



FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST HAVE POWERFUL ALLIES



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
HOWARDS GROVE, WI



IN THE NAME OF JESUS

THE THEME OF OUR WORSHIP:

The Need for Followership: powerful allies. Green Berets. Rangers. SEALs. Delta Force. These special forces groups are part of the United States military. They are elite: highly trained with unique skill sets. Many of their important missions are carried out in total secrecy. Two weeks ago...we acknowledged that we are in the middle of a massive spiritual war. Today, we thank God that we fight this war with the protection of special forces. Since the fifth century...Christians have observed the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels. We commemorate that God has sent Michael...one of the great archangels described in Scripture...and countless of his fellow angels to protect and serve mankind. Let us rejoice that followers of Christ have powerful allies!

WELCOME! Thank you for joining us for worship on this morning. At St. Paul's, you will find a worship service designed to praise God and increase people's faith. While all styles of worship take some getting used to, we hope you will find that the main message – the unconditional love Jesus has for us – comes through clearly.

PARTICIPATE. Many parts of our worship service are interactive. Feel free to sing along with the hymns and songs. There are also times in the service when Pastor and congregation speak back and forth. Please join together as you feel comfortable.

PARAMENTS. In Lutheran churches you often see paraments. These are the colored cloths with symbols on them hanging from the altar and pulpit. They change with the church seasons and celebrations as a visual reminder of what we are celebrating in our worship. White is the color of purity and completeness...a perfect color for servants of God – the angels. In addition to its use during the season of Easter...white is the appointed color for such festive Sundays as Christmas; Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord; Transfiguration Sunday; and today – Michael and All Angels.

PERSONAL CONVENIENCES. For your convenience, restrooms are located down the hall to the right of the entrance into the sanctuary...feel free to ask for directions. Cell phones should be turned off or put on vibrate mode so as not to disrupt others during the service. Thank you for your cooperation.

To help you focus while you join us for worship, take the time to eliminate as many distractions around you as possible. While we share the promises of God's Word with you, we encourage you to create community. Use the comment and chat areas to let others know you are worshipping with them. We may be separated by in-person or livestream worship, but we can connect with each other here for Christian support and encouragement.

THE FESTIVAL OF MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

The Church is guarded/protected by angels. We know one of them is named Michael. Michael is one of two angels that the Bible names for us. The other is the great messenger of God's grace...Gabriel. Gabriel's job was to announce the remarkable works of God's salvation to the waiting world. Michael's job is different.

Michael is called the archangel...that is, the leader of the angels. The Bible says that he is in charge of the great army of angels that God uses to protect and care for us. This is the day we remember God's great love in giving us these amazing protectors...the angels.

For 1500 years the Christian Church has celebrated The Festival of St. Michael & All Angels near the autumnal equinox...the day of 12 hours of sunlight and 12 hours of darkness. As Christians watched the autumn nights grow longer and the days grow shorter...they were reminded of the struggle between good and evil – between the forces of light and the forces of darkness – between the angel armies of God and the demonic forces of Satan. And so...every year as autumn darkened into winter...the Church celebrated the Feast of the Archangel, and remembered that Michael and All the Angels fought on their side.



You see...angels are one of God's answers to your fears. God wants to give you proper perspective as you go through this life. No matter what sounds you hear...or dilemmas you face...or tragedies you endure...God's message for you is: Don't be afraid, because you are not alone.

Hymn Appreciation: Rev. Peter Prange...the author of this hymn...writes this: "I could find no hymn that properly surveyed the scriptural truths of this important festival (not even a mention of St. Michael!), so I decided to write one myself. As you can see, the scriptural allusions are many in this hymn that recounts the cosmic struggle between the devil, the Lord, and their angels." The bold text and tune suggest that the hymn be played in a majestic style...with the feeling of a march.

Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Amen.

Praise the LORD from the heavens
praise him in the heights above.

Praise him all his angels,
praise him all his heavenly hosts.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.

He set them in place forever and ever;
he gave a decree that will never pass away. Amen!

Psalm 148:1-5

DIALOGUE OF PRAISE

Congregational responses are sung to "Around the Throne of God a Band".

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels,
numbering thousands upon thousands,
and ten thousand times ten thousand.

They encircled the throne
and the living creatures and the elders.

In a loud voice they sang:

"Worthy is the lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!"

Revelation 5:11-12

After a musical introduction...the congregation sings the following verse:

**Around the throne of God a band
Of glorious angels ever stand;
Bright things they see, sweet harps they hold
And on their heads are crowns of gold.**

I sought the LORD and he answered me:
he delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with shame.
The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him,
and he delivers them.

Psalm 34:4-7

**Some wait around him, ready still
To sing his praise and do his will,
And some, when he commands them, go
To guard his servants here below.**

If you make the most high your dwelling –
even the LORD, who is my refuge –
then no harm will befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.
For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

Psalm 91:9-12

**Then shall no wicked thing draw near
To do us harm or cause us fear,
And we shall live, when life is past,
With angels round your throne at last.**

THE WORD

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted
in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals.
Mercifully grant that as your holy angels
always serve and worship you in heaven,
so by your direction they may help
and defend us here on earth;
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

2 KINGS 6:8-17

The LORD sends his fiery angels to guard his people in danger.

⁸Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, "I will set up my camp in such and such a place."

⁹The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: "Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there." ¹⁰So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places.

¹¹This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, "Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?"

¹²"None of us, my lord the king," said one of his officers, "but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom."

¹³"Go, find out where he is," the king ordered, "so I can send men and capture him." The report came back: "He is in Dothan." ¹⁴Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city.

¹⁵When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

¹⁶“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

¹⁷And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

ON EAGLE’S WINGS | 821

The LORD commands his angels to guard believers in all their ways. On Eagle’s Wings is based on Psalm 91.

SECOND READING

REVELATION 12:7-12

Though Satan and his sinister angels lead the world astray...our vindication and victory are secure in the Lamb.

⁷Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.

¹¹They triumphed over him
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.

¹²Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!

But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!

He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

PSALM 103:20



Refrain



Tone



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GOSPEL

LUKE 10:17-20

Jesus gave his disciples authority over demons and the assurance of Satan's demise.

¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”

¹⁸He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn Appreciation: This hymn was written by Philip Melanchthon...one of the heroes of the Lutheran Reformation. Melanchthon was a child prodigy and graduated from the University of Heidelberg at age 14. By age 21 he was appointed professor of Greek language and literature at the University of Wittenberg...where Dr. Martin Luther served as an Old Testament professor. Melanchthon was an extremely popular lecturer...at times addressing 500 to 1500 students. Guided by Luther, he wrote the Augsburg Confession in 1530...a monumental contribution to Lutheranism. After his death, he was buried in the Castle Church in Wittenberg...opposite Luther's pulpit-side grave. *Lord God, to You We Give All Praise* was written in 1543. Melanchthon wanted his people to have a hymn which portrayed angels in their proper, biblical duties: *not* as something you would pray to (which the Catholic Church of the day was teaching)...but as creatures sent by God to serve and protect mankind.

SERMON

REVELATION 12:7-12

“The Day Heaven Went to War”

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.**

CONNECT

We would kindly ask everyone to fill out a [Connect Card](#) now. If you are worshipping with us virtually, we kindly ask that you also fill out a digital Connect Card. What will be the “next steps” you can take as a response to the message you have heard today? You can also let us know how we can pray for you or ask for more information on one of the ministries or programs we are offering. Thank you!

OFFERING

If you're visiting today...we're glad to have you as our guest. Please don't feel any obligation to participate in this part of the service. In fact...we hope you'll consider this service our gift to you! This offering is an opportunity for those of us who are regular attenders to invest tangibly in what God is doing here. If you do wish to give an offering...please feel free to do so.

Giving Options:

- ◆ Scan the QR code to the right.
- ◆ give your gift [online](#).
- ◆ via text message: text “GIVE” to 877.492.5452 and follow the text instructions.



Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Prayer of the Church is one of the three responses to the Word that worshippers have heard in the readings and sermon. We respond with faith (speaking the Creed), with offerings, and with prayer. In the Prayer of the Church, God's people do the work of priests, making intercession for themselves...for others...and for the world.

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and all who call upon the Lord, knowing that we have powerful allies in the heavenly hosts and in Christ our Savior.

Almighty God, you are our refuge and strength. As we face trials and temptations, remind us that you have given your angels charge over us to guard us in all our ways. Strengthen our faith to trust in your protection and deliverance.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Father, as you shield us under the shadow of your wings, be with all who face fear, illness, and danger. Surround them with your heavenly messengers, bringing healing, peace, and hope. We ask for your mercy upon the sick, the suffering, and the grieving.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you have conquered sin, death, and the devil, and you have sent your angels to minister to us in this spiritual battle. Strengthen your Church to stand firm in the faith, proclaim your victory, and serve others in love. Bless all

who lead, teach, and spread your gospel, that they may do so with boldness and grace.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, guide our earthly leaders with your wisdom and justice. Protect those who serve in harm's way, especially our military, first responders, and all who work for peace and safety. Surround them with your angels and keep them from all evil.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the unseen forces you send to guard and protect us. Help us to remember daily that we are never alone, for you are always with us, and your angels go before us and behind us, watching over every step.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Special intercessions may be spoken

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. 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.

