



**“As the branch cannot
bear fruit by itself,
unless it abides in the vine,
neither can you,
unless you abide in me.”**

John 15:4

St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

2100 16th Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

Phone: 507-433-1957

Cell: 507-219-2517

Church Office:

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Worship Services broadcast on Austin Cable Channel 181, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com

www.CLClutheran.org

www.ilc.edu/home.htm

PRAYER: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we might reverently hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, through whose name alone we pray. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p 5 (248:1-3)

HYMNS: 239; 215; 411:1-5; 50:2

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 5:1-7

The Lord portrays the chosen people of God as being a vineyard planted for the Savior, the Lord's Beloved Son. He does this with the expectation that this special vineyard will bring forth good grapes. It was a great disappointment when Israel of old brought forth bitter, wild grapes. The Lord looked for justice and saw only oppression. He looked for righteousness, but heard only cries for help from the victims of evil. We are the Lord's vineyard today. May we be faithful and bring forth fruit worthy of the gospel of Christ.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-11

Jesus presents Himself as being the vine and we are the branches. A branch brings forth good fruit only as long as it is attached to the vine. Also a vine remains on the vine only as long as it brings forth fruit. When it is fruitless it is pruned out and cast away. We need to abide in Jesus, maintaining our connection to Him through hearing the gospel, and we shall bring forth fruit. Then we will abide in His love and His joy shall be in us and our joy shall be full.

THE SERMON: Revelation 3:7-11

Theme: A Congregation Staying Close to Jesus

- I. Blessed by the Keys of David
- II. Possesses Patient Endurance
- III. Preserved From Evil

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Bible Class will follow after the service.

MONDAY: Pastor Barthels will be attending Minnesota Study Club in Inver Grove Heights.

SATURDAY: Spring Cleaning Day at St. Paul's from 9:00 – noon.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30 with Sunday school and Bible Class scheduled to follow the service. Text: Isaiah 61:10-11.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

June 7: Delegate Conference in Eagle Lake, MN beginning at 3:00 p.m.

June 18-21: Arise and Shine 20's - 30's Retreat (See announcement below.)

June 21-27 & July 19-25: ILC Youth Camp in Eau Claire, WI.
youthcamp.clclutheran.net

July 28 – August 2: Youth Conference sponsored by Immanuel, Mankato. This is for young people of College and High School age. It will be held in Como, CO. Brochure available on resource table in narthex. Registration is now open at youthconference.info

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

Ushers: Andy Ball, Joe Ubl, Phil Egtvedt, Leon Hellickson

Cleaning: Hellickson

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: April 26 Worship - 37 Sunday School - 7 Bible Class - 13

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,142.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	\$ 877.00	
Needed for Year:	\$19,238.00	
Received for Year:	\$15,955.00	

Church Lawn Mowing: Volunteers may sign the sheet on the mail box table.

CLC NEWS: *Earthquake in Nepal Update.* HCLCN leaders have heard from just three or four of the fifteen HCLC-Nepal congregations so far. The Bhitrakoti family and the local congregation in Kathmandu have opened the church building and property to those in need. They are currently offering food, shelter, and first aid to several families and individuals in the area. We just learned Thursday night that eight HCLCN members in rural congregations were killed in the earthquake. Two of them were children. Many more homes and church building were also reported destroyed. A special offering for relief aid has been authorized by President Eichstadt. Please see the bulletin supplement for more information. Gifts may be made on line or through the congregation. **Please continue to pray!**

Arise and Shine 20's - 30's Retreat – Grace Lutheran Church of Valentine, NE is once again sponsoring a four-day retreat in Pillager, MN, **June 18–21** (Thurs. - Sun.). **The retreat is designed for men and women in their 20s & 30s. Singles, couples, and families are welcome.** The registration fee includes a t-shirt (if registered by June 5th, 2015), lodging, meals and snacks, and activities during the retreat. The cost is \$140.00 per adult (ages 12 and up), \$100 per child (ages 0-11). This year's theme is "RECHARGE!" The theme is based on the "rest" that Jesus promises us in Matthew 11:28-30 and the "rest" God instructs us to take in Exodus 20:8 (The Third Commandment – "Remember the Sabbath Day..."). If you are looking for a faith-strengthening weekend with young adult Christians that is focused on the Word of God, this retreat is for you! You can find more information and register on our web site: **www.AriseAndShineRetreat.com**. For more info, please contact Alana (Ahrens) Cardinal (402) 322-9064 alanaahrens@yahoo.com or Pastor Luke Bernthal (402) 389-2147 lbernthal@live.com.