

*Live Like You'll Live  
Forever<sup>+</sup>*

**LIVE A LIFE OF STARTLING GENEROSITY**

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

# **ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** | Bangor, WI

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*November 10, 2024*

## **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.

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## **PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP**

Lord of all, my life on earth is temporary and I have an eternal inheritance awaiting me in heaven thanks to Jesus my Savior. Forgive me for failing to see my earthly possessions and money with that in mind. Today rebuke my selfishness and focus me on eternal blessings not just for myself but for others I can affect through my talents, time, gifts and offerings. I pray with confidence thanks to your generosity to me in Christ. Amen.

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## **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.



# SETTING THREE

p.188

*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.*

## CHOIR

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**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.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## DECLARATION OF GRACE

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## HYMN

*850 It Is Well with My Soul sts. 1, 3*

*(short musical intro)*



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my



sor - rows like sea bil-lows roll— what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.*

*Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in you. Grant us so firmly to believe in your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:8–16

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: <sup>9</sup>“Get up! Go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there. I have commanded a woman there, a widow, to provide for you.”

<sup>10</sup>So he got up and went to Zarephath. He came to the city gate, and there he saw a widow gathering sticks. He called to her and said, “Please give me a little water in a jar, so that I can have something to drink.”

<sup>11</sup>When she went to get it, he called to her, “Please bring me a piece of bread.”

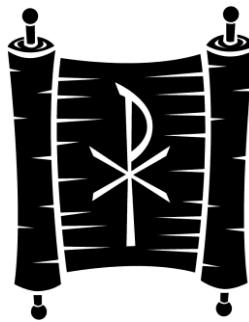
<sup>12</sup>She said, “As surely as the LORD your God lives, I have no food except a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a pitcher. See, I am gathering a couple of sticks so that I can go and prepare it for myself and my son, so that we can eat it and then die.”

<sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid. Go and do just as you said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from the flour and bring it out to me. Then go and make another for you and your son. <sup>14</sup>For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says. The jar of flour will not run out and the pitcher of oil will not become empty until the day the LORD sends rain to water the surface of the ground.”

<sup>15</sup>So she went and did exactly as Elijah said. He and she, as well as her household, were able to eat for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of flour did not run out, and the pitcher of oil did not become empty, just as the LORD had said through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



HYMN

752 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings



1 Gra - cious God, you send great bless - ings new each  
 2 By your Word you formed cre - a - tion filled with  
 3 In his earth - ly life, our Sav - ior knew the  
 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing bear the



morn - ing all our days. For your mer - cies  
 crea - tures large and small; as we tend that  
 care of faith - ful friends; may our deeds of  
 im - print of your grace; with the Son and



nev - er end - ing, for your love we of - fer praise.  
 end - less trea - sure may our care en - cir - cle all.  
 ded - i - ca - tion of - fer love that nev - er ends.  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, praise be yours in ev - 'ry place!

*Refrain*



Lord, we pray that we, your peo - ple who your



gifts un - num - bered claim, through the shar - ing



of your bless - ings may bring glo - ry to your name.

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## SECOND READING

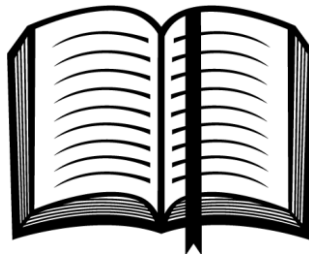
*2 Corinthians 8:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>Now brothers, we want you to know about the grace of God that was given in the churches of Macedonia: <sup>2</sup>In a severe test of trouble, their overflowing joy and their deep poverty overflowed into an abundance of their generosity. <sup>3</sup>I testify that of their own free will they gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability, <sup>4</sup>pleading with us with an urgent request for the gracious privilege of joining in this service to the saints. <sup>5</sup>And they did this not as we had expected, but in keeping with God's will they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us. <sup>6</sup>As a result we urged Titus, since he had already made a beginning, to bring to completion this gracious gift on your part. <sup>7</sup>But just as you overflow in every way—in faith, in word, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you also overflow in this gracious gift.

