



**“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:

Phone: 507-433-8191

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: Oh Lord, who has caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our edification, grant us Your Holy Spirit that He might open our hearts to reverently hear Your Word, and hearing that we may be brought to a fuller knowledge of your glory revealed in our salvation in Jesus Christ. Grant that, having fed our souls upon the Bread of Life, we may be invigorated to live our lives to the glory of our Savior's name. It is in His name alone that we pray. Amen.

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

HYMNS: 2; 408; 398; 48

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 5:1-7

The Prophet portrays men of Judah as a vineyard, one that has been carefully and well-built and tended, and yet that vineyard only brings for wild grapes, grapes that are sour and unfit for any purpose. Therefore, the Lord would allow the vineyard to be burned and destroyed and briars and thorns to grow in place of the grapevines. He had indeed made the people of Judah His pleasant plant but, instead of justice, they produced oppression, and in place of righteousness, an anguished cry from their victims. So now the Lord has blessed us with His grace and love; let us bring forth fruits worthy of the Lord's grace.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Revelation 3:7-11

In this letter we hear how the Lord commends those who, through of little strength, maintained faithfulness to the Lord's Word and refused to deny His name before the world. He assures them of victory in the end. When all shall bow before the Lord, those who scoffed shall bow acknowledging the Lord's love for those who are saved. The Lord can deliver from the persecutions of this present evil world.

THE SERMON: John 15:1-11

Theme: Jesus Is the Vine that Brings Life to His Branches

- I. Benefiting from the Vinedresser's Work
- II. Tapping the Vine's Strength for a Fruitful Life
- III. Strengthening our Connection with the Vine

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Bible Class will follow the service. A pot luck lunch is scheduled to follow after Bible class and the quarterly voters' meeting is scheduled for 12:30.

WEDNESDAY: Ladies Aid at 7:00 p.m. Hostess is Jean Hellickson.

FRIDAY - SUNDAY: Pastor Barthels will be out of town attending a seminar. A lay service will be conducted by Joe Ubl and Leon Hellickson. In case of emergency he can be reached on his cell number. Worship at 9:30 with Sunday school and Bible Class following the service. Sermon text: John 14:13-21.

SATURDAY, MAY 7: Spring Cleanup day at St. Paul's beginning at 9:00, hoping to finish by about noon. May 14 rain date.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday June 5th Minnesota delegate conference is scheduled to begin at 3:00 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato.

June 23-26, 2016: CLC Convention in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Convention is scheduled for a Thursday – Sunday so that lay delegates need take fewer days off work in order to attend.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

Ushers: Preston Johnson, Melvin Eichstadt, Ken Nickson, Arnie Ottjes

Cleaning: Nelson

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: April 17 Worship – 31; Sunday School – 5 Bible Class -- 8

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,155.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	\$ 1,096.00	
Needed for Year:	\$18,480.00	
Received for Year:	\$15,393.00	

CLC NEWS: Mt. Zion Lutheran, Madison Heights (Detroit Area) MI, has called the Rev. Roland Gurgel, pastor of Bethel Lutheran, Spring TX. <> The Rev. Neal Radichel, pastor of Luther Memorial Lutheran, Fond du Lac WI, has returned the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids

MI. Myanmar Earthquake -- Please include prayers for our brothers and sisters of the Zomi Lutheran Church of Myanmar (ZLCM). A 6.9 magnitude earthquake recently hit the western regions of Myanmar where several ZLCM congregations are located. Pastor Kham reported that among the congregations of the ZLCM, three members were killed, seven were hospitalized, and five homes were severely damaged. When the HCLC-Nepal heard about the earthquake in Myanmar, Pastor Raju Bhitrakoti called and requested that some of the remaining funds from the Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund be sent to the ZLCM as soon as possible to assist them in their time of need. Money was sent from the Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund to the ZLCM this past week and no special offering will be needed at this time. In addition to the recent earthquake, there has also been recent flooding and wind storms in western Myanmar. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ of the ZLCM as they struggle to recover, continue to pray for members of the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession in Nepal as they work to rebuild, and give thanks and praise to the Lord for compassionate and willing hearts that are led by our Savior's love to help our fellow Christians in times of need.

Caring for God's Servants: The Immanuel Professorage Committee is looking for volunteer help immediately before or after the CLC Convention, or anytime in June and early July convenient for you. Projects include: installing new windows & siding, installing new carpeting/vinyl, installing a new kitchen, painting inside, and fencing in the back yard. If you are able to help with any of these projects or would like more details, please contact Pastor Paul Tiefel (715-829-2000/tiefels@hotmail.com).

RETIREMENT GIFT: John Pfeiffer served as the pastor here at St. Paul's from 1984 until November of 1994 when the Pfeiffers moved to Eau Claire. We have a card we will be sending directly from us with our own acknowledgment of John's retirement, and the blessing his ministry was to St. Paul's. A basket will be set out for those who wish to contribute to a gift from St. Paul's.

Those who wish to contribute to the **synodical** gift may send their check to Immanuel College in Eau Claire. and indicate: "Prof. Pfeiffer Retirement" on the memo line Send your gift to: Immanuel Lutheran College, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701.