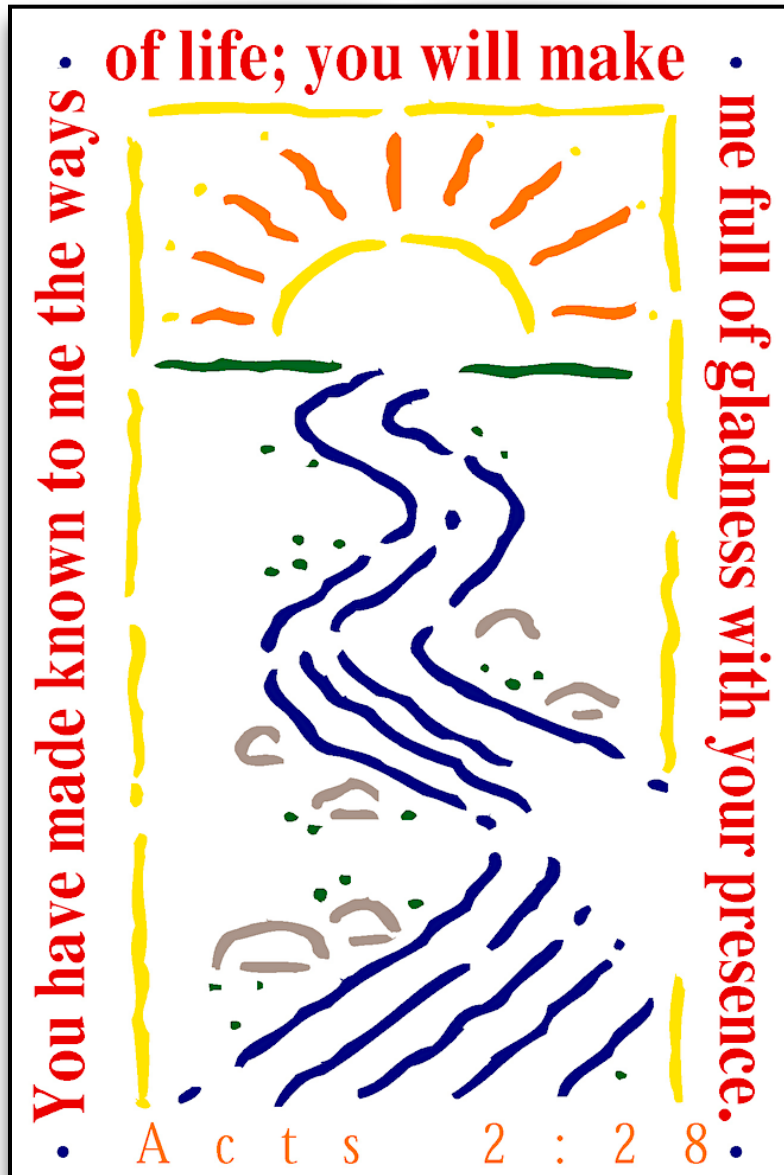


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORAD



THIRD SUNDAY OF END TIME – SAINTS TRIUMPHANT
NOVEMBER 15, 2020

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 84 (pew bible, p. 526)
- ◆ The Hymns: 527, 677 (1-3,7-8), 673, 921
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 52:1-6; Matthew 25:1-13
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 112

Sermon Text – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER WITH THESE WORDS!

1. The sleeping saints are resting with Jesus.
2. He'll raise them to life on the Last Day.
3. All saints – sleeping & living – will live with Jesus in perpetual joy.

- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (921)

† † †

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

*You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.
There will be no offering collection during the service.*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Isaiah 52:1-6

1 Awake, awake, O Zion, clothe yourself with strength. Put on your garments of splendor, O Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. 2 Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, O Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, O captive Daughter of Zion. 3 For this is what the LORD says: “You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed.” 4 For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: “At first my people went down to Egypt to live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them. 5 “And now what do I have here?” declares the LORD. “For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock,” declares the LORD. “And all day long my name is constantly blasphemed. 6 Therefore my people will know my name; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I.”

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 112

P Praise the LORD. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD:
C Who finds great delight in his commands.
P His children will be mighty in the land:
C The generation of the upright will be blessed.
P Even in darkness light dawns for the upright:
C For the gracious and compassionate and righteous man.
P Surely he will never be shaken:
C A righteous man will be remembered forever.
P He will have no fear of bad news:
C His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
P His heart is secure, he will have no fear:
C In the end he will look in triumph on his foes.

Second Lesson – Matthew 25:1-13

1 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ 7 “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ 9 “‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 “Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’ 12 “But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’ 13 “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Sermon Text – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. 14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage each other with these words.

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A WARM WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS worshiping with us this morning! The members of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church consider it an honor and privilege to share with you the words of eternal life in Jesus Christ, the world's only Savior. Please sign the guest register in the front entry and come worship with us again!

