

# St. Paul's Plymouth

September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Pentecost 13

Divine Service II

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 broadcast today is sponsored in loving memory of Mr. Lester Bekemeyer by his children, Glenn & Pat Bekemeyer and Greg Bekemeyer, and their families. Lester entered eternal life on September 11, 1982.

## Focus for Our Worship

The door to heaven is narrow. Many try to enter based on their own works, their own plans, their own rules, but Jesus is the way and the truth and the life (John 14:6). In the first lesson, we see the Lord deliver Midian into the hands of the Israelites in a way that Israel could not boast in their own strength, but His. In the second lesson, our eyes are opened to the beauty of heaven won for us by Jesus. In the prayer of the day, we ask that God increases our faith in His promises. May the time we spend around Word and Sacrament this morning do just that as we fix our eyes on Jesus!

**Divine Service II**  
**(Christian Worship Supplement)**

*Please Stand*

**INVOCATION AND CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

**C** Amen.

**M** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**All** **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from Your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

**M** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In His great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through His called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**LORD, HAVE MERCY** (*Kyrie*)

**M** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from You all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**M** For the spread of Your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in You, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C** **Christ, have mercy.**

**M** For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await Your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**M** Lord of life, live in us that we may live for You.

**C** Amen.

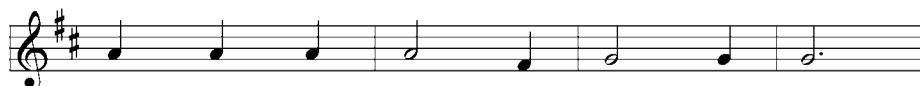
## GLORY BE TO GOD (Gloria in Excelsis) (Tune CW 376)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!  
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;  
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,



We praise you for your peace and grace,  
For all, O Fath - er, you have done



Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.  
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.

### SALUTATION

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**M** Let us pray.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what You promise, make us love what You command; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please Be Seated*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON — Judges 7:1-8

*When Gideon carried out the will of the Lord against Midian, the Lord chose only a handful to serve His purpose, so Israel couldn't boast in its own strength but only in the strength of the Lord.*

Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her, <sup>3</sup>announce now to the people, 'Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.'" So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

<sup>4</sup>But the LORD said to Gideon, "There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them for you there. If I say, 'This one shall go with you,' he shall go; but if I say, 'This one shall not go with you,' he shall not go."

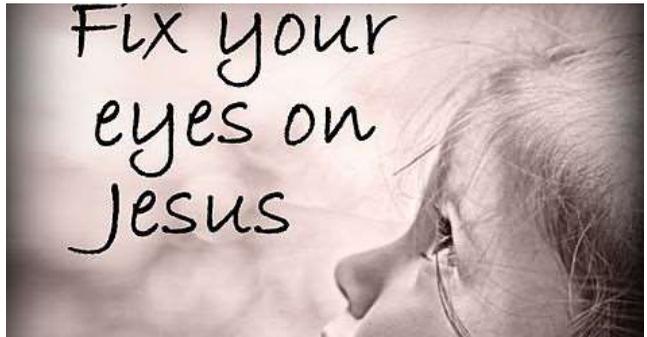
<sup>5</sup>So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, "Separate those who lap the water with their tongues like a dog from those who kneel down to drink." <sup>6</sup>Three hundred men lapped with their hands to their mouths. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Gideon, "With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the other men go, each to his own place." <sup>8</sup>So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites to their tents but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others.

### SECOND LESSON — Hebrews 12

#### *Sermon Text*

**12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. <sup>2</sup>Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.



<sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup>And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,

and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,  
6 because the Lord disciplines those he loves,  
and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.”

<sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? <sup>8</sup> If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. <sup>9</sup> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! <sup>10</sup> Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. <sup>13</sup> “Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

<sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. <sup>16</sup> See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. <sup>17</sup> Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.

<sup>18</sup> You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; <sup>19</sup> to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup> because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned.” <sup>21</sup> The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup> to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, <sup>24</sup> to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup> See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our “God is a consuming fire.”

