

*Growing for the Next
Generation*

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
FEBRUARY 21 & 22, 2021**



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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 offer distanced seating on one side of the sanctuary. We also encourage compliance for all who are able to wear a face covering to honor God's representatives in our state government. Surfaces such as door handles are cleaned between Sunday services. 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: DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. 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 request 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: *We often hear the phrase, "Children are our future." The many children in our day school and Sunday School and families will one day take places of leadership in our congregation and community and in their own families. How are we preparing them for this? Will they be well-equipped with the one thing needful? Will they be ready to live their faith and share it with their own children and neighbors? Today we ask the Lord to grow us forward for the next generation.*

OPENING HYMN

O Lord, Our God, Your Gracious Hand | 511

- 1 **O Lord, our God, your gracious hand Has crowned our lives with blessing;
Your goodness has enriched our land With gifts for our possessing.
Our homes, our food, And ev'ry good For earthly work and living,
Abundant wealth And life and health Your faithful love is giving.**
- 2 **For ev'ry earthly grace and gift We thank you, dearest Father.
Now teach us, Lord; our thoughts uplift That heav'nly fruit we gather.
Our fathers knew And kept in view True wisdom's worth and pleasure;
They prized as jewels Their Christian schools And left a lasting treasure.**
- 3 **We thank you, Lord, and sing your praise For blessings you have given;
Be with us still in future days To guide our youth to heaven.
Lord, grant that we May clearly see The worth of Christian training
That youth may grow Your love to know, Eternal riches gaining.**
- 4 **Your Word alone, great God of pow'r, Can feed our soul and spirit.
Christ's love gives strength for ev'ry hour Without our deeds or merit.
Grant schools that teach And men who preach True Christian education.
Let youth grow strong By Word and song In ev'ry land and nation.**

Please stand.

they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e-
 ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, you welcomed the little children to come to you and receive your kingdom. Lead parents and congregations to direct all the young in your saving grace and guidance, for you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

*The LORD instructed his people to show their love for him
by impressing his commandments on their children.*

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the Lord is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 78

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.

Refrain



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm tone



O my people, hear my teaching;^{*}
listen to the words of my mouth.

I will utter things from of old,^{*}
what we have heard and what our fathers have told us.

We will not hide them from our children;^{*}
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.

Refrain

The LORD decreed statutes for Jacob*
and established the law in Israel,
so the next generation would know them,*
and they in turn would tell their children.

Then they would put their trust in God*
and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

3 John 1-4

It brings believers the highest joy to know that children are walking in the truth.

¹The elder,

To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth.

²Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. ³It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to walk in it. ⁴I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

ANTHEM

By Our Love

Sung by Small Group

Brothers, let us come together, walking in the Spirit, there's much to be done. We will come reaching, out from our comforts, and they will know us by our love.

Sisters, we were made for kindness, we can pierce the darkness, as he shines through us. We will come reaching, with a song of healing, and they will know us by our love!

Refrain: The time is now, come Church arise. Love with his hands, see with his eyes. Bind it around you, let it never leave you, and they will know us by our love.

Children, you are hope for justice, stand firm in the truth now, set your hearts above. You will be reaching, long after we're gone, and they will know you by your love! *Refrain*

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 10:13-16

Jesus shows concern for the little children by welcoming them, blessing them, and instructing the adults.

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall | 506

1 Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly his—
How sad and poor and dark it is!

- 2 Oh, blest that house where faith you find
And all within have set their mind
To trust their God and serve him still
And do in all his holy will.
- 3 Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!
- 4 Blest such a house; it prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless his own.
- 5 Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake his Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!

SERMON

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

A Growing *Forward* Congregation Impresses
On the heart * On the children* On the community

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 in the office, or given online.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

M: Lord Jesus, you grew up in the home of Joseph and Mary and, as a twelve year old boy, sat among the teachers in the temple courts, listening to them and asking them questions. We give thanks for the mothers and fathers, teachers and pastors who taught us when we were boys and girls to know and love you.

C: **Bless Christian parents and teachers today as they lead children to trust you as their beautiful Savior and to follow you as their best and kindest heavenly friend.**

M: Lord Jesus, you chose twelve disciples to be with you and to become like you. You revealed sacred truth to them and sent them as your apostles into the world. We give thanks for the many opportunities you give us each day to grow in your Holy Word, opportunities that assure us of forgiveness and your constant presence.

C: Teach us to believe your promises and to obey your will, so that our lives may reflect the beauty of your teachings.

