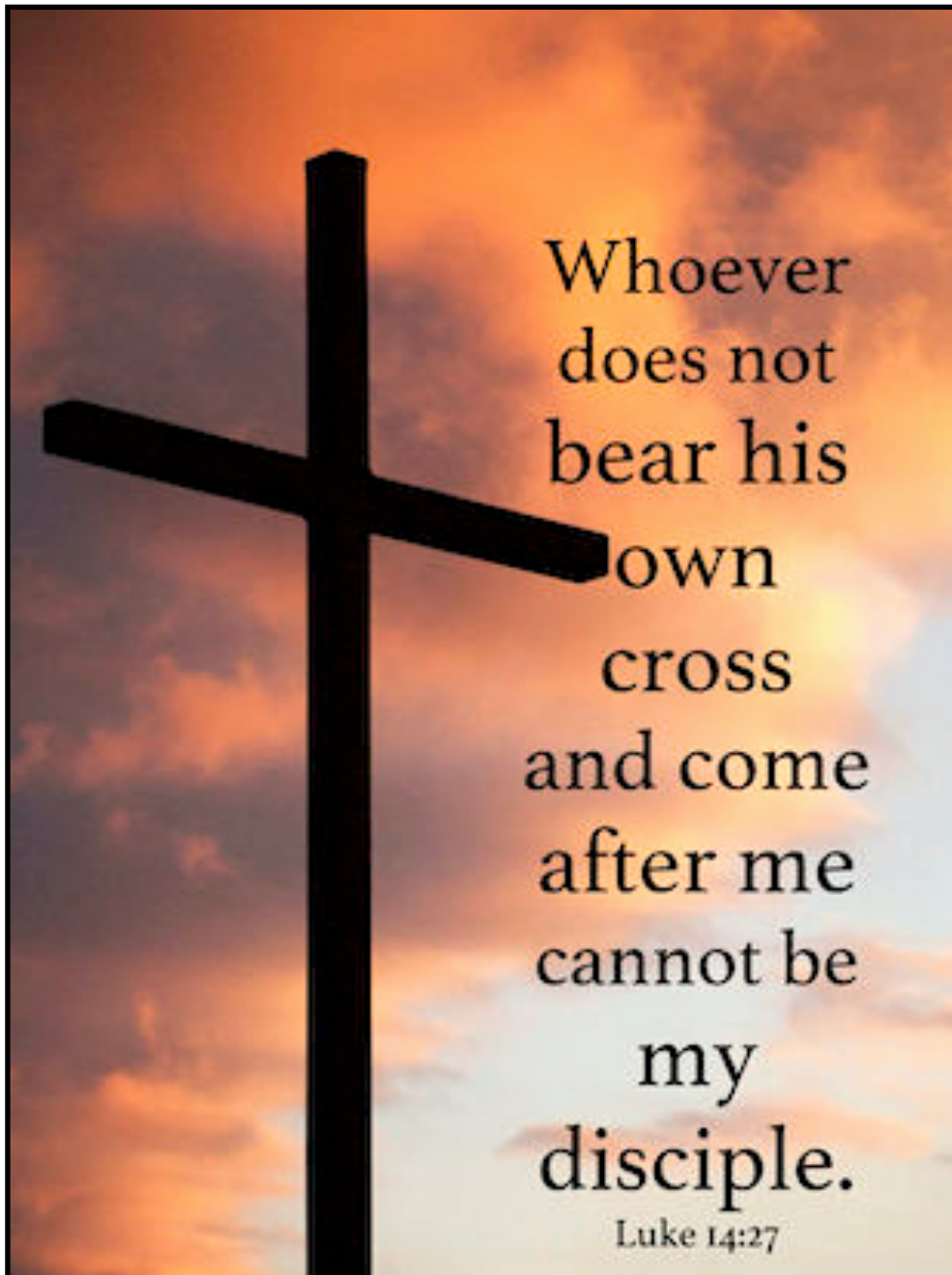


St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

– Church of the Lutheran Confession –
Lakewood, Colorado



16th Sunday after Pentecost – September 25, 2022

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)

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Suzannah Miller

Ushers: Don Claeys, Bob Rankin

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 119:57-64 (pew bible, p.546)
- ◆ The Hymns: 812, **454***, 685 (1-3), 685 (4) (***back page of bulletin**)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Proverbs 9:8-12; Philemon 1,10-21
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 111
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (*liturgy insert, p.15*)

Sermon Text – Luke 14:25-33

Look Before You Leap

1. Look at the difficulties of discipleship.
2. Look away from your own resources.
3. Look to Jesus for needed help.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction / Closing Hymn (685, stanza 4)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Proverbs 9:8-12

8 Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. 9 Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. 11 For through me your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. 12 If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.”