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY — John 14:6**

**M** Alleluia. Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Alleluia!

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

Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the

mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -

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

*Please stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

- M** The Gospel according to St. Luke chapter 13:
- C** **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

*The physical descendants of Abraham thought their lineage was their right through the narrow door. Jesus shares a shocking truth: if you rely on anything other than what Jesus has accomplished for you by His life, death, and resurrection, you will hear the saddest words imaginable, "I don't know who you are." Through Jesus, God knows you. You are His children.*

- <sup>22</sup> Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.
- <sup>23</sup> Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"
- He said to them, <sup>24</sup> "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup> Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'
- "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'
- <sup>26</sup> "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'
- <sup>27</sup> "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

<sup>28</sup> “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup> People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

**M** This is the Gospel of the Lord!

**C** Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Please Be Seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “There Is a Higher Throne” (CWS 727) – found on page 26 of this service folder

**SERMON – Hebrews 12**

*Please Stand*

**NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please Be Seated*

**OFFERING**

*Please Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**M** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is good and right so to do.

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be His own so that we may live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Tune CW 474)

*Sanctus*

Tune: WEBB

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column starting on the first staff and the second column starting on the second staff. The lyrics are: 1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of; 2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly; pow'r and might, Your glo - ry earth and heav - en In; blest is he Who in God's name is com - ing To; count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and; set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -; save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And in your; va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De - liv - er; grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.; us from bond - age— Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**M** Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which He has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By His incarnation, He became one with us.

By His perfect life, He fulfilled Your holy will.

By His innocent death, He overcame hell.

By His rising from the grave, He opened heaven.

Invited by Your grace and instructed by Your Word, we approach Your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with Him and all His ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**C** Amen.

## 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My  $\text{✝}$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.



## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**Close Communion** We ask that only those who have previously spoken to our pastor or are members in good standing of this or another WELS or ELS congregation come to Holy Communion today. Our practice of Close Communion (which has been the practice of the Christian Church throughout the ages) is in no way trying to judge anyone's faith. What we are trying to do is follow the Bible's clear teaching (I Corinthians 11) to first study God's Word together. As we do so, we can share with/review with you what the Lord's Supper is all about. You, then, also have an opportunity to examine what we believe and teach before you come to the Lord's Supper here at St. Paul's/Christ Lutheran and make a public profession that you agree with what we teach.

If you have any questions about this or would like to commune at St. Paul's/Christ Lutheran in the future, please talk to Pastor after worship this morning. He would love to sit down with you on your timetable and at your convenience and talk about these important matters.

**PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at Your holy table. But You are a friend of sinners, and You will not cast me out. This bread is Your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is Your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At Your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior. Amen.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

- “Take and Eat” (CWS 741) - found on page 27 of this worship folder
- “I Walk in Danger All the Way” (CW 431)
- “Jerusalem, My Happy Home” (CW 215)

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with Your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in You as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of Your Spirit to live and work to Your praise and glory. Amen.

*Please Stand*

**SONG OF SIMEON (Tune CW 388)**

I O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace, as -  
 sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -  
 car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en -  
 light - en All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant,  
 crown - ing glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!

**M** We give You thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that You have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift You have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By Your Spirit help us to live as Your holy people until that day when You will receive us as Your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

**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.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please Be Seated*

**CLOSING HYMN** “Jerusalem the Golden” (CW 214)



## 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:** Rachel Schroeder  
**Teen Usher:** Colton Jantzen  
**Greeters:** Becky Briney, Vickie Christ  
**Broadcast Announcers:** Brett Scheiding, Ethan Paxton

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

#### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Today** – Kinley Gronemeyer, M/M Shad Siebrandt  
**Monday** – Jason Busch, Jamey Krueger, Anthony Zimmerman  
**Tuesday** – Tanner Benash, Aubrey Schroeder, M/M Eugene Busch  
**Wednesday** – Ryan Schroeder, Emery Wiedel, Evelyn Wieder, Erica Wiedel  
**Thursday** – Doyle Kerwood, Beau Kloppenborg, M/M JJ Johnsen  
**Saturday** – Diane Weishahn, M/M Neal Freese    **Sunday** – Emmalyn Birkett

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)

---

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

#### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**Monday** – Wayne Zimmerman  
**Tuesday** – M/M Mike Schroeder  
**Thursday** – Scott Schroeder

