

St. Paul's Plymouth

May 19, 2019 – Christian Education Sunday

Service of the Word

Welcome!



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
www.stpaulsplymouth.org
106 East Hwy 4
Plymouth, NE
402-656-3003

Welcome

THANK YOU for joining us for worship today!

We pray that your spiritual life will be nourished through Word and Sacrament.

- † If you desire, there is a nursery in the back on the west side of the church, but please know that **your children are ALWAYS welcome** in our service no matter how much noise they make. We're happy to have them hear the Word and join us praising God with their voices!
- † Before you leave, please sign the **guest register**. It is located on the top of the stairs in the church entryway.
- † Please talk to one of the **Elders** (seated in the back of the church) if you have questions about the service or the congregation.
- † **Large print service folders** are available. Please speak to one of the Elders if this would be of assistance to you.
- † Our Sunday morning service can be heard on KWBE 1450AM (94.7FM) and viewed live and archived at www.stpaulsplymouth.org. Please share this information with those who are not able to attend worship.
- † **Prayers before Worship** can be found in *Christian Worship – A Lutheran Hymnal*, pages 10-11.

Broadcast Sponsor

Our broadcast this morning is sponsored by Wendell and Lois Gronemeyer in loving memory of their granddaughter, Zoey Bice. Zoey was born at rest May 22, 2017.

Focus for Our Worship

This morning we will focus on some of Joshua's well-known words from his farewell speech to the people of Israel, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." It's so easy to lose focus, and so God brings us together as a church family to encourage each other to stay focused on the LORD, what He has done for us in the past, and the promises He makes for us in the future. May our ministries here in Plymouth, in our Nebraska District, and our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod continue to always point us to these beautiful promises God shares through His Word and Sacrament. And may we join Joshua saying, "As for me and my household, here's what we are going to stay focused on: we will serve the LORD!"

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship – page 38

GREETING, CONFESSION OF SINS, AND HOLY ABSOLUTION

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C And also with you.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

All **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

P In the peace of this forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -

ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Dear Lord, fill us with wisdom and zeal to lead the children in our congregation to the waters of their baptism when You placed Your name on them, and to the well of Your Word where You continue to assure them that they are Your dear children, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Joshua 24:14-27

Sermon Text

¹⁴ “Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶ Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸ And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

¹⁹ Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. ²⁰ If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.”

²¹ But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the LORD.”

²² Then Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD.”

“Yes, we are witnesses,” they replied.

²³ “Now then,” said Joshua, “throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.”

²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.”

²⁵ On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he drew up for them decrees and laws. ²⁶ And Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the LORD.

²⁷ “See!” he said to all the people. “This stone will be a witness against us. It has heard all the words the LORD has said to us. It will be a witness against you if you are untrue to your God.”

SECOND LESSON – 2 Peter 3:11-18

Let us see the eternal need for us and the children of our congregation to be growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. ¹⁵ Bear in mind that our Lord’s patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. ¹⁶ He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

¹⁷ Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. ¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.



