

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

Create in me
a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit
within me.

Psalm 51:10



**15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

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 51 (pew bible, p.507)
- ◆ The Hymns: 700, 663, 618, 700 (4)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,5-8; Ephesians 6:10-20
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 119
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Spiritual Cleanliness and Uncleanliness

1. Uncleanliness doesn't come from having unwashed hands.
2. It comes from evil thoughts and actions.
3. Spiritual cleanliness comes only through repentance and faith in Jesus.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction
- ◆ Closing Hymn (700, stanza 4)

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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Deuteronomy 4:1-2,5-8

1 Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. | 5 See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. 6 Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” 7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? 8 And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 119

P Oh, how I love your law!:
C I meditate on it all day long.
P I have more insight than all my teachers:
C For I meditate on your statutes.
P I have more understanding than the elders:
C For I obey your precepts.
P I have kept my feet from every evil path:
C So that I might obey your word.
P I have not departed from your laws:
C For you yourself have taught me.
P How sweet are your words to my taste:
C Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Second Lesson – Ephesians 6:10-20

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. 19 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Sermon Text – Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

1 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and 2 saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were “unclean,” that is, unwashed. 3 (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. 4 When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) 5 So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?” 6 He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 7 They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’ 8 You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.” | 14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. 15 Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him ‘unclean.’” | 21 For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. 23 All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

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A WARM WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS. The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are glad you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservations to the entire Truth of God’s Word, the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Scriptures. It is gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. We invite you to sign our guest book and to come and worship with us again!

Serving Us At God’s House Today

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler; Usher: Ed Chiappetti
Communion Usher: Mike Sprengeler

This Week at St. Paul

Today (9/5)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Tue-Thu		West-Central Pastoral Conf, Sioux Falls SD
Sun (9/12)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class

Extended Calendar

Church Council Meeting: Sunday, Oct.3, 8:30 am
Mary/Martha Ladies’ Meeting: Sunday, Oct.10, 10:45 am
Quarterly Voters’ Meeting: Sunday, Oct.17, 10:45 am
Fall Clean-Up Day: Saturday, Oct.23, 8:00 am to noon

SYNOD EVENTS

Chadron, Nebraska Womens's Retreat: Sept.17-19
Front Range Mission Festival Service hosted by Redeemer
Lutheran Church, Cheyenne: Sunday, Sept.25, 3:00 pm
Front Range Reformation Festival Service, hosted by Prince of
Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland: Sunday, Oct.31, 3:00 pm

Thanks to All who provided menu items for last Sunday's anniversary celebration service. Everything was great! Thanks to our team of ladies for their work on the photo displays and to Jo Blakey for serving as our anniversary service photographer. (Some of the shots will likely appear in an upcoming issue of the *Lutheran Spokesman*.)

September Birthday (Anniversary) Blessings To . . .

Ed Chiappetti, Sept 1	Courtney Wamboldt, Sept 24
Pastor Schuetze, Sept 9	(Don & Ruth Claeys, Sept 3)
Jacob Cornish, Sept 18	(Jim & Linda Wamboldt, Sept 9)
Joyce Maulis, Sept 19	

Calls News: Michael Sprengeler has received the calls to the dual parish of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Ipswich SD. ++ Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma WA, has received the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne WY. ++ Louise Mayhew has accepted the call to Grace Lutheran School, Valentine NE.

The West Central Pastoral Conference of the CLC will be held this week Tuesday through Thursday, hosted by Berea Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. Pastor Schuetze plans to attend. In an emergency you may reach him at this number (720-465-4809) or through one of the elders.

Conference Agenda

- Old Testament Exegesis (essayist's choice) - Pastor Tim Wheaton
- New Testament Exegesis (Romans 13:8ff.) - Pastor Del Maas
- A Review of Call Etiquette - Pastor Paul Krause
- Self Defense: Under What Circumstances Is It God-pleasing? - Pastor Jim Naumann
- Does Scripture Simply Allow for Capital Punishment or Does Scripture Advocate for/Demand It? - Pastor Cory Drehle
- Family Altars – Ways to Encourage Family Worship - Pastor Mike Roehl
- Under Our U.S. Constitution, How do Christians Determine When It Is Permissible to Disobey Those in Authority? - Pastor Aaron Ude
- Foundational Agreement: The 1867-1869 Wisconsin Synod Resolutions Leading to Fellowship with the Missouri Synod - Pastor Tim Daub
- 500th Anniversary – A Review of the History of the Diet of Worms - Pastor Paul Nolting
- Communion Service Speaker - Pastor Richard Kanzenbach
- Conference Chaplain - Pastor Tom Schuetze

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
SEPTEMBER 6-11

Mon Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8 If we are tempted to close our ears when God lays down the law, we should receive a jolt like this one—sharp and pointed. But why would anyone *add* to God’s Word? To create loopholes: “Yes, God’s Word is final—except in this case” or “God’s Word changes according to changing conditions.” [We can almost hear echoes of our founding fathers reciting vv. 6-8 to boost their self-assurance and garner international favor.]

Tues Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23 Self-righteous Jews figured that God had short-changed them, so they added the *traditions of the elders* on top of God’s Law. Washing hands is fine, but it does not wash away the filth of *evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders*, etc. So God does it His way: He cleans our hearts with repentance and faith in Jesus as our Substitute.

Wed Ephesians 6:10-20 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” is not a cliché but serious business. We strap on the bullet-proof vest Jesus has crafted for us (14), we buckle up our combat boots (15), and with God’s Word we deflect Satan’s oncoming missiles (16). Fight the good fight with all thy might; Christ is thy Strength and Christ thy Right!”

Thurs Psalm 119C Is it possible that a Christian loves God’s Law? Yes, for the child of God knows that his Father wants to protect him from harm, just as STOP and YIELD protect motorists from collisions. We appreciate *God’s Word, commandments, judgments, statutes, and testimonies* because that’s how God provides direction down our highway of life, to avoid potholes and steer clear of oncoming traffic. Thank You, Lord God, for Your holy Word!

Fri John 15:9-17 We love Him because He first loved us; we abide in God’s love as we are bonded to His Word/precepts, and loving one another reflects Jesus’ love—strong enough to sacrifice Himself for us. That’s how we face our sinfulness, and that’s how we will face God on Judgment Day.

Sat 2 Peter 3:10-13 Will we ever get to the point that we can bypass “And forgive us our trespasses”? No, not in this world; Jesus knew it, and we know it. That’s why this world with its sinfulness (and our share in this world) must be burned away—as metal is refined/purified by boiling away the dross (Psalm 119:119, Malachi 3:3). The world we live in is mortal, subject to decay and death, whereas God’s new world will be immortal, rising out of the ashes of fire and death. It will be a world where righteousness and holiness are totally at home and will preoccupy us (13). *According to His promise, we look for His new heavens and a new Earth in which righteousness dwells.* Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen!