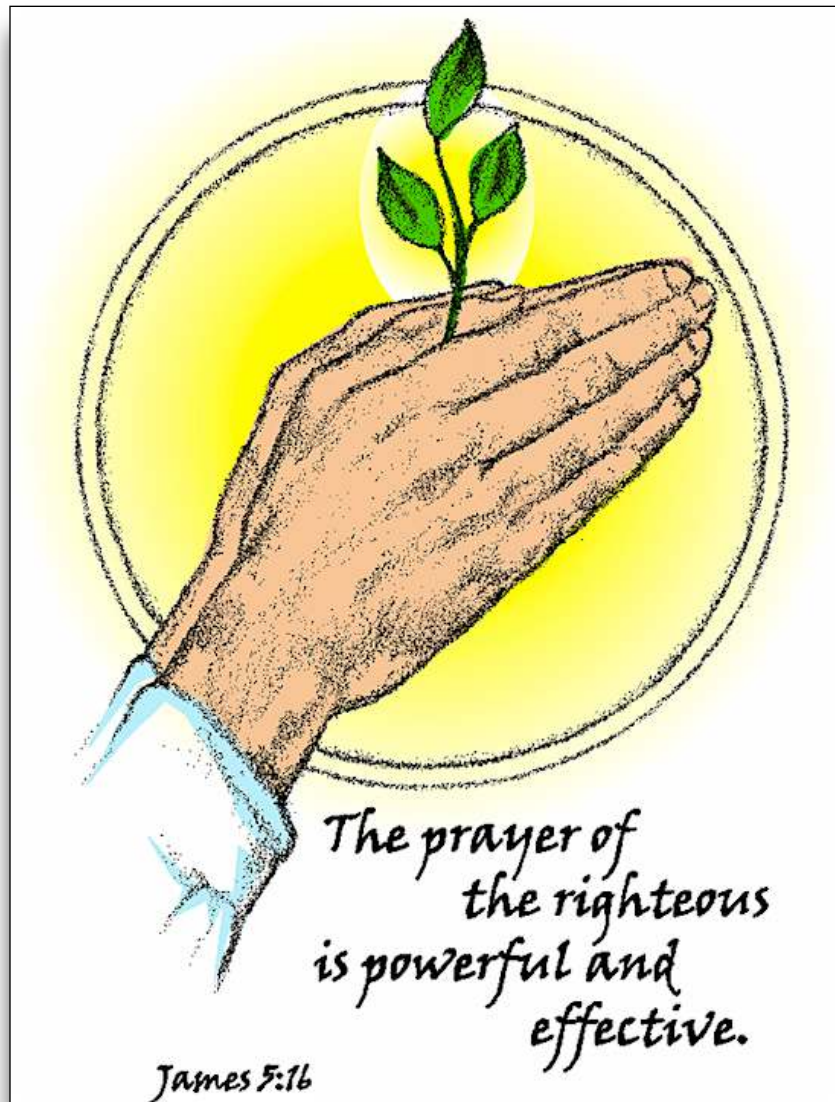


# **ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



*The prayer of  
the righteous  
is powerful and  
effective.*

*James 5:16*

**10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 18, 2019**

# **ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214*

*(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com*

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Ruth Greening, Jeanna Kettner, 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 6 (pew bible, p.482)
- ◆ The Hymns: 904, 779, 770, 606
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Colossians 2:6-15, Luke 11:1-13
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 34

### **Sermon Text – Genesis 18:20-32**

#### ***"HOW TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH GOD"***

*(a CLC Ministry-by-Mail sermon)*

- ◆ Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (606)

† † †

**A SPECIAL WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS.** The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are happy that you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word, the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Holy Scriptures. It gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again!

