

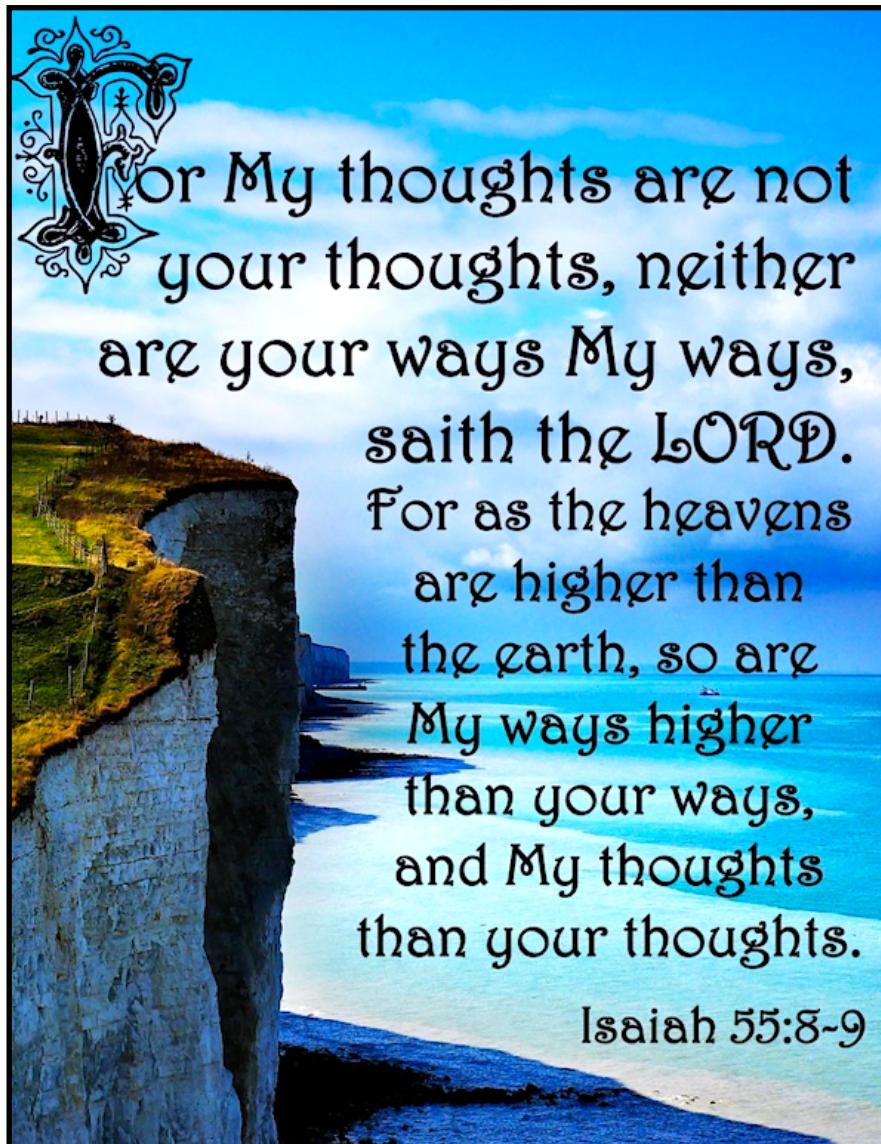
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

Pastor: Thomas Schuetze, 303-428-5524, trschuetze@yahoo.com

Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776

Sunday School Superintendent: Mike Sprengeler



www.denverlutheran.com

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

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

18th Sunday after Pentecost – October 1, 2023

Order of Worship

Service of the Word & Sacrament

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). Large print copies of the order of worship and worship bulletin are on the shelf under the tract rack (or speak to an usher who will be happy to share them with you).

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler

Ushers: Mark Hartmeister, Ed Chiappetti

Communion Usher: Ed Chiappetti

- ◆ Pre-service Devotion: Psalm 27 (pew bible, p.493)
- ◆ The Hymns: 684, *337, 637, 643 (**printed on page 8*)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Matthew 20:1-16, Philippians 1:1-5,19-27
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 89
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Isaiah 55:6-9

Theme: "God's Great Salvation Invitation"

1. Extended unconditionally to all.
2. Valid for a limited time.
3. Bestowing blessings beyond our imaginings.

- ◆ Altar Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (643)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Philippians 1:1-5,19-27

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, | 18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. 20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! 23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; 24 but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. 25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me. 27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 89

