



**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 10, A+D 2023**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

## Living as Humble Little Children of the Father

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, “you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,” but whoever is humbled like a little child will be “the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:3-4).

Though in our sin we deserve to be “drowned in the depth of the sea” (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned (“buried”) with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7-9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which “is the fulfilling of the law” (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we “pay to all what is owed to them” (Rom. 13:7) and we “owe no one anything, except to love each other” (Rom. 13:8).

*Ringing of the Bells*

*Welcome*

## Confession and Absolution

**915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us**

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C Amen.**

### Exhortation

*LSB 151*

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

### Absolution

*151*

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5*

- P** How great are your works, O LORD!
- C** **Your thoughts are very deep!**
- P** It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
- C** **to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**
- P** to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
- C** **and your faithfulness by night,**
- P** to the music of the lute and the harp,
- C** **to the melody of the lyre.**
- P** For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
- C** **at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** How great are your works, O LORD!
- C** **Your thoughts are very deep!**

## Kyrie

152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### This Is the Feast

LSB 155



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7-9*

**A** The Old Testament Reading for The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from the thirty-third chapter of the prophecy of Ezekiel.

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle**

*Romans 13:1–10*

**A** The Second Reading is from the thirteenth chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 18:1–20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

<sup>10</sup>See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.



<sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

**Sermon Text: Matthew 18:1–20**

**Sermon Title: We Are Never The Greatest**

*Stand*

## Apostles' Creed

159

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

*Sit*

### Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

*If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.*

*Stand*

### 955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001510

### Prayer of the Church

159

- P** ... Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface (Full)

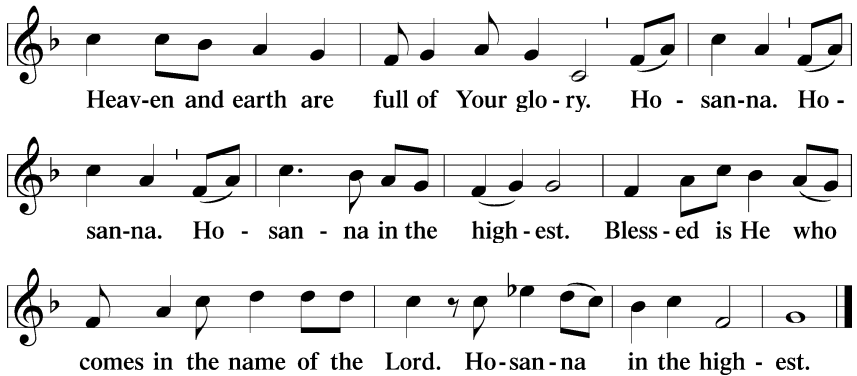
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 161*

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 163

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 163

**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

*Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.*

*Silent Prayer Before Communing: Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

*Silent Prayer After Communing: Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

## 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

## 649 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*Stand*

### The Communion Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**C** Amen.

### Thank the Lord

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

### Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

### Benediction

166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C** A - men.

### 698 May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

*Silent Prayer*

*Announcements*

## **Acknowledgments**

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.





# The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

September 10, 2023

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Jennifer Lovett, Family Danial, Andrew, Tiffany  
Paulette & Roy Maurer, Family Carly  
Michelle Michels, Family Cassandra  
Steven Laurie Michels  
Bill & Lydia Middleton, Family Brianna, Coral, Ocean

### BIRTHDAYS

Ray Zander, , 9/13  
Mary Sella, , 9/15  
Tracy Gribbin, , 9/16

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Levi Robinson, , 9/14

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Warren & Chris Van Mynen, 9/11

### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Diane Akers, Gene Allen, Janice Abel, Bob Brandy, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Latricia Harris, Judy Peterson, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Dorothy Van Mynen, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, David Capodagli, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

**Serving as First Responders** – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

## NEWS UPDATE

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St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday September 13, to review *Safe Haven* by Nicholas Sparks. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. Book Club is in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

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**Christ For You this week on KFUO.org:** Study Leviticus 13-17 on "The Holiness of God" on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study 1 Peter 4 through 2 Peter 3 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and dig into Free Will in the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (9/16 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the KFUO Radio app!

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**Kids Have Questions Series...** Have your children or grandchildren ever asked you questions about Science & Faith; The Problem of Evil & Suffering; Sexuality & Identity; Heaven, Death & Dying; Relationships, Life Issues and Mental Health? Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, has a series that can help you answer those questions. You can listen to the entire series on-demand at [issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions](http://issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions).

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**Word of Hope** offers free and confidential counseling to women and men struggling with an abortion experience. If you would like more information on how Word of Hope can help you or someone you love, visit our website at [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org). You can be healed.

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**We'd love to see** you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at <https://www.facebook.com/splcms/videos>. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at <https://www.splcms.org/worship>.

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“There is no more valuable work for God and for all of Christendom than bringing up your children in the faith and trust of Jesus! It’s not hard to believe that if this were our primary aim, that our children would not question their gender, that they would respect their neighbor and love their spouses, that they would welcome the opportunity to serve the public with politics that reflect solid biblical values, and that they would continue to attend church well after confirmation!” Rev. Jeff Duncan,

# Gathered In His Name

K U H E A V E N K L H R M I K  
 C N E X G L I S T E N E R I L  
 T U A S Y L O O S E Q E A J E  
 O V S M Z R A Q X G T N T Z Z  
 R G U X E C Q W G S O Y E W F  
 B C O Y L H C H I Z F Y E D O  
 U G H E X H L S D X W D A T W  
 L B R O T H E R K N M I M W H  
 S G L C Y E K F A T H E R O S  
 Q M A J R H A F E W Q K U S B  
 F K J T C E P R X U K B B R B  
 P A E R H P F T T C D K P F D  
 A M U M M E X U C H A Z H N K  
 B H G L M X R I S G N H I G Q  
 C Y D E T O A G R E E B K K R

REFUSE  
NAME  
BROTHER

FATHER  
BIND  
LOOSE

HEAVEN  
TWO  
SISTER

FAULT  
GATHER  
AGREE

CHURCH  
EARTH  
LISTEN

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION



## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

September 3rd Attendance 14, 1 Online

Basket	\$105.00	Weekly Missions	\$30.00
Envelopes	668.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
Bulletin	10.00	Church Maint	10.00
Eternal Light	10.00	Social Ministry	150.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>793.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,233.00		
<b>Short</b>	<b>\$-440.00</b>		



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	10:00 am	Book Club
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

	<b>Sun, Sep 10, 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Sun, Sep 17, 9:30 AM</b>
Pastor	Pastor Fluechtling	Pastor Dobberstein
Usher	Aaron Schassburger	Louis Sella
Lay Reader	Tracy Middleton	Norma Allen

## DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND