

# St. Paul's Plymouth

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Pentecost 10

The Common Service

Welcome!



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
[www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://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](http://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 broadcasts for August 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> are sponsored by Robert and Connie Merklinger of Gothenburg, Nebraska, in loving memory of the Henry Merklinger Family.

## Focus for Our Worship

Twenty-first century Christians can certainly identify with Martha in the Gospel for today. So much to do and so little time! We have great excuses and fine rationalizations to explain the fact we have so little time to sit at Jesus' feet. But like Martha, our reasons fail in the face of Christ's simple statement: there is one needful thing—to hear the Word of God. The busyness of Martha is contrasted by the devotion of Mary to Jesus' words. When this one thing needful is treasured in the believer's life, everything else falls into place and it will not be taken from us, even into eternity. May God work in us a Mary heart in a Martha world.

# The Common Service

(page 15 of *Christian Worship*)

**Opening Hymn** “Speak, O Lord” (CWS 735) – see page 15 of the service folder

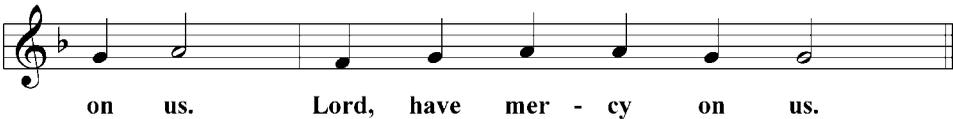
**M** In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.



## Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution

**M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**All** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.



**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



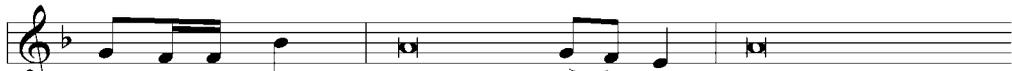
we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa - ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



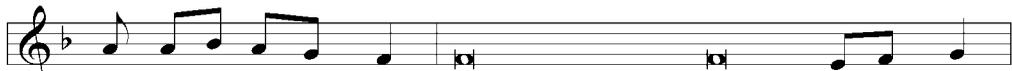
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

**M** The Lord be with you.



**M** Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may by Your help be enabled to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### First Lesson — 1 Samuel 3:1-10

*Eli had some serious difficulties. He was a man who falsely accused pious Hannah but failed to remove his wicked sons from office. He was a man who served in the Lord's house, but received a prophecy of judgment against him from God. Yet, amidst his difficulties, he knew one thing and passed it on to young Samuel: When God speaks, we listen. With Samuel, we humbly answer the Lord's call, "Speak, LORD. Your servant is listening."*

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

<sup>2</sup> One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. <sup>3</sup> The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup> And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup> Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup> So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

**Psalms of the Day** — Psalm 119a, found on page 109 in the front portion of the hymnal

**Second Lesson** — Colossians 1:21-29

*Paul became a servant of the Church to present the Word of God in its fullness. This Word proclaims the mystery which has been made clear to the New Testament Church: God has reconciled all people through Christ’s physical body and now presents us without blemish and free from accusation. Only one thing is needful: the Word of God in its fullness. And so we sit at Jesus’ feet to hear it again and again.*

<sup>21</sup>Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup>But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— <sup>23</sup>if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

<sup>24</sup>Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. <sup>25</sup>I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— <sup>26</sup>the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

<sup>28</sup>We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. <sup>29</sup>To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

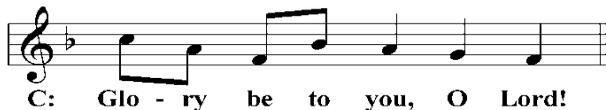
**Verse of the Day** — Isaiah 55:11

**M** Alleluia. My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia.



## Holy Gospel — Luke 10:38-42

**M** The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 10, beginning at verse 38:



### Sermon Text

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

<sup>41</sup> "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

**M** This is the Gospel of 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.**

**Hymn of the Day** "One Thing's Needful" (CW 290)

**Sermon** — Luke 10:38-42 "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

## Offering

## 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 "Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening" (CW 283)

**M** Blessed Lord, You have given us Your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by Your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**M** 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 "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage" (CW 293)**



## NEWS AND NOTES

Pastor Fred Berger  
C-402-239-4509 O-402-656-3003  
[pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com)

Principal Andrew Danner  
C-402-433-5349 O-402-656-4465  
[danner@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:danner@stpaulsplymouth.org)

**Organist:** Angie Zulauf

**Teen Usher:** Carter Holtmeier

**Greeters:** Nick Schroeder, Daryl Workman

**Broadcast Announcers:** Don Wurm, Barry Weichel

## **st. Paul's Church Family**

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Monday** – Mike Herman, Ryan Meyer, Pastor/Judy Frank

**Tuesday** – Leon Freese, Maci Hicks, M/M Joel Schroeder, M/M Jason Busch

**Wednesday** – Hazel Rehm **Thursday** – Pierce Damrow, Deb Wells

**Saturday** – Angie Bruna, Joel Schroeder **Sunday** – Ryan Bartels, Tracie Hueske

Pastor Fred Berger (serving the vacancy at Christ Lutheran (WELS) in Beatrice)

