

PUT DOWN WHAT YOU LOVE; PICK UP WHAT YOU LOATH

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

September 4, 2022

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.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

Father, you have given something to me that is worth more than anything else: an eternity in heaven with you. As I face the consequences of being a follower of Christ in this life, forgive me for the times I value anything more than him. Remind me today that the cost of being Jesus' disciple is worth it because of the value of the eternal life I have in him. In his name I pray. Amen.

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 along with a Kids' Corner 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.



HOLY COMMUNION

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

THE COMMON SERVICE

The Common Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. As with all of our liturgies, its purpose is to focus us on the good news of forgiveness and to build us up in Christ.

OPENING HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say | 338



INVOCATION

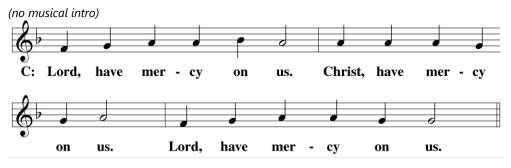
M: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY



ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.



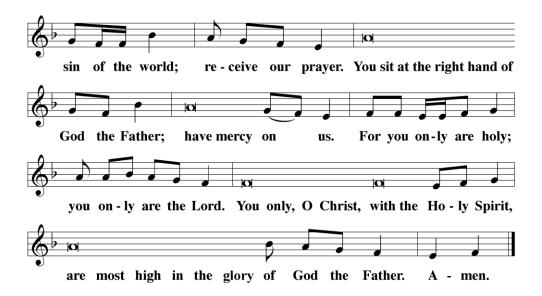
Prayer and Praise

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

GLORY BE TO GOD

(no musical intro)





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



M: 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.



be seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵See now, today I have set before you life and prosperity, death and disaster. ¹⁶This is what I am commanding you today: Love the LORD your God, walk in his ways, and keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances. Then you will live and increase in number, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are going to possess.

¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you do not listen, and you are lured away, and you bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸then I declare to you today that you will most certainly perish. You will not live a long life on the land that you are about to enter and possess by crossing over the Jordan.

¹⁹I call the heavens and the earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, a blessing and a curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live ²⁰by loving the LORD your God, by listening to his voice, and by clinging to him, because that means life for you, and you will live a long life on your land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

SECOND LESSON Philemon 7-21

⁷I have received great joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

⁸For that reason, even though I have plenty of boldness in Christ to order you to do what is proper, ⁹I am appealing to you, instead, on the basis of love, just as I, Paul, am an old man and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. ¹⁰I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus. I became his father while I was in chains. ¹¹There was a time when he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. ¹²I have sent him (who is my very heart) back to you. Welcome him. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might serve me in your place while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your kindness would not be the result of compulsion, but of willingness. ¹⁵Perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a while: so that you would have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave, but as more than a slave, as a dear

brother. He certainly is dear to me, but he is even more of a dear brother to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸And if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, have written this with my own hand: I will repay it—not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I am asking for a favor from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

please stand

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. He turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, if he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, everyone who sees it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build, but was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, as he goes out to confront another king in war, will not first sit down and consider if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if he is not able, he sends out a delegation and asks for terms of peace while his opponent is still far away. ³³So then, any one of you who does not say farewell to all his own possessions cannot be my disciple.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. of all that is. seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

be seated



SERMON Luke 14:25-33

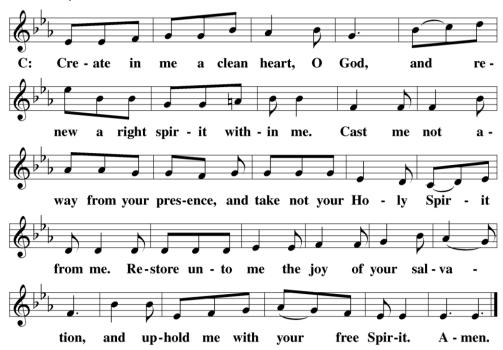
Count the Cost



please stand

CREATE IN ME

(short musical intro)



be seated

OFFERING

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:6,7).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The presiding minister will speak the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

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

The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we also bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. See p.156 in the hymnal for preparation.

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.



