



St. Paul Lutheran Church

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La Grange, Texas

The Rev. Stan Larson, Interim Pastor
Cindy Pundt, Organist

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

June 2, 2024

Second Sunday After Pentecost



Next weekend's readings:

Genesis 3: 8-15; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 4:13-15:1

Mark 3: 20-35

LISTEN TO ST. PAUL SERVICES!

Visit our webpage, www.stpaulg.org, and click "**Listen**" to hear our services live on your smart phone or computer! You can also view our bulletin, weekly service video, newsletters and current calendar. Visit our Facebook page to

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Stan Larson, Interim Pastor

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Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 2 - 5 p.m.

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Welcome!

- + Welcome to worship! All are welcome at the table of grace. We believe that Christ is truly present as we share the bread and wine. Those at home are invited to participate with appropriate elements.
- + The 9 a.m. service will be on Facebook live & audio streamed on our webpage, www.stpaullg.org. It will also be posted on our Facebook page. You may listen to last week's service on KBUK 104.9 FM on Sundays at 10 am.
- + Everyone is invited for coffee and snacks in the Fellowship Hall following Sunday morning's service.

GATHER

Prelude

Announcements

Those who are able, please stand.

Confession and Forgiveness

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

HYMN

Dearest Jesus, At Your Word

#520

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie *page 138*

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Canticle of Praise *pages 139-140*

A: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 5: 12-15

This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God;

you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks **be to God**.

Psalm 81: 1-10

¹Sing with joy to God our strength

and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song and sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, and the lyre.**

³Blow the ram's horn at the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day of our feast;

⁴**for this is a statute for Israel,
a law of the God of Jacob.**

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice I did not know:

⁶**"I eased your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were set free from the gravedigger's basket.**

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you;

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the
waters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange god among you;
you shall not worship a foreign god.

¹⁰**I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it...."**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Those who are able, please stand.

Gospel Acclamation ELW 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 2:23-3:6

Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation may be seated.

Children's Word
Sermon

Lutherhill Staff
Pastor Herb Beyer

Those who are able, please stand.

Hymn

O Day of Test and Gladness

#521

The congregation may be seated.

Presentation

P: We give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present **Ashlynd Judy and Luke Wolff** who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each confirmand responds individually:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support this sister and brother and pray for them in their life in Christ?

All Respond: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in **Ashlynd and Luke** the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Let us rejoice with this sister and brother in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Ashlynd Elizabeth Judy

Baptism September 5, 2010

Luke James Wolff

Baptism August 16, 2009

Prayers of Intercession

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them, especially Albert Loehr and Ken Diers. Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries especially our local AMEN. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give energy and joy to our pastor, worship leaders, and musicians. Watch over those who travel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bless Pastor Jen Kindsvatter, a child of this congregation, as she begins her ministry at Shared Lutheran Ministry. Help her bear witness to God, carry out the mission of Christ and be empowered by the Holy Spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our companion synods—the Lutheran Churches of Central African Republic and Peru. May we with them continue to spread the gospel and the love of God. Merciful God, receive **our prayer.**

We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Congregation shares the peace and may then be seated.

Offering *The offering plates will be passed.*

Those who are able, please stand

Offering Song *ELW 186*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offering Prayer

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving *ELW 144*

P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

The congregation may be seated

Agnus Dei *page 146*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

All are welcome to the Lord's table. We will be communing by intinction. You will be given a wafer, then proceed to dip the wafer in the offered wine or grape juice before ingesting the dipped wafer. If you are physically unable to come forward for communion, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Those who are able, please stand

Prayer after Communion

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

On Our Way Rejoicing

#537

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**



Please join us after the service for cake in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate the confirmands.

St. Paul extends appreciation to Pastor Herb Beyer and his staff of Tri-County Cooperative Ministries for instruction of our confirmation students when St. Paul needed assistance to offer classes. They worked out a schedule that worked with their congregations and 'made it happen'. Thank you.

This Weekend: (6/2)

9:00 am USHERS: Atlan Citzler, Don Koether,
David & Patti Ehler

LECTOR: Leonard Schulze

ALTAR GUILD: Ashleigh Parks

Fellowship Refreshments: Dianne Lude

FLOWERS: In honor of Atlan and Jeanette Citzler

Next Weekend: (6/9)

9:00 am **USHERS:** Dianne Lude, Faye Bresan,
Janet Coronado, Ginger Muesse, Wendy McCredie

LECTOR: Wendy McCredie

ALTAR GUILD: Faye Bresan

Fellowship Refreshments: Wendy McCredie

FLOWERS: Open

SUNDAY (6/2): 9:00 am Worship

Confirmation during service

10:30: Adult Education

4:00 Installation of

Pastor Jen Kindsvatter

TUESDAY: St. Paul at Second Chance

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm Praise Band

SUNDAY (6/9): 9:00 am Worship

10:30 Adult Education

We welcome staff from Lutherhill Ministeries today as they visit to share information about St. Paul Day Camp on Monday June 17 thru Friday June 21. Day Camp will be 8:30 until noon. Registration forms are available on the St. Paul Website and Facebook page.

Wednesday Bible Study will be taking a summer break. Bible study will resume September 4, 2024.

Reminder—the Installation of Pastor Jen Kindsvatter at Shared Lutheran Ministry (today) Sunday, June 2, 2024 at 4:00 pm at St. John Lutheran Church(Rutersville) 5743 State Highway 159; La Grange TX 78945. A meal will follow the service.

Reminder—St. Paul volunteers are at Second Chance this week, Tuesday 6/4 thru Saturday 6/8. Then volunteers return on Monday 6/10 to straighten and organize for the next group. Please consider helping with this ministry of our congregation.

Reminder—Tacky Tuesday will meet on Tuesday, June 11 at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. This is a week earlier than usual to avoid conflict with Day Camp the next week. Please join us as we pin hems, cut batting, and tie knots for Lutheran World Relief Quilts. No experience necessary. We will have a pot luck meal at 11:30 am.