**Organist:** Janice Pieper – Beatrice  
**Elder:** Mike Schroeder  
**Ushers:** Robert Orth

## This Week, By God's Grace (September 8<sup>th</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup>)

Today	Worship with Communion at Christ Lutheran - Beatrice	8:00am
	Worship with Communion	10:00am
	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting	11:15am
Monday	Faculty Meeting	7:15am
	School Picture Day	
	DMB Teleconference	12:00pm
	VBall Practice @ Community Center (A Team, No B Team)	3:30-5:30pm
Tuesday	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
	LES Catechism	8:30am
	Christ Lutheran Catechism Class	7:15pm
Wednesday	VBall Practice @ Community Center (A & B Teams)	3:30-5:30pm
	PSI Class	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
	LES Catechism	8:30am
	VBall Games vs. St. Mark, Lincoln (Home Games)	4:15/5:00pm
	Beatrice Church Council Meeting	7:30pm
Friday	Grandparents' Day	8:30am
	School Chapel	
	Early Dismissal	1:00pm
Sunday	Worship at Christ Lutheran – Beatrice	7:45am
	Sunday School and Bible Class	9:00am
	Worship (Sunday School Teacher Installation)	10:00am
	(Greeters: Josh & Jody Swartz)	
Sun. – Wed.	Pastor at Seminary – Symposium on Christian Apologetics, Mentor Training, and DMB Chairman Training	

**Christ Lutheran Worship**—Please note that when we begin the fall schedule on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, the morning worship service at Christ Lutheran will be held at 7:45am.

### In Our Prayers

- ✝ Adena Wollenburg – Adena underwent surgery on a hernia (due to an infection of the incision after her appendix was removed) at Bryan West on Thursday, September 5.
- ✝ Pastor Nick Mount – he was hospitalized this past week at Bryan West due to a number of complications.
- ✝ Madison Freese – she was hospitalized in Crete due to a kidney infection.

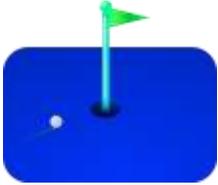
### Prayer Updates

- ✝ Judy Frank – she had successful surgery on Tuesday at Buffet Cancer Center in Omaha.

## Save the Date

- ❖ Bible Class & Sun. School Resume–Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ St. Paul’s Golf Outing – Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ❖ NELHS Fall Silent Auction/Concert – Oct. 6
- ❖ Fall LWMS Rally - Faith, Rising City – Oct. 19
- ❖ Welcome Home Sunday – Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Reformation Sunday – Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Mission Festival – Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>

**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, all golfers and their families are invited to a free meal on the clubhouse deck.



**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a raffle drawing for a **beatsstudio<sup>3</sup>wireless** for all those who use and complete the round of golf without losing the original ball given out that day. In addition, there will be other great flag and team prizes given out that day. **COME ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!!**

**Student Teachers**—Our two student teachers, Noah Panzer and Grace Cook, have arrived and will be here through the beginning of November. Noah is from Marshfield, WI, and Grace is from West Salem, WI. When you see them, please welcome them and make them feel at home here at St. Paul’s.



We are planning to have a Ladies Choir sing for our Reformation Service on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be four Wednesday practices (Oct. 2, Oct. 9, Oct. 16, Oct. 23 from 7-8PM). Childcare will be available during practice times, if needed. All of our WELS adult and high school age women are welcome and encouraged to join in using their time and talents for edifying our worship through song.

**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!

**Medical Equipment**—We are gathering gently used medical equipment to be loaned out to our members as needed. If you have an item you would like to donate, please bring it to the church office. Or, if you are ever in need of borrowing an item, please contact the church office.

**Box Tops** – The Box Tops for Education program is changing. You will no longer need to clip the coupon from participating products. Instead, you will just scan your receipt. To do this you need to download a free app from Box Tops for Education. You must scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Continue clipping box tops as long as you find them and turn them in. If you are not able to get the app, you can bring your receipts to the church office or school to be scanned. If you have any questions or want additional information about the change to this program, please contact Mrs. Beckie Bekemeyer.

**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!

**Meditations**—The next quarterly *Meditations* daily devotion booklets have arrived and are in the tract racks in the front entrance and fellowship room. These devotions provide a wonderful resource to keep individuals and families connected to and growing in God’s Word. Please consider taking a copy along home!

**Pictorial Directory**—Picture dates for our next pictorial directory are scheduled for August 27-29 and September 15-16, 2020. If you would like to serve on a committee and use your talents to help out with the creative design or scheduling, please contact Pastor Berger.

**Yeti Tumblers**—We will be placing a second order for Yeti Tumblers soon. If you would still like to add your name to the order list (located on the sign-up table in the front entrance), please do so today. Thank you!

**Address Update**—Loretta Smith’s new address is as follows: St. Jane De Chantel, Room 408, 2200 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68506.

