



THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

First Sunday of End Time:
Reformation Sunday

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

October 30, 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

Lord God, in a world that proclaims so many false teachings about you, I thank and praise you for giving me and preserving for me the truth of your Word. As the reformers in years past, help me hold firmly to your Scriptures as my standard of truth alone because they proclaim the only Savior and the grace he alone won. Refresh your church today with the same truths that have given life to your church throughout the centuries, that it may always trust in the freedom from sin through Christ. 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.



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.

CHOIR

Day by Day

please stand

INVOCATION

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



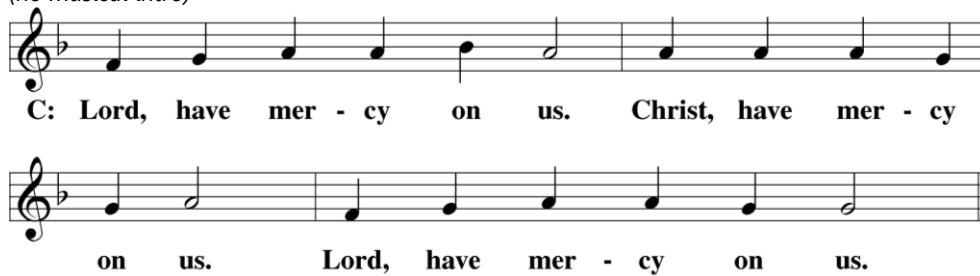
CONFESSION

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

(no musical intro)



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 \oplus and of the Holy Spirit.



Prayer and Praise

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



be seated





1 If God had not been on our side And had not
 2 Their fu - rious wrath, did God per - mit, Would sure - ly
 3 Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat That they could



come to aid us, Our foes with all their pow'r and
 have con - sumed us And as a deep and yawn - ing
 not de - vour us. Our souls, like birds, es - caped their



pride Would sure - ly have dis - mayed us, For we, his
 pit With life and limb en - tombed us. A hell - ish
 net; They could not o - ver - pow'r us. The snare is



flock, would have to fear The dev - il's wolves, both far and
 storm would o'er us roll From Sa - tan, who de - sires our
 bro - ken— we are free! Our help - er and our strength is



near, Who rise in might a - gainst us.
 soul And seeks to o - ver - whelm us.
 he Who made the earth and heav - ens.



The Word

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹Yes, the days are coming, declares the LORD,
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.

³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers,
when I took them by the hand
and led them out of the land of Egypt.

They broke that covenant of mine,
although I was a husband to them, declares the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days,
declares the LORD.

I will put my law in their minds,
and I will write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

³⁴No longer will each one teach his neighbor,
or each one teach his brother, saying, "Know the LORD,"
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD,
for I will forgive their guilt,
and I will remember their sins no more.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. ²⁰For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

²¹But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been

made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, ²³because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. ²⁶He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. ²⁸For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 17:17

Alleluia. Sanctify them by the truth. Your word is truth. Alleluia.

(no musical intro)



please stand

GOSPEL

John 8:31–36

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



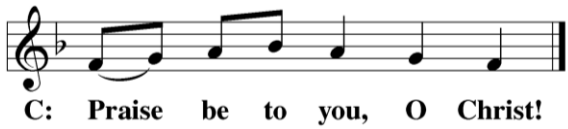
³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. ³²You will also know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

continued...

³³"We are Abraham's descendants," they answered, "and we have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say, 'You will be set free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Everyone who keeps committing sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵But a slave does not remain in the family forever. A son does remain forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children who are in grade four and younger may come forward and sit on the front step for the children's devotion. Older children, parents, or other family members may come forward to encourage the younger children's participation.



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y
 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y



shield and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry
 loss ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant
 to de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no
 thanks have for it; He's by our side up - on the



need That has us now o'er - tak - en. The
 one Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You
 ill; They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This
 plain With his good gifts and Spir - it. And



old e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
 ask, "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
 world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
 do what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in
 The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er
 He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is
 Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is



fight; On earth is not his e - qual.
 God; He holds the field for - ev - er.
 done! One lit - tle word can fell him.
 won; The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

SERMON

John 8:31–36

“If You Remain in My Word...”

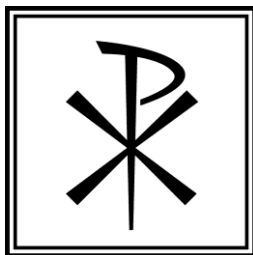
please stand

CREATE IN ME

(short musical intro)

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

be seated



OFFERING

"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty and eternal God, when the time had fully come, you sent your Son to take our place under the demands of the law and to endure the just punishment for our sins. For our sake you accepted his sacrifice on the cross and raised him from death to glorious splendor.

C: Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

M: When the time had fully come, you bestowed your Spirit on your people as a testimony that you had called them to proclaim the gospel to every creature. Equipped and encouraged, they carried the Word of salvation into all the world.

C: The Lord reigns. Let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

M: When the time had fully come, you raised up your servant Martin Luther to restore the pure and right teaching of the Scriptures to a troubled Church. You renewed your people with the light of your love, and your holy church grew and prospered throughout the world.

C: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

M: When the time had fully come, you made our forefathers bold to take their stand on the truth of your Word. You have blessed their sons and daughters and have enabled us to preserve and proclaim the saving gospel.

C: Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when you renew us again by Word and sacrament, when you reform our hearts and minds, and when you restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this age and in this place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of those who have gone before us.

C: May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.

