

...so that your
faith might not
rest in the wisdom
of men but
in the power
of God.

1 Corinthians 2:5



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

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Worship Services streamed on YouTube Channel: St. Paul CLC Austin.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com

www.CLClutheran.org

www.ilc.edu/home.htm

February 7, 2021

5th Sunday after Epiphany

PRESERVICE PRAYER Heavenly Father, in your grace and love for a fallen mankind You have caused the light of the glory of God to be revealed in the face of Jesus Christ. We pray that You would send your Holy Spirit into our midst, that as we hear Your holy Word we may comprehend the glory of Jesus so that the light of the gospel might shine in our hearts, dispelling the darkness of sin and death and granting us the hope of everlasting life, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: (p. 22 Worship Supplement 2000)

HYMN 279:1-3 Today Thy Mercy Calls Us

1. Today Thy mercy calls us to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Thy precious blood can cleanse us and make us white today.

2. Today Thy gate is open, and all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.

3. Today our Father calls us, His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Together let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

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: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 43:18-25

“Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old.

¹⁹ Behold, I will do a new thing,

Now it shall spring forth;

Shall you not know it?

I will even make a road in the wilderness

And rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The beast of the field will honor Me,

The jackals and the ostriches,

Because I give waters in the wilderness

And rivers in the desert,

To give drink to My people, My chosen.

²¹ This people I have formed for Myself;

They shall declare My praise.

²² “But you have not called upon Me, O Jacob;

And you have been weary of Me, O Israel.

²³ You have not brought Me the sheep for your burnt offerings,

Nor have you honored Me with your sacrifices.
I have not caused you to serve with grain offerings,
Nor wearied you with incense.

²⁴ You have bought Me no sweet cane with money,
Nor have you satisfied Me with the fat of your sacrifices;
But you have burdened Me with your sins,
You have wearied Me with your iniquities.

²⁵ “I, *even I, am* He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake;
And I will not remember your sins. (NKJV)

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

But *as God is faithful*, our word to you was not Yes and No. ¹⁹ For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. ²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. ²¹ Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, ²² who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. (NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 433 Jesus, My Truth, My Way

1. Jesus, My Truth, my Way, My sure unerring Light,
On Thee my feeble soul I stay, Which Thou wilt lead aright.

2. My Wisdom and my Guide, My Counselor Thou art;
Oh, let me never leave Thy side Nor from Thy paths depart!

3. Thou seest my feebleness; Jesus, be Thou my Pow’r,
My Help and Refuge in distress, My Fortress and my Tower.

4. Give me to trust in Thee; Be Thou my sure Abode;
My Horn and Rock and Buckler be, My Savior and my God.

5. Myself I cannot save, Myself I cannot keep;
But strength in Thee I surely have, Whose eyelids never sleep.

6. My soul to Thee alone Now, therefore, I commend.
Thou, Jesus, having loved Thine own, Wilt love me to the end.

THE SERMON: Mark 2:1-12

Theme: By Healing the Paralytic Jesus Reveals
the Divine Authority of His Word!

I. Jesus Prioritizes the Preaching of His Word!

II. Jesus Authenticates the Authority of His Word!

SERMON TEXT: Mark 2:1-12

And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ² Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them*, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. ³ Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four *men*. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”

⁶ And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,

⁷ “Why does this *Man* speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

⁸ But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise, take up your bed and walk’? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” ¹² Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw *anything* like this!” (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN 392 Blest Is the Man, Forever Blest

1. Blest is the man, forever blest,
Whose guilt is pardoned by His God,
Whose sins with sorrow are confessed
And covered with his Savior’s blood.

2. Blest is the man to whom the Lord
Imputes not his iniquities;
He pleads no merit of reward
And not on works but grace relies.

3. From guile his heart and lips are free;
His humble joy, his holy fear,
With deep repentance well agree
And join to prove his faith sincere.

4. How glorious is that righteousness
That hides and cancels all his sins,
While bright the evidence of grace
Thro' all his life appears and shines!

BENEDICTION;
C: Amen.

Hymn 50:2 Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

2. Thanks we give and adoration For Thy Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Thy salvation In our hearts and lives abound;
Ever faithful, Ever faithful To the Truth may we be found!

CALENDAR

TODAY: Thank you for coming to hear the Word.
Used bulletins should either be taken home or deposited in the wastepaper basket at the narthex door. Your offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the nave. Bible class will follow the service this morning.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism via ZOOM beginning at 4:00p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Bible class is scheduled to follow the service. Next Sunday's sermon text: 2 Kings 2:1-12.

FEBRUARY 17th: ASH WEDNESDAY Our midweek Lenten meditations begin. On Ash Wednesday we will have Holy Communion. Service begins at 7:00 p.m. We will not be having our traditional soup and sandwich suppers this year.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: January 31 worship – 11

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,250.00	Other offerings
Offerings Received	\$ 1145.00	
Needed for Year:	\$6,250.00	
Received for Year:	\$5,435.00	

February Church Cleaning – Barthels

CLC NEWS: Pastor David Schaller, Redeemer, Sister Lakes (Dowagiac), MI, has received the call to serve as professor at Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI. This call is for replacing Prof. John Reim who is retiring in June of 2021. Pastor Mark Tiefel of Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, Washington, has returned the call extended to him by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY.

Special Announcement: Ron and Karen Strike, former members of St. Paul’s, (Karen was our last Christian day school teacher, and Ron served selflessly on the Board of Buildings and Grounds,) will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Friday, February 12, 2021.

A SURPRISE card shower is being planned for them. If you would like to send greetings, please address it to:

Ron and Karen Strike
c/o Phil Strike
PO Box 134
Okabena, MN 56161