

# St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

*2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214*

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

Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1976


Sunday School Superintendent: Mike Sprengeler



[www.denverlutheran.com](http://www.denverlutheran.com)

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

Member Congregation:

Church of the Lutheran Confession 

[www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 10, 2023**

**A Warm Welcome to Our Worship Guests.** The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and are happy that you are here to worship with us today. We are a congregation committed without reservation to the entire truth of God's Word in the Bible. We have found joy and hope in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have found moral guidance, a way of life, and the promise of eternal life in the Holy Scriptures. It gives us pleasure to share these blessings with you. Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again!

Find today's order of worship printed in this bulletin starting on page 2. Large print copies of the order of worship are on the shelf under the tract rack, or speak to an usher who will be happy to share one with you.

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Jeana Kettner

Ushers: Wayne Ruegge, Mike Sprengeler

Pre-Service Meditation and Prayer

Psalm 1 (pew bible, page 481)

*To Your temple I draw near; Lord, I love to worship here.  
Here are Sacrament and Word; here believers meet their Lord.  
While I listen to Your Law, fill my soul with holy awe  
Till Your Gospel brings to me life and immortality.*

*While Your ministers proclaim peace and pardon in Your name,  
Through their voice, by faith, may I hear You speaking from the sky.  
From Your house, when I return, may my heart within me burn,  
And at evening let me say, "I have walked with God today."*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## +++ We Prepare to Meet Our Lord +++

### Opening Prayer

### Hymn

814 – *O Bless the Lord, My Soul*

### Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.


C   
A - men.

### Our Confession of Sins

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C   
Who made heav'n and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C   
And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C   
A - men.

+++ We Praise Our Lord +++

Psalm of the Day

From Psalm 84

P Blessed are those who dwell in your house:

C **They are ever praising you.**

P They go from strength to strength:

C **Till each appears before God in Zion.**

P Better is one day in your courts:

C **Than a thousand elsewhere.**

P I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God:

C **Than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

P O LORD Almighty:

C **Blessed is the man who trusts in you.**

P Glory be to God!

C

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Congregation sings:

**All glory be to God on high, And thanks for all His favor;  
No harm can touch or terrify, A child of God forever.  
The Father's love, the Savior's birth,  
Bring peace, good will, to all the earth,  
Oh, thank Him for His goodness!**  
[LSB #947, alt.]

P Let us pray:

C

A - - men.

## +++ Our Lord Speaks to Us in His Word +++

### First Lesson – Romans 12:1-8

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it. Alleluia!

C   
Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Second Lesson – Matthew 16:21-26

C   
Glo - ry be to You, O Lord!

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?”

C   
Praise be to You, O Christ!

## Our Confession of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Hymn

688 – *"Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake"*

## Sermon

Text – Jeremiah 15:15-21

15 You understand, O LORD; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering—do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. 16 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty. 17 I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation. 18 Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? Will you be to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails? 19 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them. 20 I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you," declares the LORD. 21 "I will save you from the hands of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the cruel."

## "What Kind of Wages Does This Job Pay?"

1. Sometimes we may think we deserve something better.
2. Our God of mercy gives us more than we deserve.

+++ We Offer Ourselves to Our Lord +++

## Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spi - rit with-in me.  
Cast me not a-way from Your pres - ence, and

take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
 Re-store un-to me the joy of Your sal-va-tion and up-  
 hold me with Your free spir -  
 it. A - men.

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Altar Prayer / Lord's Prayer**

**Installation of the Sunday School Staff**

**Hymn [printed on insert]**

*559 – Lord of the Living Harvest*

**+++ Our Lord Blesses Us +++**

**Benediction**

P The LORD bless you and keep you . . .

C A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Closing Hymn**

*923 – Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

+++++

### **This Week at St. Paul**

Today (9/10)	9:30 am	Worship Service, with installation of the Sunday School Staff
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
	12 noon	Pizza Lunch
Sun (9/17)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School

### **Upcoming in September**

- 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)

**Sunday School for Our Grade Schoolers** will resume today after the service at 10:45 am. The teaching staff will be installed during today's service. We thank the Good Shepherd for providing the following individuals to serve as teachers and pray for His blessing on their labors on behalf of His lambs:

- Superintendent – Derek Barthels
- Classroom Instructors: Carly Mess (part-time), Lily Meyer (part-time), Emily Ruegge (through December)
- Teacher Substitutes – Ed Chiappetti, Sharlene Chiappetti, Mike Sprengeler
- Music teacher – Lisa Sprengeler

To kick off the new Sunday School year a pizza lunch will be served in the church basement, beginning at noon. Please join us, if you can!

