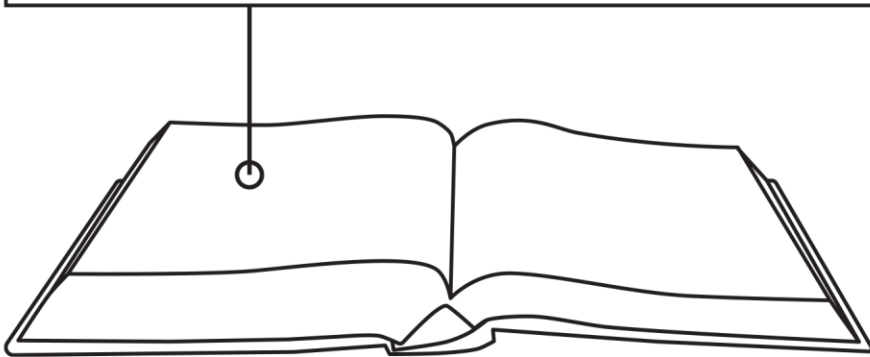


Define: Christian



THE CHRISTIAN SEEKS SPIRITUAL WEALTH

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

July 30 & 31, 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 Jesus, you are more valuable to me than anything in this world and your blood shed on the cross is the greatest gift I've ever been given. Forgive me for the times I fail to treasure you as I ought, and refresh my soul today in the true value of what I have in you. I ask this in your glorious, gracious name. 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.

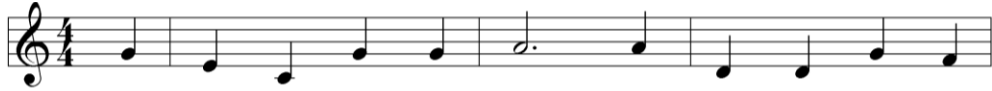


DIVINE SERVICE I

God's people gather together for strength from God and for mutual encouragement in Christ. Divine Service I therefore focuses us on the glory of Christ and his Word.

OPENING HYMN

What Is the World to Me | 477



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mon - ey
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my



plea - sure When you, and you a - lone, Lord
might - y, Yet nev - er once re - flects That
of - fers, Yet nev - er is con - tent Though
trea - sure, My life, my health, my wealth, My



Je - sus, are my trea - sure! You on - ly, dear - est
they are frail and flight - y. But what I tru - ly
gold should fill its cof - fers. I have a high - er
friend, my love, my plea - sure, My joy, my crown, my



Lord, My soul's de - light shall be; You are my
prize A - bove all things is he, My Je - sus,
good; Con - tent with it I'll be; My Je - sus
all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly. Once more then



peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
he a - lone. What is the world to me!
is my wealth— What is the world to me!
I de - clare: What is the world to me!

please stand

CONFESSION

incorporating hymn 304

(short musical intro, then sing:)

All: Jesus sinners does receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder

♪ **Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve—Jesus sinners does receive.**

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.

ABSOLUTION

(no musical intro)

All: We deserve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich grace revealing,

♪ **Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here their ills have perfect healing
Who with humble hearts believe—Jesus sinners does receive.**

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.

C: Amen.

(no musical intro)

All: Oh, how blest is it to know, Were as scarlet my transgression,

♪ **It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe—Jesus sinners does receive.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: Amen.

(no musical intro)

All: Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.

♪ **And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave—Jesus sinners does receive.**

be seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

⁶Solomon said, "You have shown great mercy and faithfulness to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. ⁷O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. ⁹Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?"

continued...

¹⁰In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon's request was good. ¹¹So God said to him, "Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, ¹²therefore I will act according to your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you."

SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 6:17-21

¹⁷Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

²⁰O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, turning away from godless, empty talk and the contradictions of what is falsely called "knowledge." ²¹By professing it, some have veered away from the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

VERSE OF THE DAY

John 6:68

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

please stand

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones

away. ⁴⁹That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them. ⁵⁰And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ⁵¹Jesus said to them, "Did you understand all these things?"

They answered him, "Yes."

⁵²He said to them, "Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things."

APOSTLES' CREED

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

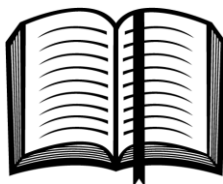
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand 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 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
 2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles
 4 Well he knows what best to grant me; All the long - ing
 5 If on earth my days he length - en, He my wea - ry



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
 and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.
 hopes that haunt me, Joy and sor - row, have their day.
 soul will strength - en; All my trust in him I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en In their God are
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me
 I shall doubt his wis - dom nev - er— As God wills, so
 Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing, Like a stream a -



not for - sak - en And e'er keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me, Will re - main my help di - vine.
 last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.
 be it ev - er— I to him com - mit my way.
 way is glid - ing; Safe I an - chor in his grace.