**Tuition Assistance**—We have a number of families that would benefit from tuition assistance as they strive to meet the monetary obligations connected with providing a Christian education for their child. If you would be interested in providing support now or in the future, please contact Pastor Berger or Mr. Danner.

Dear Parents of Sunday School Students,

**The 2019-20 Sunday School year begins next Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 9AM!** If you know of anyone in our community who might be interested in participating in our Sunday School, please spread the word! Everyone is welcome! Preregistration with the church office is encouraged but not required.

Children entering preschool and new students through 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be given a copy of *The Story Bible* (students enrolled last year already received this book). This is theirs to keep and treasure. It will be used every week for the lesson, and we will encourage you to use the book at home with your child. **Please make sure your child brings his/her book for class on Sunday morning.** Also, you may want to consider putting a cover on it.

Children entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade and new students through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be given the Lutheran Study Bible with their name and baptism date engraved on the front cover. Lord-willing, this will be their Bible for the rest of their lives. **Please make sure your child brings his/her Bible to class on Sunday morning.** You may also want to make or purchase a cover.

We have updated the memory work format. All students will be asked to learn the short Bible passage, and even Kindergarteners will begin to become familiar with the parts of the Catechism, which will provide an easy transition into memory work for Catechism Class.

Our curriculum is set up to rotate between Old and New Testament accounts. This year we will be studying the New Testament. If your child attends our Sunday School from preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he/she will have learned all the main Bible lessons 4 times!

We are looking forward to another great year of studying God’s Word together and will put forth the effort to be thoroughly prepared each Sunday **We are thankful for those who are willing to teach our children this year** and we ask that God blesses our families and church family as we strive to diligently and faithfully carry out an important responsibility God has given to us – to teach our children the living and active Word of God, preparing them for this life and eternity!

In the Service of our Savior,

*Pastor Fred Berger*

# 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!**

## **A PLAN TO SERVE CHRIST LUTHERAN AND THE BEATRICE COMMUNITY WITH THE GOSPEL**

Formulated by St. Paul's elders (Craig Scheele, Dave Hummel, Gail Schroeder, Dallas Christ, Wendell Gronemeyer)

### **Previous Timeline**

June – August 2019 – Many discussions, brainstorming, and feedback received from both congregations.

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – The St. Paul's elders encouraged the Christ Lutheran Church Council to call their own pastor and subsidize their home fund offerings with savings.

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 – The Christ Lutheran Church Council met and decided that it was not possible for them to call their own pastor. They asked St. Paul's elders to take one more look at any way that St. Paul's could continue to serve them with the Gospel.

August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – The St. Paul's elders met after worship and put together a plan that they felt would be a way that St. Paul's could be of assistance to Christ Lutheran and continue to conduct some amount (not to the same extent as if a congregation had its own pastor) of gospel ministry to the saints there and the community. They named the plan "Preaching Station Plus+".

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – The Christ Lutheran Church Council Chairman spoke with his council and then with Craig Scheele and gave a preliminary approval to the "Preaching Station Plus+" idea.

### **Pastoral Staff in the Past**

1990-2010 – 1.5 pastors served our congregation. 1 pastor served Christ Lutheran.

2010-2019 – 1 pastor served our congregation. 1 pastor served Christ Lutheran.

2019 – 1 pastor serves our congregation and serves Christ Lutheran.

IDEA = 2020 forward – 2 pastors serve our congregation and Christ Lutheran.

### **Pastoral Service for Christ Lutheran – "Preaching Station Plus+"**

- St. Paul's would be the "calling body."
- St. Paul's elders would oversee pastors and set worship schedules – holidays (might not be Easter Sunday morning services or Christmas Eve Service in Beatrice, but might be Maundy Thursday in Beatrice instead of in Plymouth, for example).
- St. Paul's would have the office for the second pastor so that the two pastors could stay on the same page. Both pastors would live in Plymouth and work out of Plymouth.
- 7:45AM Sunday morning worship in Beatrice. The two pastors switch off preaching. If one pastor needs to be gone, the other pastor can still preach in Beatrice, do Bible Study in Plymouth at 9AM, and preach in Plymouth at 10AM.
  - o This could be helpful to other local WELS churches who need a guest preacher.
  - o It could be helpful for vacation Sundays.
  - o It could be helpful if one of the Plymouth pastors need to travel to visit other churches within the district.
  - o This will free up time for one of the pastors who is not responsible for planning and preparing for the Sunday Morning worship service (we felt as though that is 15-20 hours of overlapped work if both pastors would be preaching every Sunday)

