



**Growing**  
**AMONG**  
**Weeds**

July 19 & 20, 2020



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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a  
Congregation in the Wisconsin  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Returning for worship:** We are following Sheboygan County's guidelines for capacity and distancing. Door handles and pew backs are cleaned prior to each service. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. Bathrooms will be available. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which should be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

**Communion** is offered in worship on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship with the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with one of the pastors.

**DVDs:** There will be a small number of DVDs of this weekend's worship service available to be picked up from the office. They will be ready by Monday afternoon. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you take one.

**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 (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.**



## SERVICE OF THE WORD

**Today's' Worship Focus:** *The Christian lives as wheat among weeds as he waits for the harvest. We ask the Lord to strengthen us as we strive to live like wheat—to think and to do what is right—even while we live in this sinful world. Living with an eye on the coming harvest gives us encouragement, comfort, and hope.*

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**OPENING HYMN**      *Lord of Lords, the Sparkling Heavens* | 237 v. 3 & 4

**3 Lord of love, we bow before you, humbled by your constant grace.  
Word incarnate, sent from heaven, on the cross you took our place.  
By your death and resurrection we shall live through endless days!  
Lord of life, we sing your praise.**

**4 Lord of nations, by your Spirit cause our fear and greed to cease;  
Restless hearts and lives refashion by the entrance of your peace.  
May we now with firm commitment follow in obedience true:  
Lord of lords, we worship you!**

*Please stand.*

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

**C:** **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** 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.

**C: 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.**

M: 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.

**C: Thanks be to God for his great mercy! Amen.**

M: Let us pray. Our King and Redeemer, give us strength to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, so that when your Son comes again in glory to judge both the living and the dead, we may shine like the stars in glory; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Joel 3:12-16*

*Joel prophesies the final judgment as a harvest, trampling the wicked and bringing refuge for the LORD's people.*

<sup>12</sup> Let the nations be roused. Let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will be seated to judge all the nations.

<sup>13</sup> Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow, because the nations' wickedness is so great!

<sup>14</sup> Multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Decision! For the Day of the Lord is near in the Valley of Decision.

<sup>15</sup> The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars will stop shining.

<sup>16</sup> The Lord will roar from Zion and shout from Jerusalem. The sky and the earth will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL LESSON

## *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

*The devil sowed weeds among the children of the kingdom as they grow and await the harvest.*

<sup>24</sup> He presented another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. <sup>27</sup> The servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He said to them, ‘An enemy did this.’ The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?’ <sup>29</sup> ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

<sup>37</sup> He answered them, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. <sup>39</sup> The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. <sup>42</sup> The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY

# Your Kingdom, O God | 755

Verse 1: Soloist

Verses 2 & 3: ALL



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.

SERMON

*Joel 3:12-16*

*The Harvest is Near  
 Sickle - Squash - Secure*

*Please 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.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

### **OFFERING**

*Online giving options available*



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 during scheduled office hours, or given online.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & 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.**

**M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**C: Amen.**



M: 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.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*The Day Is Surely Drawing Near* | 207 v. 1, 4, 6

- 1 The day is surely drawing near  
When God's Son, the Anointed,  
Shall with great majesty appear  
As judge of all appointed.  
All mirth and laughter then shall cease  
When flames on flames will still increase,  
As Scripture truly teaches.
- 4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord  
And sought but carnal pleasures,  
Who here despised his precious Word  
And loved their earthly treasures!  
With shame and trembling they will stand  
And at the judge's stern command  
To Satan be delivered.
- 6 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way  
In fear and tribulation.  
Your saints are waiting patiently;  
Come soon, Redeemer; make us free  
From ev'ry evil. Amen.

