

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. 2 Peter 3:13.

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**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 19, 2019**

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Ruth Greening, Suzannah Miller, Lisa Sprengeler, organists

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 145 (pew bible, p.557)
- ◆ The Hymns: 904, 857, 474:1-4, 474:5
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Acts 13:44-52, John 13:31-35

Sermon Text – Revelation 21:1-8

A BRIGHT FUTURE AWAITS YOU IN THE RISEN CHRIST!

1. Life in a beautiful city.
2. Intimate fellowship with God.
3. Paradise that will never be lost.

- ◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
- ◆ Prayers & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (474, stanza 5)

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

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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Acts 13:44-52

On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and talked abusively against what Paul was saying. Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For this is what the Lord has commanded us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. But the Jews incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Easter Acclamation

P The Lord is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord:

C And all the families of the nations shall bow before Him.

P "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," says the Lord.

C "No one comes to the Father except through Me."

P Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more.

C God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

P "I am the Vine, you are the branches," says the Lord. "Those who abide in Me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from Me you can do nothing."

C "This is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us."

P "By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

C "I go to prepare a place for you," says the Lord.

P "I will come again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

C The Lord is risen indeed!

Second Lesson – John 13:31-35

When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Sermon Text – Revelation 21:1-8

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (5/19)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
	10:45 am	Sunday School* (Mary and Martha, NT 26)
Tues-Thurs		West-Central Delegate Conf, Rapid City SD
Sun (5/26)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Bible Class

**Last day of school for the academic year*

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- CLC General Pastoral Conference, Eau Claire WI: June 18-20
- Worship service in observance of Pastor John Klatt's retirement: Sunday, June 30, 4 pm, at Prince of Peace Lutheran, Loveland

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE DURING MAY

- Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- Elder: Mike Sprengeler
- Communion Assistant: Ed Chiappetti

IN OUR PRAYERS: Carrol Rankin, who is recuperating from a surgical procedure to correct an irregular heartbeat. *"I lift up my eyes to the hills— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2).*

THE WEST-CENTRAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE is this week Tuesday through Thursday, hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran, Rapid City SD. Pastor Schuetze plans to attend. We're still in need of lay delegates to represent our congregation at this conference. It's not too late to volunteer, if you're available to serve. *(See page 45 for the agenda.)*

UPDATED "CLC MISSION OPPORTUNITIES PRAYER LIST": On the shelf in the church entry.

"THE 2019 ARISE AND SHINE RETREAT is approaching quickly! Our theme for this year is "Confidence!" In this post-truth age that we live in, so many have a hard time knowing what to believe. The Lord does not want us to have uncertainty but rather calls us to be confident in Him and His Word. Presenting this year are Pastor Sam Rodebaugh, Aaron and Shannon Gullerud, Jeremy and Beth Gurgel, Drew Naumann, and Pastor Neal Radichel. If you are in your 20's or 30's and are looking for a relaxing getaway weekend of fun and fellowship, consider signing up for this retreat. The cost is \$140 per adult and \$100 per child. The retreat will be held June 13-16 in Pillager, MN. Be sure to sign up by May 31, and you will receive a retreat t-shirt. For more information, visit our website: <http://ariseandshineretreat.com>. (Pastor Sam Rodebaugh)"

