

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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A Canaanite woman asks Jesus for help. Matthew 11:25.

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Find us on Facebook at: “St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church”

Member Congregation:
Church of the Lutheran Confession 
www.clclutheran.org

13th Sunday after Pentecost – August 27, 2023

**You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people belonging to God,
that you may declare the praises of him
who called you out of darkness
into his wonderful light.**

**Once you were not a people,
but now you are the people of God;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.**

**Dear friends, I urge you, as
aliens and strangers in the world,
to abstain from sinful desires,
which war against your soul.**

**Live such good lives among the pagans that,
though they accuse you of doing wrong,
they may see your good deeds
and glorify God on the day he visits us.**

1 Peter 2:9-12



Order of Worship: Service of the Word

You will find today's order of worship printed on the liturgy insert tucked inside the front cover of the maroon *Lutheran Service Book* (in the hymnal rack).

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler

Ushers: Zachary Ruegge, Don Claeys

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 20 (pew bible, p.489)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: 803, 770, 646 (1-3), 646 (4)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Romans 11:13-15,28-32; Matthew 15:21-28
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Sermon Text – Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Theme

"We Are Foreigners No Longer"

1. God has gathered us into His family.
2. He wants us to gather in others.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction
- ◆ Closing Hymn (646, stanza 4)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Romans 11:13-15,28-32

13 I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry 14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. 15 For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? | 28 As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, 29 for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. 30 Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, 31 so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. 32 For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalms 133 & 134

P How good and pleasant it is:

C When brothers live together in unity!

P For there the LORD bestows his blessing:

C Even life forevermore.

P Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD:

C Who minister by night in the house of the LORD.

P Lift up your hands in the sanctuary:

C And praise the LORD.

P May the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth:

C Bless you from Zion.

Second Lesson – Matthew 15:21-28

21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.” 23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” 25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. 26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to their dogs.” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she said, “but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28 Then Jesus answered, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Sermon Text – Isaiah 56:1.6-8

1 This is what the LORD says: “Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. | 6 And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him, to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant— 7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.” 8 The Sovereign LORD declares— he who gathers the exiles of Israel: “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”

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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 (8/27)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Special Voters Meeting
Wed	9:00 am	Pastoral Study Conference in Loveland
Sun (9/3)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Coffee / Fellowship Time

Upcoming in September

- Sunday School Staff Installation: Sunday, Sept 10
- Adult Bible Class & Sunday School Resume: Sunday, Sept 10
- West-Central Pastoral Conference, hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bismarck ND: Tue-Thu, Sept.12-14
- Western Women's Retreat, hosted by Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine NE: Fri-Sun, Sept.22-24
- Fall Clean-Up Day: Sat., Sept 23 (8:00 am to noon)

Special Voters Meeting: Today, after the worship service. The main purpose of the meeting is to consider, and possibly accept, a bid we received from a construction company to repair the front landscaping and upper sidewalk of the church.

Sunday School Calls: Last week the following Sunday School calls were issued by the congregation through the Board of Elders to the following individuals to serve in our Sunday School in the coming year:

- Derek Barthels (superintendent)
- Carly Mess, Lily Meyer, Emily Ruegge (classroom instructors)
- Zachary Ruegge, Ed Chiappetti, Sharlene Chiappetti, Mike Sprengeler (teacher substitutes)
- Carly Mess, Lisa Sprengeler (music teachers)

We ask the Good Shepherd to guide and bless them in their call deliberations so that their decision may be in keeping with His gracious will and the welfare of His lambs.



**You are all sons of God
through faith in Christ Jesus.
For as many of you as were baptized
into Christ have put on Christ.**

**There is neither Jew nor Greek,
there is neither slave nor free,
there is neither male nor female;
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**And if you are Christ's,
then you are Abraham's seed,
and heirs according to the promise.**

Galatians 3:26-29



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

August 28 – September 2, '23

Mon John 8:31-36 Jesus calls upon believers to remain in His Word. This promises a two-fold blessing: to know the truth about spiritual (not political) slavery and to set them free as members of God's household.

Tues Acts 16:9-15 Paul and his group of missionaries had been hindered by the Spirit from preaching in the provinces of Asia and Bithynia. At Troas their perplexity is solved by a special vision, and they are swiftly brought to the European continent to proclaim the saving Word in Macedonia.

Wed Isaiah 29:18-21 The Lord's prophet sees a day of freedom coming, freedom from deafness to the Word and from blindness to the Light. There will be joy in the Lord and deliverance from mockery and evil.

Thur Mark 2:23-28 Jesus defends His disciples, who are under scrutiny by the Pharisees and accused of breaking the Sabbath rest while they followed Him, who came to give rest to the heavily burdened.

Fri Ephesians 4:1-6 Paul, a slave of Christ, does not seek freedom from this "bondage" but urges the Ephesian Christians to make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the "bond of peace" (v3). This is the Lord's doing, that they are one!

Sat Colossians 2:16-19 So many of the Old Testament regulations were pictures of the Savior who was still coming! When He came, however, it was not so they could continue clinging to the pictures, but rather to give them freedom to look to Him who is the Head of the body.