- Christ Lutheran and St. Paul's would conduct events together (softball, golf, church picnic, youth group events and trips, VBS, Easter4Kids, Christmas4Kids, Ladies Aid, Choir, etc.)
- No immediate Sunday Morning Bible Study at Christ Lutheran (unless we can livestream into their church or one of their elders wanted to conduct Bible Study after worship)
- No immediate Sunday School (unless a parent would like to organize it)
- Christ Lutheran keeps their own finances in the bank and takes care of their own property (electric, gas, building maintenance, mowing, snow removal, property insurance, etc.)
- Christ Lutheran lowers the number of leaders on their church council to 3 (chairman, treasurer, elder/secretary/trustee) as they are not currently able to fill their positions. Their new leadership team of 3 has meetings at Plymouth on the same night as the Plymouth church council meetings. Christ Lutheran would meet at 6:30PM at the same time as Plymouth's Board of Ed meeting. Christ Lutheran's 3 leaders would be welcomed to sit in on the Plymouth Council Meetings at 8PM in order to stay on the same page of the ministry work being accomplished. (Christ Lutheran will have quarterly voters' meetings).
- Pastors will cover all hospital calls, shut-in calls, counseling, BIC, pre-marriage, baptisms, funerals, weddings, etc in both locations. For weddings and funerals the preaching will go back and forth (there will not be the ability to request a certain preacher...otherwise Pastor Bill will end up being requested for all the funerals and weddings and Pastor Seth won't have the same workload).
- Office expenses would continue to be billed from Plymouth as they are being billed during the vacancy. Plymouth will continue to print all the bulletins, etc.

### **Goals**

- 1) Spiritual care for the precious souls of Christ Lutheran.
- 2) Evangelistic zeal for the souls who live in the Beatrice Community.
- 3) Filling the need for more pastoral staff to continue to accomplish current ministry opportunities at St. Paul's in Plymouth and the surrounding area.

### **Cost**

Including salary, insurance, pension, housing, conferences expenses, mileage, cell phone reimbursements, and other added costs, a second pastor for Plymouth would cost around \$85,000 dollars. We would ask that Beatrice covers \$3,500 per month, and this amount can be regularly (at least yearly) revisited depending on if attendance and offerings increase in Beatrice. St. Paul's would cover the rest of what it costs to provide for a pastor.

Also, Beatrice would be responsible for the one-time moving expense for the pastor and Plymouth would be responsible for the one-time office renovation (the initial thought is to have an office where Pastor Bortulin had an office in the back kitchenette area).

### **Possible Future Timeline**

August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Elders shared idea with Church Council. The Church Council approved the idea.  
Early September 2019 – Bulletin Announcement shares the idea with our entire church family. Please give any feedback, thoughts, improvements, questions to the elders or chairman.  
Late September 2019 – Work through the proposal after worship for all congregation members to attend. The elders have been thinking about this weekly for the past 6 months. They want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to work through the need and the proposal to fill the need as well...and want to be able to answer any questions anyone has about the proposal.  
Early/Mid October 2019 – Special St. Paul’s voters’ meeting to discuss and/or approve idea  
Late October/Early November 2019 – Special Christ Lutheran voters’ meeting to discuss and/or approve idea  
Mid November Pre-Call Meeting with our District President  
Late November Call Meeting  
Earliest Budget Impact – January 2020

### **Church Council Meeting Highlights Thursday, August 29, 2019 - 8:00PM**

The opening devotion was given by Pastor Berger on Luke 10: v. 41, 42  
The Secretary’s minutes from the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as presented.

#### **Treasurer’s Report:**

Home Fund Balance	\$-33,407.05
Missions (submitted)	\$22,877.47
Building Fund Balance	\$594.80
NELHS Operating (submitted)	\$11,623.46
NELHS Debt Retirement (submitted)	\$13,000.00
Memorial Fund Balance	\$31,755.16

#### **Elders:**

- A Motion was made and seconded to accept Lanette Schmidt as a Communicant Member. Motion carried.
- A Motion was made and seconded to accept Julie Schmidt as a Communicant Member. Motion carried.
- A Motion was made and seconded to transfer Jake, Angey, Ryan, Emily, and Owen Carrel to Mt. Calvary (WELS) in Menasha, WI. Motion carried.
- A Motion was made and seconded to grant Roma Bovard a release from membership. Motion carried. (Roma now lives in Missouri and we are not able to spiritually care for her.)
- Baptisms since last meeting: Milo Scheele, Elizabeth Jantzen.
- Transfers from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant: Sharon Schroeder.