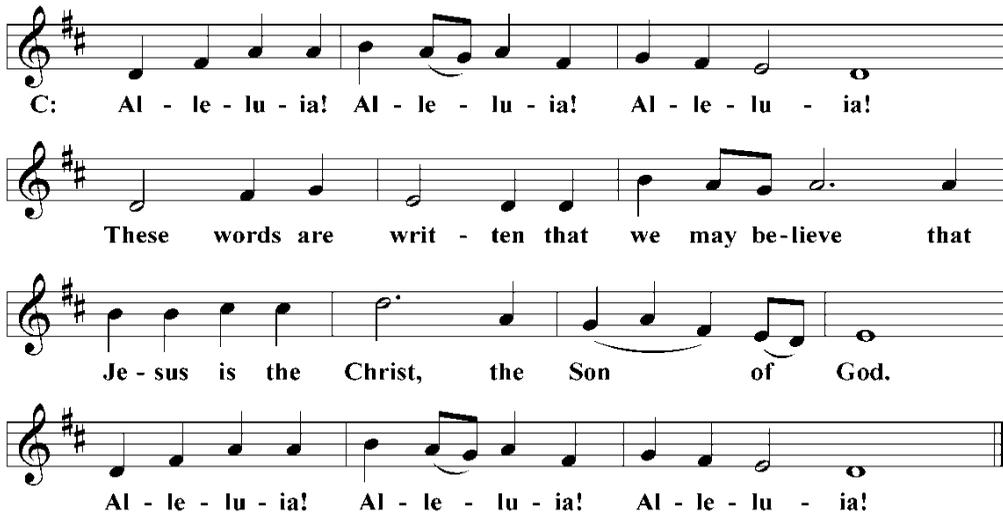
VERSE OF THE DAY

P Alleluia. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

P Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be-lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

HOLY GOSPEL – Luke 18:15-17

Jesus shows how much He cares for children and gives us the direction to let the little children come to Him.



¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus to have him touch them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁷ I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord!



HYMN OF THE DAY "Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall" (CW 506)

SERMON – "But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."



APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING/CHIMES "Jesus Did It All" by John T. Grape

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

All 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.

HYMN "In Christ Alone" (CWS 752, which can be found on page 9 of this worship folder)

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

P Almighty God, we thank You for teaching us the things You want us to believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep Your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



P Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look on you with favor and give ☩ you peace.



CLOSING HYMN "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" (CW 334)

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL CHOIR "A Blessing" by Mary Dorn Lippert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL GRADUATION

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.
 2 In Christ a - lone—who took on flesh,
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death.

He is my light, my strength, my song;
 Full - ness of God in help - less babe.
 Light of the world by dark - ness slain;
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me:

This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness,
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - ri - ous day
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,

Firm through the fier - est drought and storm.
 Scorned by the ones he came to save.
 Up from the grave he rose a - gain!
 Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,
 And as he stands in vic - tor - y,
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man

When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
 The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand:

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.
 For I am his and he is mine—
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

(Fine)

Here in the love of Christ I stand.
 Here in the death of Christ I live.
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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NOTES AND NEWS

Pastor Fred Berger
C-402-239-4509 O-402-656-3003
pastorberger@gmail.com

Principal Andrew Danner
C-402-433-5349 O-402-656-4465
danner@stpaulsplymouth.org

Organist: Cari Schroeder
Teen Usher: Gavin Weichel
Greeters: Calvin & Susie Weichel
Broadcast Announcers: Eric Bekemeyer, Michael Wells

St. Paul's Church Family

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Today – Tom Person, Dale Weichel
Wednesday – Mason Horak, Elizabeth Jurgens, Joanne Weichel
Thursday – Kent Hummel
Saturday – Hope Berger, Bruce Jung, Jean Roesler, M/M Tom Hueske

Pastor Fred Berger (serving the vacancy at Christ Lutheran (WELS) in Beatrice)
Cell-402-239-4509 Office-402-656-3003 pastorberger@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran's Church Family

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

(None this week)

Organist: Janice Pieper – Beatrice
Elder: Gordon Crome
Usher: Robert Orth, Braden Dwerlkotte

This Week, By God's Grace (May 19th – May 26th)

| | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|
| Today | Worship at Christ Lutheran - Beatrice | 8:00am |
| | Worship /St. Paul's Graduation | 10:00am |
| | Endowment Committee Meeting | 11:15am |
| Monday | Circuit Meeting – St. Mark's, Lincoln | 9:00am |
| | Elders' Meeting | 6:30pm |
| Mon.-Wed. | Teacher Meetings | 8:00am – Noon |
| Thursday | Board of Education Meeting | 6:30pm |
| | Church Council | 8:00pm |
| Sunday | Worship-Communion at Christ Lutheran - Beatrice | 8:00am |
| | Worship-Communion | 10:00am |
| | (Greeters: Andrew & Jaime Danner) | |

Prayers

- ✝ Jonah Schwab – He suffered a seizure on Wednesday morning and was brought to Bryan West and then to Children's Hospital for tests.
- ✝ Matt Strein – He had his appendix removed last Wednesday at Lincoln Surgical Hospital.
- ✝ Gayle Bekemeyer – She received a MitraClip in her heart at the KU Medical Center on Friday.

