



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 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

PRESERVICE PRAYER Heavenly Father, today I am approaching Your altar where I shall receive the true body and blood of Your Son sacrificed for me and my sin upon the cross. I know and confess my sin. Bless my reception of this communion that I may gain confidence that You have forgiven all my sins. Use this blest communion to assure me of the abiding relationship You have established with me as Your child and heir of everlasting life. Help me defeat temptation in my daily life, and glorify Your name before the world in all my ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

HYMN 212 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

1 A hymn of glory let us sing;
New songs thro'out the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod.
Ascendeth to the throne of God. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 Oh, grant us thitherward to tend
And with unwearied hearts ascend, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Unto Thy kingdom's throne, where Thou,
As is our faith, art seated now. Alleluia! ...

6 Be Thou our Joy and strong Defense,
Who art our future Recompense: Alleluia! Alleluia!
So shall the light that springs from Thee
Be ours through all eternity. Alleluia! ...

7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One. Alleluia! ...

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 EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 1:16-23

¹⁶ (I) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all

principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. (NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.” ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen. (NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 213:1-4 Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

1. Hail the day that sees Him rise To His throne above the skies!
Christ the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Re-ascends His native heav'n.

2. There the glorious triumph waits: Lift your heads eternal gates.
He hath conquered death and sin; Take the King of glory in!

3. See, the heav'n its Lord receives, Yet He loves the earth He leave;
Though returning to His throne, Still He calls mankind His own.

4. See, He lifts His hands above; See, He shows the prints of love.
Hark! His gracious lips bestow Blessings on His Church below.

THE SERMON: Acts 1:1-11

Theme: Jesus' Ascension Gives Direction to Our Lives

- I. Assurance of Successful Fulfillment of His Mission of Salvation
- II. Focus on Our Kingdom Calling
- III. Anticipating His Visible, Physical Return.

SERMON TEXT: Acts 1:1-11

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ²until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

⁴And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

⁹Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 215:Draw Us to Thee

1 Draw us to Thee, For then shall we
Walk in Thy steps forever And hasten on
Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.

2 Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly;
Let us depart with gladness That we may be
Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

3 Draw us to Thee; O grant that we
May walk the road to heaven! Direct our way
Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.

4 Draw us to Thee That also we
Thy heavenly bliss inherit And ever dwell
Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.

5 Draw us to Thee Unceasingly,
Into Thy kingdom take us; Let us fore'er
Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We observe the Scriptural practice of close communion. Since participation in communion is a confession of unity of teaching and faith, you will not want to commune with us until you have had a chance to compare your beliefs with ours. Please speak with the pastor to set up an appointment - we want to share this blessing with you!

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

C: Amen.

HYMN 223:1, 5 We Thank Thee, Jesus, Dearest Friend

1 We thank Thee, Jesus, dearest Friend,
That Thou didst into heav'n ascend.
O blessed Savior, bid us live
And strength to soul and body give. Hallelujah!

5 Through Him we heirs of heaven are made;
O Brother, Christ, extend Thine aid
That we may firmly trust in Thee
And through Thee live eternally. Hallelujah!

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. **Church Council** is scheduled to follow the service.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism class via Zoom beginning at 4:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. With adult Bible class following the service Sermon text: Acts 2:22-36

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

June 5: Minnesota Delegate Conference at Immanuel in Mankato from 10:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

June 24-27: CLC Convention in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Convention is scheduled for a Thursday – Sunday.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: May 9 worship – 12 Bible class -- 10

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Weekly Offerings Needed | \$ 1,285.00 | Memorial offerings |
| Offerings Received | \$1015.00 | |
| Needed for Year: | \$24,415.00 | |
| Received for Year: | \$22,845.00 | |

May Church Cleaning – Congregation Spring Cleaning!

May Lawn Mowing – Hellickson

CLC NEWS: Pastor Tom Naumann, Mt. Zion, Detroit, MI has returned the call by Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY. <> Pastor Chad Seybt, Morning Star, Fairchild/Trinity, Millston/Peace With God, Onlaska has accepted the part-time call by St. Paul's, Melrose, WI as part of a now quad-parish.

