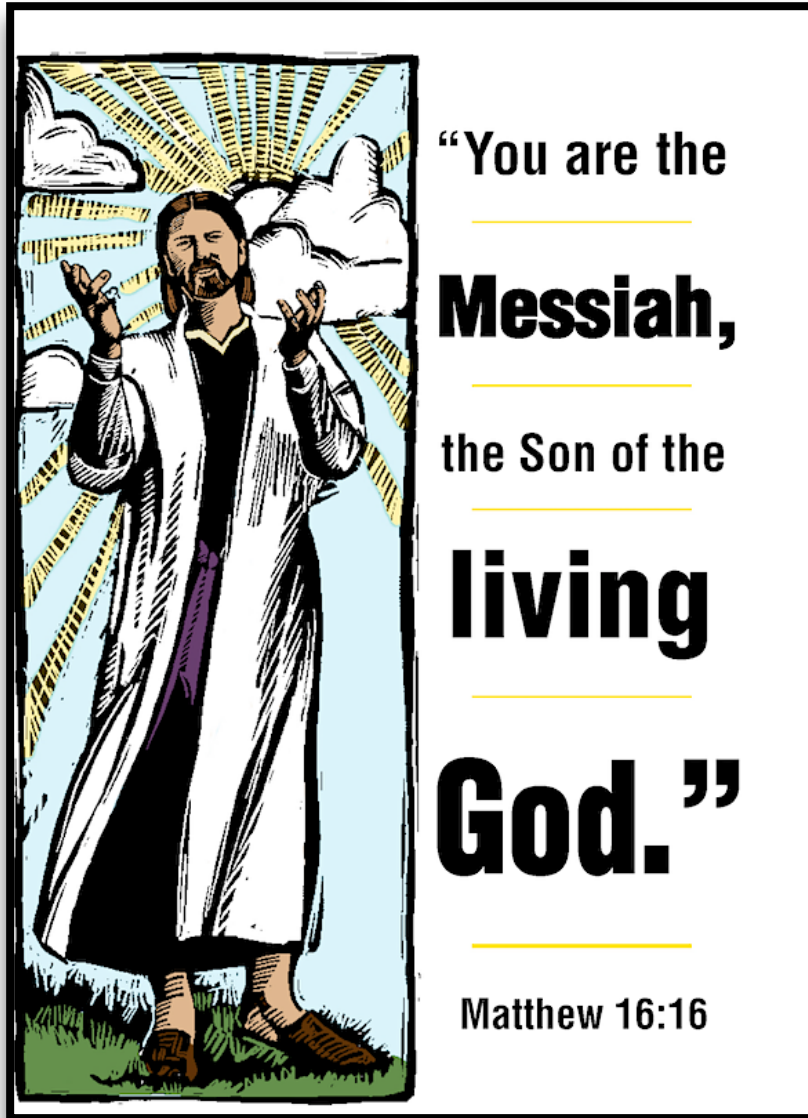


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF THE WORD

(printed on insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 27 (pew bible, p.493)
- ◆ The Hymns: 812, 852, 688, 718
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 50:4-10; James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 116
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (liturgy insert, p.15)

Sermon Text – Mark 8:27-35

Peter's Bold Declaration: "Jesus is the Christ"

1. The true identity of "the Christ."
2. What being "the Christ" meant for Jesus.
3. What following "the Christ" means for us.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Installation of the Sunday School Staff
- ◆ Benediction
- ◆ Closing Hymn (718)

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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Isaiah 50:4-10

4 The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. 5 The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. 6 I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. 7 Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. 8 He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! 9 It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up. 10 Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 116

P I love the LORD, for he heard my voice:
C He heard my cry for mercy.
P Because he turned his ear to me:
C I will call on him as long as I live.
P The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion:
C When I was in great need, he saved me.
P Be at rest once more, O my soul,
C For the LORD has been good to you.
P For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,
C My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,
P How can I repay the LORD
C For all his goodness to me?
P I will sacrifice a thank offering to you:
C And call on the name of the LORD.

