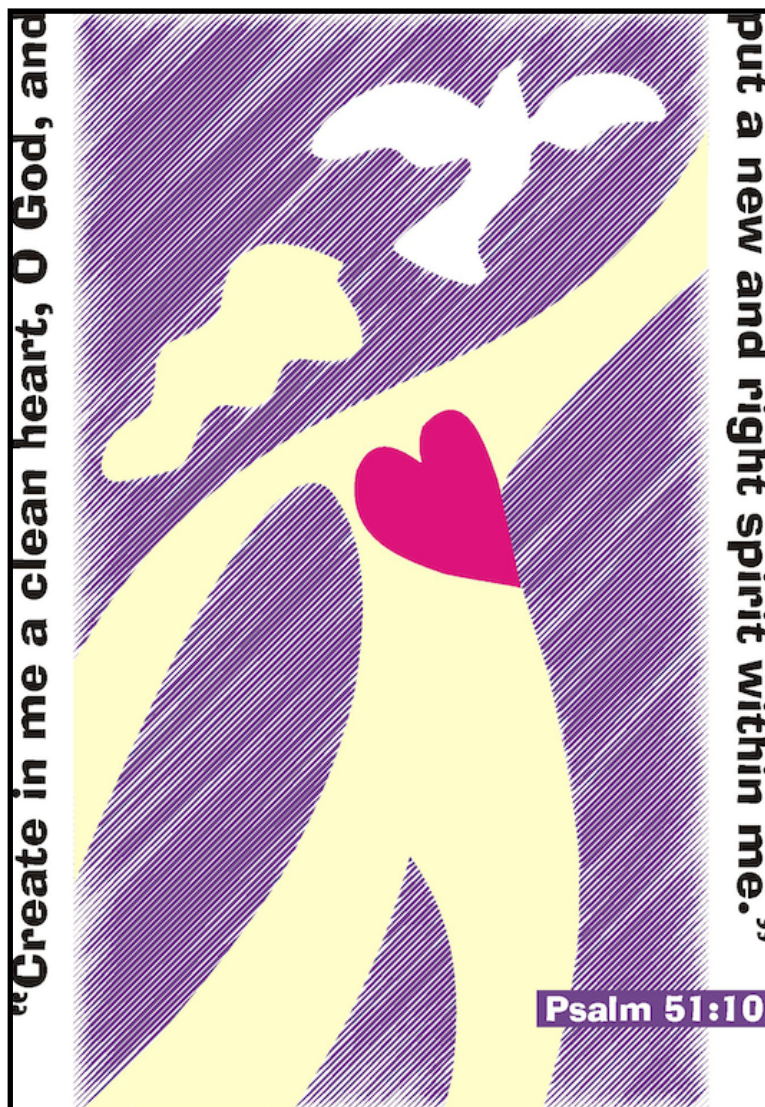


St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

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

Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776

Sunday School Superintendent: Derek Barthels



www.denverlutheran.com

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

Member Congregation:

Church of the Lutheran Confession

www.clclutheran.org



15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 1, 2024

Order of Worship

Service of the Word & Sacrament

Find today's order of service 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. A warm welcome in Christ to all worshipers!

Serving Us Today

Organist Jeana Kettner; Ushers Mike Sprengeler, Mark Hartmeister
Communion Usher Mike Sprengeler

- ◆ Pre-service Devotion: Psalm 19 (pew bible, p.489)
- ◆ The Hymns: 340 (1-4), 668, 637, 340 (5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Deuteronomy 4:1-9, Ephesians 6:10-20
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: Psalm 73
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed
(printed on last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Theme – "In What Condition Is Your Heart?"

1. By nature unclean.
2. Only Jesus can (and has) made it clean!

- ◆ Altar Prayer / Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (340, stanza 5)

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Deuteronomy 4:1-9

*The Wisdom of Treasuring Up
the Lord's Commandments*

1 “And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. 3 Your eyes have seen what the LORD did at Baal-peor, for the LORD your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor. 4 But you who held fast to the LORD your God are all alive today. 5 See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 6 Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? 8 And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today? 9 “Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 73 *God Is My Strength and Portion Forever*

P I am continually with you, O LORD:

C You hold my right hand.

P You guide me with your counsel:

C And afterward you will receive me to glory.

