

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 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 121 (pew bible, p.549)
- ◆ The Hymns: 802, 553, 809, 783
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Jeremiah 15:15-21, Matthew 16:21-26
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 130

Sermon Text – Romans 12:1-8

THE MERCY OF GOD MOTIVATES HIS PEOPLE

1. It inspires us to offer our bodies to Him as living sacrifices.
2. It leads us to use our talents for the blessing of others.

- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Installation of the Sunday School Staff
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (783)

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*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 in the foyer. There
will be no offering collection during the service.*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Jeremiah 15:15-21

15 You understand, O LORD; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering—do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. 16 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty. 17 I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation. 18 Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? Will you be to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails? 19 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them. 20 I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you," declares the LORD. 21 "I will save you from the hands of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the cruel."

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 130

P Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD:
C O Lord, hear my voice.
P Let your ears be attentive:
C To my cry for mercy.
P If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins:
C O Lord, who could stand?
P But with you there is forgiveness:
C Therefore you are feared.
P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope:
C My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning.
P O Israel, put your hope in the LORD:
C For with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

Second Lesson – Matthew 16:21-26

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after

me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Sermon Text – Romans 12:1-8

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is —his good, pleasing and perfect will. 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

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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: Lisa Sprengeler
- ◆ Ushers: Larry Reed, Bob Rankin
- ◆ Elder: Mike Sprengeler

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today (9/13)	9:30 am	Worship Service with installation of Sunday School staff
	10:45 am	Sunday School (Elijah and Elisha, OT 13)
	10:45 am	Adult Bible Class
	12:00 noon	Pizza & Salad Lunch
Sun (9/20)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- ◆ Church Council Meeting: Sunday, October 4, 8:30 am
- ◆ Mary/Martha Ladies' Meeting: Sunday, October 11, 10:45 am
- ◆ Church Movie Night: Friday, October 16, 7:00 pm
- ◆ Quarterly Voters' Meeting: Sunday, October 18, 10:45 am
- ◆ Front Range Reformation Festival Service: Sunday, November 1, 3:30 pm (hosted by Redeemer, Cheyenne)

St. Paul Sunday School Staff (2020-2021 School Year)

- Classroom Instructors: Ed Chiappetti, Sharlene Chiappetti, Carly Meyer, Wayne Ruegge, Mike Sprengeler
- Substitute: Jo Ellen Blakey
- Music Teacher: Lisa Sprengeler
- *Feeding His Lambs* Cradle Roll Secretary: Julie Whitmer-Wright

A Prayer for Our Sunday School Teachers & Children

Lord Jesus, bless the start of this new school year. Bless the students and the teachers. As You sat at the feet of teachers in the temple when You were a 12-year old, so may our children sit at the feet of their teachers and grow in wisdom and love. Let Your Word be a lamp to their feet and a light for their path now and for the rest of their lives. Amen.

CALL DECISION: I have been led to return the call to Bethel Lutheran of Morris, MN. Here is letter that I shared yesterday morning with the parishioners of Bethel congregation:

Dear members of Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church,

After several weeks of prayerful deliberation on the divine call you extended to me to serve as your pastor I have been led to the conviction that it is God's will for me to return your call and that I continue to serve Him in my present capacity as the pastor of St. Paul, Lakewood.

The spiritual needs of the flock of Christ in Morris are also very important to Him. I pray that the Holy Spirit may bless you with continued patience until you discover, through the calling process, which man the Lord has already chosen to be your next pastor, who will proclaim His life-giving Word in your midst and lead you in His Good Shepherd paths.

May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

*Sincerely,
Pastor Thomas Schuetze*

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SYNOD NEWS: Visiting Missionary Todd Ohlmann has been called to serve as the pastor of Living Savior Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has accepted the vacancy call to the tri-parish of Morning Star, Fairchild / Trinity, Millston / Peace With God, Onalaska, WI.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
SEPTEMBER 14-19

Mon 1 Kings 17:17-24 God blessed Elijah and the widow with His limitless resources. That didn't seem to jibe with her son's illness and death, so the mother wanted to know if she was being penalized for former sins. Because the boy's future was more important than her past, Elijah interceded with God, and God restored the boy to his mother, thereby validating her faith. It's a success story all around: giving&receiving forms a golden circle.

Tues John 11:1-4, 20-27, 38-44 The key thought is that sickness and death are not ends in themselves, but mechanisms whereby God is glorified. When we are suffering from illness or death of a loved one, we latch onto Jesus, who is powerful enough to overcome death and loving enough to do so for His friends (24-27). Jesus brought everything full circle, which glorified His Father. Those who hid in the shadows missed great opportunity (45-57).

Wed Romans 12:1-8 What does God receive from us in return for His love? He receives our reasonable service—that we present our bodies as a living (not a butchered) sacrifice, dedicated to Him (1-3). Serving God percolates into serving others (4-5), as each of us stretches our talents, gifts, resources, and skills to make life better for others (6-8). Not too much to ask or give.

Thurs Psalm 121 is entitled A Song of Ascents because pilgrims sang it when they were walking uphill to Jerusalem. They sang it en route to God's House, depending on God to watch over them day and night as they traversed rough terrain and passed hidden dangers. When the words switch from my help to your keeper, we are drawn into the holy circle of the LORD's blessings.

Fri Matthew 16:21-26 Though he was a child of God, Peter was making a big mistake when he objected to God's way of doing His business (21-22), so Jesus set him straight (23). God's way of doing things for the salvation of sinners like us (24-25) stands in contrast to the way humans try to get into heaven or crave becoming important in God's Kingdom. Salvation cost God a lot, and it may cost us a lot to hang onto our salvation, too (26).

Sat 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Our parents, teachers, and pastors have delivered the facts to us (over and over again) – that Jesus finished off everything God promised (according to the Scriptures) to the world of sinners (3-4). No doubt about these facts for Peter, for the select twelve, for over 500 brethren all at once, for James, for the entire set of apostles, and for Paul himself (5-8), an unfit person if there ever was one (8-10). What does all this mean? It means that God compensates for the total failure of humanity and for the specific failures of individuals, too. We depend on it (1-2,11). Amen and Hallelujah!