

# **ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Bangor, Wisconsin

**LIVE STREAM SERVICES DURING THE COVID – 19 CRISIS**

**ARE BROADCAST AT [WWW.STPAULSBANGOR.COM](http://WWW.STPAULSBANGOR.COM)**

**SUNDAYS AT 8:00 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.**

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**Fifth Sunday Of Easter**

**May 10, 2020**

**Personal Prayers For Worship: Pages 10-11 & 134-139 (front of hymnal)**

**Opening Solo – “*Rise Up, My Heart, With Gladness*”**

**Liturgy – Page 15 (front of hymnal)**

**Scripture Lessons:** Isaiah 12:3-6; Psalm 42:1-2  
Revelation 7:9-17; John 7:35-53

***All Scripture lessons are from the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)***

**The Apostles Creed – Page 19 (front of hymnal)**

**Hymn – 338**

**SERMON – John 7:25-53 – *OASIS OR MIRAGE?***

**Offertory - Prayers – Lord’s Prayer – Benediction**

**Closing Hymn - 321**

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## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR TODAY**

### **Isaiah 12:3-6**

<sup>3</sup>Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

<sup>4</sup>In that day you will say: Give thanks to the Lord! Proclaim His name. Declare among the peoples what He has done. Proclaim that His name is exalted! <sup>5</sup>Sing to the Lord, for He has done amazing things! Let this be known in all the earth! <sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, daughter of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is great among you!

### **Psalm 42:1-2**

<sup>1</sup>As a doe pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O

God. <sup>2</sup>My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and appear before God?

### **Revelation 7:9-17**

<sup>9</sup>After these things I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing in front of the throne and of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They called out with a loud voice and said: Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne, and from the Lamb. <sup>11</sup>All the angels stood around the

throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, <sup>12</sup> saying: Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen. <sup>13</sup> One of the elders spoke to me and said, "These people dressed in white robes, who are they and where did they come from?" And I answered him, "Sir, you know." <sup>14</sup> And he said to me: These are the ones who are coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> Because of this they are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. <sup>16</sup> They will never be hungry or thirsty ever again. The sun will never beat upon them, nor will any scorching heat, <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

### **John 7:35-53 (Selected Verses of Sermon Text)**

<sup>35</sup> Then the Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He does not intend to go to the Jews scattered among the Greeks and teach the Greeks, does He?

<sup>36</sup> What does He mean by saying, 'You will be looking for Me and will not find Me, and where I am going to be, you cannot come'?" <sup>37</sup> On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and called out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink!" <sup>38</sup> As the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from deep within the person who believes in Me." <sup>39</sup> By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were going to receive. For the Holy Spirit had not yet come, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

<sup>40</sup> After hearing His words, some of the people said, "This is truly the Prophet." <sup>41</sup> Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Surely the Christ does not come from Galilee, does He?" <sup>42</sup> Doesn't the Scripture say that the Christ comes from David's descendants and from the little town of Bethlehem where David lived?" <sup>43</sup> So the people were divided because of Him. <sup>44</sup> Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on him. <sup>45</sup> Then the guards came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring Him in?" <sup>46</sup> The guards answered, "No one ever spoke the way this man does!" <sup>47</sup> So the Pharisees answered them, "You have not been deceived too, have you?" <sup>48</sup> Have any of the rulers or Pharisees believed in Him? <sup>49</sup> But this crowd, which does not know the law, is cursed!" <sup>50</sup> One of them, Nicodemus, who had come to Jesus earlier,

asked, <sup>51</sup> “Does our law condemn a man before we hear from him and find out what he’s doing?” <sup>52</sup> “You are not from Galilee too, are you?” they replied. “Search and you will see that a prophet does not come from Galilee.” <sup>53</sup> Then each of them went home.

#### **THIS WEEK:**

Today - **Live Stream Services at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**  
(Also available afterward at any time on our website  
[www.stpaulsbangor.com](http://www.stpaulsbangor.com) & on Facebook.

- **EXAMINATION OF CONFIRMANDS IN SMALL GROUPS  
THIS AFTERNOON AT CHURCH WITH PARENTS PRESENT**

Tues. - “Zoom” Pastoral Circuit Meeting – 10:00 a.m.

Wed. - Luther Conference of Delegates – 7:30 pm **See Next Page**

Sat. - **COMMUNION IN SMALL GROUPS FROM 1 – 3 P.M.**

Next Sun. **Live Stream Services at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.  
COMMUNION IN SMALL GROUPS FROM 1 – 3 PM**

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**EXAMINATION** of the confirmands in small groups with parents present will take place this afternoon. **Confirmation with first communion & pictures are hoped for in June.**

#### **COMMUNION IN SMALL GROUPS AGAIN**

Once again we will be offering Holy Communion to our members in small groups as we did during Holy Week. **We encourage members to consider their own circumstances and comfort level** as we offer Communion - **from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. this coming Saturday (May 16) and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sunday (May 17).** Please enter through the handicap door coming in from the parking lot. Ushers will send **no more than 8 people at a time** to the front of the church for Communion and then usher them out the south steps unless the elevator is needed. **Sanitizing and distancing precautions will be observed.** **Copies of Meditations** can be picked up in the narthex by those who come for communion.