<sup>8</sup>I do not say this as a command, but to test how genuine your love is, by comparing it with the eagerness of others. <sup>9</sup>For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that although he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



*Stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*2 Corinthians 9:11*

**Alleluia!**

**You will be enriched in every way  
so that you can be generous on every occasion.**

**Alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL**

*Mark 12:38–44*

<sup>38</sup>He also said to them in his teaching, “Beware of the experts in the law who like to walk around in long robes and receive greetings in the marketplaces. <sup>39</sup>They love the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup>They devour widows' houses and offer long prayers to look good. These men will receive greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup>Jesus sat down opposite the offering box and was watching how the crowd put money into it. Many rich people put in large amounts. <sup>42</sup>One poor widow came and put in two small bronze coins, worth less than a penny. <sup>43</sup>He called his disciples together and said to them, “Amen I tell you: This poor widow put more into the offering box than all the others. <sup>44</sup>For they all gave out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all that she had to live on.”

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.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

695 *Take My Life and Let It Be*



1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine,  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Mark 12:38–44*

### Remember the Divine Exchange Rate

*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*

## **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

Lord God, from whom all blessings flow, we praise you for everything you provide to sustain our lives. Lead us every day to be thankful for your gifts and content with what you have given. Today we pray that you would guide us to manage your blessings wisely for the good of your kingdom.

**As we use your gifts to meet our needs, move us also to support the ministry of the gospel with our offerings.**

Before your Son ascended to your throne, he called us to preach the good news to every creature. In grace you created the public ministry so that we may answer his call by sending others in our place. Impress on us the immense importance of the task you have given us to proclaim your Word to the world.

**In our words and in our offerings, move us to be faithful witnesses of your grace.**

Work in our hearts so that our gifts do more than support a cause or meet a need. Move us to give out of love for you, our King and Redeemer.

**Lead us to bring our gifts first to honor you, the Giver of all things.**

Teach us to give as an ongoing part of life since the work of the gospel continues every day. Forgive us for the sins of apathy and carelessness and for giving that reacts only to urgent pleas or crises.

**Help us see the wisdom of planning our offerings as a regular routine of our faith.**

Teach us to determine our offerings in view of your blessings to us. The widow's coins were meager, but they were all she had. Move us to believe that to whom much is given, much is also expected.

**Give us courage to bring gifts that reflect your gifts to us.**

Teach us to give our offerings as a cheerful response of our faith in you and your Son. Spare us all feelings of obligation or resentment as we give. Help us to see our offerings as the vehicle that carries the gospel to the lost, and lead us to rejoice with the angels of heaven over every sinner who repents.

**Help us to balance our duty to give with the joy of giving.**

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added here.*

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Precious Lord, all our blessings come from you. Lead us again and again to thank you and then move us to be wise and faithful stewards of your gifts. May our gifts and offerings bring souls here and far away to the gracious gift of Jesus and his love.

**Lord, hear us and grant us this blessing. Amen.**

## HYMN

## *502 Children of the Heavenly Father*



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly  
2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the  
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in  
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he  
Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he  
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.  
show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

*Stand*

## **PRAYER**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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

803 Day by Day



1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at-tend me, bring-ing com-fort  
2 Day by day, I know you will pro-vide me strength to serve and  
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur-dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you  
wis-dom to o-bey; I will seek your lov-ing will to  
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near-er to my heav'n-ly goal.  
guide me o'er the paths I strug-gle day by day.  
hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di-vine, be-yond all mor-tal mea-sure, brings to naught the  
I will fear no e-vil of the mor-row, I will trust in  
Day by day, no mat-ter what be-tide me, you will hold me



bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior, lead me to the home I  
your en-dur-ing grace. Sav-ior, help me bear life's pain and  
ev-er in your hand. Sav-ior, with your pres-ence here to



treasure, where at last I'll find e-ter-nal rest.  
sor-row till in glo-ry I be-hold your face.  
guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MIDWEEK STUDY

Our next midweek Bible study is called *The God of the Covenant*. What kind of God do we worship? How has he revealed himself to us? Or, to put it another way, what is his name? In the Old Testament, God revealed who he is through a series of wonderful words—words that present God as wanting nothing more than to bestow his love on all people. Sad to say, many of these words go unnoticed by Bible readers or, if they are noticed, they don't jump out and command the reader's attention as they should. When we look carefully at these key words in the Old Testament—these gospel words—we come to understand our God better. Understanding these words translates into everyday hope and peace. The words chosen for this course are organized so that a picture of God emerges. The study covers the following six lessons: *God's Covenant* in Christ, *The LORD*, *The Glory* of the LORD, *The Righteousness* of the LORD, *The Holiness* of the LORD, *The Justice* of the LORD. Join us on Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings as we grow in faith and in a knowledge of the good things God has planned for us children of the new covenant.