Cell-402-239-4509 Office-402-656-3003

[pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com)

.....  
**Organist:** Janice Pieper – Beatrice

**Elder:** Gordon Crome

**Ushers:** Ben Dwerlkotte, Braden Dwerlkotte

## **Christ Lutheran's Church Family**

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Thursday – M/M Wayne Zimmerman**

#### **This Week, By God's Grace (August 18<sup>th</sup> – August 25<sup>th</sup>)**

Today	Worship at Christ Lutheran - Beatrice	8:00am
	Worship	10:00am
Monday	Faculty Meeting	7:15am
	Gardenside Devotion	10:00am
	DMB Chairman Teleconference	11:00am
	Elders' Meeting	6:30pm
Tuesday	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
	School Chapel	8:30am
	LES Catechism	9:00am
Wednesday	PSI Class	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
	LES Catechism	8:30am
	Women in God's Service	2:30pm
	Beatrice Church Council Meeting	7:30pm
Friday	Junior Choir	3:45-4:15pm
Saturday	Rupprecht/Jung Wedding	11:30am
Sunday	Worship with Communion at Christ Lutheran - Beatrice	8:00am
	Worship with Communion (Greeters: Calvin & Susie Weichel)	10:00am

## In Our Prayers

- ✝ Debbie Hermesen (Steph Berger's aunt) – she will be undergoing surgery to remove her thyroid on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, after being diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

## Prayer Updates

- ✝ Judy Frank returned home Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Save the Date

- ❖ First Day of PSI Catechism – August 21<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ Bible Class & Sun. School Resume–Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ St. Paul's Golf Outing – Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ❖ Welcome Home Sunday – Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Reformation Sunday – Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Mission Festival – Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Fall Schedules**—It is once again time to start compiling the various fall schedules. If you have not served in the past but would like to be included on one of schedules starting this fall, please call the church office this week. Sunday morning service opportunities include the following:

- Sunday Morning Childcare
- Church Greeter

**St. Paul's Golf Outing** – The 10<sup>th</sup> annual St. Paul's Golf Outing will be held at Hidden Acres in Beatrice on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. All golfers and skill levels are welcome. There will be two classes – the "Fun and Fellowship" class and the "Competitive" class. The cost to play (including a cart) is \$25 per person. There is a registration sheet available on the sign-up table in the front entrance of church. There is also a sign-up sheet for anyone willing to sponsor a hole (\$50). Hole sponsor contributions will go toward St. Paul's Tuition assistance. After the golf outing, every golfer and their families are invited for a free meal on the Clubhouse Deck.



**Student Teachers**—St. Paul's Lutheran School is excited to welcome two student teachers from Martin Luther College this coming school year. These two teachers-in-training will be arriving over Labor Day weekend and will be staying through the beginning of November. Noah Panzer will be working with Mr. Danner in the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade room and Grace Cook will be with Mrs. Bekemeyer in the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade room. Noah is from Marshfield, WI, and Grace is from West Salem, WI. We are needing two host families to provide hospitality for our student teachers. Please consider if you could help us out. Here are some expectations to consider:

- Hosts are expected to provide the teacher candidate a private bedroom, bathroom access, an area to study, laundry service, and internet accessibility.

- Hosts are expected to provide or arrange for meals each day. We do not expect meals to be any more elaborate than customary for the host. MLC does not expect teacher candidates to do their own grocery shopping. Some may want to assist in meal preparation.
- Both student teachers have their own vehicles.
- MLC reimburses hosts for room and board up to \$830.
- One thing to note is that Miss Cook is allergic to pet dander from cats and dogs.

If you are interested in hosting or have any questions, please speak with Mr. Danner. Thank you.

**Nebraska District Mission Board**—On Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Fred Berger was elected as chairman of the District Mission Board. Also, Pastor Aaron Schumann was appointed to fill Pastor Shane Krause’s position on the board.

**St. Paul’s Yeti Tumblers**—After placing the first order, a number of individuals have expressed interest in purchasing a tumbler. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the back table for this. We need a minimum order of 50 to go ahead with the second order. Thanks!

**Thank You**—We recently received the following thank you note:

Thank you so much for the delicious meals we received after coming home from the hospital with Nora and Henry. It was so nice to not have to worry about preparing meals for a bit, especially as we were adjusting to caring for two babies. The “Meals for Moms” program was truly a wonderful blessing to us. Jake, Shaylin, Henry & Nora Jiskra

**Welcome to the Community**—If you own a business in town or you know of a business in our area (big or small) and would like those who move into our community to know about it, consider dropping off 50 business cards or small coupons to the church office. Pastor will put them into the St. Paul’s Yeti Tumblers when he stops by to welcome them to our community. Thanks for spreading the word about this!