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE & CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES**

We welcomed the news that **Mrs. Penny Adickes** has accepted our one-year Call to teach grades 1-2. **Mr. & Mrs. Beisker’s baby, Lilliana**, is doing well and is being transferred from Rochester to Mayo in La Crosse. **A very tentative school calendar** was shared by Mr. Bakken...starting right after Labor Day and concluding right before Memorial Day next school year. **All of this is subject to change.** **Call forwarding from School to Mr. Bakken** will be put in place during the summer for anyone attempting to contact the school. **St. Paul’s graduates** will be recognized in one of our Sunday services when regular services start up again. Stay tuned. **Examination of the confirmands in small groups with parents present will take place this Sunday afternoon, May 10.** **Confirmation, with pictures and first communion**, is hoped for at some point in June if services resume. **Watch for further announcements.** **Minutes from the last two Building Committee meetings** were given to the Ed. Comm. & Council. **Communion in rotating fashion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of May** was again approved. **Thanks were expressed** to various folks who have helped with livestreaming services, buildings and grounds matters, church cleaning, clearing the school, rearranging things at church, landscaping on the additional property

at school and to the building committee. **Luther High Tuition Assistance** in the amount of \$350.00 was allocated for each of the students from St. Paul's who will be attending Luther High in the coming school year. **A 3 minute video update of our school renovation** (the first of a number to come) will be shown right after our livestream this Sunday and will be placed on our Facebook and Vimeo. **Next Joint Meeting of Ed. Comm. & Council** will be at Church, June 3, 6 pm.

### **AS REPORTED LAST WEEK...SCHOOL RENOVATION APPROVED**

**The voters have unanimously approved acceptance of the bid from Olympic Builders for the remodeling of the school.** The remodeling will include a new roof for most of the school and the gym, new drop ceilings in all the classrooms, all new floors, new exterior panels for the gym, new lighting and electrical, remodeling of the bathrooms, installation of a unisex handicap accessible bathroom, painting all interior walls, new lockers, all new windows, addressing any required foundational issues and the plumbing issues, a new locked security vestibule, a security system for the locked entrance, any required asbestos abatement, as well as excavation of the lot to join it to the donated land. The voters approved a maximum budget of \$500,000 for the project. The Building Committee, Council and voters were encouraged with the contract numbers that were received. At this point the estimated cost is \$451,280.13. The project is planned to be completed by Labor Day 2020. The estimated maximum mortgage payment is \$953.22 per month or \$221.68 per Sunday. It was noted that the Council had already included payments in a substantially greater amount than that in the current budget. The Committee, Council and voters were very encouraged that with allocated funds, some possible additional sources of funding, expected donations, and a bit more generous congregational support at the beginning of the project, there is a realistic possibility that the project could be paid for without the need of a long term mortgage. Appreciation was given to the Building Committee Members for their 20 months and continuing service: Roger Lund, Dylan Blount, Ben Hoth, Chad Horstman, Dale Hesselberg and Mark Larson. *[Above summary was provided by Building Committee Chairman Dan Arndt].*

### **LUTHER HIGH CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES MEETING**

The La Crosse County Health Department has granted Luther High School's Conference of Delegates permission to conduct its May 13 meeting in the Chapel / Auditorium under the following conditions: The Chapel/Auditorium seating will be socially distanced per the current state health department guidelines. Approved seating will be designated. Anyone who is ill or was recently with someone who was/is ill, is respectfully requested to not attend the meeting out of concern for their health and the well-being of others. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, May 13. Please enter Luther High School through the Chapel / Auditorium entrance. No lunch will be served before this meeting.

### **LUTHER HIGH GRADUATION**

Subject to the approval of the La Crosse County Health Department Luther High's Board of Control passed a resolution to have graduation on July 26 or sooner. There may be further clarification of this decision at the May 13<sup>th</sup>, Conference of Delegates Meeting.

### **PASTORAL VISITATIONS**

Nursing homes and hospitals are restricting regular access at this time. For the safety of everyone and for the protection of our shut-ins, usual pastoral visits will be delayed. **In urgent circumstances, do not hesitate to phone the pastor (486-2754) and he will be happy to minister to you on a personal basis.**

### **OFFERINGS & FINANCES**

**Our online giving app is now up and running!** Simply go the home page at **[www.stpaulsbangor.com](http://www.stpaulsbangor.com)** and click on the offering button. We are also receiving **offerings by mail**, or as you may wish, **by bringing offering envelopes to the parsonage**. Our treasurer continues to make regular deposits.

**Running Total Received To General Fund**  
**Since Livestreaming Began March 18, 2020:**  
**\$63,759.68**