M: Lord Jesus, although you have ascended into heaven, you still guide your Church as our great Prophet and give us pastors and teachers to proclaim the good news. We give thanks for the blessings we enjoy through the public ministry of the Church.

C: Continue to stir the hearts of young men and women to consider service in the Church's ministry a great joy and an uncommon privilege. Give us faithful servants of your Word, who will adorn their office with godly lives.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: And we join to pray:

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.

Be seated.

HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend | 513

Sung to the tune of hymn 376

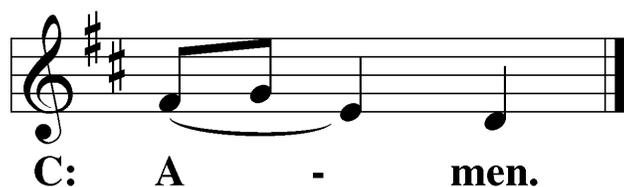
**1 Lord Jesus Christ, the children's friend,
To each of them your presence send;
Call them by name and keep them true
In loving faith, dear Lord, to you.**

**2 In Christian homes, Lord, let them be
Your blessing to their family;
Let Christian schools your work extend
In living truth as you intend,**

- 3 That caring parents, gracious Lord,
And faithful teachers find reward
In leading these, to whom you call,
To find in Christ their all in all.
- 4 That all of us, your children dear,
By Christ redeemed, may Christ revere.
Lead us in joy that all we do
Will witness to our love for you.

Please stand.

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.



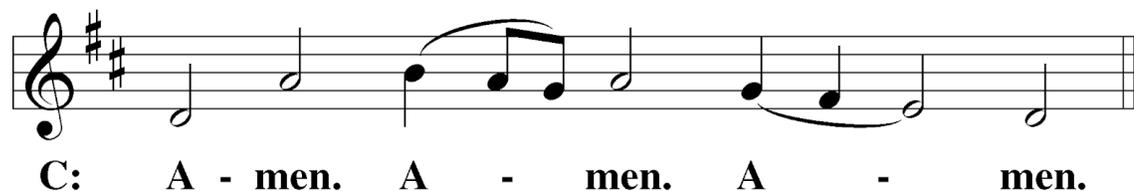
BLESSING

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.



Be seated.

- 1 You parents, hear what Jesus taught
When little ones to him were brought:
“Forbid them not, but heed my plea,
And let the children come to me.”
- 2 Obey your Lord, and let his truth
Be taught your children in their youth
That they in church and school may dwell
And learn their Savior’s praise to tell.
- 3 For if you love them as you ought,
To Christ your children will be brought.
If thus you place them in his care,
You and your household well shall fare.

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER: Rev. Adam Bode

PREACHER: Rev. Aaron Mueller

ORGANIST: Marilyn Toepel

MUSICIANS: Ann Doro, Bev Gumm, Ann Marohn, and Brylee Schuenemann

ALTAR GUILD: Marilyn Eirich, Lori Wehrmann, Christina Sprenger, Rachel Rehbein.

USHERS: 8:00 a.m.-Corey Schroeder, Clay Schroeder, Brain Stauss, Andy Sprenger, Kevin

Oleck.

10:30 a.m.-Jeff Plass, Todd/Zac Marten, John Marten, Dave Probst, Jon Probst.

OFFERING: 2/14 & 2/15 - \$10,937. (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700.) THANK YOU, FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE GROWING FORWARD CAMPAIGN!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: 2/14-8:00 A.M.: 113, 10:30 A.M.: 105. 1/25-6:00 P.M.: 12.

2/17 - ASH WEDNESDAY: 136

In our prayers this week...