Prayer Updates

- ✝ Bill Jurgens – He was allowed to go home from Beatrice Community Hospital on Tuesday.

Thank You—We recently received the following thank you notes:

Dear St. Paul's Congregation,

We wish to thank you for the monetary gift due to the flooding by the Elkhorn River. We truly appreciate you for caring so much. We want you all to know how very much we appreciated your kind gesture. May God be with you all.

Sincerely,
Sandy & Rich Locke

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

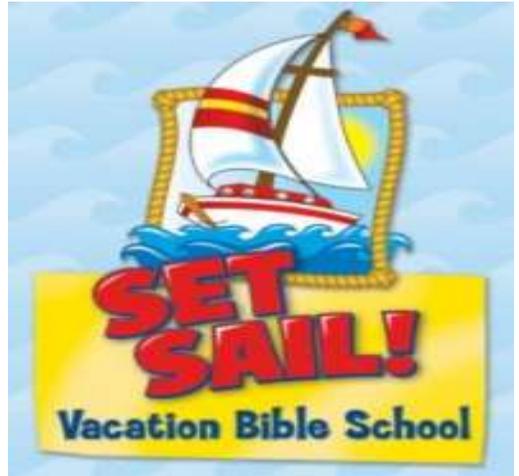
Special thanks to everyone who sent cards for my 90th birthday and get well cards during my recent hospitalization. All the love, care and concern of my church family is deeply appreciated.

Bill Jurgens

St. Paul's Graduation/Coffee Hour—Everyone is invited to the 8th grade graduation coffee hour and video following our worship service this morning.

Vacation Bible School

- VBS will be held June 3rd – 7th from 9:00-11:30am each day (Doors open for students at 8:45am.) Registration is available online by clicking on the VBS icon at www.stpaulsplymouth.org or by completing a blue registration form available on the back table in the front entrance. Completed forms should be returned to the church or school office.
- We are in need of volunteers to assist with VBS in the following areas: classroom teachers, craft helpers, kitchen helpers, and classroom aides. If you are able to help out, please sign the sheet on the table in the front entrance, contact Mr. Danner at 402-433-5349, or email him at danner@stpaulsplymouth.org.
- There is a sign-up sheet for the cookies, fruit, and veggies on the back table. “Set Sail” is this year’s theme, for those who would like to incorporate this theme into their snacks.



12th Annual NELHS Golf Classic—The need for tuition assistance at NELHS has never been greater. A fun way to help provide support is through the annual NELHS golf outing. This year the golf outing will be in Lincoln at the beautiful Crooked Creek Golf Course. The date for the event is Saturday, July 20th. We hope you can gather some friends and join us for golf. If you can't make it or are not a golfer, consider sponsoring a hole. It appears there will be many families that need assistance, so every dollar counts.

Broadcast Dates—Sunday broadcast dates still available for sponsorship in 2019 include the following:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| July 21 | October 27 |
| November 3 | December 29 |

The cost for sponsoring a Sunday broadcast is \$115. If you'd like to sponsor a broadcast for one of the above dates, please contact Craig Scheele or call the church office. Thank you!



Summer Music—Anyone interested in sharing his/her musical gifts during our worship services this summer is asked to contact Pastor Berger. He would be happy to discuss options with you.

Cemetery Flowers— Anyone planning to put flowers or decorations on our cemetery grounds is asked to note the following cemetery regulations: “No plants, shrubs, or trees shall be planted on this cemetery by any person other than the cemetery committee. All living plants, artificial flowers, vases, ornaments, and decorations shall be removed from the graves from June 10 to November 1. Exceptions will be made to all vases permanently attached to monuments. No glass jars or vases are permitted on cemetery grounds. Flowers may be left on new graves for thirty days.”