WEST-CENTRAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, RAPID CITY SD
TUESDAY-THURSDAY, MAY 21-23

Agenda

- 1) "Identifying and Counteracting the Growing Obsession with Phones, Etc" (Prince of Peace, Loveland, Lay Delegate)
- 2) "Communicating to Our Congregations that They are Part of a Larger Christian (Synodical) Fellowship" (St. Paul, Bismarck ND, Lay Delegate)
- 3) "In the World but Not of the World – Dealing with Coarseness of Popular Culture" (Gift of God, Mapleton ND, Lay Delegate)
- 4) "Encouraging Laymen to Take a More Active Role in the Spiritual Leadership of Their Congregations (Trinity, Watertown SD, Lay Delegate)
- 5) "False Teachers vs. Weak Brother: Mutually Exclusive Categories or Separate Doctrines?" (Pastor Timothy Daub)
- 6) "Devotional Study: Shining the Gospel's Light on the Deep Darkness in the Hearts of Those Feeling a Loved-One's Sudden Death" (Pastor Aaron Ude)
- 7) "'Church Growth Movement': What is it? How is it contrary to Scripture? How does it manifest in a visible fellowship?" (Pastor Chad Seybt)
- 8) "How Do We Show Humility and Love While Presenting the Law to Unbelievers? Does Our Attitude Hinder Others from Hearing the Word?" (Pastor Del Maas)
- 9) "Devotional Study of a Minor Prophet" (Pastor James Naumann)
- 10) "A Study of the Worth and God-Pleasing Ways to Actively and Regularly Engage the Youth in Worship Services" (Pastor Paul Nolting)

Conference Chaplain: Pastor Mark Weis
Communion Service Speaker: Pastor John Klatt

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"The Branches" is a CLC Christian Women's magazine which is published quarterly. Subscriptions are available for the 2019-2020 subscription year (July through June). The Branches staff prays that, through this publication, we serve:

- to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study
- to edify you in your daily walk with Christ
- to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts
- to celebrate and reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters, near and far

Consider a subscription for yourself and/or gift subscriptions for women in your life! The cost is \$15/year for 4 issues. Checks are payable to, "The Branches," and should be sent to: Laura Wales, Subscription Manager, 8727 Forestview Lane North, Maple Grove, MN 55369. Online payments are also available via PayPal - you may contact Laura Wales at lewales@gmail.com.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS — MAY 20-25

(readings from Paul's letters to Titus and Philemon)

Mon Titus, when I say by “*according to the faith*,” I mean in agreement with the fact that God had committed Himself to save sinners before He created time and space. Imagine that! When His celestial time clock arrived at the proper moment, He publicized His program to humanity and selected me to introduce lost souls to *God our Savior*. He has selected you to do likewise.

Tues 1:4-16 Titus, you should appoint clergy who were qualified by stellar conduct at home and in society, with untarnished reputations as stewards of God's business, and orthodox in their theology. It's not an easy task in the face of heavy opposition, and don't let false teachers have their way.

Wed Ch. 2 Titus, set high standards for older members in the congregation as well as for younger members. You will be on trial, too, so watch yourself! Being free from Satan's dominance does not mean you are free from societal responsibilities, but it does mean being more like Christ. Jesus has prepared us to be His own special people, eager to do good works in His service.

Thurs Ch. 3:1-8 Titus, some things deserve repetition: the way we treat others reflects on God; other folks need God's love, just as we needed God's love when we were worldly. God wants sinners to know His facts of life: *According to His mercy He saved us, justified us by His grace, making us heirs of eternal life*. Repeat it, then go over the same ground again, and review.

Fri Ch. 3:9-15 Titus, when Christians argue about religion, that may do some good, but that's also the way Satan sows division within the fellowship. Destructive error is hidden in shabby theology. If a person stays warped after you have corrected him, don't hobnob with him; he's his own worst enemy.

Sat Philemon, I am sending this written appeal to you to be generous and forgiving to Onesimus, whom the Spirit converted during my incarceration. Onesimus definitely wronged you, for when a slave runs away/escapes from his master, he is not only acting illegally, he is also cheating. However, I am appealing to you as a man well-known for his faith-life and his good work in the church fellowship. Now then, here's the point: It will please me, an *old man, a prisoner of Jesus Christ*, if you receive Onesimus back into your household without punishing him. I am sending him back to you because he is a convert, and I expect that you will *receive him as you would receive me, as a beloved brother*. Yes, dear brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord. I have such confidence in our Christian friendship and your compliance that I am adding another request: please *prepare a guest room for me*, because when God gets me out of jail, I intend to visit you. Until we meet again, God be with you. Amen.