**Adult Bible Class** also resumes today. Our study topic to begin the year is: *Think Friendliness – Scriptural Instruction and Encouragement for God's People as They at His House for Worship and Fellowship*. A hand-out will be shared with bullet points and Bibles verses to guide our discussion. (Hard copies available in the tract rack. Help yourself.)

**Welcome:** Let Sunday we received Julie Ann Zamora as a communicant member of St. Paul. We warmly welcome her into our church family and pray that the Lord will richly bless her in our fellowship together in the Gospel for Jesus' sake.

**The West-Central Pastoral Conference** will be held this week Tuesday-Thursday, hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bismarck ND. Pastor Schuetze plans to attend.



## **Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions**

### **September 11-16, '23**

**Mon John 5:1-9a** A man at the pool of Bethesda has been afflicted by almost four decades of suffering, with no relief in sight. Jesus knows this and shows mercy greater even than the man's affliction. His healing enables the man at once to follow His Word, to take up his bed and walk.

**Tues John 5:9b-14** Where Jesus shows mercy (yesterday's reading), others are more concerned about their rules for keeping the Sabbath. Jesus, who heals in order to help, not to gain fame, slips away into the crowd, but later reminds the man that it is to a new life (sin no more, v14) that he has been called.

**Wed 1 Timothy 1:12-17** The apostle is full of thanksgiving for the mercy shown to him by the Lord Jesus. That Christ Jesus came into the world to save not the worthy, but sinners, blasphemers, persecutors, and violent people is nothing short of astonishing! To God be the glory!

**Thur Psalm 50:14-20** The Lord speaks to His people in this Psalm, inviting their offerings and requests for help in the day of trouble. For those who recite the words but rely on sinful ways, He has sterner words.

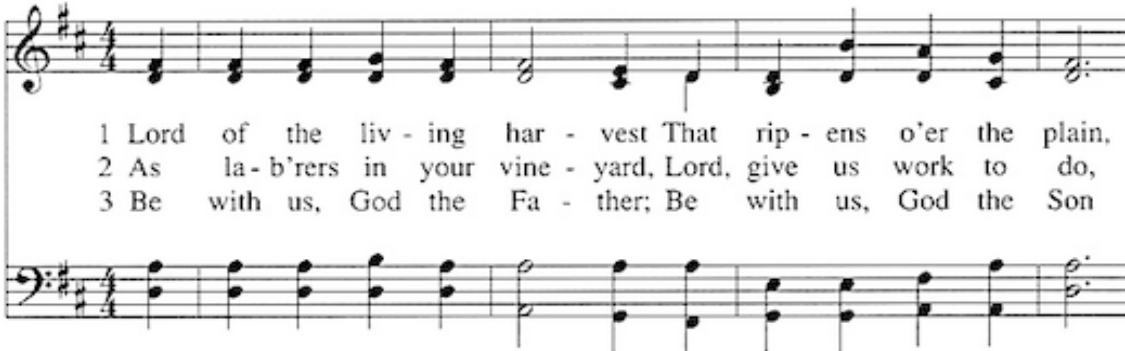
**Fri Psalm 50:21-23** Although God knows what the wicked are doing and will surely come in judgment, He still calls to them, and mercifully holds before them the salvation of God. Oh, that they might turn from their evil ways!

**Sat 1 John 5:14-21** The fruit of God's mercy toward us is that we pray with confidence to Him, that we pray for one another, and that we avoid sinful ways. As Jesus told the man at Bethesda to sin no more (Jn5:14), so the apostle urges here: "Dear Children, guard yourselves from idols" (v21).