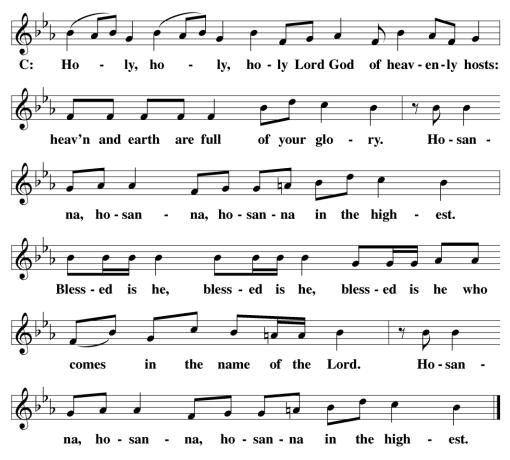
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(no musical intro)



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

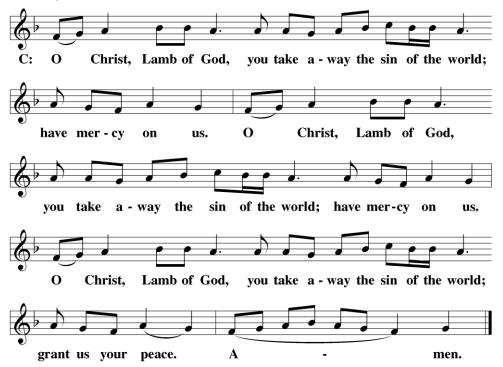
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

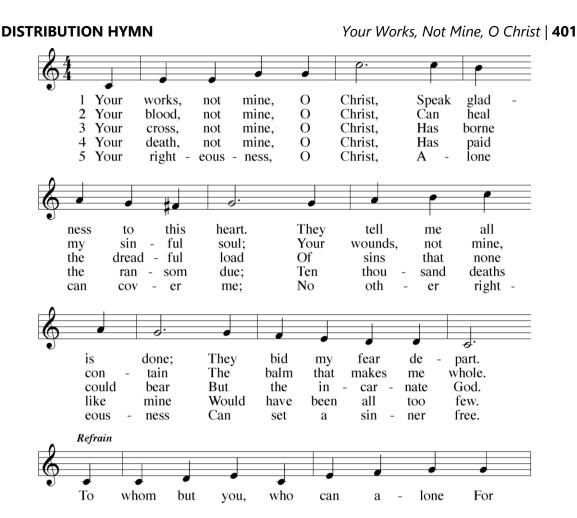
(no musical intro)



DISTRIBUTION

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17).

Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.

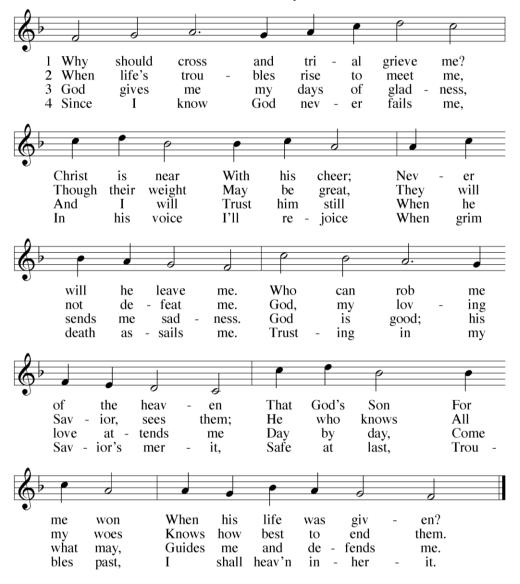


continued...



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me | 428



as needed



6 Oh, let thy life be spent,
Thy years for me be giv'n,
As I for thee was sent
To bear thee home to heav'n.
I gave my life for thee;
Come, give thy life to me.

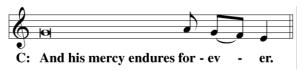
Thanksgiving

SONG OF SIMEON

(short musical intro)



M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M: 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



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU FROM THE LINDEMANNS

Dear Members of St. Paul's.

My wife, Barb, and I, and our family, thank you for the wonderful reception we have had to St. Paul's in Bangor. We do feel welcome to this friendly place and look forward to soon be among you. We thank you for all the generous cards and gifts that we received. All are much appreciated. Thank you.

The school year has had a great beginning. We look forward to an awesome year in the Lord's care. Please feel free to visit your school whenever you are able. We will be glad to see you.