- P I will sing of the LORD'S great love forever:
C **I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**
P I will declare that your love stands firm forever:
C **That you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**
P The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD:
C **Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.**
P O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?:
C **You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**
P Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you:
C **Who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.**
P They rejoice in your name all day long:
C **They exult in your righteousness.**

Second Lesson – Matthew 20:1-16

1 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. 3 “About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ 5 So they went. “He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. 6 About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ 7 ““Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’ 8 “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ 9 “The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 12 ‘These men who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’ 13 “But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ 16 “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Sermon Text – Isaiah 55:6-9

6 Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. 8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. 9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

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To our guests seeking an altar at which to commune

We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of outward unity in the faith as well as inner union with Christ. For this reason we practice "Fellowship Communion" (we ask only those who are communicant members of our fellowship to come forward to receive the Sacrament). We follow this practice in loving obedience to the Scriptures, not in judgment of anyone's faith, sincerity, or standing before God. If you would like more information or are interested in becoming a St. Paul member, please speak to the pastor. Thank you.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (10/1)	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
Sun (10/8)	8:30 am	Choir Practice
	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
	11:45 am	New Member Welcome Reception
		<i>(see note on page5)</i>

Upcoming in October

- Choir Practices: Sunday, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 8:30 am
- Mary & Martha Ladies Meeting: Sunday, October 15, 10:45 am
- Quarterly Voters Meeting: Sunday, October 22, 10:45 am
- Front Range Reformation Festival Service, hosted by Redeemer, Cheyenne: Sunday, October 29, 11:00 am *(see note on page 6)*

In Our Prayers: Bob Rankin, who was recently diagnosed with early stage dementia. ◇ Joyce Maulis, who suffered cracked ribs in a fall at home. ◇ We ask the Lord for His continuing gracious care for His dear children.

Our Current Bible Class Topic is "The Ideal Congregation in the Light of Holy Scripture." In today's lesson we will study Lesson 3 and examine Scriptures through which the Lord teaches us to have a high regard for the Holy Sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper).

A Welcome Reception Is Planned for next Sunday, October 8, after the worship service for new members to our St. Paul church family (Derek Barthels, Lily Meyer, Marty Schmoldt, and Julie Ann Zamora). Derek, Lily, and Marty were recently received as communicant members by transfer from sister CLC churches. Julie Ann was received as a communicant by profession of faith. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will be served.

Front Range Reformation Festival Service: Sunday, October 29, 11:00 am, hosted by Redeemer of Cheyenne. Pastor Tim Wheaton of Prince of Peace, Loveland, will serve as the speaker. Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer will be the liturgist. Pastor Schuetze will conduct the pre-service Bible Class. Schedule for the day is as follows:

- Choir Practice: 9:30 am
- Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:00 am
- Worship Service: 11:00 am
- Meal: 12:00 noon

Transportation will be available for those needing a ride (see pastor). The plan is to leave from the church parking lot around 7:30 am. A lay service will also be conducted on that day here at St. Paul at the usual time, 9:30 am.

Choir Members, Take Note: Practices are scheduled for three upcoming Sundays: October 8, 15, 22 at 8:30 am. We'll work on a song for the upcoming Front Range Reformation Fest. The song's title is: *"God Is Our Refuge And Strength."* Copies are by the tract rack. Feel free to take one along home.

October Birthday Blessings To . . .

Mark Hartmeister, Oct 1	Jaxon Potter, Oct 14
John Sprengeler, Oct 8	Sharlene Chiappetti, Oct 29

CLC News & Notes

- **2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip:** Applications are being accepted for the 2024 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Find more information and apply online: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org
- **The October CLC World Missions Prayer List,** provided by Missionary Todd Ohlmann, is available in the tract rack. It may also be viewed at: missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com. *"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12:12).*
- **From the CLC Board of Missions:** *"When the CLC Convention approved the calling of our third foreign missionary, it determined that the funding of that missionary would come fully from the Mission Development Fund (MDF) for the first year. The cost of funding that missionary is about \$80,000 and has had an impact on other planned MDF projects. Currently the MDF balance is enough to cover the cost of our third foreign missionary for the rest of this fiscal year and a few other essential*

projects, but without additional funds, we will not be able to fund other planned projects. The Board of Missions has already put a hold on all other projects including all funding of Bibles and other Christian literature, church building assistance, and many planned outreach projects. We pray that the members of the CLC will remember this work in their prayers and offerings."