Save the Date

- ❖ Apache Mission Trip – May 29th – June 5th
- ❖ Vacation Bible School – June 3rd – 7th
- ❖ Truth in Love Ministry Mission Trip – June 15th – 22nd
- ❖ Annual NELHS Golf Classic – July 20th

Upcoming Camps

NELHS Sports/Arts Camp—Nebraska Lutheran High School is hosting a summer activities camp for boys and girls entering grades 5-9. The camp will take place June 9th-11th. Please return registration forms by May 24th, if possible. Brochures with additional details are available on the back table.

WELS Youth Camp Jefferson 2019—The 2019 WELS Youth Camp will be held at Camp Jefferson Friday, July 26th – Sunday, July 28th. This is for 3rd –8th graders (and Teen and Adult Helpers). The cost is \$55 for youth, \$25 for Teen Helpers, and \$15 for Adult Helpers. For additional information or to register, go to www.welscampjefferson-welsne.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to welscampjefferson@gmail.com.



WELS Teen Camp 2019—The 2019 WELS Teen Camp will be held at Camp Jefferson from Sunday, July 28th (immediately following Youth Camp Jefferson) – Tuesday, July 30th (closing service Tuesday evening). This is for 9th grade through age 19. The cost is \$60 for the full 2-day camp. Online registration is now open, and the T-shirt order deadline date is July 6th. For additional information or to register, call (402)310-8538 or go to www.welscampjefferson-welsne.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to welscampjefferson@gmail.com.



Teen Super Summer Smash—Area WELS Pre-teens/Teens (7TH grade – 12TH grade) are invited to an all-nighter of swimming, bowling, mini golf, basketball, battle ball, pizza, pop, snacks, and more at the Hastings YMCA beginning at 9:00pm on Friday evening, August 9th and ending Saturday morning, August 10th. More information can be found on the next page.

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 9, 2019



An Epic Event...
Join other WELS Teens for a
“Super Summer Smash”

When: Friday, August 9th – Saturday, August 10th

Time: Starts at 9pm on Friday

Where: Hastings YMCA

Who: High School Teens & Friends
and pre-teens (7th & 8th grade)

What: A super fun all-nighter of swimming, bowling,
mini golf, basketball courts, battle balls, pizza, pop,
snacks and more...

Contact Info:

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Donna Satterthwaite

Mt. Olive Youth Coordinator

donnasbbq1@hotmail.com

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran Church, feel free to speak with Pastor Fred Berger after the service or anytime during the week! (call/text 402-239-4509; email pastorberger@gmail.com) If you think you might be interested in joining the St. Paul's church family, Pastor would be more than happy to take you through some Bible studies at whatever time or location is most convenient for you to learn more about what we teach.

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran School, feel free to speak with Mr. Andrew Danner! (call/text 402-433-5349; email danner@stpaulsplymouth.org) He would love to give you a tour of the school and answer any questions you might have about the excellent Christ-centered education we offer students of our church and community.

Please contact us! We would love to serve you!

Church Office 402-656-3003

School Office 402-656-4465

Pastor Fred Berger 402-239-4509

Church Secretary Mrs. Deb Wells 402-853-2035

Mrs. Tracie Hueske (Preschool/Principal Release Teacher) 402-230-0607

Mrs. Becky Briney (K-1) 269-358-2998

Mrs. Rachel Schroeder (2-3) 402-239-1206

Mrs. Beckie Bekemeyer (4-5) 402-239-7667

Principal Andrew Danner (6-8) 402-433-5349

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

In an ever-changing world, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to build Christ's kingdom in people's hearts with the un-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

106 East Highway 4

Plymouth, NE 68424

402-656-3003

www.stpaulsplymouth.org

ST. PAUL'S
— PLYMOUTH —