



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 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, 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 bear our sin and redeem us from death. Grant that we may always believe this, and believing have life in Jesus' name. By the power of Your Holy Spirit grant us grace that we also may love one another as You have loved us, and thereby show forth the glory of Your salvation to the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

HYMN 234: Holy Ghost, with Light Divine

1. Holy Ghost, with light divine Shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.
2. Let me see my Savior's face, Let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to Thee.
3. Holy Ghost, with pow'r divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;
In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free.
4. Holy Ghost, with joy divine Cheer this saddened heart of mine;
Yield a sacred settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.
5. Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down every idol throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone.
6. See, to Thee I yield my heart, Shed Thy life through every part;
A pure temple I would be, Wholly dedicate to Thee.

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 OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 35: 4-7a

Say to those *who are* fearful-hearted,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance,

With the recompense of God;

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

⁶Then the lame shall leap like a deer,

And the tongue of the dumb sing.

For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,

And streams in the desert.

⁷The parched ground shall become a pool,

And the thirsty land springs of water;

(NKJV)

THE EPISTLE LESSON: James 1:17-27

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

²¹ Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

(NKJV)

THE APOSTLES CREED

HYMN 777: Amazing Grace – How Sweet the Sound

1. Amazing grace – how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see.
2. The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

THE SERMON: Mark 7:31-37

Theme: Jesus Still Calls to Us, “Ephphatha,” – “Be Opened!”

- I. Were We Really Spiritual Deaf -- Mutes?
- II. Jesus Opens our Hearts to Hear with Faith
- III. Jesus Loosens Our Tongues to Confess His Name.

SERMON TEXT: Mark 7:31-37

Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee. ³² Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him. ³³ And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.”

³⁵ Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.” (NKJV)

PRAYER; THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN: A Wretched man, Both Mute and Deaf

Author Unknown – Tune of TLH 371

1. A wretched man, both mute and deaf,
Was brought to Jesus for relief;
He came to know the Savior’s pow’r,
When he received a wondrous cure.
2. The Savior used but simple means,
Such as the haughty world disdains;
When He first took him from the throng,
To make him hear and loose his tongue.
3. His “Ephphatha,” His sigh and look,
Through all the pow’rs of darkness broke;
He loosed the devil’s dreadful chain,
The man could hear and speak again!

4. Are we not also deaf and mute,
And wretched creatures from our youth?
We cannot speak the Savior's praise,
Until we hear His Word of grace:

5. The chain of sin our Savior broke,
Our guilt upon Himself He took;
He died that we might now be free,
And with Him live eternally.

6. When we are taken from the crowd,
And with this light and grace endow'd;
Then by His Word we come to know,
Our Savior's wondrous healing, too.

7. Now of His wonders we can tell,
And testify that all is well;
Then grace on other hearts will break –
The deaf will hear, the mute will speak!

BENEDICTION

C: Amen.

HYMN 50:1-2 Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

1. Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace.
Let us each, Thy love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us, Oh, refresh us, Trav'ling thro' this wilderness!

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

MONDAY: Pastors Study meeting in Fridley, MN Pastor Barthels will be back home early evening.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism tentatively beginning at 4:30 p.m. to 5:30.
Ladies Aid meets at 7:00 p.m. Denise is scheduled to serve as hostess.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship with Holy communion at 9:30. Sunday school and church council are scheduled to follow the service. Sermon text: James 2:1-18 (selected verses)

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: September 5 worship – 12

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,285.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	\$ 780.00	
Needed for Year:	\$46,260.00	
Received for Year:	\$40,734.00	

September Church Cleaning - Nelson

September Lawn Mowing – Katie Barthels

CLC NEWS: Michael Sprengeler **has returned** the call 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 returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Seminary graduate Nick Naumann **is still considering** the call to Living Savior Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, **is still considering** the call to Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY.

CLC 2021 CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS: Complete Proceedings from the 2021 CLC Convention are now available on line. You may find a link on the CLC website, or click on the following link:

<https://clclutheran.org/ourhistory/historical-documents/convention-proceedings>.

You may also use: tinyurl.com/2021-clc-proc.

Print copies are available on request. The church copy may be **borrowed** for quick reference.

CLC Financial Report - August

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2021	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 2 Month	Balance 8/31/2021
General Fund	0	149,491	202,413	209,904	- 52,922
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	310,116	247,778	241,352	62,338
<u>Auxiliary Funds</u>					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	124,590	38,941	292		163,239
ILC Building Projects	1,096,716	14,164	0		1,110,880
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	132,313	12,987	15,149		130,151
Kinship	182,119	35,769	24,355		193,533
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	3,527,885	89,354	114,325		3,502,914
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	133,585	15,915	20,417		129,083
CLC Reserve Fund	300,222	0	0		300,222
Total	\$5,497,430	\$207,130	\$174,538		\$5,530,022

General Fund – August offerings were \$67,076 (including a special \$20,000 offering) **VS** disbursements of \$88,497, resulting in a negative monthly cash flow of --\$21,420. YTD offerings are \$60,413 short of budget needs, while YTD disbursements are \$7,491 under budget needs, resulting in a YTD negative cash flow of --\$52,922 after the 2nd month of our fiscal year. It bears repeating that the **General Fund provides major subsidy for the operation of our Boards of Missions, Trustees, Regents, and Education & Publication. The General Fund budget is \$1,259,430 for the fiscal year, or \$104,952/month. It needs the regular support of all our members.** Only the GF has a deficit!!

ILC Operations – August revenue was \$234,031 (incl \$61,667 subsidy) **VS** disbursements of \$110,817, resulting in a positive YTD balance of +\$62,338. As noted last month, the Regents deficit of --\$60,875 recovered due largely to student revenue when school resumed August 23.

ILC Building Projects – August revenue: \$190 in offerings **VS** \$0 disbursements. August earnings (Dividends/Interest) were \$3,380, while unrealized market (capital) gains were \$2,294. The 2021 CLC Convention allocated \$20,000 from this account for the ILC Planning Committee to study and present a cost estimate to the 2022 Convention, not only for building a new gymnasium but also for repurposing the existing fieldhouse into a chapel/theater arts/musical arts facility.

CEF – August revenue: \$41,622 (\$25,983 loan repayments, \$15,600 market (capital) gains, \$40 offerings) **VS** disbursements: \$110,664 (\$100,000 Cong loan installment #1; \$2,396 Note interest paid; \$8,268 admin expenses. Over this month & the next the Trustees will fund congregational CEF construction loans of nearly \$900,000.

MDF – August revenue: \$4,211 in offerings **VS** disbursements of \$9,824, including \$4,850 Africa outreach; \$2,500 church building aid, & \$1,073 admin expenses.

SAF – August receipts: \$10,456 (\$5,673 SAF loan repayments & \$4,783 gifts) **VS** 19,536 disbursed (\$18,615 student grants, loans, & scholarships; \$920 admin expenses).

Kinship – August offerings: \$15,434 (\$12,104 offerings, \$3,330 sponsors) **VS** disbursed: \$8,005 (\$4,100 medical aid; \$3,010 orphanages, \$180 Sem students, \$690 widows).

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees