



St. Paul  
Lutheran  
Church

**Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**September 17, 2023**  
**9:00 am**

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## **Announcements**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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.**

**Opening Hymn: ELW #452 “Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”**

**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.**

**Kyrie:** pg. 147

**Hymn of Praise:** pg. 149 “**This Is The Feast**”

**Prayer of the Day-** Let us pray.

**O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **Word**

### **Childrens Sermon**

#### **First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21**

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13**  
**(Please read responsively.)**

[<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>**O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.]

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

<sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us,  
nor will you keep your anger forever.

<sup>10</sup>**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

<sup>12</sup>**As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

## Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

<sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

## Gospel Acclamation: pg.151

### Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

**(Continued on the next page.)**

<sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’

<sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

<sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

## Sermon

**Hymn of the Day: ELW #359 ‘Where Charity and Love Prevail’**

## Apostles’ Creed

**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.**

## The Prayers of the People:

Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

## Offering

(We invite the children to gather dollar bills and change for the mission jug.)

**Create in Me a Clean Heart– p. 186 (hymn section)**

## Offering Prayer

## Meal

**The Great Thanksgiving: pg. 152**

**Preface**

**Holy, Holy, Holy: pg. 153**

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Invitation to Communion**

**Lamb of God: pg. 154**

**Distribution Songs: ELW #462 "Now We Join in Celebration"  
ELW #810 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"**

**Communion Blessing**

**Blessing–**

**Sending Hymn: ELW #551 "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"**

**Dismissal**

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## **Announcements**

**A special thank you to Pastor Tom Dettmer for providing pulpit supply today. We really appreciate you!**

**Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Carol Brumwell in memory of her parents, Hal and Mary Lee Jahnke. September is Mary Lee's birthday month. We thank her for this ministry gift.**

**St. Paul Sunday School: Please consider committing to bringing your children to Sunday School. We have a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. We really would like to get the children involved but it's a challenge when the children do not come. Along with the sign up sheet is a registration form.**

**The Church Council will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 7:00 pm.**

**Priscilla Circle will meet on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 1:30 pm here at the church.**

**The deadline for notices in next Sunday's bulletin is Friday, September 22 at 9:00 am.**

**Coffee Hour– We are in need of coffee hour hosts to help the youth.**

**The “Say Their Name” grief support group will start a new session of six to seven weeks of meetings starting Thursday, September 21st.** Everyone experiences grief in their lifetime whether it be a parent, spouse, child, good friend or even a beloved pet. “Say Their Name” is led by lay people. They are not therapists, but people who have experienced grief and survived it. This group is faith based (all religions) but everyone is welcome. It is free, and it is confidential. If you are interested, have questions or know someone who would benefit from this.

**Zion Reformed Church will host their annual bazaar, “Zion Goes Vintage” Saturday, Oct. 7,** from 11am to 2pm. This day will be filled with the same great tasting homemade food and shops! The following shops: Trash and treasure is back! Bakery, crafts, pantry, cards/napkins, frozen meals will be open in Zion's basement. The day continues from 3pm-7pm in the fellowship hall with the same great tasting food and a 6pm live auction on centerpieces, auction items and all shop items that did not sell during the earlier time frame with sealed bids noted. The frozen meals/soup preorder are online so be sure to visit the site and place your frozen meals order no later than Sept. 17 and pick up at Zion on the day of the bazaar. Site: [www.zionreformed.com](http://www.zionreformed.com) under “Zion Goes Vintage”

## This Week at St. Paul

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Worship Services - 9:00 a.m.  
Coffee and Fellowship—10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Quilting -9:00 a.m.  
Coffee Hour -10:00 a. m.  
Council Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

|                         |                                  |                                      |             |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>9/17/23</b>          | 9:00 am                          | <b>Offering 9/10/23</b>              |             |
| <b>Presiding Pastor</b> | Pastor Tom Dettmer               | <b>General:</b>                      | \$ 2,434,75 |
| <b>Reader</b>           | Sandy Pralle                     | <b>Building:</b>                     | \$          |
| <b>Organist</b>         | Pam DeVries                      | <b>Radio</b>                         | \$ 120.00   |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>      | Jacob Donnenwerth and Jo Coonley | <b>Automated Giving General Bldg</b> | \$ 80.00    |
| <b>Greeters</b>         | Paul and Sue Flint               | <b>Total</b>                         | \$ 2,634.75 |
| <b>9/24/23</b>          | 9:00 am                          |                                      |             |
| <b>Reader</b>           | Sandy Pralle                     |                                      |             |
| <b>Greeters</b>         | The Clint Burmester Family       |                                      |             |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>      | Rayne and Reeve Wagner and NEED  |                                      |             |



### Prayer List:

Terry Wheeler, Justin Mejia, Steve Sandvig, John Sandvig,  
Verna Humburg, Ev Fink, Jo Klein,  
Nancy Knipfel, Nancy Showalter, Leland Dhondt,  
Michael Norman (son of Sheena English),  
Grant and Nicole Woodley and the Call Committee Process.

**Online: Facebook– St. Paul Lutheran of Hampton Page–  
Sunday 9:00 am  
After broadcast, available on demand on Facebook and at  
splchampton.com  
Radio Broadcast on KLMJ at 8:00pm**