- The Elders are still monitoring Pastor's workload. Gail Schroeder guided the Council through the details of the proposal for serving the saints at Christ Lutheran in Beatrice. (Details of the proposal are found on pages 20-22 of this bulletin).

#### **Board of Education:**

- Mr. Danner reported that the school year is off to a good start and things are going well.
- The two Student Teachers will arrive on Sunday. Steve and Stacey Freese will house Noah Panzer and Tim and Sue Likens will house Grace Cook. We thank the Freeses and Likens for their hospitality in sharing their home with Noah and Grace.
- Brian Scheele gave the Council a presentation on the many benefits and blessings of Christian education. He included data on the historical enrollment numbers at our Lutheran Elementary School and the high standardized testing scores. Enrollment for this year stands at 51, with a couple more additions possible.
- Ethan Schroeder gave the various school financial reports.

#### **Trustees:**

- The blue spruce tree southeast of the teacherage has been removed.
- Meints drywall has completed repairs in the school gym.
- Batteries were replaced in the door lock for the fellowship area.
- A Motion was made and seconded to install gutter guards on the church addition at a cost of \$662.00. Motion carried. (Gutter guards are not available for school gutters).

#### **Stewardship Report:**

- The Committee is working on planning a New Member Welcome for the Jantzens, Kochs, Johnsens, Lanette Schmidt, and Julie Schmidt.

#### **NELHS Report:**

- The 41st year of NELHS officially began with the opening service on August 11th. We share the theme with our LES schools of "Set Your Minds on Things Above" - Colossians 3:2. Installed on August 11 were Nathan Guhl - Science Teacher; Rylee Weisensel - girls' tutor and AD (one-year call, renewable); Chris Beagle and Bryan Walkley - boys' tutors (one-year call, renewable). We welcome Mrs. Sarah Stellick who is helping out part-time.
- Summer construction update: much work was accomplished on repairs to the boys' dorm - thank you to all who helped with the re-drywalling, patching, painting, door replacements, and porcelain installations! Added together, we had about 75 people in our three official work days - some at all three, and some in between...thank you, it couldn't have been done without you!
- Gym woes...our large gym floor replacement is still on hold. We have to mitigate our water seepage that appears to be coming up in a few areas. Pray for this to be remedied...volleyball is patiently waiting for a floor.
- Support: Prayers, prayers, prayers - these are the three most important asks I have for each of you. Please continue to pray for our former students who have moved on to serve Jesus in their next phase of life; continue to pray for our current students who are being guided by the gospel but are bombarded every day with the world's philosophies; continue to pray for our future students - we need an association army of recruiters for NELHS; continue to pray for our parents

and families who make sacrifices for their children to be immersed in Gods' Word in their academic studies with many living away from home; continue to pray for our faculty and staff who also sacrifice much to give not only a top-notch education to our students, but who also guide, direct, and help build Christian leaders through our school.

- Matching funds are still available for a couple more weeks! We were given a \$20,000 matching funds challenge gift - we've met about \$7500 of this...it would be great to match the full amount. Any gifts can be sent to NELHS or you can use our online giving portal on our website. Don't forget we also have our *Fill the Bins* donation program where donations of grain (or livestock), and our *This is Our School* - automatic monthly giving program. These third source funding programs are appreciated and vital to our financial needs.
- Our new website is up and running...new look, same address: [www.nelhs.org](http://www.nelhs.org). Please check out our website and give any feedback you may have to [admin@nelhs.org](mailto:admin@nelhs.org)
- Upcoming Dates:
  - Sep 22-25: WELSSA accreditation: This five-year cycle helps us focus on how to be the best stewards of our area Lutheran high school.
  - Sep 20: NELHS Day - "Camps" (no soccer jam, sorry!)
  - Sep 27: Homecoming, football at 7pm (football/cheer parents' night too)
  - Oct 6: Fall Silent Auction (1-4pm), Concert at 4pm, Meal follows (about 5pm)
  - Oct 6: Association Meeting 5pm at NELHS (working lunch after the concert)