## REDWINGS ONLINE STORE

An apparel shop for our school has been set up at BSN Sports (new vendor). Go to the following webpage (also in the QR code) to shop for over 50 apparel items. St. Paul's school also receives a portion of the sales as a fundraiser.

**Orders are due by November 11<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for supporting our school!



## PIZZA RANCH FUNDRAISER

The 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders are hosting an event at Pizza Ranch to raise money for the class trip this year. All tips and a portion of each sale will be contributed to our efforts. Come have supper with us sometime between 4:00-9:00 pm on November 26<sup>th</sup>! Kids eat free that night!

## ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Sign up now at church entry for this important event! St Paul's Lutheran Church Ladies Aid will be hosting an Advent by Candlelight "Christmas Begins with Christ" for all women of the congregation and their female family members, friends and neighbors on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. in the church basement. Please join us for this wonderful afternoon of the word, music, and fellowship to help prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holidays get into full swing.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE PRACTICES**

Children in the public school grades 4K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join in the Christmas Eve service. The school students will be having practice beginning November 4<sup>th</sup>. Copies of the program and practice schedule have been placed in the narthex (bottom shelf of where you pick up worship bulletins). If you have any questions about the program or possible transportation from the public school for practices, call the school at 608-486-2641.

## **NEXT NATIONAL TEEN BIBLE STUDY**

WELS will offer another National Teen Bible Study as an online opportunity for teens across the country to digitally connect with each other around the Word. The next one is scheduled for Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm (Central). Teens will be able to sign up using their phones to register for the upcoming one-hour Bible study that will be zoomed quarterly. This quarter's Bible study will focus on the testing of Abraham's faith in Genesis chapter 22. What's the hardest test you've ever been through? Maybe math or chemistry comes to mind, but you've likely been through tests much harder than that. Family problems, friend problems, personal disappointment, death in the family—all these things can become extraordinary tests to our faith. At a time in life when many questions, doubts, and fears can easily overwhelm you, it's important to stay connected to God and to fellow believers! Join us for another national online teen Bible study to learn how you can better "pass the tests" and walk by faith! Register at the QR code provided.



## **VOTERS' MEETING MINUTES**

Printed copies of the minutes from the October voters' meeting can be found in the narthex.

## **LIVE NATIVITY**

Start a new family tradition of sharing the good news of Christ's birth by volunteering down at Riverside Park. Many people are needed to staff the diorama each of the following evenings: November 25, 26, 27 and December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 25. Pick a night or two and come down for any amount of time you can spare. (Friday/Saturdays 5-10pm...Sundays 5-9pm) Sign up using one of the following ways: 1) Under the event on the Live Nativity Riverside- Diorama Facebook page, 2) Text/call Maria Johnson 608-397-4810 or email johnson.maria@live.com, or 3) Scan the QR code.



## **TREE CUTTING FOR LIVE NATIVITY**

The tree cutting for the Live Nativity will take place on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00am at Bowman Tree farm (4169 Barrell Rd. Sparta). We need about 20 people to help cut down and transport trees from there to Riverside Park. Please indicate whether or not you can bring a chainsaw, truck, or trailer. Make sure to sign up so you can be notified of any changes. Call/text John Pieper (608-386-9894) with any questions or to sign up.! Thank you so much for all your help!

## **OFFERING SUMMARY** (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2024 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00      Budget to Date: \$520,344.00  
Received Last Week: \$9,830.23      Rec'd to Date: \$341,593.13

## **LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE**

8:00 am: 132    Online Viewers: 52    10:00 am: 77    Total: 261  
Sunday Bible Study: 44    Sunday School: 17    Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 28

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## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Presiding Minister**  
**Accompanist**

Pastor Brock Groth  
Harriet Langrehr

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# CALENDAR

<b>TODAY</b>	8:00 am	Worship
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship
<b>MONDAY</b>	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
<b>TUESDAY</b>	7:00 pm	Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 am	Bible Study (same as Tues.)
	6:30 pm	Public School Catechism Class
	7:30 pm	Luther High Conference of Delegates Meeting
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Worship with Communion
	6:30 pm	PACE Meeting



WiFi: SPLC\_Guest  
Password: gracealone

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[stpaulsbangor.com](http://stpaulsbangor.com)