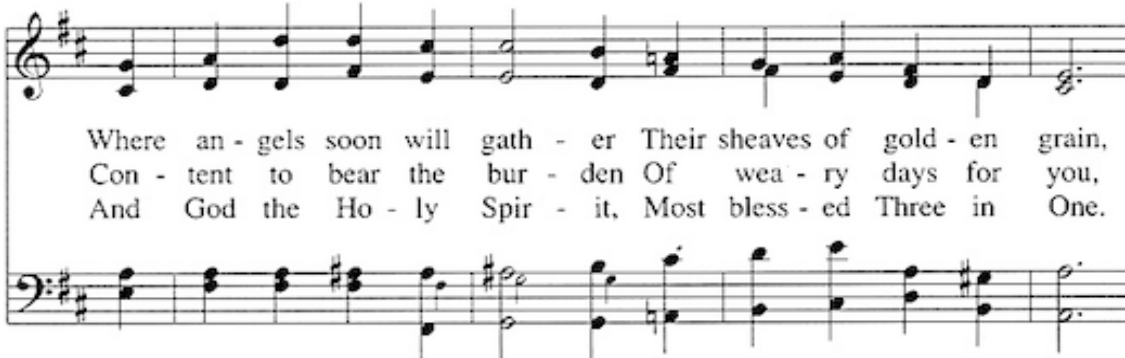
## Hymn after the Lord's Prayer

### Lord of the Living Harvest

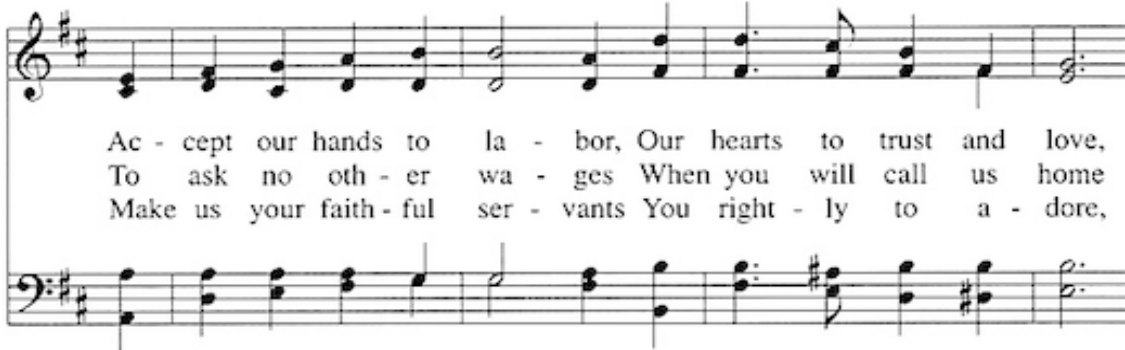
559



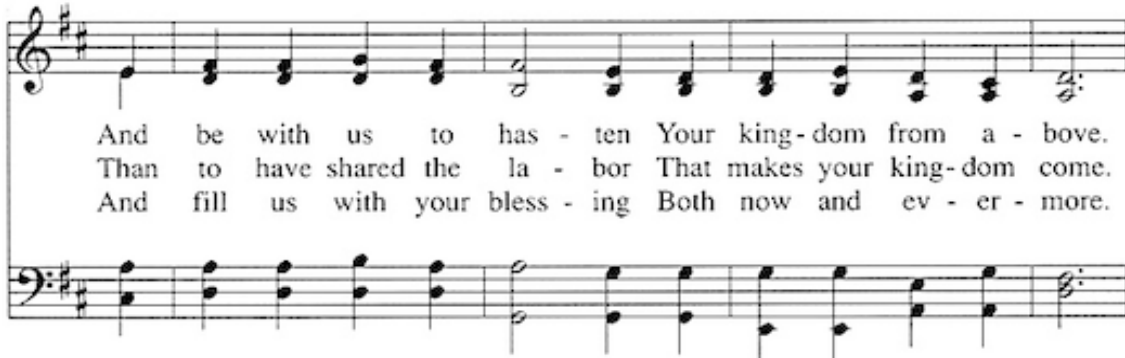
1 Lord of the liv - ing har - vest That rip - ens o'er the plain,  
2 As la - b'ers in your vine - yard, Lord, give us work to do,  
3 Be with us, God the Fa - ther; Be with us, God the Son



Where an - gels soon will gath - er Their sheaves of gold - en grain,  
Con - tent to bear the bur - den Of wea - ry days for you,  
And God the Ho - ly Spir - it, Most bless - ed Three in One.



Ac - cept our hands to la - bor, Our hearts to trust and love,  
To ask no oth - er wa - ges When you will call us home  
Make us your faith - ful ser - vants You right - ly to a - dore,



And be with us to has - ten Your king - dom from a - bove.  
Than to have shared the la - bor That makes your king - dom come.  
And fill us with your bless - ing Both now and ev - er - more.