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

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

### First Lesson – Colossians 2:6-15

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. 8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. 9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

### Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 34

P Taste and see that the LORD is good;

**C Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.**

P The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous

**C And his ears are attentive to their cry;**

P The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him:

**C And he delivers them.**

P The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;

**C He delivers them from all their troubles.**

P The LORD is close to the brokenhearted

**C And saves those who are crushed in spirit.**

P The LORD redeems his servants;

**C No one will be condemned who takes refuge in him.**

### Second Lesson – Luke 11:1-13

1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." 2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 3 Give us day by day our daily bread. 4 And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." 5 And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7 and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my

children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you? 8 I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. 9 "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" [NKJV]

### **Sermon Text – Genesis 18:20-32**

20 Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous 21 that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know." 22 The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD. 23 Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? 25 Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" 26 The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." 27 Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, 28 what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it." 29 Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it." 30 Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?" He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." 31 Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?" He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it." 32 Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (8/18)      9:30 am    Worship Service  
Sun (8/25)        8:30 am    Elders' Meeting  
                      9:30 am    Worship Service

### EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Installation of SS teachers/support staff: Sunday, Sept. 8
- SS & Adult Bible Study resume: Sunday, Sept.8, 10:45 am
- Sunday School picnic at the parsonage: Sunday, Sept.8, noon
- Fall Mission Festival: Sunday, Sept.29, 3 pm (guest speaker, Pastor Matthew Ude); mission presentation 4 pm; meal: 5 pm

### SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE DURING AUGUST

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

**PASTOR SCHUETZE IS CONDUCTING THE SERVICE** today at Prince of Peace Lutheran in Loveland, where he is serving as vacancy pastor. Our thanks to Wayne Ruegge for conducting the service at St. Paul.

**CHOIR PRACTICES** are planned for the following Sundays in September, in preparation for our Fall Mission Festival on September 29: September 1,8,22,29. Practice time: 8:30 am.

**CALL NEWS:** Ted Barthels returned the call to serve as pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran in Loveland. ++ In addition to the Loveland vacancy, pastoral vacancies currently exist at Bethel Lutheran, Morris, MN; St. Paul Lutheran, Ponsford, MN; and Zion Lutheran, Ipswich & Redeemer Lutheran, Bowdle, SD (dual parish).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER & SUPPORT STAFF CALL UPDATE:** Ed Chiappetti, Sharlene Chiappetti, Wayne Ruegge, and Mike Sprengeler accepted their calls to serve as classroom instructors. Jo Blakey accepted the call to serve as a teacher substitute. Suzannah Miller accepted the call to serve as music teacher. Julie Whitmer-Wright accepted the call to serve as the cradle role secretary for the *Feeding His Lambs* program. We thank the Lord for providing us again with teachers and support staff for our school in the coming year.

**FROM THE KINSHIP COMMITTEE:** "Young People in Need: As overseas mission opportunities continue to grow, so does the need for U.S. sponsors. Can you help? The Project Kinship Committee is seeking sponsors for a group called 'Myanmar Children's Assistance' as well as seminary students at the new Wartburg Theological Seminary of Tanzania. Please contact Dan Roehl (507-381-2042 or danroehl@hotmail.com) for more info regarding these sponsorships."

**CHURCH DIRECTORY ADDITION:** Carly Meyer, 4500 S. Monaco St. #1125, Denver, CO 80237. Phone: (715) 379-8710. Carly recently moved to the Denver area from Wisconsin. She is working as a teacher in Aurora. We welcome her into our midst at St. Paul!

**NEW DEVOTION BOOK AVAILABLE:** A sequel to Pastor Emeritus Daniel Fleischer's work *Standing on the Wall* has been prepared and is in the final stage of review. It is titled *Christ – No Other Foundation*. The book has 373 pages. It touches on a variety of Scriptural teachings and studies, and also includes some poetry. He hopes to be able to release it by Reformation time in October. The projected cost is \$15. If you are interested in ordering a copy, please sign the sheet posted on the bulletin board. Note: An examination copy of Pastor Fleischer's first book, *Standing on the Wall*, is on the shelf by the tract rack.

