



WE HOLD TO THE WISDOM OF GOD

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

August 29 & 30, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME

The world tries to get you to fall in line with its wisdom and beliefs, and it wants you to turn your back on God's Word. In that Word, however, we've been given wisdom and truth that far outweigh the world's. The Word proves itself wiser, more reliable, and more truly loving than anything this world can offer. Today we strengthen our resolve in turning to and clinging to God's wisdom and Word above all other worldly pretensions.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

THANK OFFERING

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Service of the Word offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

OPENING HYMN

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus | **474**

Please stand for final stanza

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ✝ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the sixth staff.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus

Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



be seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 7:8-13

⁸The LORD said to Moses and to Aaron, ⁹"When Pharaoh says to you, 'Give us a warning sign,' then you are to tell Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down in front of Pharaoh, and it will become a snake.'"

¹⁰Then Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh. They did just as the LORD had commanded. Aaron threw down his staff in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. ¹¹But then Pharaoh also called for his wise men and sorcerers. Those magicians of Egypt did the same thing by their occult practices. ¹²They each threw down their staffs, and those staffs became snakes. However, Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. ¹³But Pharaoh's heart was hard, and he did not listen to them, just as the LORD had said.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 62, p.88



SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:24-28

²⁴By faith Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter when he grew up. ²⁵He chose to be mistreated with God's people rather than enjoy sin for a little while. ²⁶He considered disgrace for the sake of Christ as greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

²⁷By faith he left Egypt without fearing the king's wrath, because he persevered as one who sees him who is invisible.

²⁸By faith he celebrated the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not strike them down.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 4:12

Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

please stand

GOSPEL

John 6:60-69

⁶⁰When they heard it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching! Who can listen to it?"

⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, "Does this cause you to stumble in your faith? ⁶²What if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh does not help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would not believe and the one who would betray him. ⁶⁵He said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is given to him by my Father."

⁶⁶After this, many of his disciples turned back and were not walking with him anymore. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the Twelve, "You do not want to leave too, do you?"

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Onward, Christian Soldiers | 537

SERMON

Exodus 7:8-13

The LORD Is Just Better

please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

be seated

Thanksgiving

OFFERING

"I know, my God, that you test the heart, and you take pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things. Now with joy I see your people, who are present here to bring the offering freely to you" (1 Chronicles 29:17).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Dear Father in heaven, with your gift of a Savior you restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to your name. We thank you for the good news that you have reconciled the world to yourself through your Son.

C: Be with us as you give us opportunities to proclaim your glorious name of salvation in Jesus Christ our Savior.

M: O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise you for offering yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all. On the cross you declared the sacrifice for sins completed. At the open tomb, you assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God.

C: Be with us as you have promised, so that we may be bold and confident witnesses to our family members and friends.

M: Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind's natural hatred for God and Satan's wicked work among us.

C: Empower us by your gospel, and encourage us to be faithful, fervent witnesses to the people among whom we live and work.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church. Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities you set before us to be your witnesses.

C: Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we declare Christ to our world. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

please stand

PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Take the World, but Give Me Jesus | 355

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

40-YEAR CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

August 29 | 9:00 am

Today during fellowship hour we will celebrate with Miss Bauer in honor of her completion of 40 years in the teaching ministry this past spring. Come thank her for faithful service to the Lord at Immanuel, Medford, WI (13 years) and to St. Paul's (27 years). Praise the Lord for such a Christ-focused servant of the gospel!

PUBLIC SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASS

Is your child in 7th or 8th grade in the public school? Please contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com with your child's name and contact info. Public school confirmation class will begin after Labor Day on Wednesdays at 3:30 pm in the church basement. There will also be a signup sheet in the church lobby.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Have you registered for Sunday School yet? If not, please do so using the link in the QR code to the right (You can also find the form via our website under the "Church" tab). We'll be transitioning to a new Sunday School course called ***Enduring Faith Bible Curriculum*** that focuses not just on teaching Bible stories but also on making each lesson apply to the student's life outside of the classroom. The adult Bible studies on Sunday mornings between services will coordinate with the same curriculum and portion of Scripture, so everyone in the family will be studying and applying the same truths each week.



NEW BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN SOON!

We're almost to Labor Day, which means our brains and hearts are about to be beefed up with Bible knowledge. On September 7 at 7:00 pm and September 8 at 9:00 am (same study), we'll begin our look at ***World Religions***. That study will continue each Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. On September 12 at 9:15 am, we'll begin our Sunday morning studies as we go through the adult course connected with Sunday School's ***Enduring Faith Bible Curriculum***. Get ready to be edified by God's eternal Word!

MISSION OFFERINGS

To help support our WELS mission work for Central Africa Medical Missions, there are two jars for free will offerings, one in the church entryway and the other in the church basement.

MANY HANDS TO HELP THE HANDYS

Saturday, September 4

Our new teacher Clara Handy and her husband Quinn will be moving to Bangor (most likely) on Saturday, September 4. If you're willing to help them move their furniture and other belongings from La Crosse on that day, please contact Dan Arndt.

BAKE SALE FOR NEW KIDS' CORNER

September 19 | 9:00 am

On Sunday, September 19, St. Paul's will be running a bake sale in between services. All proceeds will go to incorporating a "Kids' Corner" in the church basement (the basement storage/coatroom). If you would like to donate any bake sale goodies for this event please contact Tess Zebell via call or text at 608-487-4661.

MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE

October 23

The 6th Annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Downtown Rochester MN on Saturday, October 23rd. The theme for this year is *God's Vision for Your Future*. Please go online at www.menofhisword.org to register and get details about schedule, breakout sessions, keynote speaker, cost, etc.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2021 Weekly Budget: \$9,855.43	Budget to Date: \$325,229.19
Received 8/22 & 8/23: \$5,503.51	Rec'd to Date: \$263,430.91

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 102 10:00 am: 90 Total: 192
Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 17
Monday: 37

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship
	9:00 am	Fellowship Hour
		Celebration of Miss Bauer’s 40-Year Ministry
	10:00 am	Worship
MONDAY	8:00 am	(New) First Day of School
	7:00 pm	Worship
WEDNESDAY	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:00 am	Fellowship Hour
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion
NEXT TUESDAY	7:00 pm	World Religions Bible Study
NEXT WEDNESDAY	9:00 am	World Religions Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	3:30 pm	Public School Catechism Class

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth
Harriet Langrehr

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**LORD
TO WHOM
SHALL WE GO?
YOU HAVE THE WORDS
OF ETERNAL LIFE.**