THE BRANCHES TIME TO RENEW OR SUBSCRIBE--The Branches magazine is a publication designed and published by women of the CLC. It's time to renew, subscribe for the first time, or purchase gift subscriptions for others in your life who may benefit. Mother's Day, confirmations, and graduations are upon us! A subscription makes a great, year-long gift. \$15 for 4, 24 page issues each year.

CLC Financial Report - April

| CLC Financial Report | Balance | YTD | YTD | Budget | Balance |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Operating Funds | 7/1/2020 | Revenue | Disbursed | 10 Months | 4/30/2021 |
| General Fund | 0 | 807,319 | 862,836 | 914,500 | - 55,517 |
| ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy) | 0 | 1,160,302 | 1,080,220 | 1,148,450 | 80,082 |
| <u>Auxiliary Funds</u> | | | | | |
| ILC Improvement Fund (IIF) | 201,448 | 23,071 | 125,702 | | 98,817 |
| ILC Building Projects | 14,542 | 2,152,483 | 1,083,198 | | 1,083,827 |
| Mission Development Fund (MDF) | 84,054 | 206,797 | 147,812 | | 143,039 |
| Kinship | 86,093 | 175,048 | 100,126 | | 161,015 |
| Church Extension Fund (CEF) | 1,914,371 | 2,003,587 | 462,304 | | 3,455,654 |
| Student Aid Fund (SAF) | 84,280 | 131,447 | 105,279 | | 110,448 |
| Reserve Fund | 294,092 | 2,985 | 0 | | 297,077 |
| Total | \$2,678,880 | \$4,695,418 | \$2,024,421, | | \$5,349,877 |

General Fund – April offerings: \$62,808 vs disbursements: \$76,834, resulted in a net shortfall for the month of \$14,026, increasing the General Fund deficit to –\$55,517. Offerings to date are short of our CBP estimated revenue by \$107,181, but YTD disbursements are \$51,664 less than estimated expenses. All are aware of the need to support the General Fund which provides the major funding for the Boards of Missions, Trustees, Regents, & Ed Pub, and the Boards are aware of the importance of remaining under budget. But most importantly, the Lord is aware of our needs & always provides.

ILC Operations – April revenue: \$84,577 (incl \$49,500 subsidy) vs disbursements: \$106,985, but still maintaining a substantial balance for this last month of the school year & last 2 months of the fiscal year, ending June 30. YTD ILC disbursements are \$68,230 less than YTD budgeted expenses.

ILC Building Projects – April offerings: \$1,031 vs disbursements of \$8,757 for Planning Committee expenses. April earnings (Div/Int) were \$3,886 (YTD \$59,605). The Committee is bringing a recommendation for the June 24 CLC Convention for a new gym and repurposing the old gym.

CEF – April revenue: \$20,377 (\$375 offerings, \$20,002 CEF loan payments) vs disbursements: \$3,927. The Trustees have funded CEF loans to Immanuel-Mankato (\$69,000) for gym repairs & Grace-Sleepy Eye (\$132,750), for a teacherage. Recently, they approved loan applications from Messiah, Eau Claire (\$1.45 million limit) for a new school addition, & Prince of Peace, Loveland (\$130,000 limit) for expansion of its church facility. Several others have inquired about CEF loans.

MDF – April offerings: \$6,436 vs disbursements: \$14,012, which includes \$10,000 for the 10th construction grant (of 12 planned) for the Nepal Bible Institute classroom building and quarters.

SAF – April receipts: \$18,772 (\$16,091 SAF loan payments) vs disbursements: \$7,274 for student loans & grants. SAF Endowment Account earnings (Div/Int) of \$35,938 for 10 mo YTD on a portfolio balance of \$1,512,340. Capital appreciation of the portfolio for April was \$55,386.

ILC PMPG – Public Ministry Prep Grants: YTD earnings: \$44,174 vs grants: \$32,400 to 9 teacher & 6 pastor students this school year. The PMP Endowment portfolio had a capital appreciation of \$68,079 for a current value of \$1,858,933. **(Note: Since capital gains can fluctuate (+or-) each month, those portfolio gains & balances will be reported periodically & separately from the actual earnings reported each month.)**

Kinship – Sponsors/Offerings: \$12,566 vs disbursements: \$490 (Admin, Nigeria Sem students).
James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees