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# lcome to (

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

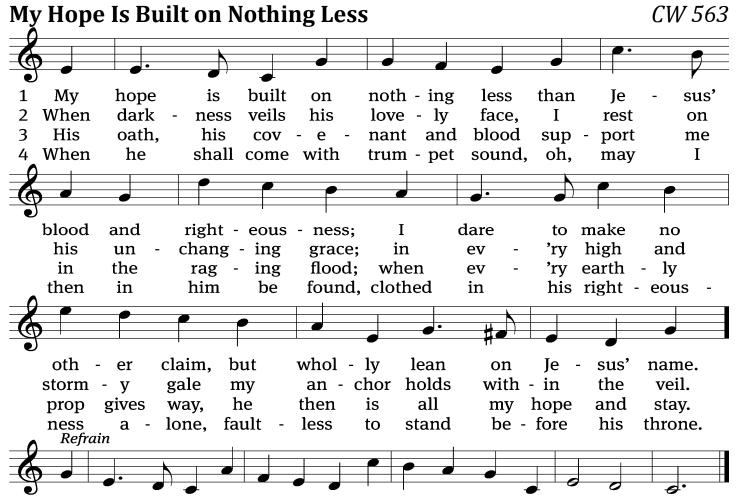
We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

#### FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

**Worship Focus:** Ministry is when Jesus gives us some of his "stuff" so that we can give that "stuff" to others. When we meet the needs of those God brings into our sphere of influence...that's meaningful ministry. In the Word today...we are reminded that the one who provides it all stands by our side. Whether we see it or not (First Reading), whether other supports stand by us or not (Second Reading), whether we feel it or not (Gospel)...the Lord is with us. Meaningful ministry is built on this powerfully pictured truth. Through it all...the Lord is there. Jesus removes his disciples' fear by his comforting and powerful presence.



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

Stand

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

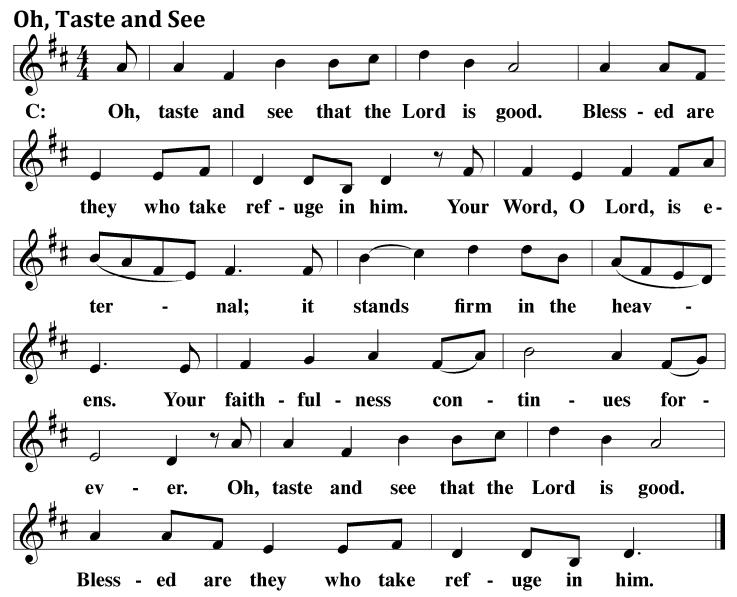
We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy. Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child.

## But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in you, strengthen our faith, and give us courage to believe that in your love you

will rescue us from all adversities; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be Seated

#### FIRST READING

2 Kings 6:8-17

The Lord is with you. This is the promise God makes to his children…even if we don't always see it. 
Now 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."

<sup>9</sup>The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: "Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there." <sup>10</sup>So 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.

<sup>11</sup>This 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?"

<sup>12</sup>"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."

<sup>13</sup>"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." <sup>14</sup>Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city.

<sup>15</sup>When 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.

