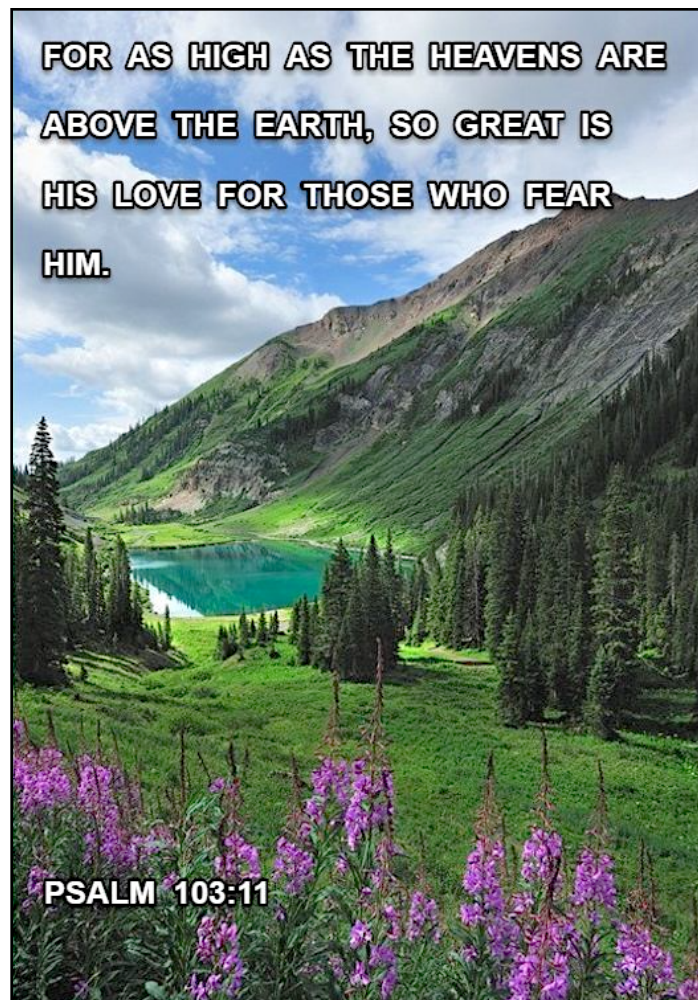




17th Sunday after Pentecost – September 20, 2026

Welcome to
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lakewood, Colorado

To Our Worship Guests a special welcome in Jesus' Name. The members of St. Paul are pleased to meet you and 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, 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! Questions? Please speak with one of the ushers. They will be happy to assist you!

Opening Prayer

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray that You would open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that through the preaching of Your Word we may be led to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

Hymn

LSB 803 – “*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*”

The Invocation

P: Welcome ... in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

Confession of Sins & Announcement of Forgiveness

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

Lord, Have Mercy *The Kyrie*

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and half notes. The lyrics 'C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.' The notation includes a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest *The Gloria in Excelsis*

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray: O God, without whose blessing we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and govern our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.** (*spoken*)

First Lesson – Ephesians 4:25-32

25 Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another. 26 “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil. 28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. 29 Let no corrupt word

proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 103

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul:

C: And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

P: Who forgives all your iniquities:

C: Who heals all your diseases.

P: Who redeems your life from destruction:

C: Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

P: The LORD is merciful and gracious:

C: Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

P: He has not dealt with us according to our sins:

C: Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

P: For as the heavens are high above the earth:

C: So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.

P: As far as the east is from the west:

C: So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

P: As a father pities his children:

C: So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

P: For He knows our frame:

C: He remembers that we are dust.

P: As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes:

C: For the wind passes over it, and it is gone.

P: But the mercy of the LORD:

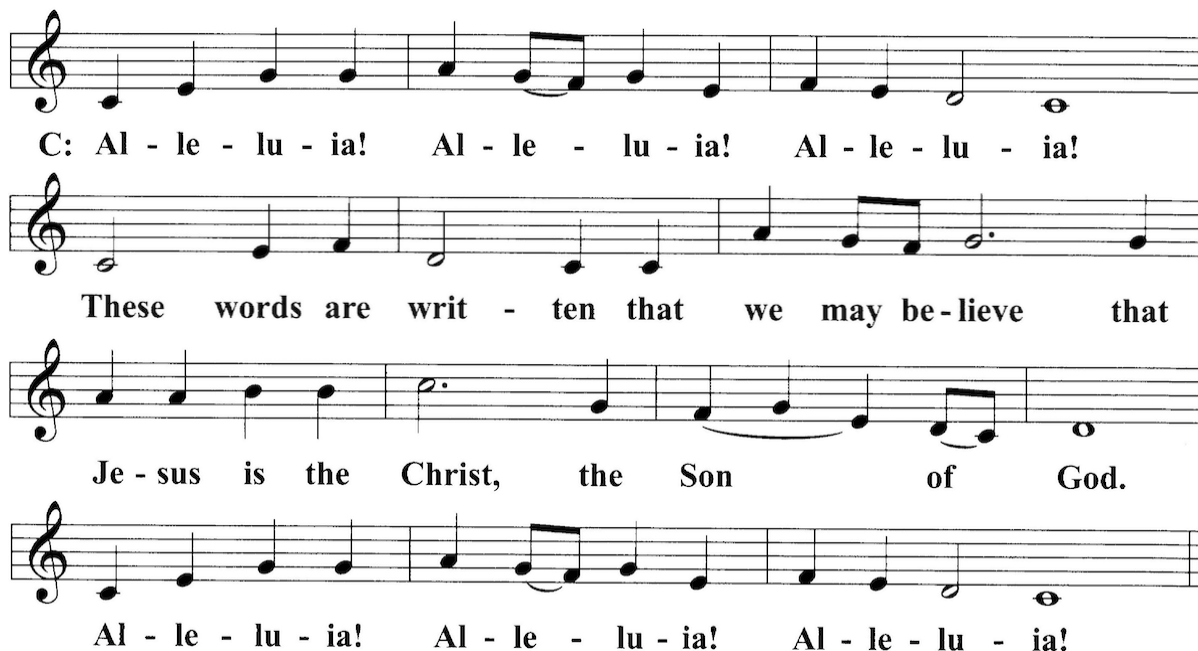
C: Is from everlasting to everlasting.