In His service, Jon and Barb Lindemann

NEW FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGNUP

There's a new Fellowship Hour (the hour in between Sunday services) signup sheet on the bulletin board in the lobby. Please sign up and help us prepare for refreshments during Bible study starting next month!

BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN SUNDAY, SEPT. 11

Our Sunday School and Bible studies will begin back up this fall on Sunday, September 11. Midweek studies will then begin on Tuesday the 13th at 7:00 pm and Wednesday the 14th at 9:00 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School and Sunday adult Bible study will once again take place between services, with Sunday School in the sanctuary and Bible study in the basement. It's an easy way for parents to both have their kids in the Word and get in the Word themselves at the same time. Both will cover the same portions of Scripture each week, which also allows for good application at home throughout the week. For parents with small children who aren't quite old enough for Sunday School yet, there's also the Kids Corner in the basement that the kids can use during study. "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, both now and forever. Amen" (2 Peter 3:18).

BIBLE BASICS CLASS BEGINS SEPT. 11

Our next Bible Basics class (also called the new member class or Bible Information Class) will begin Sunday, September 11, at 5:00 pm, and it will continue for 13 weeks at the same time on Sunday evenings. I ask that you block off 1.5 hours for each session, but usually it will be closer to 1 hour. Free childcare can be available upon request. If you or someone you know would be interested in taking the class, please contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com. Long-time members are also invited, as it's always a good refresher of the foundations of our faith. For more info on the class itself, visit www.stpaulsbangor.com/new/bic.

MIDWEEK STUDY – 10 LIES ABOUT GOD

Our first midweek Bible study this fall is entitled *10 Lies About God*. The study provides Bible-based responses to common but inaccurate teachings about God to help participants defend their faith in a secular society. Professor David Scharf explains how these inaccurate beliefs distort your relationship with God and offers loving, Bible-based corrections that participants can use in response.

The study includes ten lessons to help participants respond to false teachings about God and defend what the Bible teaches:

Lesson 1: God Wants Me to Be Happy

Lesson 2: There Are Many Ways in God's Presence

Lesson 3: God Has Grown Softer on Sin

Lesson 4: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

Lesson 5: God Has Made Death a Natural Part of Life

Lesson 6: A God of Love Wouldn't Send People to Hell

Lesson 7: It Doesn't Matter How God Made the World

Lesson 8: God is Distant and Disinterested in What Happens

Lesson 9: I Don't Need the Bible or Worship to Have a Relationship with God

Lesson 10: God Doesn't Judge Anyone, and Neither Should You

Midweek Bible studies are Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm, with the same study repeated the following morning, Wednesdays at 9:00 am. The study takes place in the church basement.

ADULT CHOIR

Adult choir practice begins Thursday, September 8, at 7:00 pm. If you're interested in joining the choir, contact Brian Berg at 608-486-4049.

COULEE REGION WELS YOUTH NIGHT

On Sunday, October 16, from 6:00-8:30 pm, St. Paul's Onalaska will be hosting a Coulee Region WELS Youth Night. Youth will experience an inspiring evening of games, music, prayer, Bible messages, small group discussion, and fun with high school youth (9th-12th grade) from all over the area. If any young adults (age 18-24) are interested in volunteering to lead a small discussion group, or if you have any questions, contact Pastor Ben Schmudlach at schmudbs@gmail.com.

OWLS CONVENTION

The Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) cordially invites you to join them for their annual convention. This year's convention will be held at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Convention Center, 3060 South Kinney Coulee Road, Onalaska, WI 54650, from October 10-13, 2022. Area church members, age 55 and up, may wish to attend the daytime and early evening events and commute from home each day instead of staying at the hotel. Full details can be found by going to www.csm.welsrc.net/download-csm/owls-convention/. Scroll down to "Downloadable Resources," including the Schedule, Workshops and Presentations, and Registration. Discounts are available before September 10, 2022.

MEMORIAL GIVEN

A memorial of \$150 has been given to St. Paul's in memory of Gary Hass.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2022 Weekly Budget: \$10,069.73 Budget to Date: \$352,440.55 Received Last Week: \$6,996.25 Rec'd to Date: \$293,953.95

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 100 Live Stream Peak: 26 10:00 am: 90 Monday: 31 Total: 247

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am 10:00 am	Worship with Communion Worship with Communion
WEDNESDAY	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Education Committee Meeting Council Meeting
THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 5:00 p.m.	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship Bible Basics Class

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth Irene Bakken

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