HYMN OF DEPARTURE

ABIDE, O DEAREST JESUS | 924

SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER AND PREACHER: Pastor Brian Pechman

SERVICE ACCOMPANIST: Luke Bramstedt

MUSICIANS: Pastor Adam Bode, Tori Engel, Stan Grzonka, Greg Johnson, Nikki Leahy, and Nick & Tanya Schmidt

ALTAR GUILD: Lisa Specht, Stefani Leverenz, Jenny Walleser.

USHERS: 8:00a.m.- Greg Johnson, David Wehrmann, Richard Stoelb, Will Belitz, Willis Reese.

10:30a.m. – Kevin Reinemann, Tim Reinemann, Jim Truttschel, Tyler Truttschel.

OFFERINGS: 9/22 & 9/23 - \$15,970 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,200). \$200 – CHAIRS IN THE GYM. \$1,425 – GROWING FORWARD.

ATTENDANCE: 9/22 & 9/23 – 8:00 A.M. – 250. 10:30 A.M. – 150. 6:00 P.M. – 38.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

- ◆ Corey & Coreen Schroeder celebrating their 30th anniversary on October 1st.
- ◆ Brynn Taisy Bull, born to Tim and Brittany Bull this past week.

This Week @ St. Paul's

09.29 Sunday	8:00a	Worship Service
	9:30a	Family Bible Hour
	10:30a	Worship Service
09.30 Monday	6:00p	Monday Worship
	7:00p	Adult Choir
10.02 Wednesday	8:00a	Mindful Moms Study
	9:00a	Bible Study
	9:15a	Mindful Moms Playdate
	6:30p	Council
10.04 Friday	4:30p	Home VB Games
10.06 Sunday	8:00a	Worship Service (Grades 2-4 sing)
	9:30a	Family Bible Hour
	10:30a	Worship Service (Grades 2-4 sing)
10.07 Monday	6:00p	Monday Worship
	7:15p	Adult Choir

Grow with Christ

Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

1. **Angels & Demons:** Good versus evil is a reality in the world of angels and demons. There are as many misunderstandings as there are questions when it comes to what the Scriptures teach about this battle. Join us in the Harvest Room today to have your questions answered as we explore these upcoming topics: the fall of evil angels, the occult, witchcraft, and more.
2. **Wednesday Bible Class | 2 Thessalonians:** Wednesday morning Bible class happens each Wednesday from 9:00-10:00a. Our upcoming path of 2 Thessalonians will take us on an expansive walk through Scripture on the “man of lawlessness”...also known as the Antichrist. Class takes place in the Harvest Room. We look forward to seeing you there.
3. **Men’s Bible Study:** Join us for a men’s Bible study on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00p starting October 8th, where we’ll explore the theme of servant leadership in the home and workplace. This study will be practical and applicable to everyday life as we dig into Scripture and discuss how to lead with humility and purpose. Snacks will be provided, and guys are welcome to bring their own beer or beverage of choice. Contact Luther Curia with any questions: 920.287.8575
4. **Foundations Class:** “Foundations” class is a Bible information class and is a path to membership here at St. Paul’s or for people looking to build their faith through the study of the basic teachings of the Bible. A new session of this class will begin on Monday, October 14th. Class runs from 6:30-8:00p. More details available by scanning the QR code. Everyone is welcome!
5. **Fall LWMS Rally:** The fall rally will be held Saturday, October 5th at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1012 Wisconsin Ave., Kewaunee, WI. Join ladies from the Shoreline area to hear Missionary Keegan Dowling speak about WELS mission outreach in the continent of Africa. Registration is from 8:00-9:00a and the rally will be from 9:00a-12:00p. Lunch will be served following the rally.
6. **“Little Lives with Jesus”:** You are invited to gather in the Harvest Room on Thursday, October 10th at 7:00p...or you can register and watch at home...for the webinar “Little Lives with Jesus”. Many pregnancies end before full-term, and many mothers report experiencing intense sadness or depression. This webinar seeks to compassionately demonstrate the value of pre-born life...to offer spiritual and practical comfort to those who have lost an infant...and to promote and encourage ideas for individuals and congregations on how they can support and show the love of Jesus to those mourning such a devastating loss. More details are available at: wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/womens-ministry/womens-ministry-webinars
7. **October WELS Youth Night:** St. Paul’s will be hosting our next WELS Youth Night event, on the evening of Saturday, October 12th. All high school students are invited to attend these events for an evening of fun, fellowship, food and study in God’s Word. We invite several other area churches to join us for this event and generally have around 50 teens in attendance. This year we are trying to get our teens more involved in planning the events as well. If you would like to be part of the teen planning



committee, please contact Mike Leahy | mleahy@live.com. Watch for more details about the event soon, including posters and registration details.

