

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 N. Warren St.

Orwigsburg, PA

570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

Where responses are indicated, please respond quietly.

PRELUDE

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

As we seek reconciliation with God and our neighbor,
let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

O God of mercy,
**we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another,
and against your good creation.**

**We have stored up treasures for ourselves
and turned away our neighbors in need.**

We have used our time foolishly and strayed from your path.

**Forgive us, that we may know true joy and freedom
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Through death on the cross, God has given us life and hope.

Know that in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

1. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.
2. Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD**A Reading from Isaiah**

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

(Isaiah 56:1, 6-8)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67 (Read Responsively)

¹May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
²**that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**
³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**
⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶**The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**
⁷May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

A Reading from Romans

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

(Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰[[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

(Matthew 15: [10-20] 21-28)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Love to Tell the Story"

#661

Tom & Gwen Wehr

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do. *Refrain:* I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.
2. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain.*

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Read in Unison)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures so that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and towns, and for those who need your healing (*especially...*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Read in Unison)

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

#638

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. *Refrain:*
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long: this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Voluntary"

J. Clarke

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in memory of my brother Buck and in honor of my sister-in-law Irene on the anniversary of their wedding day, 16 August 1958, by Sue Schenck.

Chancel Flowers are presented in honor of Tom Wehr on our 54th wedding anniversary, by his wife Gwen.

Bulletins are presented in honor of Mark and Maddie by their grandmother, Barb Sterner.

SERVING TODAY (8/16/20)

9:30 AM

LECTOR: Tom Wehr; USHER: TBA; GREETER: Tina Butler;
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis;
ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (8/23/20)

9:30 AM

LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky; USHER: Deb Bolinsky; GREETER: Gail Rarick;
COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner;
ALTAR GUILD: Crystal Brensinger and Cindy Ritschel

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Reverend Michael T. Petresky, Pastor pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316 Ext. 11
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-573-4076
Juli Schenck, Office Support Staff office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-2316
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	570-366-8757
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-366-8766
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org	936-648-6809

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, August 16	9:30 AM	Worship
Wednesday, August 19	7:00 PM	Adult Forum ZOOM Meeting
Saturday, August 22	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, August 23	9:30 AM	Worship

OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

On Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 11:30 AM, all members and visitors are invited to share in-person worship outdoors at the pavilion in Albright's Woods (weather permitting). Social distancing will be observed, and face masks are encouraged, but not required. However, some members may choose to wear a face mask. Please bring a comfortable lawn chair and enjoy our worship.

Following our worship service, we will hold our annual Church Picnic. The Evangelism Committee will host this event and free hot dogs for all who want to attend. Covered dish items and desserts to share are much appreciated.

Please call the church office at 570-366-2316 by Sunday, September 6, 2020, if you plan to attend our church picnic and/or if you would be willing to provide a covered dish to share.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Our annual blessing of the backpacks and connect event will be held on August 23, 2020 at 9:30 AM. Bring your backpacks, technology, and school supplies to church for a blessing. While so much is still uncertain with what school will look like for the upcoming year, let us pray for and provide encouraging support for our students, parents, teachers, school staff, and administration.

STEWARDSHIP in CREATION (STiC)

On Saturday, August 29, 2020, Dave Krueel, a master birder, and members of STiC will embark on an early morning Bird Walk! Wear comfortable shoes, and plan to meet in the main parking lot at Locust Lake that morning around 7:30 AM. Please let Sue Reier know of your interest by emailing her at kidsingaround@comcast.net.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.”

In lieu of holding a community health fair, and in response to the repeating waves of COVID-19 infections, our congregation will assemble and distribute boxes of personal care items that will help our first responders: the EMS, the Fire Department, the Police, and the nursing home workers right here in Orwigsburg.

Donations of the following items are appreciated:

- Bottles of Gatorade or vitamin water
- Tea bags/Coffee (individually wrapped)
- Packages of chewing gum, granola bars, Belvita biscuits, Lifesavers, raisins, hard candy, or dark chocolate (individually wrapped)
- Small boxes of facial tissues
- Small tubes of hand cream or lotion
- Chapstick
- Five (5) empty upright tissue boxes
- Notes of encouragement, inspiration, or humor (paper will be provided)
- Homemade baked goods which do not need refrigeration (no nuts)
- Decks of cards (for those who wait for calls)
- Small containers of body powder (no talcum)
- Kerchiefs
- Ear buds (they wear out quickly)
- Sport headbands (terry cloth) and inexpensive visors
- Lavender sachets

Please bring one or more items noted above when you come to worship or drop them off in the narthex during regular office hours by Sunday, September 13, 2020. Help our first line responders as they continue to risk their lives for us and our whole community!

“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS” upcoming dates to remember:

August 27 at 7 PM: Hands workshop

September 3 at 7 PM: Box decorating

September 10 at 7 PM: Preliminary packing of boxes

September 17 at 7 PM: Final packing of boxes

September 20 at the 10:30 AM worship service: Distribution of boxes