

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 2, 2020**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT *(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)*

- ◆ Pre-service Devotion: Psalm 18 (pew bible, p.487)
- ◆ The Hymns: 790 (1-4), 650, 622 (1-4,7-8), 790 (5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Joel 3:12-16, Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 4
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Romans 8:26-27

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR PRAYER HELPER

- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (790, stanza 5)

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*Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by
the tract rack or by request from an usher.*

*You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located in the foyer. There
will be no offering collection during the service.*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Joel 3:12-16

12 Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side. 13 Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow— so great is their wickedness! 14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. 15 The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. 16 The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 4

P Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God.

C Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

P How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame?:

C How long will you love delusions and seek false gods.

P Offer right sacrifices:

C And trust in the LORD.

P Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself:

C The LORD will hear when I call to him.

P I will lie down and sleep in peace:

C For you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Second Lesson – Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

24 Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. 27 The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ 28 ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ 29 ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’” 36 Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” 37 He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. 40 As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the fiery furnace,

where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Sermon Text – Romans 8:26-27

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will.

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VISITORS, WELCOME! The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are happy that you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word, the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Scriptures. It gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again!

SERVING US AT GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

- ◆ Organist: Jeana Kettner
- ◆ Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Zachary Ruegge
- ◆ Elder: Ed Chiappetti
- ◆ Communion Assistant: Mike Sprengeler

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

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|-------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Today (8/2) | 9:30 am | Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| Sun (8/9) | 8:30 am | Elders’ Meeting |
| | 9:30 am | Worship Service |

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- ◆ West-Central Pastoral Conference: September 8-10 (hosted by Redeemer, Cheyenne)
- ◆ Sunday School and Adult Bible Class resume: Sunday, September 13
- ◆ Front Range Mission Festival: Sunday, September 13, 4:00 pm (hosted by Prince of Peace, Loveland)
- ◆ Ladies’ Retreat at Chadron, NE: September 18-20

CLC MISSION OPPORTUNITIES PRAYER LIST: Copies of this prayer list for August, provided by Missionary Todd Ohlmann, are in the foyer on the shelf. Take and read. *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).*



THE ALTAR COMMITTEE needs a volunteer to serve as a back-up for communion ware set-up. If you are interested in helping out in this way kindly inform ladies' chairman Lisa Sprengher

REGISTRATION & FEES for the Women's Retreat (scheduled for Sept.18-20 at Chadron NE) are **due by this Wednesday, August 5**. A letter has been posted on the bulletin board, with registration forms. See the letter for information about special circumstances for the retreat and the time frame due to the pandemic.



AN OUTDOOR ILC GRADUATION SERVICE, attended mostly by the graduates and their families, was held yesterday on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College. You may view this service by visiting the ILC website at this address: <https://ilc.edu/>. Here you may also watch a video of the May 30th college and seminary graduation service.

ILC BUILDING FUND GIFT

A substantial monetary gift was recently bequeathed to the CLC, designated for the Immanuel Lutheran College Building Fund. It has completely paid off the Academic Center Fund balance and provided funds for a future building project on our campus. CLC President Mike Eichstadt has appointed a Planning Committee to move this forward. Since every building project has to be approved by a convention, the Committee is intending to present a plan and cost estimate to the next CLC Convention scheduled for June 2021. The Committee is using the 2006 ILC Long Range Planning Committee's report as a starting point.

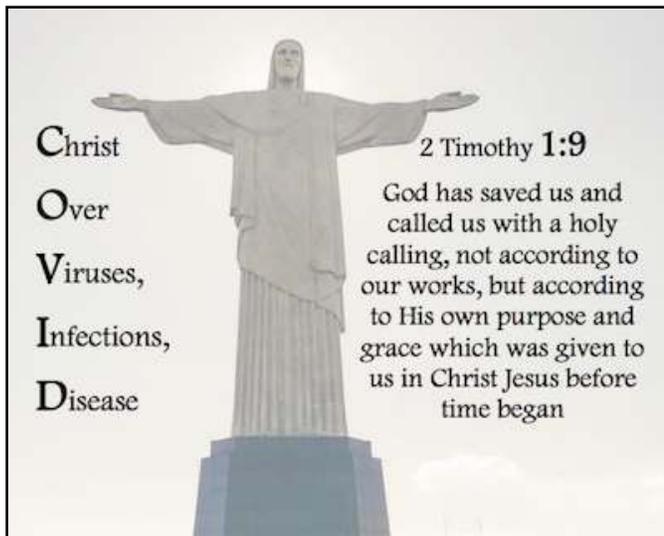
Some have wondered what the next ILC building project will be. An updated and expanded gym? A chapel building? Since the current gym's architectural footprint could not accommodate the space requirements of a new gymnasium, the 2006 Planning Committee's recommendation was to build a new gym south of the student commons, and renovate the existing gym to house functions like morning chapel, choir and band practices, plays, musicals, conferences, and conventions. Details about this will be announced when they are known.