SERMON

Matthew 13:44-52

The Kingdom Is the Most Valuable Thing You Have

please stand

CREATE IN ME



Cre - ate in me a
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

be seated

OFFERING

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Let us pray to the God of all knowledge and wisdom that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission.

Silent prayer.

M: O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.

C: Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.

M: Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.

C: Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.

M: As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.

C: Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.

M: God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.

C: Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.

C: May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

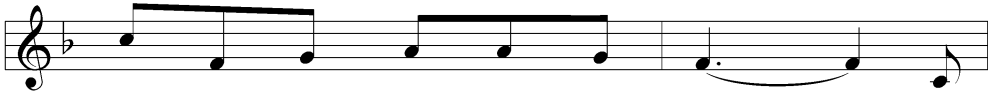
LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

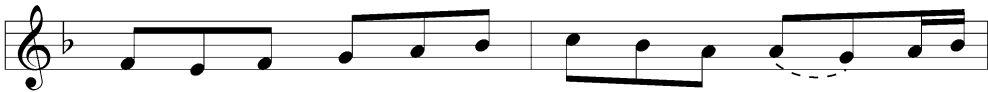




1 Your king-dom, O God, is my glo - ri - ous trea - sure, My
 2 Your king-dom, O God, is a - live with the pow - er Your
 3 Your king-dom, O God, is a field for the grow - ing Of



pearl of in - com - p'ra - ble worth. Its
 Word and your Spir - it be - stow. Like
 seeds that your mer - cy has sown, But



val - ue ex - ceeds ev - 'ry stand - ard of mea - sure, Sur -
 yeast, they af - fect the whole mea - sure of flour, En -
 still in our midst is the en - e - my sow - ing The



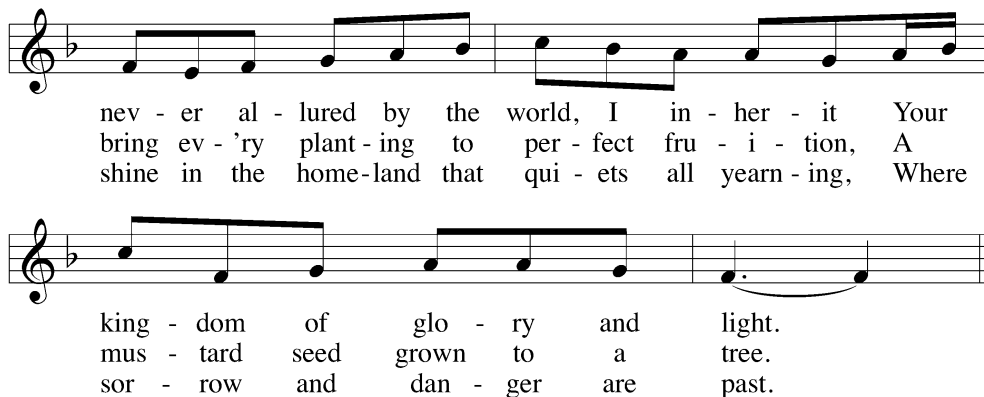
pass - ing the wealth of the earth. Lord,
 a - bling your king - dom to grow. Em -
 weeds that im - per - il your own. Sus -



give me your grace and the pow'r of the Spir - it To
 pow - er me, Lord, as I live your com - mis - sion, Though
 tain me, O Lord, till your day of re - turn - ing And



val - ue this trea - sure a - right That,
 hum - ble my ser - vice may be, And
 har - vest me home - ward at last, To



nev - er al - lured by the world, I in - her - it Your
bring ev - 'ry plant - ing to per - fect fru - i - tion, A
shine in the home - land that qui - ets all yearn - ing, Where
king - dom of glo - ry and light.
mus - tard seed grown to a tree.
sor - row and dan - ger are past.

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.

C: Amen.

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.

C: Amen.

be seated

CLOSING HYMN

Take the World, but Give Me Jesus | 355



1 Take the world, but give me Je - sus! All its
2 Take the world, but give me Je - sus, Sweet - est
3 Take the world, but give me Je - sus! In his



joys are but a name. But his love a - bides for -
com - fort of my soul. With the Sav - ior watch - ing
cross my trust shall be Till with clear - er, bright - er



ev - er, Through e - ter - - nal years the same.
o'er me, I can sing, though thun - ders roll.
vi - sion Face to face my Lord I see.

Refrain



Oh, the height and depth of mer - cy; Oh, the



length and breadth of love! Oh, the full - ness of re -



demp - tion, Pledge of end - less life a - bove!