8. **Seeking Jesus Women's Retreat, Oct. 19th:** Please consider inviting the women in your lives who could also benefit from a day dedicated to strengthening and nurturing their faith in our Savior. The retreat is from 8:30a-4:00p. (Postcards are available on the kiosk in the narthex.)



Registrations are due by Tuesday, using the QR code or a paper registration form (available in the church narthex). Completed registration forms can be dropped into the box marked "Seeking Jesus" in the member room.

9. **Martin Luther College Choir:** This is the touring choir of our church body's college for future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers. On the second weekend in October, they will be in our area of the Midwest. They have concerts at St. John/St. James in Reedsville on Saturday, October 12th, at 7:00p and at Grace in Oshkosh on Sunday, October 13th, at 10:30a (service) and 1:30p. For more information, go to mlc-wels.edu/music/ensembles/college-choir/.

Announcements & News

10. **Christmas at St. Paul's Student Registration:** Join us for 'Christmas at St. Paul's' on Sunday, Dec. 22nd, with services at 8:00a & 10:30a in the gym. Children from K-8th grade will participate in the Dec. 22nd service. 4K Sunday School students are also invited to participate. 3K-K students of St. Paul's school will have their own program on Thursday, Dec. 19th. Don't miss this multi-generational celebration of Jesus' birth, featuring children, the adult choir, and instrumentalists. Submit the participation form by Friday, Oct. 18th. Scan the QR code to register and for more info. For questions, contact Luther Curia at luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
11. **Double Kwik Trip Scrip:** During the month of September, take advantage of a 10% (usually 5%) discount on your Kwik Trip gift cards! Scrip can be purchased in between services or stop in the office to purchase. Exact cash or check are the accepted forms of payment.
 12. **St. Paul's Pioneers:** Pioneers is starting in October! This first session we will focus on archery. We are looking for some help in teaching our kids more about archery. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mike Heilman at 920.698.1654.
 13. **Living Nativity:** We are inviting everyone to join us in the gym on October 13th right before family Bible Hour for the Living Nativity breakfast. The menu will include egg bakes, fruit, coffee cakes and more. A free will offering will be collected. This is our only source of funding for the Living Nativity. Committee leaders will be on hand to answer any questions and help you sign up for the cast or crew.



Representatives are at the kiosk to assist with signing up today. It is a fun event and best of all, you are sharing the good news of Jesus' birth. What a wonderful way to serve! Why not sign up today? Living Nativity is Dec. 6th, 7th and 8th.

14. **Financial Stewardship Committee:** This is a new committee consisting of Trever Athorp, Dan Goetsch and Corey Schroeder that has been formed to promote Christian stewardship here at St. Paul's. We began meeting recently and are working on different ways to best help our members with their stewardship desires. Please be on the lookout in the upcoming September Church newsletter for further information about our committee and the things we will be working on. If you have any questions for us in the meantime, please feel free to reach out to us.
15. **St. Paul's History Committee:** The committee will meet on Wednesday, October 23rd at 10:10a in the library. During the year, the committee updated the names and years of MLHS graduates from St. Paul's. Our next project is a listing of St. Paul's members who graduated from Winnebago Lutheran Academy. If you graduated from WLA, please list your name and graduation year on a piece of paper and place it in mailbox G27 in the member room.
16. **Christ Through Us:** Our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod is preparing to celebrate 175 years of God's grace on our church body in 2025. Together with Northwestern Publishing House, we are creating a pictorial history book. It is available for preorder at a special price of about \$24 through September 30th at online.nph.net/christ-through-us.html. Guaranteed availability only on orders placed by October 15th.
17. **Immunization Clinic:** On Sunday, October 13th, from 11:45a-1:30p, our member Adam Huth will offer influenza (age 3+) and COVID (age 12+) immunizations (through his employer Walgreens) in the Conference Room at St. Paul's. Though walk-ins are welcome, advance registration using the QR Code is appreciated and will ensure a time slot. People will need to bring a Vaccine Administration Record form (available in the member room) and insurance card (most insurances are accepted).



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