

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



Parable of the Buried Treasure, Matthew 13:44

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**10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 9, 2020**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214
(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

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 THE WORD

(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 112 (pew bible, p.542)
- ◆ The Hymns: 527, 732, 730, 918
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: 1 Kings 3:5-12, 1 Timothy 6:17-21
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 119

Sermon Text – Matthew 13:44-46,51-52

THE GOSPEL IS YOUR GREATEST POSSESSION

1. Recognize its value.
2. Share it with others.

- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (918)

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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 – 1 Kings 3:5-12

5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." 6 Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. 7 Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. 8 Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. 9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" 10 The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. 11 So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, 12 I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 119

P Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees:
C Then I will keep them to the end.
P Give me understanding, and I will keep your laws:
C And obey it with all my heart.
P Direct me in the path of your commands:
C For there I find delight.
P Turn my eyes away from worthless things:
C Preserve my life according to your word.
P Fulfill your promise to your servant:
C So that you may be feared.
P How I long for your precepts!:
C Preserve my life in your righteousness.

Second Lesson – 1 Timothy 6:17-21

16 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called

knowledge, 21 which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. Grace be with you.

Sermon Text – Matthew 13:44-46,51-52

(Jesus said): 44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. 51 Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. “Yes,” they replied. 52 He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

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A WARM WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS. We are glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

SERVING US AT GOD’S HOUSE TODAY

- ◆ Organist: Carly Meyer
- ◆ Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Zachary Ruegge
- ◆ Elder: Ed Chiappetti

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today (8/9)	8:30 am	Elders’ Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service
Wed	9:00 am	Pastoral Study Conf. at Loveland
Sun (8/16)	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
- ◆ Ladies' Retreat at Chadron, NE: September 18-20

MISSION SERVICE CANCELLED: Prince of Peace congregation of Loveland informed us last week that, due to their soon-to-be-begun church remodeling project and the difficulty of finding an offsite venue for the Front Range Mission Festival (planned for September 13), they made a decision to cancel the service. Lord-willing, they will host the service next year.

NEWS FROM IMMANUEL: “Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary is opening its academic year with in-person learning. Much planning is in the works as we learn to live in the midst of the current pandemic. The opening service will be on Sun. Aug. 23, 3 pm. This will also include the installation of ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck and Professor Mark Weis. Some precautions will be necessary for this service given mitigation and local guidelines, e.g., physical distancing, collecting contact information, gathering size, etc. For those who aren't students, parents, or staff, we encourage you to virtually attend the service through live-stream to help ensure that our gathering size is manageable and compliant with local guidelines. For details about live-streaming and the opening weekend schedule, see ilc.edu. Please keep the staff and the students in your prayers during these challenging times. May the Lord richly bless the upcoming year as the students grow in the truth of God's saving Word!” (Board of Regents chairman, Pastor John Hein).

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

AUGUST 10-15

Mon 1 Kings 3:5-13 Solomon succeeded in erasing traitors (2:44-46) and forging foreign alliances (3:1), but he lacked something every monarch should have: the ability to adjudicate appellant cases (8-9) fairly and compassionately. God appreciated his selfless attitude and obliged—going over the top, actually (12-13). God can reward that attitude in our land, too.

Tues Matthew 15:21-28 What impelled this woman to seek Jesus in the first place? Evidently she had put two and two together: Jesus was the Messiah, sent from heaven to help those who need heaven's help. Then Jesus put her through a stress test—testing her mother's heart, her Gentile status, her unseemly approach, and her hopeful trust in Jesus. She passed the test.

Wed Philippians 3:20-4:7 Talk about stress!! Paul was a Roman prisoner awaiting trial on trumped up charges—but he focused on others instead of himself; he wanted his fellow citizens of heaven to look forward to their day in God's court (20-21). Meanwhile, they should stand fast in-and-with the Lord Jesus, to be helpful to one another (4:2-3), generously gentle, and handing over all their cares into God's hands (4-6). God bless you (7)!

Thurs Psalm 13 God put David through stress testing, too, and he chafed under it (1-2), but he knew where to go for solving big problems: go to God and ask Him for help to understand why God was allowing his enemies to prevail (3-4). Bottom line: Trust God to do the right thing in mercy for saving souls (5), just as He has already done for you and me (6). Yea and Amen!

Fri Matthew 13:44-52 A parable may illustrate how a person gets into the Kingdom—by accidentally stumbling onto God's treasure, recognizing it, and latching onto it (44). Or a religious person may discover the value of God's Word and quit church shopping (45-46). Then again, God's network draws in a variety of people, so on the shore of eternity He will welcome the justified but discard the unrepentant (47-50). [We try to tell it as God tells it.]

Sat Acts 15:1-21 presents a synopsis of the doctrinal controversy that could have wrecked the early Christian Church. Here's the problem: Did Gentiles have to become Jewish first—before they could become bonafide Christian? Some said Yes; Paul and Barnabas said No—so off they went to Jerusalem and assembled the first synod convention (1-5) to figure it out. Peter pointed out that God had already decided the matter (7-11), and the synod president agreed (13-19). Nonetheless, missionaries should be careful to avoid unnecessary friction in Jewish communities (20-21). Stay tuned.