Second Lesson – James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18

1 My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not

God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? | 8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. 9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. | 14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? 15 Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. 18 But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

Sermon Text – Mark 8:27-35

27 Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, “Who do people say I am?” 28 They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” 29 “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Christ.” 30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. 31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” 34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.

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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 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

This Week at St. Paul

Today (9/19)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
Sun (9/26)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
	3:00 pm	Front Range Mission Festival Service hosted by Redeemer, Cheyenne (<i>see note below</i>)

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

Upcoming Synod Events

- CLC Boards / Coordinating Council Meetings at Eau Claire WI: Sept.20-22
- Man-Up Men's Retreat at Wyalusing State Park, Prairie du Chien WI: Sept.30–Oct.3
- Pacific Coast Women's Retreat at Ponderosa Lodge, Cusick WA: Oct.22-24
- Front Range Reformation Festival Service, hosted by Prince of Peace Lutheran, Loveland: Sunday, Oct.31, 3:00 pm

Front Range Mission Festival Service: Next Sunday, September 26, hosted by Redeemer Lutheran, Cheyenne (service time, 3:00 pm). Pastor Del Maas of Mapleton ND will serve as the guest speaker. All are invited to attend this afternoon focused on our Lord's Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. If you plan to attend, you are asked to please bring either a dessert or salad for the after-service potluck. (No need to send food if you aren't planning to attend.) Also, if you are interested in singing in the choir there will be a rehearsal prior to the service at 2:30 pm.

THE BOARD OF DOCTRINE meets this week Monday and Tuesday on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire. Pastor Schuetze, as a member of this board, plans to attend (leaving today). He will return to Denver, God-willing, on Wednesday night. In an emergency you can reach him on his cell phone (720-465-4809) or through one of the elders.

Calls News: Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has accepted the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS
SEPTEMBER 20-25

Mon Isaiah 50:4-10 Jesus Messiah is speaking of Himself (in His human nature) as ready and willing to follow the grand plan of salvation—including being brutalized during His last hours as our suffering Savior (6-7). In spite of all this, He confidently affirms that He feels vindicated by His Father (8-9). Whoever among us reveres the LORD enough to submit to the voice/Word of Jesus is on the right track; let's keep it up (10)! God help us!

Tues Mark 8:27-35 Obviously, the right track starts at the feet of Jesus. Note the progression from what **others** see in Jesus—to what **you** see in Him (27-29). Do you/I see the necessity of Jesus suffering many things, being rejected, suffering under Pontius Pilate, being crucified, and rising again? Jesus, God's Messiah, proves Himself in our own heart before we go out to convince others (30) of His Self-sacrificial mission (31). Yes, self-sacrifice was necessary for Him (32-33), and it's the crux of our lives, too (34-35).

Wed James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18 Do we warmly welcome the shabby newcomer into our fellowship, while we fawn over the big wheel (1-5)? That may seem a small point, but it takes only a pinpoint to deflate a large balloon (8-10). In another analogy, faith-life is a divine flashlight, working to enlighten our path; however, if our faith/light isn't working/functioning, it's most likely due to a dead battery (14-18). [That seems to make sense.]

Thurs Psalm 116 *I love the LORD because . . .* places effect before cause (1-2)—which is not all that unusual. Next, the psalmist fills in the background of his needs satisfied by God's good-natured generosity (3-11), and then ends with the impact which God's mercy has produced in/on him (12-14). It's no wonder that his heart bubbles over with pleasure (16-19)!

Fri Mark 8:36-38 Jesus minced no words about earthly, affluent life and death/losing one's soul. What a balance sheet (36-37)! Note that He puts worldly things into the loss column/debit side of the ledger, while He says little about the credit side—but we know it holds the surplus of His precious blood. Let's not be embarrassed about God's book-keeping (38).

Sat James 2:19-26 deserves attention, for Jesus' brother is explaining that *faith* is both vertical (between us and God) and horizontal (between us and our neighbor). To illustrate, a *faith* that doesn't work is like a battery that's dead—and needs recharging (20). It makes sense that when the soul leaves the body, that body is dead—and a dead body on display in its casket may be a fine looking body, but it's still a corpse (26). Same with a *faith* that's dead; cosmetics may disguise the corpse, but it stinks, anyway. Amen.