P Whom have I in heaven but you?:

C And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

P My flesh and my heart may fail:

C But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Second Lesson – Ephesians 6:10-20

Be Strong in the Lord's Strength

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. 16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; 17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, 18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, 19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Sermon Text – Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Defilement Comes from Within

1 Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, 2 they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. 3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, 4 and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) 5 And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” 6 And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ 8 You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” | 14 And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” | 21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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 (9/1) | 9:30 am | Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 10:30 am | Coffee/Fellowship Time (downstairs) |
| Sun (9/8) | 9:30 am | Worship Service, with installation of the Sunday School Staff |
| | 10:30 am | Special Voters Meeting |
| | 10:45 am | Sunday School and Adult Bible Study |

Upcoming Events

- Special Voters Meeting: Next Sunday, Sept 8, 10:30 am. Agenda item: Action on student tuition aid request of Jesse and Shelly Cornish.
- West-Central Pastoral Conference: Sept. 10-12, hosted by Prince of Peace, Loveland

August Birthday Blessings (Belatedly) To . . .

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Georgia Waters, Aug 2 | Bob Rankin, Aug 22 |
| Doug Tiefel, Aug 2 | Joseph Cornish, Aug 26 |
| Jo Ellen Blakey, Aug 5 | Judy Garvin, Aug 29 |
| Bobbie Brethauer, Aug 16 | Zachary Ruegge, Aug 30 |
| Joyce Wamboldt, Aug 20 | Julie Ann Zamora, Aug 28 |

(Missed including these in the bulletin last month. Our apologies.)

September Birthday (Anniversary) Blessings To . . .

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ed Chiappetti, Sept 1 | (Don & Ruth Claeys, Sept 3) |
| Pastor Schuetze, Sept 9 | (Jim & Linda Wamboldt, Sept 9) |
| Jacob Cornish, Sept 18 | |
| Joyce Maulis, Sept 19 | |

Synod News & Notes

- "Kinship is facing the largest seminary sponsorship shortage in many years. Currently there are 10 seminarians in need of support. While we give thanks for the increasing number of overseas seminarians preparing to spread the gospel, we pray for an increased resolve to support their training. Please consider sponsoring a seminary student in one of the many schools partnered with Kinship—Tanzania, India, Nepal, Togo, Congo, and Nigeria. The approximate cost of a sponsorship is \$40-\$50/mo (\$500-\$600/yr). To begin a sponsorship or for more information, please text, call, or email Dan Roehl. cell: 507-381-2042. Email: danroehl@hotmail.com" (from the Kinship Committee)
- By way of reminder: The St. Paul Mary & Martha Ladies continue to support a student at the NCLC's Immanuel Lutheran Seminary in Nigeria. His name is Asukwo Asukwo Usuyak. He is expected to graduate in December of 2027. Cost for his support: \$50/mo (\$600/yr). St. Paul members are welcome to give a donation for Asukwo's seminary training. To do so place your gift in an envelope marked "Mary/Martha Kinship" and place it in the offering plate or you may give it to the ladies' treasurer, Crystal Ruegge. If you wish to donate with a check, please make it out to "St. Paul Lutheran Church" and write "Mary/Martha Kinship" on the memo line.
- On the shelf by the tract rack: Copies of the CLC July Financial Report. Help yourself. (This report was shared yesterday with St. Paul parishioners who have an email address.)

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

September 2-7

Mon Matthew 10:16-22 The path on which Jesus sends His disciples is one of devilish opposition, but not to worry! God will give them the response to give (v19) and salvation in the end (v22).

Tues Matthew 10:28-31 When brought face to face with those who can kill the body, Jesus says not to fear! God, who watches over the smallest details in all of creation, is in fact “**your** Father” (v29).

Wed Matthew 10:32-38 Even when the path leads to opposition, it also brings the opportunity to confess that Jesus is our Lord and Savior. He who loved us and laid down His life to save us forever is our greatest love and truest Friend!

Thurs Ephesians 2:19-22 Whether we are Jew or Gentile, or any other human designation, in Christ we are members of God’s household. Together with all believers we are like a building, a temple for the Lord.

Fri Proverbs 4:14-19 It does indeed make a difference which path we walk down, and we are urged to walk the way of the righteous (v18). The difference is that of light and darkness. The Way is Jesus.

Sat Proverbs 4:20-23 The Word of our heavenly Father in our hearts: this is the source of life. From this flows the life that follows the path which is like the light of dawn, shining brighter and brighter until it is day (v18).