#### **Pastor Berger's Report:**

- Beatrice Vacancy – 7:45AM Worship beginning on September 15<sup>th</sup>
- Bible Instruction Classes – 2 throughout week, Sunday morning beginning September 15<sup>th</sup>
- District Mission Board – Elected as Chairman to fill the position of Pastor Shane Krause; OMEGA! Meeting in Omaha on October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Mentor – still meeting monthly with Pastor Mount
- 12 baptisms so far
- Sunday School and Bible Class ready for September 15<sup>th</sup>
- In Milwaukee from September 15-18 (Symposium on Christian Apologetics, Mentor Training, DMB Chairman Training)
- Planned Church Golf Tournament for September 22<sup>nd</sup>
- "Welcome Home" Sunday – October 20<sup>th</sup>
- Fall Conference in Valentine, NE October 21-23
- Mission Festival here at St. Paul's with Pastor Kevin Stellick preaching on November 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Pastor Berger preaching at Mission Festival in Roscoe/Bowdle/Akaska, SD on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Future:
  - 2020 – Financial Peace University led by Don Wurm beginning in January.
  - 2020 Church Directory (Picture dates are scheduled for August 27-29 and September 15-16).

Next Council Meeting – Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:00PM.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Pastor Berger.

# Friends Who Need Jesus

Identify people from among your circle of friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors, who need to be reached with the good news of our Savior Jesus.

Family/Relative

Close Friend

Other

Widow/Widower

Neighbor

Friend at School

Single/Recently divorced

Friend in a community activity

My Name

CoWorker

Newcomer to Area

Family with a new baby

Family who recently experienced a crisis

Ask God to give you opportunities to talk to them about Jesus.

Pray for these people.

Invite them to come to worship with you.

727

## There Is a Higher Throne

1 There is a high - er throne than all this  
 2 And there we'll find our home, our life be -

world has known, Where faith - ful ones from ev - 'ry tongue  
 fore the throne. We'll hon - or him in per - fect song

will one day come. Be - fore the Son we'll stand,  
 where we be - long. He'll wipe each tear - stained eye

made fault - less through the Lamb; Be - liev - ing  
 as thirst and hun - ger die. The Lamb be -

hearts find prom - ised grace; sal - va - tion comes.  
 comes our Shep - herd - King; we'll reign with him.

*Refrain*

Hear heav - en's voic - es sing; their thund - 'rous  
 an - them rings. Through em - 'rald courts and sap - phire skies  
 their prais - es rise. All glo - ry, wis - dom, pow'r,  
 strength, thanks, and hon - or are to God our King who  
 reigns on high for - ev - er - more.

Tune: THERE IS A HIGHER THRONE (12 12 12 12 and Refrain)  
 Text, Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974 and Kristyn Getty, b. 1980 © 2003 Thankyou Music; admin, EMI CMG Publishing.  
 International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #3240029. All rights reserved.

*Refrain*

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my bod - y  
giv - en up for you. Take and drink, take and drink,  
this is my blood giv - en up for you. *Last time*

*Verses*

1 I am the Word that spoke and light was made;  
2 I am the way that leads the ex - ile home;  
3 I am the Lamb that takes a - way your sin;  
4 I am the cor - ner - stone that God has laid;  
5 I am the Light that came in - to the world;  
6 I am the First and Last, the liv - ing One;

I am the seed that died to be re - born;  
I am the truth that sets the cap - tive free;  
I am the gate that guards you night and day.  
A chos - en stone and pre - cious in his eyes.  
I am the Light that dark - ness can - not hide;  
I am the Lord who died that you might live;

I am the bread that comes from heav'n a - bove;  
I am the life that rais - es up the dead;  
You are my flock: you know the Shep - herd's voice;  
You are God's dwell - ing place; on me you rest.  
I am the Morn - ing Star that nev - er sets.  
I am the Bride - groom, this my wed - ding song. *To Refrain*

I am the vine that fills your cup with joy.  
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.  
You are my own; your ran - som is my blood.  
Like liv - ing stones, a tem - ple for God's praise.  
Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.  
You are my bride; come to the mar - riage feast.

Text (refrain): Michael Joncas, b. 1951 © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Text (verses): James Quinn, S. J., b. 1919 © James Quinn, S. J., Selah Publishing Co., Inc. North American agent.  
www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Tune: TAKE AND EAT (10 10 10 10 and Refrain) Michael Joncas, b. 1951 © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org)