

*"The earth produces  
of itself, first the blade,  
then the ear, then the  
full grain in the ear."*

*Mark 4:28*



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**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2100 16<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 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](http://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com)

[www.CLClutheran.org](http://www.CLClutheran.org)

[www.ilc.edu/home.htm](http://www.ilc.edu/home.htm)

**PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, We come before You to praise your Holy name. We acknowledge our sin and unworthiness, and yet You have loved us with an everlasting love. You sent Your only begotten Son into the world to redeem us from sin and death. Grant that we may always believe this, and believing have life in Jesus' name. By the power of Your Holy Spirit grant us power over sin in our lives that we may live the victory Christ won for us; to the praise and glory of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE:** p. 5 (6)

**HYMNS:** 1; 446; 49; 52

**THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT:** (Psalm 103:15-19,8 NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> *As for man, his days are like grass;*

**As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.**

<sup>16</sup> *For the wind passes over it, and it is gone,*

**And its place remembers it no more.**

<sup>17</sup> *But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting*  
On those who fear Him,

**And His righteousness to children's children,**

<sup>18</sup> *To such as keep His covenant,*

**And to those who remember His commandments to do them.**

<sup>19</sup> *The Lord has established His throne in heaven,*

**And His kingdom rules over all.**

<sup>8</sup> *The Lord is merciful and gracious,*

**Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.**

*Glory be to the Father...*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 55:10-11

The Lord's assurance is given that even as we see the land bring forth plants from seed so that they bear fruit, so the Lord will bless the sowing of the seed of His Word. It will not fail to bring the results that please the Lord. It will accomplish that purpose for which He sent it, even the salvation of souls.

**THE EPISTLE LESSON:** Romans 8:18-25

In this life we struggle and suffer many things, however, we hope for that glory which God has secured for us in Christ Jesus. The sufferings of the here and now are not worthy to be compared with what awaits us in heaven. That is not to diminish our sufferings now, but rather lead us to appreciate the greatness of the glory that God has given us through faith. We have cause to hope, and we eagerly wait for that glory with perseverance. Let us not allow the trials and cares of this life to diminish our faith and confidence in God.

**THE SERMON:** Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**Theme:** Lessons in Spiritual Gardening

- I. Planting the Seed
- II. Challenges to Good Production.
- III. The Blessing of a Fruitful Harvest

CALENDAR

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Worship at 9:30. *Sermon text: Joel 3:12-16*

SERVING TODAY

**Organist:** Denise Barthels

**Ushers:** Phil Egtvedt, Ken Nickson, Arnie Ottjes, Joe Ubl

**August Cleaning – Hellickson** **August Lawn Mowing:** Katie Barthels

**OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:**

Attendance: July 23 worship – 22

|                         |             |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Weekly Offerings Needed | \$ 1,207.00 | Other Offerings:              |
| Offerings Received      | \$820.00    | Memorial: Irene Eichstadt for |
| Needed for Year:        | \$36,210.00 | ILC Student Aid 50.00         |
| Received for Year:      | \$28,016.00 |                               |

**CLC NEWS:** St. Luke’s Lutheran, Lemmon SD, has called the Rev. Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild; Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska; and Trinity Lutheran, Millston, all in WI. <> Redeemer Lutheran, Cheyenne WY, will be postponing the opening of its school, due to the inability to acquire a teacher. <> The Rev. Mark Tiefel, pastor of Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood WA, has returned the call as second pastor to Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato MN.

**North Hall Update and Cleaning:** The boys dormitory at the Immanuel campus, North Hall, is being updated this summer. Parts of the solar heating system had to be removed in order to install a more efficient natural gas boiler system. New windows are also being installed. The project is progressing as planned. Because of this project occurring over summer, there will be a small window of opportunity to clean it appropriately prior to the opening of the school year. Those willing to help with cleaning during the first two weeks of August are encouraged to contact the Facilities Manager, Paul Heinze ([715-456-7194/ilcmaintenance@ilc.edu](mailto:715-456-7194/ilcmaintenance@ilc.edu)).

**Partners in Ministry Program:** The 2016 CLC Convention approved the Partners in Ministry Program which is designed to link active CLC called servants who have obligations to repay ILC Student Aid Fund loans with sponsors who agree to provide matching funds for payments on those loans. The donor and recipient would remain anonymous to each other. This program is now ready for implementation. There are about a dozen eligible account holders who will be contacted directly to see if they are interested in participating and would then need to fill out an application annually. While donors may get involved with this at any time, it would be helpful to have the initial slate of donors in place by August 15. Those interested in being donors or those who have questions may contact the ILC Business Manager, Jim Sandeen, [715-836-6622/jimsandeen@gmail.com](mailto:715-836-6622/jimsandeen@gmail.com).

**2017 “MAN UP” WEEKEND** – The August 1 registration deadline for the second annual Men's Weekend is approaching. This weekend is intended to offer instruction and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The theme for this weekend is: *"Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3)*. The weekend will include Bible Study, Fellowship, Leadership Training, Team and Relationship Building and Worship, as well as several awesome outdoor activities. The retreat will be held September 22-24, 2017 at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI about an hour south of LaCrosse. You can also find out more information, see pictures of the park and last year's events/activities, read comments from last year's participants, and register for the retreat online at [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org). The cost is only \$75 for the weekend and includes lodging, meals, and activities. Men, don't miss out on this Christ-centered opportunity to be encouraged and built up in the faith which has been delivered to you! If you have any questions please speak to your pastor or contact Nathanael Mayhew at [ndmayhew@juno.com](mailto:ndmayhew@juno.com) or 404-729-4602. Don't wait. Register today!