



From  
**DEATH**  
to  
**LIFE**

St. Paul's, Howards Grove

August 30 & 31, 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** is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during 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.**



## SERVICE OF THE WORD

**Today's Worship Focus:** *The Church is militant: first the cross, then the crown. Today Christ tells us that for him and for us, going God's way means death must come before life. He calls on us to deny ourselves and follow him on the way of the cross. Those words offend our sinful flesh and make our Old Adam cry with Peter, "Never!" So today the Church prays for the never-failing mercy of Christ that we might avoid such wicked and harmful thoughts and instead be guided on the cross-laden path to salvation. Then, and only then, do these words of Christ cease offending our flesh and become a joy and delight for our heart.*

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**OPENING HYMN**      *Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke* | 453 v. 1, 4, 5

- 1 "Come, follow me," the Savior spoke,  
"All in my way abiding.  
Deny yourselves; the world forsake;  
Obey my call and guiding.  
Oh, bear the cross, whate'er betide;  
Take my example for your guide.
- 4 "I teach you how to shun and flee  
What harms your souls' salvation,  
Your hearts from ev'ry guile to free,  
From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul  
And lead you to your heav'nly goal."
- 5 Then let us follow Christ our Lord  
And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to his Word,  
In suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain  
The crown of heav'nly life obtain.

*Please stand.*

## INVOCATION

**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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross and follow him wherever he leads, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Galatians 6:12-16*

*We boast in the cross of Christ, through which the world has been crucified to us, and we to the world.*

<sup>12</sup> Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. <sup>16</sup> Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God.

### PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalms 121*

*The LORD watches over our life wherever we go, now and forever.*

*Sung by Small Group*

I lift my eyes up to the hills. Where does my help come from? I lift my eyes up to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord of all, the Lord of heaven and earth. The one who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord who watches over Israel is your shade at your right hand. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon harm you by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm and will watch over your life, watch over you as you come and go, now and forevermore.

The Lord will keep you from all harm and will watch over your life, watch over you as you come and go, now and forevermore, now and forevermore.

*Please stand.*

### GOSPEL LESSON

*Matthew 16:21-26*

*Whoever denies himself, takes up his cross and loses his life for Christ will find it.*

<sup>21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief

priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

<sup>22</sup> Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. <sup>26</sup> What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**                      *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken* | **465 v. 1, 3, 4**

- 1 Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow you.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
You on earth once suffered, too.  
Perish ev'ry fond ambition,  
All I've ever hoped or known;  
Yet how rich is my condition!  
God and heav'n are still my own.**
  
- 3 Go, then, earthly fame and treasure!  
Come, disaster, scorn, and pain!  
In your service pain is pleasure;  
With your favor loss is gain.  
I have called you Abba, Father!  
You my all in all shall be.  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
All must work for good to me.**

4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith and winged by prayer.  
All but heav'n is transitory;  
God's own hand shall guide you there.  
Soon shall end this earthly story;  
Swift shall pass the pilgrim days,  
Hope soon change to heav'nly glory,  
Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

SERMON

*Galatians 6:12-16*

*Treasure the Cross  
Boast in it \* Count on it*

*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

*Take My Life and Let It Be* | 469 v. 1-4

v. 1: Soloist

v. 2-4: ALL

- 1 Soloist: Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love,  
At the impulse of thy love.
- 2 **Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee.  
Take my voice and let me sing,  
Always, only for my King,  
Always, only for my King.**
- 3 **Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 4 **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,  
It shall be thy royal throne.**

### *SPECIAL MUSIC COPYRIGHT INFORMATION*

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#### **HYMNS:**

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#### **PSALM 121 (“I LIFT MY EYES UP TO THE HILLS”):**

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*SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:*

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**PRESIDING MINISTER:** Rev. Adam Bode

**PREACHER:** Rev. Aaron Mueller

**ORGANIST:** Gillian Curia

**MUSICIANS:** Bev Gumm, Ann Marohn, Lisa Marten, and Christina Sprenger

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

**USHERS:** 8:00 a.m.- Tim Doro, Tom Damrow, Scott Schombrg, Clark Kleinhans, Derrick Hermann; 10:00 a.m. - Kevin Mueller, Eric Wehrmann, Nathan Ledvina; Monday, 6 p.m. - Dennis Sprenger, Trevor Meyer

**OFFERING:8/23 & 8/24 - \$12,346. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) \$ 900 DEBT REDUCTION; \$366 - MLHS SWEET CORN**

**PRAYERS THIS WEEK** - Baptized privately after the second service today is Malcolm Nicholas Horst, son to Nick and Kendra. God's blessings to all of you!