Whatever recommendation the Planning Committee brings to next summer's Convention, we recognize this as yet another example of how *“a man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps” (Proverbs 16:9)*. Thank the Lord for His bounty and for the fruits of faith He works in His people!

MORE SYNOD NEWS

- Pastor Doug Libby has requested and received a peaceful release from his call to Living Savior, Eden Prairie, MN. Since Pastor Libby was also serving as visitor of the Minnesota Conference, Pastor Jim Albrecht of Okabena, MN has been appointed to complete his term.
- Mr. Stephen Kuehne has asked to be relieved of his duties on the CLC Worship Committee. Mr. Randy Wittorp, a member of Mt. Zion, Detroit, MI, has been appointed to replace him. Other committee members are: Pastor David Schaller, Prof. Joel Gullerud, and Mr. Barry Hay.
- The following have been appointed to the ILC Building Planning Committee: Mike Roehl (chairman), Tom Beekman, Tim Noeldner, David Albrecht, Jeff Schierenbeck. Advisory members: Steve Ludvigson, Dan Schierenbeck, Ross Roehl.
- Colloquies with two former WELS pastors are scheduled for September 21-22 on the campus of ILC. The two men are Luke Willitz, a member of Grace, Sleepy Eye, and Johnathan Schnose, a member of Mt. Zion, Detroit.

2020 AT-HOME VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



An at-home VBS was recently produced by our sister congregation, Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN. It is titled "*Christ Over Viruses, Infections, and Disease.*" The series features video presentations of Bible stories, discussion questions, music, craft time, and a daily scavenger hunt. Parents, you can find an online resource page with instructions and all the links at tinyurl.com/vbs20resource. If you would like hard copies of the student packets,

see Pastor Schuetze and he will provide them for you. Choose an upcoming week for an at-home VBS and make use of these excellent materials!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
AUGUST 3-8

Mon Joel 3:12-16 What is the *Valley of Jehoshaphat*? The clue lies in his name: “Jehovah has judged,” for in God’s *Valley of Decision* (14) God used Jehoshaphat to work reformation in church and state. Jehoshaphat’s dedication reflects God’s way of doing things in His kingdom in every generation, including those old-timers and ourselves. Depending on Jesus to shelter us (16), we are ready for *the day of the LORD*, now closer than ever before.

Tues John 6:25-35 Jesus had fed the 5,000, but they grew hungry again, so He served them with better fare. They knew about the manna (31), but not enough about Jesus, who IS the bread of life. Translation: Jesus has all the nourishment that our souls need, so we are holding our seats at His table.

Wed Romans 8:26-27 God’s Spirit deserves credit for the tutoring He is doing in our minds and hearts. When we get confused about our place in God’s plans or ambivalent about how to serve Him best or just too weak to focus, that’s when the Spirit speaks up for us. God the Father knows what the Spirit has in mind, for He understands non-linguistic communication, too. Bottom line: God understands us – and loves us anyway.

Thurs Psalm 18 We tend to speed-read a long Psalm, but we should note how the Foreword sets the stage for this outburst of adoration and praise, sponsored by the Holy Spirit. The details are instructive, too—that God can set the world on its heels (7-19) for the sake of His children, He empowers us to overcome sizable obstacles (8-36), and He subdues death itself for us (4-6).

Fri John 6:47-58 His audience was obtuse about spiritual matters, so Jesus tried valiantly to enlighten them—which helps us also. When Jesus spoke about eating His flesh and drinking His blood, He was not referring to the Lord’s Supper but was using picture language for appropriating Him internally, absorbing Him spiritually, and inwardly digesting His Saviorhood. Check it out in v. 35, where Jesus says it plain and simple: *He who believes in Me shall never [again suffer] thirst*. Same message, different style.

Sat Acts 14:18-28 How fickle people are! One day they worshiped Paul, the next day they almost killed him. God repaired his brain concussion and sent him onward (19-20) to other cities where the Holy Spirit prospered his proclamation of Jesus (21-22). Then things settled down to a new normal in the local congregations (23). Paul’s return to headquarters went smoothly, too, and Jewish Christians were getting used to the idea that God had opened heaven to non-Jews, too. Really? Yes, God is blind to skin color and human genetics; He wants every living, breathing human with Him in heaven. People don’t expect God to be that generous—but He is. Hallelujah!