



But as for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD.

-Joshua 24:15

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

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. I am unworthy of your forgiveness and salvation, but I come to you pleading the merits of Your Son. 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, calling me to be Your child and heir of everlasting life. Help me to live according to Your holy will, defeating temptation in my daily life, and glorifying Your name before the world in all my words and actions. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

HYMN 2 To Thy Temple I Repair

1 To Thy Temple I repair; Lord, I love to worship there
When within the veil I meet Christ before the mercy-seat.

2 I through Him am reconciled, I through Him become Thy child.
Abba, Father, give me grace In Thy courts to seek Thy face.

3 While Thy glorious praise is sung, Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,
That my joyful soul may bless Christ the Lord, my Righteousness.

4 While the prayers of saints ascend, God of Love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for Thy Spirit pleads; Hear, for Jesus intercedes.

5 While I hearken to Thy Law, Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Thy Gospel bring to me Life and immortality.

6 While Thy ministers proclaim Peace and pardon in Thy name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I Hear Thee speaking from the sky.

7 From Thy house when I return, May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say, "I have walked with God today."

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

C: Amen.

P: God is light and 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 5:21-31

“Submitting to one another in the fear of God.

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸So husbands ought to love

their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” (NKJV)

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 6:60-69

Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

⁶¹ When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² *What* then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. ⁶⁵ And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 399:1- 5 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower

1 Thee will I love, my Strength, my Tower;
Thee will I love, my Hope, my Joy;
Thee will I love with all my power,
With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.
Thee will I love, O Light Divine,
So long as life is mine.

2 Thee will I love, my Life, my Savior,
Who art my best and truest Friend.
Thee will I love and praise forever,
For never shall Thy kindness end;

Thee will I love with all my heart,
Thou my Redeemer art.

3 I thank Thee, Jesus, Sun from heaven,
Whose radiance hath bro't light to me;
I thank Thee, who hast richly given
All that could make me glad and free;
I thank Thee that my soul is healed
By what Thy lips revealed.

4 Oh, keep me watchful, then, and humble;
And suffer me no more to stray;
Uphold me when my feet would stumble,
Nor let me loiter by the way.
Fill all my nature with Thy light,
O Radiance strong and bright!

5 Oh, teach me, Lord, to love Thee truly
With soul and body, head and heart,
And grant me grace that I may duly
Practice fore'er love's sacred art.
Grant that my ev'ry thought may be
Directed e'er to Thee.

THE SERMON: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

Theme: The Lord Himself Calls Us to Serve the Lord!

- I. Serve Him in Sincerity and Truth.
- II. Serve Him for He Is Our God and Savior.

SERMON TEXT: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. ² And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Your fathers, *including* Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods. ...

¹⁴ "Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! ¹⁵ And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of

the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶ So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷ for the LORD our God *is* He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. ¹⁸ And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He *is* our God.” (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN 307 Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord,

1 Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord,
And drink the holy Blood for you outpoured.
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.

2 He that His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields,
With heav’nly bread makes them that hunger whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

3 Approach ye, then, with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Judge of all, our only Savior Thou,
In this Thy feast of love to be with us now.

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 48:3 “Today I Was My Savior's Guest.”

3. Today I was my Savior's guest;
My soul was here so richly blest,
The Bread of Life receiving.
Oh, may thereby my faith prevail,
So that its fruits shall never fail
Till my account is given
Before the throne in heaven!

CALENDAR

TODAY: The August church council meeting is scheduled to follow the service.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Sermon text: Ephesians 6:10-20.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8: Catechism resumes beginning at 4:00 p.m. to 5:30.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12: Fall worship schedule resumes with Sunday school and Bible class following the service.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: August 15 worship – 9 August 22 worship – 6

(The following report reflects offerings from 8/15 & 8/22)

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,285.00	Other Offerings: Memorial
Offerings Received	\$ 880.00	Ed Stark -Prop Imprv. \$25.00
Needed for Year:	\$43,690.00	
Received for Year:	\$38,034.00	

August Church Cleaning – Hellickson
September Cleaning - Nelson
August Lawn Mowing – Mike Nelson, Valerie Barthels -trim mowing

September Lawn Mowing – Katie Barthels

CLC NEWS: Professor emeritus John Reim has resigned from the CLC. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Rapid City, SD has *returned* the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Saint Louis, MO.<> Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church of Tacoma, WA, has *received* the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY. <> Michael Sprengeler has *received* the calls to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, as well as to Zion Lutheran Church, Ipswich, SD. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller, Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has *received* the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

Man Up! Retreat - The 2021 ManUp! Men's Retreat is on for this fall. It will be held September 30 - October 3, 2021, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The retreat will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. **Register and send in your payment before September 1 for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$100 on September 1st.** The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org. Sign up today!