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FAMILY SOLUTIONS PRESENTATION

On Sunday, August 6, between services we will have a short presentation by James Mattek, the Director of Ministry at Christian Family Solutions. CFS provides distinctly Christian mental health care, healing and helping people in need through the ministry of Jesus Christ. CFS's ministry has two main branches of service: Counseling Care & Services and Senior Services. Join us on August 6 at 9:15 am to learn more.

FUN DAZE PARADE

Mark your calendars for the Bangor Fun Daze Parade on Sunday, August 13, at noon. We're looking forward to having another fleet of St. Paul's members to hand out candy and pocket invites to our church and school. God be praised for this opportunity for our congregation to be in front of the community!

LUTHER HIGH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Luther High School is looking to hire a full-time custodian for 2nd shift (40 hrs/wk). Applications are available in the Luther High School office and online at lutherhigh.org. Candidates may submit their application and resume to the Luther High School office. If you have questions and requests regarding application, email johndona@luther.k12.wi.us or call 608-386-4753.

OPPORTUNITY AT GOOD STEWARD

Good Steward Resale Shop is looking for a store coordinator. The position is 3-4 days/week with flexible hours, about 24-32 hours per week, Tuesday-Friday and occasional Saturdays. A job description and an application form are available at Good Steward (608-779-9763).

ICE CREAM SOCIAL @ ST. JOHN'S BARRE MILLS

St. John's in Barre Mills will be having their annual fellowship event that includes ice cream, supper, children's games, pies, entertainment, and music on Sunday, August 13, beginning at 4:00 pm.

REPORT FROM GOOD STEWARD

After the first six months of this year, we pause to thank God for His continuing blessings on the Good Steward Resale Store. At the middle of the year, our receipts are \$384,920, which is \$23,000 more than last year at this time. We thank everyone for their donations of merchandise. And we pray that God will continue to bless us during the rest of this year, so that we may continue to be a blessing to Luther High School and to area Lutheran elementary schools.

At the beginning of July we welcomed a new manager at Good Steward. He is Mr. Jeff Essig from Lewiston. We thank God for sending him to us. And we pray that God will bless his work among us. We also thank Mrs. Lisa Wendt for her many years of faithful service as our first Store Manager. She has retired from her full-time position but will continue to work for us on a part-time basis.

One of the ways in which Good Steward serves Luther High is by awarding grants to students for tuition. In June we were able to award grants to 89 students. The grants were \$1000 for the first child in a family and \$700 for other students in a family. The total amount of grants was \$83,900. Good Steward also awards grants to students at area Lutheran elementary schools. At the present time we are in the process of verifying the enrollment of the students who were nominated. Our preliminary report indicates that 179 students will receive a grant. These grants are for \$500 for the first child in a family and \$450 for other children in a family. Volunteers who work at Good Steward a minimum number of hours are given the privilege of nominating a student for a grant. If you are interested in more information about doing this, please stop in at the store and ask for the manager.

WELS CHRISTIAN AID AND RELIEF VOLUNTEER SURVEY

WELS Christian Aid and Relief is all about showing compassion to those in need. One area in which they serve is disaster relief. When appropriate, they supply funding, equipment, and trained volunteers to relieve the suffering of those who have been impacted by a flood, tornado, hurricane, or some other disaster. They have done this for many years. Now, they would like to improve and expand this ministry of compassion.

One way they can improve is by gathering a corps of trained leaders who have the experience and technical know-how that are crucial for disaster relief work. They are looking for WELS members who have both a passion for helping those in need and certain necessary skills to serve on one of our Incident Management Teams (IMTs).

A link to a brief survey has been shared in the email news (or you can email Pastor Groth for the link). They are looking for people with skills in construction, construction management, volunteer

management, medical services (physicians, nurses, EMTs, etc.), and a number of other areas. Those who have served as volunteers for the American Red Cross or FEMA often have just the kind of skills they are looking for. In addition, those who have served or are currently serving as police officers, fire fighters, or members of the armed forces have much of the background, training, and experience they need. Thank you for considering.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2023 Weekly Budget: \$11,203.00	Budget to Date: \$336,090.00
Received Last Week: \$5,262.18	Rec'd to Date: \$242,493.52

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 101 Live Stream Peak: 15 10:00 am: 63 Monday: 35 Total: 214

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Worship
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Worship
WEDNESDAY	5:30 pm	Education Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion
	7:00 pm	PACE Meeting

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth
Harriet Langrehr

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WORTHY IS THE
LAMB
WHO WAS SLAIN





WiFi: SPLC_Guest
Password: gracealone

608-486-2754

401 16th Ave. N, Bangor, WI 54614

stpaulsbangor.com