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 111

P I will extol the LORD with all my heart:

C In the council of the upright and in the assembly.

P Great are the works of the LORD:

C They are pondered by all who delight in them.

P Glorious and majestic are his deeds:

C And his righteousness endures forever.

P The works of his hands are faithful and just:

C All his precepts are trustworthy.

P They are steadfast for ever and ever:

C Done in faithfulness and uprightness.

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:

C All who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

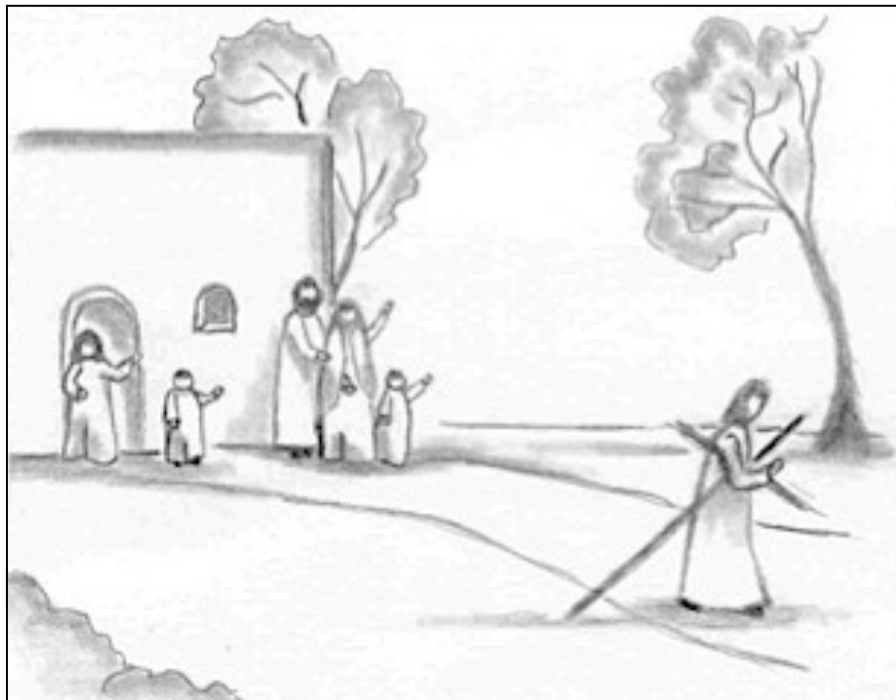
Second Lesson – Philemon 1,10-21

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker, | 10 I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. 11 Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. 12 I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. 13 I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. 14 But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do will be spontaneous and not forced. 15 Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for good— 16 no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord. 17 So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. 18 If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. 19 I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will

pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. 20 I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. 21 Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Sermon Text – Luke 14:25-33

25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: 26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. 27 And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. 28 Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? 29 For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, 30 saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ 31 Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. 33 In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”



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A Warm Welcome to Our Worship Guests!

It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come worship with us again.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (9/25)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Bible Class and Sunday School
Tue	6:30 pm	Elders' Meeting (parsonage)
Sun (10/2)	8:30 am	Church Council Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bible Class and Sunday School

Choir Practices are scheduled for the following Sundays in October (Oct.16,23,30 at 8:30 am). We will work on an anthem (to be sung with choir members of Prince of Peace, Loveland, and Redeemer, Cheyenne) for the Front Range Reformation Service on October 30th. The anthem's title is *O God, Our Lord, Thy Holy Word Was Long a Hidden Treasurer* (#266 in *The Lutheran Hymnal*).

Upcoming in October

- Church Council Meeting: Next Sunday, October 2, 8:30 am
- Mary/Martha Ladies' Meeting: Sunday, October 16, 10:45 am
- Fall Clean-Up Day: Saturday, October 22, 8 to noon
- Front Range Reformation Festival hosted by St. Paul: Sunday, October 30, 3:00 pm, with meal following

Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors' Day is coming up on Friday, November 11th on the ILC campus in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Activities will begin with chapel at 10:05 A.M. in the Field House, followed by presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 p.m. Come and learn more about your church's college, and consider continuing your education in a solidly Christian setting! Visitors will be our guests for lunch and supper in the cafeteria, and in the evening are invited to join us for ILC's fall theatrical production, *Is There a Doctor in the House?* Speak with your pastor if you're interested in attending. For questions, contact Academic Dean Paul Naumann. Office: 715-836-6636, cell: 253-228-8736, e-mail: paul.naumann@ilc.edu

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

September 19-24 '22 (catching up from last week)

Mon Luke 16:1-9 On more than one occasion Jesus spoke of the dangers and proper uses of wealth and possessions. The dishonest manager, in the short time he had left, used his master's wealth to make friends who would be able to repay him when he was out of a job. Jesus tells His disciples to use their possessions to help those who might not be able to repay them, but may greet them when this short life is over (v9).