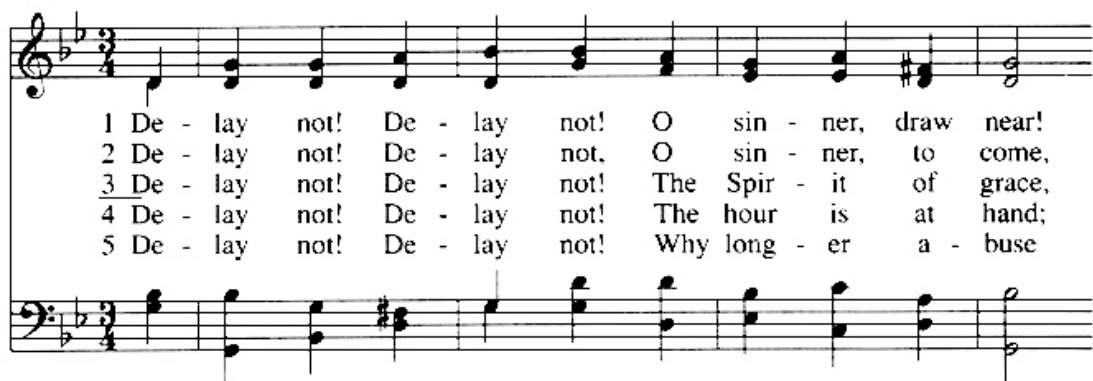
If you would like to make a contribution to the MDF you may do so by placing your gift in your St. Paul offering envelope and noting your gift on the line so designated under "CLC Auxiliary Funds." Or you may place your gift in a regular envelope with "MDF" written on the front. If you use a check, be sure to write "MDF" on the memo line.

- **Nominations for Professor Call:** The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate an individual or individuals to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Professor Mark Kranz at the end of the 2023-24 academic year. The position would be best served by someone who is teacher trained and has the ability to teach high school (if nominee is male or female) and college classes (if nominee is male) primarily in social studies (history/geography), elementary education methods, and other potential disciplines commencing with the 2024-25 academic year. Those submitting nominations would need to include information regarding the nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in technology expertise, extracurricular activities, or administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com
- **Nominations for ILC President:** The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2024. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2024. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

