGE TODAY: *Based on:* Romans 13:1-10

"I Owe, I Owe"

1. Debt to authorities
2. Debt to my neighbor
3. Debt to our God

After the Sermon - The Apostle's Creed

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORDS PRAYER

HYMN # 499 "O God of Mercy, God of Might"

PRAYER AND BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: # 329 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

God's Word for This Week

The apostle Paul wrote frequently about the obligations and duties resting upon Christians in their capacity as church members, citizens, and neighbors. These can be summarized in the law of Christian love, an ideal which, out of gratitude to God, believers strive and work for all the days of their lives.

First Lesson – Ezekiel 33:7-11

Who is held responsible when a wicked man dies in unbelief?

The reading speaks of dual accountability: a.) the unrepentant sinner is clearly responsible for his unbelief and will pay the penalty for his guilt, and b.) the watchman who fails to speak up to “dissuade” the unrepentant sinner also bears responsibility. God is admonishing us against neglect and indifference.

What is God's immutable will for all mankind? (v.11)

How much more emphatic can God be? “Turn! Turn from your evil ways and live!” His gracious will is the salvation of all.

Second Lesson – Romans 13:1-10

What are we ultimately guilty of when we resist or disobey our government?

In his providence, God has vested power with the incumbents of governmental office. They are our superiors (in the sense of the 4th Commandment) according to God's establishment and designation. If we resist the authority God has instituted through our disobedience or rebellion, we are guilty of resisting God himself.

What is the Christian's attitude toward paying taxes?

For necessity's sake, Christians are subject and duty-bound to government. It's part of our obedience to God. Since the government is established for the benefit of society and the protection and defense also of believers, we cheerfully pay for its support.

What does the phrase the obligation of Christian love mean?

God's injunction is clear and simple. Be under obligation to no one except in this: love your neighbor with the same love with which we regard our own interests. This is the one duty that can never be discharged adequately or exhausted completely.

Gospel – Matthew 18:15-20

What is the primary purpose of church discipline?

The purpose of this entire passage is to show how a weak and erring brother or sister may be won back to Christ, even if it be a matter of difficult work.

Which step in church discipline is perhaps the hardest and thus often skipped?

The first step, speaking to a brother/sister face-to-face, is often bypassed. Problems are only escalated when we publicly expose him/her by talking about it with others first.

What is meant by the congregation's power to “bind” and “loose”?

Christ gives his church the power to forgive the sins of the penitent but to retain the sins of the impenitent. These are the keys that lock or unlock the door of heaven. Needless to say, God gave this power for edification, not destruction.