Second Lesson – Matthew 18:21-35

21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that

he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, “Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, “You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

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



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 of the Day

LSB 814 – “*O Bless the Lord, My Soul*”

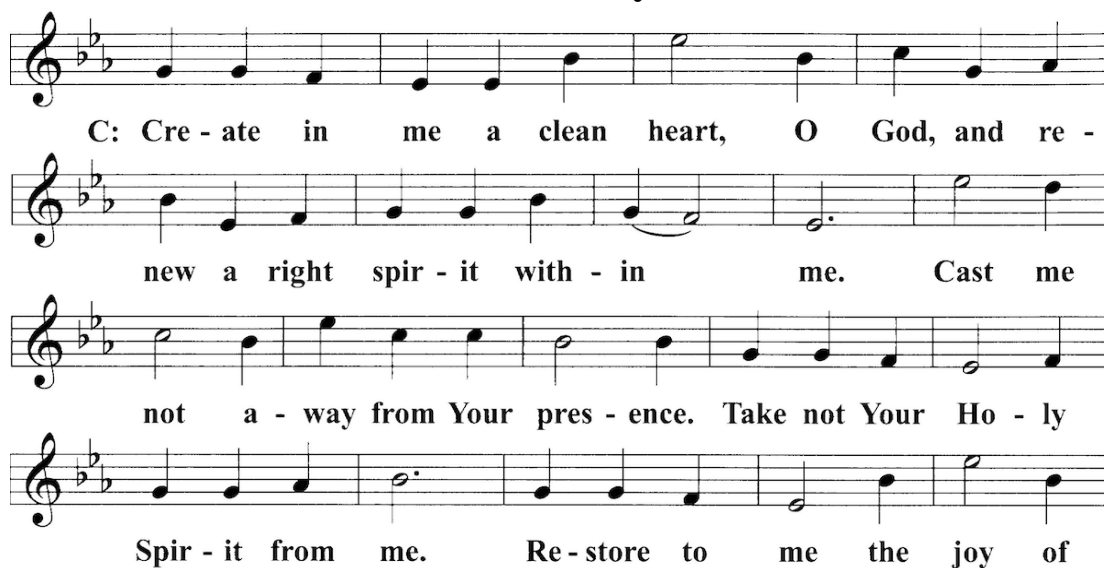
Sermon, based on Genesis 50:15-21

“The Healing Power of Christian Forgiveness”

(A CLC Ministry-by-Mail Sermon)

15 When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him.” 16 So they sent messengers to Joseph, saying, “Before your father died he commanded, saying, 17 “Thus you shall say to Joseph: ‘I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you.’” Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father.” And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, “Behold, we are your servants.” 19 Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? 20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. 21 Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Offertory



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



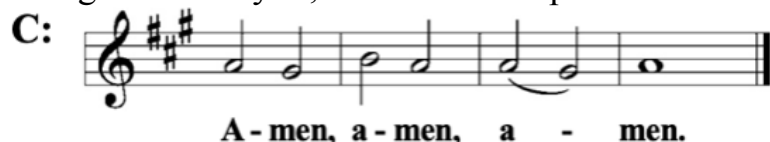
Offering of Thankful Hearts / Prayer of the Church

Hymn

LSB 649 – “*Blest Be the Tie that Binds*”

Benediction

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.



Closing Hymn

LSB 918 – “*Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*”

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This Week at St. Paul

Today (9/20)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
Sunday (9/27)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School & Bible Class

Extended Calendar

- Mary/Martha Ladies Meeting: Sunday, October 11, 10:45 am
- Del Maas Memorial Service at St. Paul: Saturday, October 17, 3:00 pm
- Church Council Meeting: Sunday, October 18, 8:30 am
- Quarterly Voters Meeting: Sunday, October 25, 10:45 am
- Front Range Reformation Festival Service (hosted by Redeemer, Cheyenne): Sunday, November 1, 11:00 am
- Fall Clean-Up Day: TBA

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Pastor: Thomas Schuetze, 303-557-7362, trschuetze@yahoo.com

President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776

Sunday School Superintendent: Derek Barthels

Serving Us Today

Organist Ruth Greening

Ushers Mark Hartmeister, Bob Rankin

www.denverlutheran.com

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

Member Congregation: Church of the Lutheran Confession

www.clclutheran.org