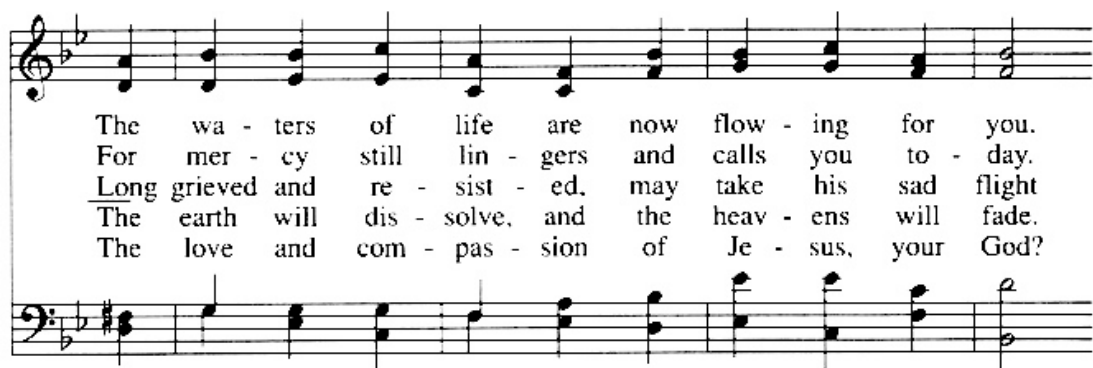
Hymn before the Sermon

337

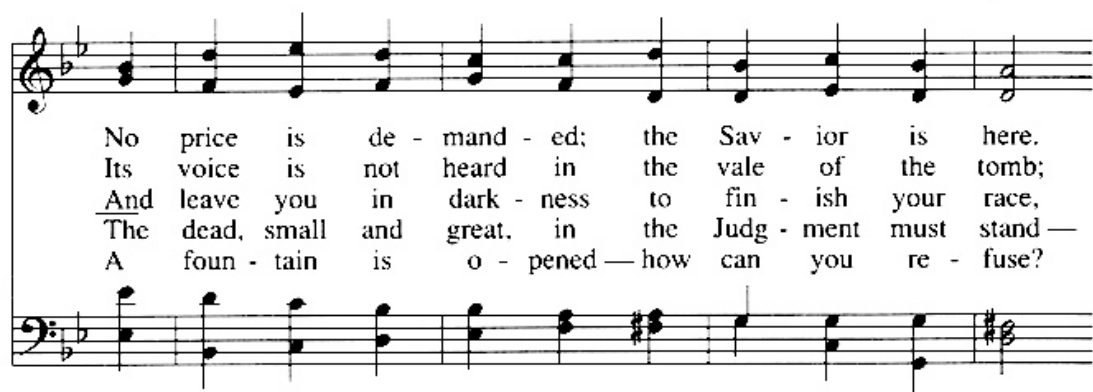
Delay Not! Delay Not



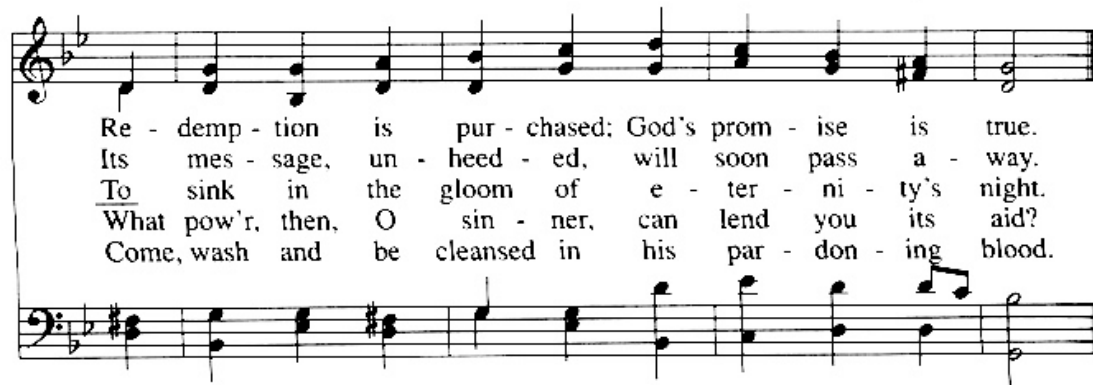
1 De - lay not! De - lay not! O sin - ner, draw near!
2 De - lay not! De - lay not, O sin - ner, to come,
3 De - lay not! De - lay not! The Spir - it of grace,
4 De - lay not! De - lay not! The hour is at hand;
5 De - lay not! De - lay not! Why long - er a - buse



The wa - ters of life are now flow - ing for you.
For mer - cy still lin - gers and calls you to - day.
Long grieved and re - sist - ed, may take his sad flight
The earth will dis - solve, and the heav - ens will fade.
The love and com - pas - sion of Je - sus, your God?



No price is de - mand - ed; the Sav - ior is here.
Its voice is not heard in the vale of the tomb;
And leave you in dark - ness to fin - ish your race,
The dead, small and great, in the Judg - ment must stand —
A foun - tain is o - pened — how can you re - fuse?



Re - demp - tion is pur - chased; God's prom - ise is true.
Its mes - sage, un - heed - ed, will soon pass a - way.
To sink in the gloom of e - ter - ni - ty's night.
What pow'r, then, O sin - ner, can lend you its aid?
Come, wash and be cleansed in his par - don - ing blood.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 2-7

Mon Matthew 12:1-8 When the Pharisees accuse Jesus' disciples of breaking their Sabbath ordinances, He does not argue their legal definitions, but points out that the disciples in His service, like the priests who work in the temple, are innocent of breaking the Sabbath.

Tues Hebrews 4:9-11 The Old Testament Sabbath was a gift that pictured the rest in the presence of God which Christ would win. As such it held the Gospel promise before them. We also journey toward that promised rest, striving to avoid the disobedience which would deprive one of it.

Wed Hebrews 4:12-13 If we think to gain rest and peace with God through our outward activities, but remain disobedient and rebellious at heart, we will not fool God, whose word is living and active and lays bare the thoughts of the heart. He also surely knows His children, who find rest in Him.

Thur Psalm 75:4-7 Thanks be to God that He is the one in control, not the wicked boasters who speak insolently. It is God who puts down and raises up, as Mary also sang (Lk 1:52).

Fri 1 Kings 19:1-9a After the fire from heaven caused the Israelites to say "The Lord, He is God," the next day it looked like no reformation, and Jezebel was still calling the shots. Depressed and discouraged, Elijah runs away, but God does not. He finds and feeds and gives him rest.

Sat 1 Kings 19:9b-18 The Lord shows Elijah that it is not the fire, earthquake, or howling wind of judgment that gains the hearts of the people. Rather it is the gentle whisper of God's grace that has already won to the Kingdom souls that Elijah knew nothing about. The Lord reigns!