

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

TODAY (Oct 25) **WORSHIP (HC) & Sun. School**..... 8:00 am
TODAY (Oct 25) **WORSHIP (HC)** 6:30 pm
TODAY (Oct 25) Teen's/20's Bible Class 7:15 pm
THURS (Oct 29) **WORSHIP** 6:30 pm
FRI (Oct 30) Foundations of our Faith Bible Class-Facebook 10:00 am
NEXT SUN (Nov 1) **WORSHIP & Sun. School**..... 8:00 am
NEXT SUN (Nov 1) **WORSHIP** 6:30 pm

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: *If you happen to see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday"* **Oct 26** – Dennis Laabs **Oct 27** – Debra Thompson, Stacia VanderWeilen **Oct 29** – Evelyn Ruppel, Ben Harrmann **Oct 30** – Ryan Huettl **Oct 31** – Chris Ploense, Jacquelyn Meyer

FOOD PANTRY—The next collection date for the pantry will be Sunday, November 8, 2020.

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).

COMMUNION - Holy Communion will be offered in the pews with the pastor bringing the elements to each row. After use, the disposal cups should be placed in the zip lock bags and members can dispose of them in the garbage cans provided in the entry for that purpose. *Please remember to register for communion in the book on the stand in the entryway.*

BAPTISM – Mareah & Chris Foate will be having their son baptized in the service this morning.

TRUNK & TREAT cancelled - The Town of Dale has decided to allow Halloween trick and treating, no parade. St Paul has decided to **NOT** host Trunk & Treat this year due to COVID concerns. Look for Trunk & Treat to be back in 2021.

WEDDING – If you had seen the poster for Rebecca Finn and Gregory Fletcher's wedding in the entryway inviting the congregation to the ceremony, we have been notified of a change. The wedding will now be **only family and relatives** because of the virus and Gov Evers announcement.



"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 21

October 22 & 25, 2020

TODAY'S WORSHIP - The Old Testament lesson and the Gospel lesson are in some ways similar much like last week. In Isaiah we hear how all people are invited to the eternal feast of the Lord Almighty. Only the best is served. Death, tears, and persecutions are a thing of the past. The guests rejoice in their divine host and his salvation. In the Gospel lesson Jesus models his parable on the picture from Isaiah. All are invited to the feast, but many are too busy to attend or have other interests. Even those who come are not grateful for being invited and are rejected. We want to be the grateful sinners, who in robes of righteousness given to us by our Savior, God grants to be his saints at the heavenly banquet.

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: **#298, 158, 313 and 318**

Today we will sing **Psalm 23, pg 72**

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 Baptism and Holy Communion, pg 12 in the red hymnals.*

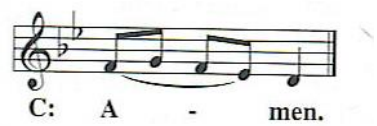
TODAY’S HYMNS: #298, 158, 313 and 318

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23, pg 72

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Spoken by Pastor)*



Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



+ GOD'S WORD +

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.
⁷ On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;
⁸ he will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears
from all faces;
he will remove his people’s disgrace
from all the earth.
The LORD has spoken.

NICENE CREED

CHILDREN’S DEVOTION

HYMN OF THE DAY # 158 *“I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again”*

THE MESSAGE TODAY: *Based: Philippians 4:4-13*

“Everything Is a Mess—What Can I Do?”

1. Rejoice in the Lord

2. Think about God’s gifts

3. Be content—Jesus is enough

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: #313 *“Jesus Christ, our Blessed Savior”*
(as many verses as are needed for the distribution of Holy Communion)

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: # 318 *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

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⁹ In that day they will say,
“Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 23 (*Sing in Unison*)

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 4:4-13 (sermon text)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

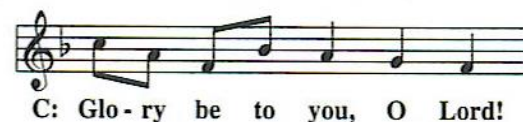
¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation. Alleluia. (Isaiah 25:9b cf. NIV)



GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 22:1-14



¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ “Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

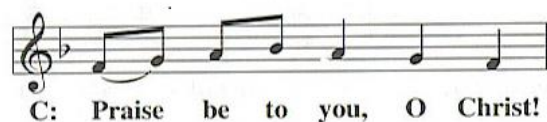
⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

¹³ “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

¹⁴ “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Invited to the Heavenly Wedding Banquet

God's Word for This Week

Are you worried about what the future holds? Are you sure of your heavenly inheritance? Are you dressed for reception into the heavenly wedding banquet? Thanks to Jesus and his perfect life and substitutionary death, we confidently answer all three questions in the affirmative. What a grand and glorious day it will be when we find ourselves seated at God's heavenly banquet table!

First Lesson – Isaiah 25:6-9

What are the “shroud” and the “sheet” that will be destroyed according to verse 7? Explain.

The “shroud” and the “sheet” are the veils that blinded the people from a correct understanding of their natural depravity and sinfulness and kept them from recognizing Christ as the Savior of the world. In conversion, the Holy Spirit removes the blinders and gives God's people the spiritual vision to understand and accept him as the promised Messiah and Savior from sin.

According to verse 9, what will be our bold profession on the Last Day?

It might sound something like this: “We placed our confidence with unwavering certainty in the Lord our God, and he has not disappointed. The time for us to experience and enjoy the blessed fulfillment of God's promises is finally here. Hallelujah!”

Second Lesson – Philippians 4:4-13

The fundamental sentiment of a Christian's entire life is happiness. On what is our happiness based?

Our joy is always in the Lord and on account of the Lord. We are jubilant and exultant over the free gift of salvation attained through the atoning work of Christ. It's especially during periods of trial and

tribulation that we take time to reflect on and rejoice in the changeless love of our God.

What remedy does Paul offer for dealing with anxiety?

Prayer. When we are consumed with worry and concerned about the future, entrust it to the Lord, leaving all matters to his fatherly direction and care. Whether it's the most monumental problem or the most insignificant detail, bring it to the attention of your merciful God, who has demonstrated time and time again that he is deeply concerned about the welfare of his beloved children.

What kinds of thoughts should fill the believer's mind?

To paraphrase verse 8, the believer's mind is flowing with thoughts that are truthful and sincere, open and honest, just and right, chaste and clean, wholesome and pleasant, excellent and laudable. In short, in all our thoughts, the sanctification of the Christian should be evident.

Gospel – Matthew 22:1-14

God has invited everyone to his heavenly wedding feast, but so few attend. Why?

Many people simply are indifferent and apathetic to God's urgent call. Others are distracted by their own private, earthly affairs. As in the parable, some even go to the extent of being hostile toward the messengers of God's invitation.

Is it possible to sneak into God's heavenly wedding banquet without the proper attire?

Impossible. God has provided a wedding garment of spotless righteousness and purity for every sinner that he has invited to the feast, courtesy of his Son, Jesus Christ. The garment is required to cover the filth and nakedness of their sin. All intruding wannabes will be detected, sentenced, and thrust into the outer darkness of hell.