M: May this be a time, O Lord, for confession and repentance. Forgive us for the apathy that harms our faith and hinders our works. Forgive us for boasting of our past achievements and for blaming others for our present problems. Rid us of indifference to public worship and Bible study. Destroy the distrust that plagues us, and shatter every thought and word that harms the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.

C: Create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew steadfast spirits within us.

Special prayers of intercession may follow.

M: Let this be a time, O Lord, when we recommit and reconsecrate ourselves to the ministry of the gospel. Let us find joy in our unity, zeal for our work, and success in our labor.

C: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. 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.**



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er
 3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord,
 4 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees
 5 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult



Christ, her Lord; She is his new cre - a - tion By
 all the earth; Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One
 to de - fend, To guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, Is
 her op - pressed, By schisms rent a - sun - der, By
 of her war She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of



wa - ter and the Word. From heav'n he came and
 Lord, one faith, one birth. One ho - ly name she
 with her to the end. Though there be those that
 her - e - sies dis - tressed, Yet saints their watch are
 peace for - ev - er - more Till with the vi - sion



sought her To be his ho - ly bride; With his own
 bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food, And to one
 hate her And strive to see her fail, A - gainst both
 keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the
 glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest And the great



blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
 hope she press - es, With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 foe and trai - tor She ev - er shall pre - vail.
 night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

please stand

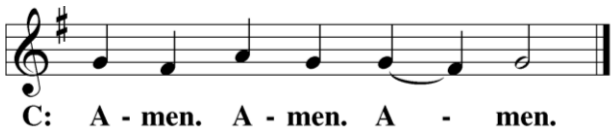
PRAYER

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through 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



CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word | 203



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would seek to o - ver - throw your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend your Chris - ten - dom that
u - ni - ty on earth. Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And to de - stroy what he has done.
we May sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife, And lead us out of death to life.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIDWEEK STUDY – 10 LIES ABOUT GOD

Our midweek Bible study 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. The lie about God that we'll cover this week is "*God Is Distant and Disinterested in What Happens*." 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.

ST. PAUL'S APPAREL – ORDER NOW!

We have another round of St. Paul's apparel ready for ordering through Games People Play. We even have a separate school section now with our new school mascot logo. Check out the link that was sent via email to make your orders on the St. Paul's webstore. Orders will be received from now until Thanksgiving to guarantee arrival before Christmas.

SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING

A special voters' meeting has been scheduled for next Sunday, November 6, at 11:15 am, to approve the budget for next year.

LIVE NATIVITY

Live Nativity setup will be at Riverside Park on Saturdays (Nov. 5th & 12th and possibly the 19th). Many hands make light work! Please help for any amount of time you can spare. Questions? Call George Italiano (608-317-0271).

CHRISTMAS TREE

The group that has been putting up tree in years past has decided to hand off that responsibility to any interested group. If interested, contact congregational chairman Dan Arndt at 608-343-4662.

CAMM LETTER FOR OCTOBER

This month's CAMM letter can be found printed in the lobby.

SCRAP-N-CRAFT

This year's Scrap-N-Craft Fundraiser will be held at Mt. Calvary Grace School, 1614 Park, La Crosse, on Saturday, November 19, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. Registration before Nov. 14 is \$40.00. After Nov. 14 it will be \$45.00. Grab a flyer in the narthex for more information.

WESTERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT THANK OFFERING

The past few years the WELS Western Wisconsin District Mission Board has encouraged churches to unite in a thank offering to support a mission. This fall's offering has been designated for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Beloit, WI, and the new Little Lambs Childcare Center set to open soon. The offering will be collected from now through the Thanksgiving holiday. The goal for the thank offering is \$40,000. Check should be made payable to Little Lambs Childcare Center and mailed to 2245 Park Ave., Beloit, WI 53511.

PASTOR?

Have you ever asked your son if he's interested in being a pastor? That particular question from my parents planted a seed that always kept the ministry on my mind. If you have a son in grades 10-12, you have an even better opportunity to explore the possibility with a *Focus on Ministry* at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. This WLS *Focus on Ministry* is intended to bring high school boys onto the WLS campus, give them a taste of seminary life, a chance to speak with current students, and lead them to think more about the pastoral ministry. If your son has interest, please contact me (Pastor Groth) and I can connect them with Pastor Joel Thomford to further discuss the pre-seminary program at Martin Luther College.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2022 Weekly Budget: \$10,069.73	Budget to Date: \$432,998.39
Received Last Week: \$6,994.05	Rec'd to Date: \$346,903.39

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 186 Live Stream Peak: 24 10:00 am: 72 Total: 282
Sunday Bible Study: 65 Sunday School: 23 Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 33

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship
	5:00 pm	Bible Basics Class
TUESDAY	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am	Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	6:00 pm	Education Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion
	11:15 am	Special Voters' Meeting
	5:00 pm	Bible Basics Class

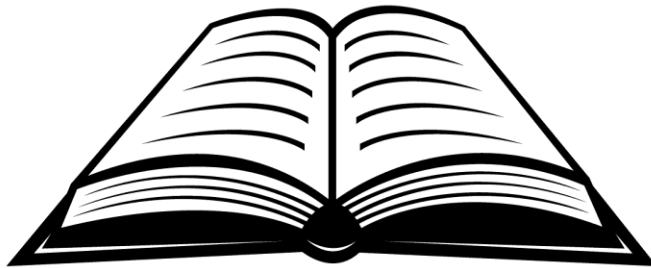
SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brock Groth
Accompanist	Irene Bakken

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If you continue
IN MY WORD



you are truly
MY DISCIPLES



WiFi: SPLC_Guest
Password: gracealone

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