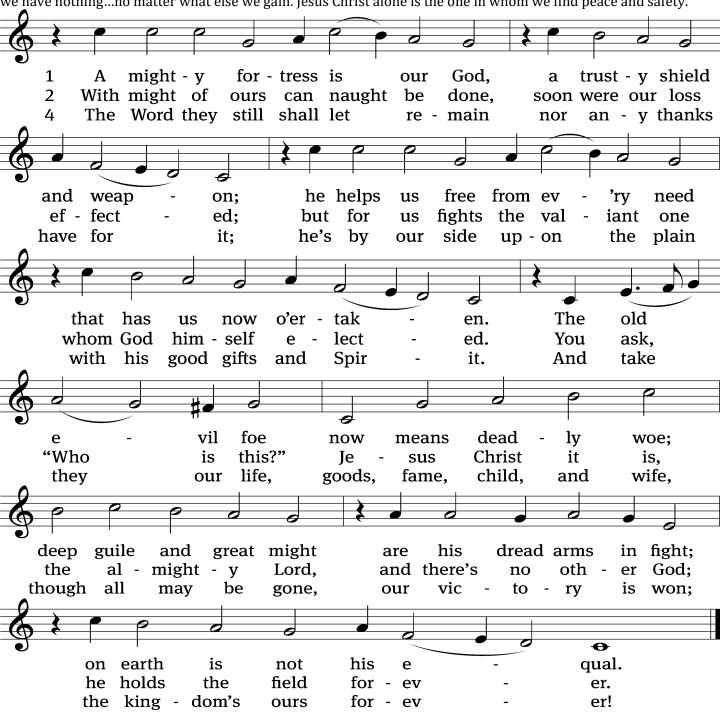
<sup>16</sup>"Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

<sup>17</sup>And 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.

#### A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

CW 863 sts. 1-2, 4

*Hymn Appreciation:* Jesus Christ and God's Word serve as a *fortress* by protecting you from the devil (the old evil foe)...saving you from eternal death...overcoming the world. This *fortress* hymn of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Reformation is still a favorite of Lutherans. Based on Psalm 46...it was a source of great comfort and a battle-cry for persecuted Christians through the centuries. Luther himself would ask friends to sing it with him while hiding for his life at the castle of Coburg. Philipp Melancthon, Justus Jonas and Caspar Cruciger were sent into banishment in 1547...they were moved to tears as a little girl sung this for them in Weimar. The pastors and German princes sung a lively edition of it at the Diet of Augsburg in 1530. Gustavus Adolphus and his army sang this hymn before the Battle of Leipzig in 1631...and the Salzburg emigrants adopted it as their traveling hymn in 1732. Thus, the hymn served as a faithful reminder that if we have Christ, then we have everything...no matter what else we lose. But if we lack Christ, we have nothing...no matter what else we gain. Jesus Christ alone is the one in whom we find peace and safety.



In Paul's good-bye from this world...he proclaims the truth of today's theme in his own life. He sees his end and doesn't fear...because he sees Jesus and his promises.

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY**



Stand

**GOSPEL** *Mark* 6:45–56

Jesus' command to not be afraid is always accompanied by his promise of presence.

<sup>45</sup>Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup>After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

<sup>47</sup>Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. <sup>48</sup>He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against

them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, <sup>49</sup>but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, <sup>50</sup>because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." <sup>51</sup>Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, <sup>52</sup>for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. <sup>54</sup>As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. <sup>55</sup>They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Be Seated





5 I walk with Jesus all the way, his guidance never fails me; within his wounds I find a stay when Satan's pow'r assails me; and by his footsteps led, my path I safely tread.

No evil leads my soul astray; I walk with Jesus all the way.

6 My walk is heav'nward all the way; await, my soul, the morrow, when you at last with joy can say farewell to sin and sorrow.
All worldly pomp, begone!
To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay; my walk is heav'nward all the way.

SERMON Mark 6:45-56

Take Courage!

Stand

#### **APOSTLE'S 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.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.