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*SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:*

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Adam Bode

**ACCOMPANIST:** Kayla Sprenger

**MUSICIANS:** Rev. Adam Bode, Greg Johnson, and Jim Van Alstine

**ALTAR GUILD:** Karen Beining, Debbie Van Alstine, and Sandra Weber

**USHERS:** 8:00 a.m.-Ed Strauss, Gabe Leistekow, Dale Bramstedt, Keith Leistekow, Kurt Mattek; 10:30 a.m.- Tad Goedeke, Eric Eickhoff, Sam Eickhoff; 6:00 p.m.-Kurt Mattek, Bob Johnson.

**OFFERING: 7/12 & 7/13 - \$16,295. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$1,000. - SCHOOL FUND; \$200 - DEBT REDUCTION**

*In our prayers this week...* Olivia Gierach, daughter of Dustin and Vanessa, baptized into God's family.

## Announcements

1. Sunday morning **Bible Study resumes in-person only this weekend**. We will continue our topic of Sanctification, meeting in the sanctuary from about 9:20-10:00 and leaving time for cleaning before and after. Weather permitting, we will have light refreshments outside prior to Bible class.
2. We ask that **all members who intend to come to worship please sign up** by using the links or calling the office. This process is to enable distancing out of Christian love for all during these times. Members who come to worship without signing up in advance will be asked to wait in the narthex until visitors and members who did sign up are ensured seating in the sanctuary.
3. **Marilyn Eirich** is filling in the secretary position until we find a permanent solution. Marilyn will be in the office on **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday** mornings this week from 8:00 am -12:00 pm.
4. We will be **taking a break from our weekday Zoom Evening Connection Devotions** in the coming weeks.
5. **Thursday Bible study** is on Nehemiah at 6:30pm over Zoom. The study is a look at one of the greatest leaders in the Bible. It will strengthen your understanding of the Word, lead you to evaluate life opportunities and your abilities, and invigorate your own prayer life. Read Nehemiah one to catch up and join us for chapter two this Thursday.
6. **Youth Group Bible Study:** \*Monday nights @ 8 pm (July 13, 20, 27, & August 10) \* Zoom Bible Study: JOY, NO MATTER WHAT: This series on the book of Philippians helps us find joy no matter what circumstances we face, especially the new reality of life right now. **Can't come every time?** No worries. Join us when you can. **Don't want to talk?** No worries. Listen to the discussion. Chime in only if you want to. **Who should join?** All incoming 9th graders on up.
7. **Aluminum can collection ending-** Due to the diminishing returns we have seen recently in the return on our efforts, we will no longer be collecting aluminum cans. Please note that the final day cans can be deposited in our

collection area will be July 30th. After this date, the collection area will be removed.

8. **Mindful Moms** has resumed **summer park play dates!** Moms and kids of all ages are invited to join us weekly on Wednesdays at 10am at a variety of area playgrounds. For location details each week, check out our Mindful Moms Facebook group posts or contact Alycia Cameron (414-736-8966, Alycia.cameron@gmail.com, or FB messenger).
9. **The Car Show is happening!** The date is August 8, and the time is from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Registration is open on our website. Very small fee to register! Contact Nick Schmidt or the evangelism committee for further information.
10. **St. Paul's food truck fest hosted** by the Stewardship Committee is on Sunday, July 19, from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Come on out to the church parking lot after worship for a great time! We've invited our local community! Three food trucks will be here with a variety of food. Invite your friends. Payment is cash only.
11. **Moms Night Out - Campfire Chats** Mindful Moms invites all moms with kids at home to escape the house for a bit and join us for a Moms Night Out! Grab a lawn chair and BYOB to Amanda's backyard for an evening filled with chatting and relaxing with friends around the fire Thursday, July 30 from 7-10pm at 1109 Elm St. Cleveland. Contact Amanda (mrsabode@gmail.com, 920-750-8437) or Alycia (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966) to RSVP. We can't wait to see your faces!
12. **St. Paul's School reopening** measures are available for viewing on our website. We are planning five days a week in personal classes with appropriate safety measures and backup plans.
13. **Box Tops for Education** - We will continue to collect the box tops until September 30. You may deposit them in containers found in the member room or the office work room.