### Weekly Announcements

1. **Sunday morning Bible Study continues in-person this weekend.** Our topic is 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. **The office will be open** Monday-Friday from 7:15 am - 4 pm. You can contact Erin at: [secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org).
3. **Youth Group** Update – To start the Fall semester we will be offering another Zoom based Bible study. Mr. C, Pastor Bode and Mike Leahy, will be rotating leading this study. We would like to make this work for as many of you as possible, and we would also like it to be a topic that you are interested in!

Beyond the Zoom study, we are looking at starting up our monthly in-person Youth Group meetings hopefully in October, and also hopefully resuming our other fun events in October as well, so stay tuned for more details as we get those things planned! All our high school students (and parents) should be getting email updates through CCB about upcoming Youth Group Bible Studies and events. If you are in high school and for some reason are not getting these updates, please let us know! Send your contact information to Mike Leahy – [mleahy@live.com](mailto:mleahy@live.com) and we will make sure you get added to the list! You can also get text message notifications in addition to emails, we just need to know your cell phone number and the name of your cell phone carrier.

4. Plans for **Sunday School** have been developed, so that we have in-person and / or home options for PreK-6th grade beginning September 13. [Click on this link](#) to see more details and to register.
5. **Wednesday 9:00 am Bible Study** will begin at the end of next month on September 30.
6. **St. Paul's School is foregoing daily morning chapel** at 8:10 am for the first part of the school year. Devotions will take place in the classrooms with each teacher. [In the past we invited our adults to attend as able in the sanctuary. When we start this back up, we will let you know.]
7. **Women Writing the Word:** All women of the congregation are invited to join a four month Bible journaling plan beginning August 30. Sheets with the passage listings and information can be found in the member room. Discussions, support, encouragement, and passage sharing will take place on the Slack app. For more information contact Alycia Cameron (alycia.cameron@gmail.com, 414-736-8966).
8. **The Ladies Aid** group at St. Paul's has decided to forgo all meetings through December. They will reassess monthly meetings in January.
9. **St. Paul's School News** - Each week, our school puts out a school newsletter with information and upcoming events. If any members would appreciate regular updates on this ministry, which we support together, please let our secretary know. She can see that you receive these.
10. **Each month St. Paul's Church** sends out an email copy of the church newsletter with calendar. We are developing a new slate of those who would like a hard copy put in their church mailbox. Please contact the secretary to sign up or look for an email registration to come.
11. **Early Childhood Requests:** The preschool class is looking for volunteers to help at center time! Beginning in September, we will be looking for helpers to work with the children at a variety of activities/centers from about 10:00 am until about 11:30 am. If you are interested, please contact the office or Ann Marohn. Thank you!

The preschool and kindergarten classes are looking for tricycles, big wheels and other outside bikes. If you have any new or used bikes that you would like to donate, please contact Ann Marohn or Molly Meitner. Thank you!

12. **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.
13. **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](mailto:Alycia.cameron@gmail.com), or FB messenger).
14. **The Long Range Planning Committee** has completed its research of architects and will present their findings to the Council on September 2.
15. **Take a Trip to Israel!** Pastor Mueller is leading a trip to Israel/Jerusalem in January of 2022. Official dates are January 11-20, 2022. This flight has no layover, just direct from Chicago to Tel Aviv. See the pages of Scripture unfold right before your eyes as you see where Paul and Jesus were imprisoned, Herod's Masada, the cliffs of Nazareth, a boat ride of the Sea of Galilee, the gates of Dan where Abraham entered, and so much more. Paperwork is available from Pastor Mueller: [pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org](mailto:pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org), 920-207-2316.