

PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL CREATION

Mission Festival Sunday

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

October 22, 2023

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, today I come before you to celebrate and renew myself in the Great Commission you gave to all your people. Forgive my sins and rejuvenate me in the grace I not only receive but get to share in your name. Build my confidence today in your Word that I may share it fearlessly with those who need to know of your work for our salvation. In your 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 Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

SCHOOL CHOIR By Faith

Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father

whose glory is declared by the heavens,

and of the + Son

who calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth,

and of the Holy Spirit

who empowers us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Gracious Lord, we come before you now confessing our sins. Through your Word you have revealed to us again and again the unsearchable riches of Christ, but again and again we have failed to recognize how richly we have been blessed.

We have often failed to fully appreciate all you have done for us in Christ, and therefore we have failed to share the message of your love and grace with others as we should. Forgive us for the dullness of our faith and love for you.

continued...

So often we have overlooked the needs of those who live near us and have shown so little concern for those who are far away. There is always so much more we could do to bring others the Good News of their Savior, Jesus Christ.

Gracious Lord, we confess that we are in dire need of your Spirit's help. We need a heart that loves you more, a faith that trusts you more, a life that reflects more clearly the vast riches of your love.

Silence for meditation and reflection

ABSOLUTION

After his resurrection, Jesus breathed on his disciples and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

The almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake has forgiven you all your sins. 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. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

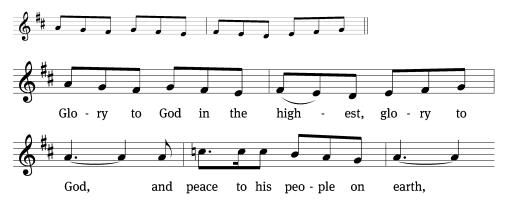


Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

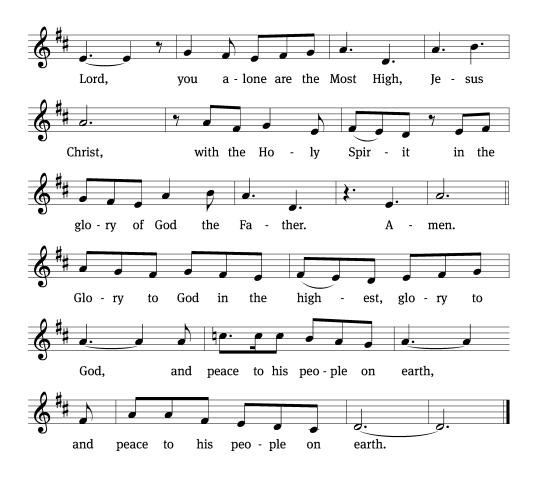


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GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST







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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your disciples to proclaim your coming. Bless all the missions of your church, and enable your workers to gather in your harvest. Through them, show your love to the helpless, enlighten those in darkness, assist those in peril and need, and at last bring all your children home to yourself; you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING Isaiah 45:20–22

²⁰"Gather! Come! Draw near together, you survivors from the nations. They have no knowledge those who are lifting up their idols of wood and praying to a god that cannot save. ²¹Make an announcement and come close. Let them consult together. Who made this known ahead of time? From time past who announced it? Was it not I, the LORD? There is no god except me, a righteous God and Savior. There is no one except me. ²²Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth, because I am God. and there is no other."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAYPsalm 67B



Text: Henry F. Lyte, alt Tune: German, adapt. Johann G. Werner Text and tune: Public domain

SECOND READING

Romans 10:13–17

¹³Yes, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴So then, how can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one about whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how can they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news of peace, who preach the gospel of good things!"

continued...

¹⁶But not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who believed our message?" ¹⁷So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through the word of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia!
Jesus is the light of the world;
in him we have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16–20

¹⁶The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some hesitated because they were uncertain. ¹⁸Jesus approached and spoke to them saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you. And surely I am with you always until the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

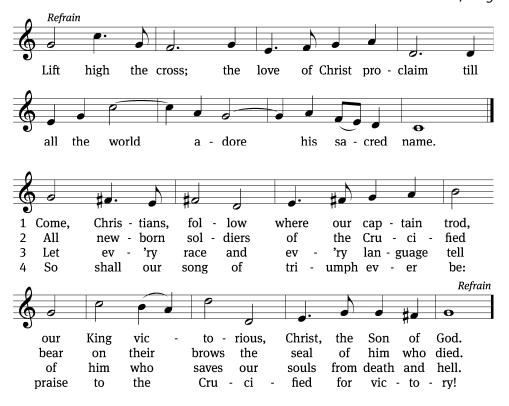
Be seated

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.