You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our

ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. 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.

#### **Closing Prayer**

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### **Benediction**

Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

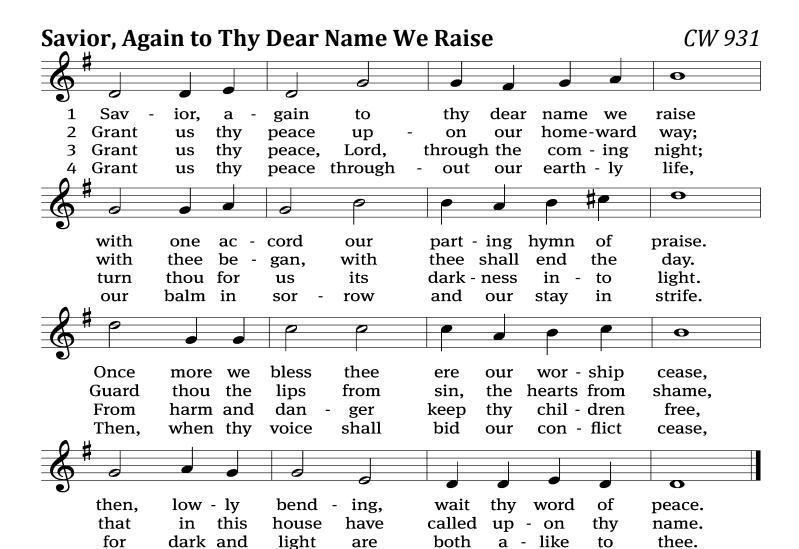
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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



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## If you are visiting us today or would like to update your information, please scan the QR code to fill out our form.

to



peace.

#### SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

us,

**Presiding Minister and Preacher:** Pastor Brian Pechman

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Lord,

**Service Accompanist:** Marilyn Toepel

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ione Prange, Mary Ann Hahn, Lori Wehrmann.

**USHERS**: 8:00a.m.- Tim Doro, Tom Damrow, Derrick Hermann, Scott Schomberg. 10:30a.m. – Kevin Mueller, Larry Schomberg, Nathan Ledvina, Jeff Ledvina.

Online giving options available

call

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



OFFERINGS: 7/28 & 7/29 - \$11,775 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,600). \$250 - GROWING FORWARD. \$500 FOR THE RUTH GRUNEWALD GOETSCH MEMORIAL.

ATTENDANCE: 7/28 & 7/29 - 8:00 A.M. - 169. 10:30 A.M. - 155. 6:00 P.M. - 41.

This Week at a Glance:	
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Meeting Times
Sunday, August 4	8:00a & 10:30a   Worship Services
	9:20a-10:10a   Family Bible Hour
	3:00p   Zach Unke Concert
Monday, August 5	6:00p   Monday Night Worship
	6:00p   BIC
Tuesday, August 6	9:00a-1:00p   Office Open
	6:30p   CCCW
Wednesday, August 7	6:30p   Council
Thursday, August 9	7:00p   Mom's Night Out
Friday, August 9	8:00a-12:00p   Office Open
Sunday, August 11	8:00a & 10:30a   Worship Services
	9:20a-10:10a   Family Bible Hour
Monday, August 12	6:00p   Monday Night Worship
	6:00p   BIC

#### **Grow with Christ**

#### Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

1. **Bible Class Today:** We are in summer Bible study mode. We invite adults, teens, and children down to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to join us for study. This weekend, we will look at Article VIII of the Formula of Concord, which focuses on the person of Christ. He is...unquestionably...the most famous man who ever walked the earth. Correspondingly...he is the most misunderstood. Mistakes about Jesus' person inevitably lead to mistakes about his purpose. Today...we want to better understand the Christ.