### **SYNOD NEWS**

*(from President Michael Eichstadt's August pastoral letter to CLC clergy)*

- Due to his duties as visitor for the South-Eastern Conference of the CLC and other responsibilities, Pastor Matthew Hanel has resigned from the ILC Board of Regents. Teacher Matthew Thurow has been appointed by the president to complete his term.
- After 24 years, much of that time without a full-time shepherd, Rock of Ages, Grand Rapids, MI is dissolving due to its small membership and inability to fulfill Michigan's requirements for incorporation. While it is certainly a disappointment to the remaining members, the group has a very positive, scriptural outlook. One member wrote: "...But it is also with thanksgiving that we have been able to fellowship with like-minded believers. It is my prayer that the Lord will continue to guide us as we begin a new chapter in our walk with Him." Remember these brothers and sisters in your prayers.
- Present Eichstadt has asked Vice President Mark Bernthal to chair a task force to discuss ways to address the shortage of pastors and teachers in the CLC. The group recently met and is working on a number of projects, including a proposal for a synod-wide Public Ministry Sunday. The committee will meet again later this month.
- On Friday, August 9, the inter-synod committee of representatives from the CLC, ELS, and WELS met at the WELS headquarters in Waukesha, WI. The pastoral conference recommendation to the 2020 CLC Convention, recently forwarded to the ELS/WELS representatives, was one of the topics discussed at the meeting. More information on this meeting to be shared soon.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

### AUGUST 19-24

**Mon Joshua 4** One memorial was planted in the river bed, and another at Gilgal. Why two? Because we need reminders of God's mercies—both when we are traveling and also when we arrive at a stopover. Not to be overlooked are the role of the priests—to be bearers of God's Ark (16), and the fathers' privilege to explain things to their children (6, 22), so that *all people of the Earth may recognize God's hand* at work for His people. Same for us today.

**Tues Luke 5:17-26** We stand or fall on one decisive factor: Is Jesus God, with power on Earth to forgive our sins? Well, if it worked when Jesus said, "Rise up and walk," it would work when He said, "Your sins are forgiven you." Jesus made healing work for the lame man, so He makes forgiveness of sins work too. God is good at doing miracles—especially the one of healing our souls.

**Wed 1 Corinthians 10:29-11:1** It's our job to keep others out of harm's way, so we keep an eye on how our activities impact on others. We won't serve pork to those who are conscience-bound to avoid pork, and we won't serve liquor when a recovering alcoholic is a guest. Why not? Because we love them enough to put limits on our preferences. They are worth it.

**Thurs 1 Samuel 8** That small defect on a ripening tomato will spoil the whole fruit in a few days. It happens with souls, too, and Samuel should have seen it coming in his own family; his sons had turned rotten, and the proposal of the elders stank, too (5-8). Replacing God with a king would produce civil stresses (11-18) which they could have spared themselves. (But who listens?)

**Fri John 6:52-59** The puzzlement is removed when we understand that "eating His flesh" and "drinking His blood" is picture language for appropriating Him in faith, absorbing Him in heart and soul, inwardly digesting Him and His Word do that He enters our soul's marrow; our soul's DNA gets rearranged and regenerated when we eat and drink Jesus in this fashion. Thereby God grants us Life forever after. Hallelujah to Jesus!

**Sat Colossians 1:21-29** God looked at the human race and saw rebels; He saw that we were rebellious by nature, descendants of Adam and Eve, who chose to leave God in the lurch. What could God do about it? He decided to set things straight—not by punishing the guilty, but by transferring the punishment onto Someone who could bear it successfully, without failing. God would be gracious to the rebels, even at great cost to Himself. What cost? *The body of Jesus' flesh through death.* What benefit? To present you *holy and blameless and irreproachable in His sight.* Now, then, since the Judge of heaven and Earth has declared you free and clear, don't let yourself get shifted away from your legal status with God. Lord, have mercy upon us!