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

- ◆ Organist: Ruth Greening
- ◆ Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Joshua Ruegge
- ◆ Elder: Ed Chiappetti

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today (11/15)	8:30 am	Elders' Meeting (<i>rescheduled from Nov.8</i>)
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Zechariah, NT 1)
	10:45 am	Bible Class
Sun (11/22)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School (The Annunciation, NT 2)
	10:45 am	Bible Class

THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP: Thursday, Nov.26, 9:30 am

IN OUR PRAYERS: John Tiefel, brother of Doug Tiefel, who is currently living at a nursing facility in Olympia, Washington. He tested positive for Covid about a week ago. Recent reports are that John is doing well but still being monitored for Covid. May the Great Physician of Souls continue to sustain and keep him spiritually as well as physically. Remember him in your prayers.

From President Eichstadt's November 1 Letter to CLC Clergy: *"This past week the Lord, according to His gracious will, received the soul of Jyothi Benjamin's mother to Himself in the glory of heaven. We thank the Lord for preserving her and all the saints who have preceded her in the one true faith. 'These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb' (Rev. 8:14)." Jyothi is a spiritual leader of our overseas sister synod, the Church of the Lutheran Confession of India (CLCI).*

A THANKSGIVING DISPLAY has been placed on the altar again this year as a way of calling to our minds the many blessings God has showered on us through the year. You are invited to add to the display by writing down on a slip of paper a blessing for which you are thankful and placing it on the altar. You may enumerate as many blessings as you wish. Paper and pens for this purpose are on the shelf by the tract rack.



*When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings; name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.*

*Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings; every doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by.*

*When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings; money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven nor your home on high.*

*Count your blessings; name them one by one.
Count your blessings; see what God has done.
Count your blessings; name them one by one.
Count your many blessings; see what God has done.*



SYNOD NEWS: Chad Seybt will be installed as pastor of the tri-parish of Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska, Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild, and Trinity Lutheran, Millston, Wisconsin, in worship services to be held at the respective parishes the weekend of December 5-6. <> Last Monday the Board of Doctrine met via Zoom with Terry Stringer for the first stage of the CLC colloquy procedure. The interview went well and upon the board's recommendation, President Eichstadt has declared Terry eligible for a call to serve as a vacancy pastor with the understanding that during this time he would be under the mentorship of a nearby pastor. The board has also recommended that Terry pursue some additional education at ILC or in another program developed by the CLC, if agreeable to the calling congregation. Another interview for the second stage of the colloquy process will be scheduled in the future.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

NOVEMBER 16-21

Mon Isaiah 52:1-6 The midnight hour is approaching us, too, when Jesus takes us home with Him, so *wake up, captives* of planet Earth! Since we have *sold ourselves cheaply*, Jesus sold Himself to compensate (3). When it seems we are as bad off with our pandemic as Jews were with their exile, remember that God and is on top of our predicaments. Come quickly, Lord Jesus, before Your saints lose their/our grip on Your grace and mercy! Amen.

Tues Matthew 25:1-13 It was a bride's waiting game (When would her man arrive and take her to his home?), so her friends stayed up all night to keep her company. The point Jesus is making: be prepared to burn midnight oil if you want to share in the festivities (10). The girls who had a second, reserve jar of oil were the smart ones (4). Now, what does the oil represent? Probably saving faith that equips God's saints for the long haul.

Wed 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Interested in how Judgment Day plays out? First, Jesus descends from heaven; then He awakens the dead from their sleep; then the newly awakened/resurrected persons join up with the saints still alive, and the entire crowd levitates into the sky to meet Jesus and begin heavenly life with Him. That way, no saint comes in second-best (13-15).

Thurs Psalm 84 Everybody values home, for home is where the heart is. We are at home with God everywhere we worship Him (1-4); all else are just stop-overs (5-7). O Lord, please work things out so that we may assemble again and join in corporate worship! Better yet, abide with us all the days of our pilgrimage and hasten Your return to all waiting saints. Thank You.

Fri Luke 20:27-40 Marriage is good for humanity because the next generation starts with babies born to husband and wife (27-34). Now then, since nobody in heaven gets old and nobody dies, there's no need for procreation via marriage (34-36). Back at square one: heaven is not a graveyard, but the home of saints alive and functional (37-38). Case closed.

Sat Acts 18:24-28 Apollos (now among the saints in heaven) was not only well educated and *eloquent* (Alexandria in Egypt was his home town, a city renowned for its library and universities), he was also *educated and eloquent* with God's Word (24-25). Nonetheless, the most learned person can learn from others (26) so that the Holy Spirit can use His saints to prove *from the Scriptures that Jesus of Nazareth is the Chosen One* (27-28). Bottom line: God interacts with mortals via His Word, both Old and New Testaments, and we are His spokespersons. He who has ears, let him hear what Jesus has done to sin and hell—to redeem sinners and take His saints home to heaven. Amen!