900 Lift High the Cross

HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.; George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912

Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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SERMON *Matthew 28:16-20*

Make Disciples

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

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

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.

Loving Lord, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has given gifts to the Church in the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. According to your will, raise up more workers and send them into harvest fields in our land and around the world.

By the power of your gospel, strengthen them so that they do not become discouraged but continue in the course you have set before them.

Pour out your wisdom on us, O Lord, through the working of your Spirit, as we train and prepare those who proclaim the everlasting gospel in their own communities and cultures. Help us to point them to the authority of your Word and to look for success in the witness of your love.

Let them see us as their partners in ministry as we work together around the world.

Lord God, King of the universe, direct the governments of the world so that we may live quiet and peaceful lives. Protect us from disease, crime, and war. Let freedom of religion flourish so that the gospel may be preached freely throughout the world. Cast down rulers who oppress their people, and remove governments that oppose the gospel.

Bring relief to Christians who are persecuted and ridiculed.

Move us to reach out to the sick and the sad, the lonely and the poor, not only in our family and circle of friends but also to others as we have opportunity.

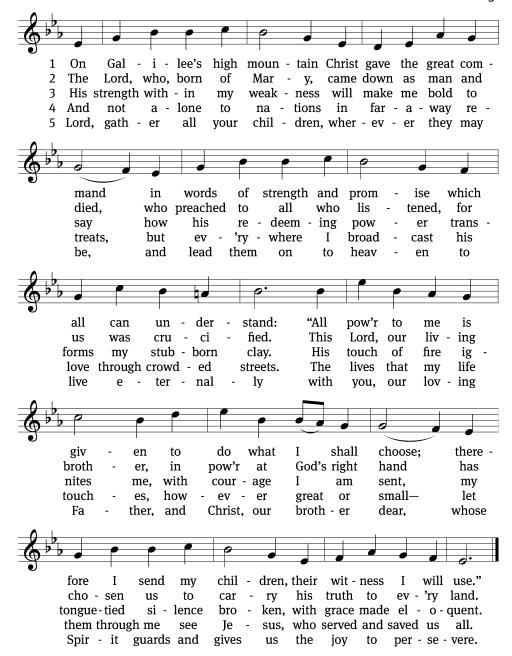
Turn our smile into a word and then a witness so that sadness and fear might become confidence and joy.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Wherever we go, near or far, move us to share the gospel with eagerness and joy. Give us grace to be models to all so that our brothers and sisters might see our good works and glorify you. Plant in the hearts of your people a deeper desire to share the gospel with their lips and their gifts so that many more may come to know and believe the love of your Son.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. Amen.

HYMN



Text: Henry L. Lettermann, 1932–1996, abr. Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

PRAYER

Merciful Father, your kindness caused the light of the gospel to shine among us. Use us now as instruments of your love to reach out with the message of salvation to all people. Bless those who labor in the mission fields far off and near, and grant success to their witness that many may be freed from sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who also taught us to pray...

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN



Text (sts. 1–3): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835–1912
Text and tune: Public domain

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSIONS PRESENTATION TODAY

In place of adult Bible study today, Rev. Paul Schupmann will be giving a presentation about WELS Home Missions work. God be praised for the Great Commission he's graciously given us!

MIDWEEK STUDY – THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Our first midweek Bible study this fall is on one of the most interesting books of Scripture: Revelation. Chapter by chapter the author cuts a pathway through each vision and prophecy of Revelation until he reaches the clearing where we behold a new heaven and a new earth. The 12 Lessons include: The Purpose, Outline and Interpretation of the Book; The Letters to the Seven Churches; God's Rule of the World; The Seven Seals; God's Judgment of the World; The Church Secure and Glorified; The Devil and His Helpers Appear; The Seven Bowls of Wrath; The Downfall of the Devil's Allies; The Millennium; The New Heaven and the New Earth; and Review. Join us as we continue to dive into the imagery and meaning of Christ our Savior in the book of Revelation.

TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT HELP

PACE is looking for a few volunteers to represent our church and school at the Bangor Library's "Trunk or Treat." The event will include greeting and helping the children pick a special treat from our St. Paul's "trunk." "Trunk or Treat" is on October 31st, from 4-6pm in the Library's parking lot. PACE members will help set up the event and supply all the goodies. If anyone would like to support the event, we would welcome your help. If interested, please feel free to reach out to Krista Pfaff at 608-386-2444. Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL RUMMAGE SALE

The 5-8 Graders and their parents are raising money for the class trip in the spring. They are going to Kentucky to the Ark Encounter. They are putting on a rummage sale for one of the fundraising efforts. We are accepting any items for sale. You can drop off those items on Wednesday, October 25th, and Thursday the 26th from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The sale times and dates are October 27th from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm and October 28th from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. For those interested, we have already had 20 large mums donated for purchase. If you have any questions, please call Kelly Langrehr at 608-633-1325 or Susie Johnson at 608-790-8911. Thank you for your support.

LUTHER FRUIT AND MORE SALE

The annual Luther Music Fundraiser is underway. See the order form in the narthex or order online at: lutherk12.revtrak.net/fruit-sale/#/list. Abbie Urbanek will be set up in the church basement to take orders for the next few weeks.

WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

The 2024 WELS International Youth Rally will be June 25-28 at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. The theme for the rally is *From the Mountaintops!* Cliché for a rally in Colorado? Maybe. But it's so much more than the Rockies. Think about all of the mountaintops named in the Bible. What did God proclaim from mountaintops to his Old Testament people? What did Jesus preach to his disciples from mountaintops? We can't wait to learn from the mountaintops of Scripture: Here is your God! The rally is open to teens finishing up eighth grade through graduating high school seniors. If you're interested in attending the rally, please contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com.



HERE IS YOUR GOD!

SNOW REMOVAL HELP

It is time to start thinking about snow again! We have a dedicated, but small group of gentlemen who keep our sidewalks clear of snow in the winter. These volunteers provide a great service and savings to the congregation. It would be very helpful to them if we could get three to five more volunteers. We have a schedule of two volunteers per day. If it happens to snow on your day, you remove the snow. The more volunteers we have, they have less days on the schedule. If you live near town and are retired or have a profession such that you are able to help out with this, please contact Dan Arndt. (608) 269-1200.

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR DANA HESSELBERG-LINSE

Our member Dana Hesselberg-Linse sadly passed away on August 21. We will have a funeral service for Dana on Monday, October 30, at 11:00 am. The family is extending an invitation to anyone from the congregation who wishes to attend. A time for visitation will begin one hour before the service in the sanctuary. God be praised for our Savior Jesus.

LIVE NATIVITY PROP REPAIR NIGHTS

We will be wrapping up our prop repair this next week! Monday Oct. 23 and Wednesday Oct. 25 from 6:30-9:00 pm at the Rotary Building (27 Market St. -entrance at center of the building.) Come lend a hand for whatever time you are available on those days. Thank you so much for your willingness to help! Questions? Call George Italiano (608-317-0271).

LIVE NATIVITY SETUP

Live Nativity setup at Riverside Park is coming up Saturday, October 28th from 9am-5pm. Rotary provides lunch. Many hands make light work! Please come for any amount of time you can spare. Can't help this Saturday? Come down any of the following Saturdays. (Nov. 4th, 11th and 18th) Questions? Call George Italiano (608-317-0271)

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2023 Weekly Budget: \$11,203.00 Budget to Date: \$470,526.00

Received Last Week: N/A Rec'd to Date: N/A

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 128 Live Stream Peak: 24 10:00 am: 68 Total: 220

Sunday Bible Study: N/A Sunday School: 7 Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 33

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Home Missions Presentation Worship
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 3:30 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class
THURSDAY	2:00 pm	Ladies Aid Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Pastor Brock Groth
Accompanist Harriet Langrehr

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