**Wonderful Bible Class Instruction Opportunity** – Beginning Sunday, September 15, Pastor Frank will begin a course entitled, “What Does the Bible Say?” This course will be taught at 9AM in the fellowship hall. Childcare and Sunday school will be available for those with children. Please be thinking about and praying for opportunities to invite a friend/family member/acquaintance/co-worker/neighbor to join you for this Bible class. Flyers are available on the table in the front entrance to share with someone you would like to invite to the class.



**St. Paul's Magnets**—There are new magnets on the “sign up” table as you come into church. Please take one for your fridge and to hand to someone you know. We’d LOVE to have them join us for worship!

**Brainstorming Meeting**—On Monday, July 15, the St. Paul’s elders and chairman met to discuss Christ Lutheran’s proposal that St. Paul’s in Plymouth work together with them in some way, shape, or form in God’s ministry. After working through all the input from St. Paul’s members who sent emails or shared articles and thoughts on the matter, five thoughts prevailed as options to continue to consider. Please read through these options and continue to direct your thoughts to the elders and chairman. Our elders and chairman, along with two church council members from Christ Lutheran, will be meeting again on Monday, August 19 at 6:30PM in order to continue discussing this important decision.

Craig Scheele – 402-230-0293 – cscheele@diodecom.net

David Hummel – 402-446-2089 – dkh.hummel@gmail.com

Gail Schroeder – 402-806-9953 – gnsschro@hotmail.com

Dallas Christ – 402-520-1022 – big.d.nebr@gmail.com

Wendell Gronemeyer – 402-520-5196 – wgronemeyer@diodecom.net

Steve Freese (congregational chairman) – 402-239-6640 – ssfreese\_2000@yahoo.com

1) Typical Dual Parish. This would emulate Clatonia and Cortland. There are two congregational rosters. There are two congregational leaderships. There are two buildings to upkeep. There is one pastor.

(Note: the elders do not feel that this is a sustainable workload for one pastor in our situation.)

2) A-Typical Dual Parish. This difference here is that there would be one full-time pastor in Plymouth and one pastor who is split between Plymouth and Beatrice. There are still two congregational rosters. There are two congregational leaderships. There are two buildings to upkeep.

(Note: the elders feel this would breed a “them” versus “us” mentality. It would be difficult for Beatrice to have a growing and sustainable ministry with a “50% guy.” It would be hard to define what a “50% guy” even means in ministry terms.)

3) Multi-Site Ministry. This would emulate what various ministries in the WELS are trying. January, February, and March 2019 issues of the *Forward in Christ* magazine have articles giving examples of these. There is one congregational roster. There is one congregational leadership. There are two buildings to upkeep. There are two pastors.

(Note: the possible downside to this option would be the upkeep of an additional building, coordinating service times, and figuring out what ministries to have in each location – i.e. Sunday School, VBS, etc.)

4) Amalgamation. We would ask Christ Lutheran if they wanted to fully amalgamate. In this scenario, there is one congregational roster. There is one congregational leadership. There is one building to upkeep. St. Paul's would call a second pastor and centrally located, look to reach out to the entire Tri-County area as a "destination church."

(Note: the possible downside to this option is that some might not be willing/able to travel 15 miles from Beatrice to worship in Plymouth, although we do have examples of members attending every Sunday from much farther away. If transportation is a serious stumbling block, our bus could run on Sunday morning like it did on Good Friday and Easter. With the new school, St. Paul's is well suited for a large Sunday School program, VBS, Christmas For Kids, Easter For Kids, as well as five called teachers to organize these efforts.)

5) Remain as separate congregations. Christ Lutheran would go back to the drawing board (other options for them include calling a part-time pastor or calling a full-time pastor and subsidizing their home fund offerings with savings). St. Paul's would look into feasibility of calling a second pastor or a vicar to help serve the congregation in Plymouth.

Thank you for reading through this, your prayers, your wisdom, and your thoughts as we continue to work through this decision in an orderly way to the glory of God.



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -  
 2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly  
 3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.  
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.  
 grasp the heights of your plans for us.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and  
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the  
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the  
 ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our  
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day In our acts of  
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic  
 grace we'll stand on your pro - mis - es. And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -  
 love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can  
 walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your



fill in us All your pur - pos - es for your  
 nev - er fail. Let their truth pre - vail o - ver  
 Church is built And you fill the earth with your



glo - ry.  
 un - be - lief.  
 glo - ry.

*Last time*

Tune: SPEAK, O LORD (8 10 8 10 10 10 8 10)

Text, Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974 and Stuart Townend, b. 1963 © 2006 Thankyou Music; admin,  
 EMI CMG Publishing, International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Reprinted with permission under One License #A-711841. All rights reserved.

# St. Paul's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual



**Sunday—September 22nd**  
Hidden Acres in Beatrice

Registration at 12:30PM

Golf at 1:00PM

Meal to follow on Hidden Acres Clubhouse Deck

Cost: \$25 payable to "St. Paul's Church Office"

All Golfers and Skill Levels Welcome!

Fun and Fellowship Class (back nine)

or

Competitive Class (front nine)

Please Call Church Office (656-3003) to sign  
up as an individual or as a team of four!

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPT. 15!**