- 2. **Child Care:** During Bible study, parents attending Bible class are welcome to let their children (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger) play in the Garden Gym, which will be supervised by volunteers.
- 3. **School Staff Installations:** On Sunday, August 18th, three called school staff members will be installed: Jennifer Hacker (3rd-4th Grade), Greg Johnson (Administrative Vice-Principal/Intervention Specialist), Pastor Norv Kock (afternoon Principal Relief Teacher).
- 4. **Save the Date** | **Seeking Jesus Women's Retreat October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024** Join us on October 19<sup>th</sup> for Seeking Jesus Women's Retreat from 8:30a-4:00p. This full-day retreat includes an opening devotion, two keynote speakers, breakout sessions, beautiful music, fellowship and of course food. We hope you can join us for an enriching day, getting to know other women and growing in God's Word together. Watch for more information on speakers. Registration opens next Sunday.
- 5. **St. Paul's Early Childhood** is seeking a dedicated individual to provide after school care for our 3, 4 and 5 year old children. Join the fun in the afternoons from 3:00-5:30p. For more details about this rewarding, paid position or an application, call or text MeLissa Wieting at 608.617.7040.
- 5. **GriefShare Program** opportunities at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 916 Pine St, Manitowoc:
  - Loss of a Spouse is a single session, 2-hour event to help people who have lost a spouse to death. There will be a video, discussion time, and a guide book for notes. Loss of a Spouse will meet on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:30p at Immanuel. For more information or to register, please contact Larry Verlinden at 920.323.2297 or <a href="weellowerlinden@comcast.net">werlinden@comcast.net</a>. You may also register at the griefshare.org website. Please register by August 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be a \$7/book charge. Please consider joining us!
  - GriefShare is a program using videos, discussion, Scripture and workbook exercises to help people who are grieving the loss of a loved one whether recent or in the past. This program will be from 5:30-7:30p on Wednesdays from September 4<sup>th</sup> to November 27<sup>th</sup>, meeting in the Immanuel church office conference room. The entrance is across the covered area from the church entrance. For more information, please contact Larry Verlinden at 920.323.2297 or <a href="mailto:verlinden@comcast.net">verlinden@comcast.net</a>. You also can get more information or register at the GriefShare website griefshare.org. Please register by

September 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be charging \$20/person to cover the cost of workbooks.

#### **In Other News**

- 1. **Zach Unke Concert:** We hope you can join us today @ 3:00p as we welcome Christian piano composer and performer, Zach Unke. The event is free and open to the public...so be sure to bring along your friends and neighbors.
- 2. Travel with WELS Groups: Interested in traveling with other members of our WELS/ELS faith family where daily devotion and Christian fellowship are integral parts of the itinerary? The OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) is partnering with Father's World Tours to offer several trips in the coming months. Spend some time in Duluth and along the amazing Lake Superior shore in September. Embark on a 2-week trip to Texas via America's Heartland in November. Or, ring in the New Year on a Caribbean cruise to visit and encourage our WELS missions in St Lucia, Grenada, and Antigua. All trips originate in MN (New Ulm or Twin Cities), have options to fly-in and meet the group, and are open to W/ELS members of all ages. Visit <a href="www.fathersworldtours.com">www.fathersworldtours.com</a> or contact Steve Balza (steve@fathersworldtours.com or 507.217.1731).
- 3. **Church Picnic:** Bring your family and friends to enjoy a festive atmosphere filled with the rich flavors and sounds of Germany: bier, wein, kraut, wurst, etc. A prize will be given for the most festive German attire, so dress the part! There will be fun for the whole family!

Does your Oma have an amazing German potato salad recipe? Prove it, and make her proud! We're looking for German potato salads and beverages. Thanks for considering if you're able to bring something to share.

Cost: Free-will offering basket. Please register by Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> so that we have enough food for you. :)

Please register using this link: <a href="https://forms.gle/HtAfYBiVJb5mXsjs6">https://forms.gle/HtAfYBiVJb5mXsjs6</a> or by calling the office by Monday, August 12th so that we have enough food for you.

:) Contact Luther Curia with any questions: Luther.curia@sphg.org