Tues Luke 16:10-13 In case His disciples thought that Jesus was praising dishonesty in yesterday's reading, He goes on to encourage faithfulness both in using the material possessions God has loaned to us, and in using the true spiritual riches which He actually gives to us. This means single-hearted service to God, the source of eternal life and every other good gift.

Wed Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 Solomon observes that those who love and serve money will never have enough. Rather the more they have, the more mouths there will be to feed in order to secure the accumulating wealth. Nor will they sleep any better than the laborer, who receives God's gifts but does not worship them.

Thurs Ecclesiastes 5:13-20 The trouble with giving undue honor to riches is that they can be lost in a moment, they are only for this life, and they create dark discontent for those who crave them. Recognizing and honoring the Giver of riches brings also the power to enjoy them. Jesus taught us to pray to our Father, "give us this day our daily bread."

Fri 1 Timothy 6:6-10 Material wealth is not essential to human joy. Otherwise there would be no joy outside of this world. But godliness with contentment (the opposite of covetousness, which is idolatry) is great gain. Such contented enjoyment God gives His children, while the love of money leads to departure from the faith (we cannot serve God and money - Tues. Reading) and many sorrows.

Sat 1 Timothy 6:17-19 Paul urges Pastor Timothy to counsel the rich in this world to recognize that their earthly riches come from God, to be ready to share, and to set their hopes for the future on Him who gives true life through "the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Eph1:7).

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions **September 26 – October 1 '22**

Mon Luke 16:19-31 Jesus teaches vividly that a person's wealth, or lack of it, does not determine his relationship to God. The poorest of people who has God as his helper (meaning of the name *Lazarus*) has much joy ahead of him. The richest of people who is deaf to the word and promise of God will never have more than he has in this life. Thank God for His enriching, life-giving Word ("Moses and the Prophets" vv29,31)!

Tues Amos 6:1-3 Trusting in power was not something new in Jesus' day. In Old Testament times the prophet Amos pronounced woe on those who trusted in their positions of power, thought they could put off the day of judgment, and use violence to secure themselves. Jesus had to repeat such woes, though He came to end them.

Wed Amos 6:4-7 Also in Amos' time were those who used their riches only to serve themselves, invented musical instruments – which David had invented to praise God – only for their own pleasure. They anointed themselves with the richest oil rather than grieving for the ruin of Israel, through whom the Savior would come.

Thurs Hebrews 13:1-6 Let us show our love to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant (12:24), by loving one another, especially those who are suffering and ill-treated; and by honoring God's institution of marriage. Let us look to Him for all good things and confidently say, "The Lord is my helper!" (Cf *Lazarus*, Monday's reading)

Fri 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Paul urges Timothy to flee the love of money (v10), and pursue Godly virtues, which will still be practiced in the life to come, at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords. To Him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen!

Sat Psalm 146 Hallelujah = Praise the Lord! The help that earthly power can give is like the flowers, only lasting for a time. But he whose helper is the God of Jacob is blessed indeed! The Lord's power and faithfulness are forever, giving food to the hungry, lifting up those who are bowed down, watching over travelers, upholding the widow and the fatherless! Hallelujah!

Hymn to be sung after the Confession of Faith

I Gave My Life for Thee

454

1 I gave my life for thee; My pre-cious blood I shed
2 My Fa-ther's home of light, My rain-bow-cir-cled throne,
3 I spent long years for thee In wea-ri-ness and woe
4 I suf-fered much for thee, More than my tongue may tell,

That thou might'st ran-somed be And quick-ened from the dead.
I left for earth-ly night, For wan-d'rings sad and lone.
That an e-ter-ni-ty Of joy thou might-est know.
Of bit-t'rest ag-o-ny, To res-cue thee from hell.

I gave my life for thee; Come, give thy-self to me!
I left it all for thee; Come now and fol-low me!
I spent long years for thee; Come, spend thy years for me.
I suf-fered much for thee; Come, bear thy cross with me.

5 And I have brought to thee
Down from my home above
Salvation full and free,
My pardon and my love.
Great gifts I brought for thee;
Come, bring thy gifts to me.

6 Oh, let thy life be spent,
Thy years for me be giv'n,
As I for thee was sent
To bear thee home to heav'n.
I gave my life for thee;
Come, give thy life to me.