



**St. Paul
Lutheran Church**
share • care • grow
La Grange, Texas

The Rev. William J. Sappenfield, *Interim Pastor*
Organist: Jean McHenry - Saturday
Organist: Sherise Davis - Sunday
Saturday & Sunday
October 1 & 2, 2022
17th Sunday after Pentecost



Next weekend's readings:

2 Kings 5: 1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2: 8-15

Luke 17:11-19

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 view the service live Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. William J. Sappenfield, Interim Pastor

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Pastor Office Hours Mon.-Wed. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Parish Office: 979-968-5657 Fellowship Hall: 979-968-9603

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!
- + 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.

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

GATHER

Prelude

Announcements

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Hymn

O Master Let Me Walk With You

#818

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

P: 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

P: 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: Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

1 The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

2 O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

3 Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

4 So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.
2:1 I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
2 Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
3 For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.
4 Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.

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

Psalm: Psalm 37:1-9

1 Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
**2 For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
**4 Take delight in the Lord,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**
5 Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what God will do.
**6 The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in
evil schemes.
**8 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
9 For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

The Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. 13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

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. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel: Luke 17: 5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" 6 The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

7 "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? 8 Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? 9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

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

Children's Word

Sermon

Hymn

My Faith Looks Up To Thee

#715

Apostles Creed

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

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.

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. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence

We pray for your holy church in every place and for those who serve following the example of Christ. Help your children to live by faith and walk by the light of your gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For parts of the world ravaged by disasters, war, and famine, grant peace, healing, and grace. Give wisdom to the leaders of the world and allow all to live in your will. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bless St. Paul, strengthen our gifts and inspire us with the joy of serving you. May we live showing kindness, healing, and welcome. Use us to care for those who are troubled, ill, or in any need. We remember those we name aloud or silently. May we work together that all may know your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving that you have overcome death, and for the saints who have died we especially remember Wilburn Kirsch, bring us all to eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

The offering plates will be passed.

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: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **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**

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. White grape juice is in the center of the tray of cups. If you are physically unable to come forward for communion, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you. You may also remain in your pew and use a prepackaged kit.

Prayer after Communion

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Faith of Our Fathers

#812

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THIS Weekend:

5:00 pm USHERS: Billy & Christie Nietsche

LECTOR: Sharon Elias

ALTAR GUILD: Sharon Elias

9:00 am USHERS: Kenny & Patti Weber

LECTOR: Dianne Lude

ALTAR GUILD: Ashleigh Parks

FLOWERS: In Honor of Debbie & Harvey Busch on their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 10/1. And Peggy and David Johnson on their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 10/2.

NEXT weekend: 10/8 & 10/9

5:00 pm USHERS: Don Koether/Jackie Skelton

LECTOR: Jackie Skelton

ALTAR GUILD: JoLene & Gerald Hughes

9:00 am USHERS: To be determined

LECTOR: Praise Band

ALTAR GUILD: JoLene & Gerald Hughes

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm Worship

SUNDAY: 9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

MONDAY: 8:30 am Quilters

5:00 pm Confirmation Class

7:00 Friends in Faith

WEDNESDAY: 8:30 am Community

Bible Study

6:00 pm Hand Bells

7:00 pm Choir

8:00 pm Praise Band

6:30 pm LYO meets in

Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY : 5:00 pm Worship

SUNDAY: 9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

CONFIRMATION CLASS— class for St. Paul will be on Monday evening 10/3 from 5-6 pm in the Friendship Room.

FRIENDS IN FAITH—will meet Monday, October 3 at 7:00 pm at the home of Ann Raborn, 198 Charles St., La Grange. They will be considering resources for the next meeting.

VOLUNTEERS—there will be a need for assistance to assemble the LWR School Kits. If you are interested to volunteer with this project please call Carolyn Bennetsen at 979-966-8104.

The date to assemble school kits and pack them and the quilts is Wednesday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall!!