1. Kurt Bulitz, son of Siegmund and Regina, on an upcoming surgery.

Weekly Announcements

1. **Office hours** are Monday-Thursday 7:15 - 4:00. You can reach Erin at secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
2. **Sunday Bible Study!** The book we are studying is Zechariah, a great spiritual encouragement to God's people for *remembering him*. **Today we start lesson seven in the gymnasium and pick up where we left off in Zechariah 11. Study begins at 9:25.**
3. **Mindful Moms** - Join us February 24 at 8am for Muffins and Meditations - Hymns for Her. This 20 minute study will focus on hymns from different seasons of the Church Year, who wrote them and how God uses them to bring his encouraging truth to us still today. Activities provided for kids.
4. **Women in the Word** - Join us in our new Bible reading challenge! Starting in February, we will be reading through the book of Matthew and portions of Isaiah that share prophecies about Jesus. This is a wonderful opportunity to review all Jesus did for us and how the Old Testament points to his coming, especially as we lead up to and start Lent. Also, join us on the Slack app for encouragement and discussion about the readings.
5. **Sunday School Planning:** This semester we have Sunday School with a class for 1st-2nd graders, 3rd-4th graders, and 5th-6th graders. 7th-8th graders are encouraged to join in the next youth group class, likely after Lent. We are not able to have the little ones in PreK or K in-person this semester due to COVID mitigation procedures. We do offer remote Sunday School for PreK and K. For an idea of what this is, check this link. To register for remote Sunday School, please speak with Pastor Bode. For further inquiries into our Sunday School program, please speak directly with Pastors Mueller or Bode.
6. **Fast Fundraising February:** During the month of February, Kwik Trip will be offering a 10% discount on scrip cards. Scrip cards can be purchased during school office hours and in the narthex on Sunday's. There is also BP, Culver's, Festival Foods, Meijer, Menards, Miesfelds, Pick 'n Save, Piggly Wiggly, Walgreens, and Walmart available.

7. **The Growing Forward Capital Campaign:** Thank you everyone for your support - in prayer, in encouragement, or in donation/pledge! Thank you to all who participated in the cottage meetings. These formal or virtual cottage meetings have ended. If someone would still like to view a recording of one, please contact Erin, our secretary, and she can email you the link.
On February 28 we assemble all the pledge envelopes handed in and present them formally before the Lord in each worship service. One individual will bring them forward representing our united effort [in faith] as a congregation in the Lord. [Pledges may still be turned in even after this Sunday. If possible, please turn in prior.]
On March 7 the total pledged amount along with any donated amounts will be tallied [some cash gifts have already been received]. We will first thank God for all this in the prayer of the church. Following the service congregational leaders will come forward and give further details and direction forward.
8. **Lent worship:** The season of Lent continues with a Wednesday evening worship series focusing on the “Hands of the Passion”. Whether they were lifted to bless God’s chosen people or to stone God’s chosen prophets, hands in the Bible are rarely noticed but always in action. Our series explores the many roles hands played during the Passion History, from waving palm branches to nailing our Savior to the cross. Due to the ongoing climate with the pandemic, the Church Council has decided to forego the lenten suppers this year.
9. **The St. Paul’s Car Show** will take place August 14 this summer. The Show will run from 9-2 with food trucks serving from 11-2. More info to come over the next months. Mark your calendar!
10. **Marriage Enrichment Retreat:** St. Paul’s will be hosting a marriage enrichment retreat at the Osthoff Resort Friday-Saturday, March 19-20. Learn how to give your marriage the attention it needs, build connections by taking time with one another, and tune in to each other - all while remaining connected to the Lord and his Word. *For those who attended the last marriage retreat, this one is entirely different!* At the Distracted Marriage retreat we’ll talk about communication, turning off distractions to your marriage, fighting fair, and listening well. Flyers with event details and registration forms can be found in the member room. You can also register online [HERE](#). Contact Luther Curia with any questions: luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
11. **Mommy Mixer Night!** Mindful Moms invites you to don your comfies and grab your favorite evening beverage on **Friday, February 26 at 8pm**. Then hop on Zoom with us to play games, chat, and enjoy sharing stories with other moms in this one of a kind Mom's Night Out/In. Prizes available for best Zoom background and most fun pajamas. Contact Alycia Cameron at alycia.cameron@gmail.com, visit our Facebook group, or see the online St. Paul's calendar for the Zoom link.

12. **St. Paul's Wall of Pastors** - We now have pictures of all the former pastors hanging in the member room. Thank you to Jeff Plass, Jan Radue, and Dick Stoelb for your work on this project.

13. **St. Paul's Variety Show:** The Stewardship committee is excited to present a livestreamed variety show on Friday March 5 @ 6:00 p.m. BUT we have very few entries into the show. Take a look at an adorable sample of what we're looking to share! Here's Tritt Bull reading one of his favorite books!

- **Some Ideas of Videos to Send In**

- Tell your favorite joke.
- Show the "proper" way to do something (bait a fish hook, split wood, make a card, fold origami, etc.)
- **Families:** We want to make a video montage of different families dancing to "Can't Stop the Feeling" from the Trolls movie. Send your video to luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
- **Kids 5 and under:** Take a video of you presenting a brief show-and-tell of your favorite toy, stuffed animal, pet, etc. Keep the video to under a minute and send it to luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
- Sign up with this form by Monday, February 22. Let's make this an evening to remember! Contact Luther with any questions: 920.287.8575; luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org