

A child is shown underwater, surrounded by a bright, glowing aura of light. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the child's hair is blowing around. The overall scene is ethereal and serene.

# Don't be **Afraid**

**St. Paul's, Howards Grove, WI  
August 9 & 10, 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**

**Worship during these times:** We are following our county's guidelines for capacity and distancing. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Door handles and pew backs are cleaned prior to each service. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. 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** this month will be 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 a pastor.

**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.**



## THE COMMON SERVICE

**Today's Worship Focus:** *The Christian answers doubt with faith. Doubt is the unfortunate companion of faith. Wherever faith clings to the promises of God, doubt is always right there lingering in the back of our mind, constantly asking the serpent's Garden question, "Did God really say that?" How striking to think that we must have faith in God before we can doubt him! Today's lessons show us believers who had faith in God and his abilities to save them, yet doubted when his plans or purpose failed to match theirs. In each case, it is adversity that fights against faith and allows its unfortunate companion to rear its ugly head. And in each case, the true answer to doubt is not found in the great miracle that removes adversity, but in the still small voice of our Savior God whispering in his Word. Today we hear our Savior God ask us, "Why did you doubt?", and we see that the Christian answers doubt with faith.*

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### WELCOME

### HYMN

*In You Is Gladness | 346*

- 1 In you is gladness amid all sadness,  
Jesus, Sunshine of my heart.  
By you are given the gifts of heaven;  
You the true Redeemer are.  
Our souls are waking; our bonds are breaking.  
Who trusts you surely has built securely  
And stands forever. Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining to see your shining,  
Dying or living to you are clinging  
Now and forever. Alleluia!
- 2 If he is ours, we fear no powers,  
Not of earth or sin or death.  
He sees and blesses in worst distresses;  
He can change them with a breath.

**Wherefore the story tell of his glory  
With hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices  
In him forever. Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness, win over sadness,  
Love him and praise him and still shall raise him  
Glad hymns forever. Alleluia!**

*Please stand.*

## **INVOCATION**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\oplus$  and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**M:** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, 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  $\oplus$  and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, in your Son you have given great and precious promises to all who believe. Grant us faith that overcomes all doubts, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## THE WORD

LESSON

*James 1:2-8, 12*

*We don't need to fear when we face trials, because God wants to bless us with perseverance and wisdom.*

<sup>2</sup>Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup>Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. <sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. <sup>6</sup>But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup>That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup>Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

<sup>12</sup>Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

TRIO

*Oceans*

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown, where feet may fail.  
And there I find you in the mystery  
In oceans deep, my faith will stand!

*Refrain:* And I will call upon your Name,  
And keep my eyes above the waves.  
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace,  
For I am yours and you are mine.

Your grace abounds in deepest waters.  
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me.  
You've never failed, and you won't start now. *Refrain*

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders.  
Let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander,  
And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior.

I will call upon your Name,  
Keep my eyes above the waves.  
My soul will rest in your embrace.  
I am yours and you are mine.

*Please stand.*

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 14.

**C: Glory be to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

***Matthew 14:22-33***

*Jesus reassured the disciples as he walked on water and saved Peter from drowning.*

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

<sup>29</sup> “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

<sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Be seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me | 433*

- 1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me  
Over life's tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll,  
Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.  
Chart and compass come from thee:  
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- 2 As a mother stills her child,  
Thou canst hush the ocean wild.  
Boist'rous waves obey thy will  
When thou say'st to them, "Be still!"  
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea,  
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- 3 When at last I near the shore  
And the fearful breakers roar  
'Twixt me and the peaceful rest,  
Then, while leaning on thy breast,  
May I hear thee say to me,  
"Fear not! I will pilot thee."

**SERMON**

*Matthew 14:22-33*

*More Jesus, Please!*

## 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.

*Please stand.*

## SPECIAL PRAYERS AND 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.**

## THE BENEDICTION

**M: 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

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand | 451 v. 1, 3*

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.  
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.**
- 3 When the darkness appears and the night draws near  
And the day is almost gone,  
At the river I stand; guide my feet, hold my hand,  
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.**

## PASTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand.*

### THE SACRAMENT

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my  $\text{†}$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

#### LAMB OF GOD



**C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;**



**have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,**



**you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.**

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION:** *St. Paul's invites up to Communion instructed and confirmed members of this congregation and the Wisconsin Synod (WELS). If you are visiting us and are not a member of either, we would love to have you join us - just after we have established a shared faith in Jesus with you on the basis of God's Word. Please speak with one of our pastors after the service so we can make this happen.*

## **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Members are free to depart after receiving the Sacrament.*

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*SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:*

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**PRESIDING MINISTER:** Rev. Adam Bode

**PREACHER:** Rev. Aaron Mueller

**ACCOMPANIST:** Sarah Mueller

**MUSICIANS:** Kerri Dittmar, Samuel Eickhoff, and Christina Sprenger

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ione Prange, Lori Wehrmann, Joan Wehrmann, and Linda Verfuert

**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: 8/2 & 8/3 - \$14,109. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$200 - FAITH FOR THE  
FUTURE. GERALD WIELAND MEMORIAL - \$3,850 (HYMNAL PROJECT)**