



St. Paul Lutheran Church

The 14th Sunday After Pentecost — September 11, 2022





ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

31 North Park St
Clintonville, WI 54929
www.stpaulclintonville.com

Pastor Caleb Rothfuss
Cell: (989) 220-8833
Church Office: (715) 460-3143

Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us here at St. Paul in Clintonville!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the doors to the worship area.
- **Restrooms:** If you need them, there are bathrooms just to the sides of the main entrance doors.
- **Children:** We are grateful and glad that they are here! If you feel the need to, you can take them to the parent's room or to the back gathering area. Let us know if there are other ways we can help you focus on the Word.
- **Changing Table:** If needed these are in the parent's room and downstairs restrooms.
- **Communion:** guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for the Lord's Supper. We want to talk to you about what we teach and believe about it first.

This church is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. wels.net



Our Focus Today...

“He’s lost.” We use that term not only to refer to someone who is bewildered about where they are but also to refer to someone who is in a helpless, hopeless state. Mankind’s natural state is one of complete spiritual helplessness, a profound lostness. It manifests itself in countless ways. The one who simply wants God to leave him alone: lost. The one who feels she can handle life on her own: lost. The one who thinks he has the right to repent of his sins on his own timetable and on his own terms: lost. The one who thinks God owes them in some way: lost. Wandering around physically lost can lead to winding up in bad places. But the hard truth is that wandering around spiritually lost puts you in the worst place of all. Fortunately, Jesus does not leave us alone in our lostness. He relentlessly seeks us. He involves the rest of the Christian community in seeking the lost and rejoicing over the found.

Vision

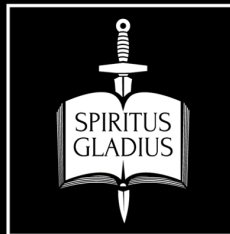
Our passion for the Gospel will make us the chosen place of worship in our community.


Mission

We will share the life giving and inerrant Word of God as written in the Bible.

Core Values

We will proclaim the law and the gospel so that all may have eternal life.



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The Bible translation used in today’s service is NIV 11.

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—Setting Five—

Hymn 612

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der
3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion



con - sid - er all the works thy hand hath made,
and hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the trees;
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!



I see the stars, I hear the might - y thun - der,
when I look down from loft - y moun - tain gran - deur
that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing
Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion



thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
and there pro - claim: "My God, how great thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior - God, to thee, How great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my



Sav - ior - God to thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

Invocation *Call to Worship*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Group: **Amen**

Gathering Rite *on Psalm 51*

Because we are all sons and daughters of the Lord, we are called by him to repent of our sins. Let us go before our God and ask for his forgiveness. *Acts 17:29-30*

Solo *tune: Lord Teach Us How to Pray Aright*

Lord, we confess our num'rous faults,
How great our guilt has been,
How vain and foolish all our thoughts,
How deeply stained with sin.

The Apostle John declares, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." *1 John 1:9*
Together, we confess our sins.

**Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
Cleans me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

Psalm 51, selected verses

silence for meditation

Solo

It's not by works of righteousness
Which our own hands have done,
But we are saved by God's free grace
Abounding through his Son.

Having confessed your sins, hear the good news of our salvation, "the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. Dear children, your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

1 John 1:7, 2:12, 5:11

♪ **It's from the mercy of our God
That all our hopes begin;
It's by the water and the blood
Our souls are washed from sin.**

**Raised from the dead we live anew;
And, justified by grace,
We shall appear in glory, too,
And see our Father's face.**

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

Amen.

Glory to God

Tune: WEBB



1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;



for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.



Al - might - y God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's throne,



we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

First Reading *Hosea 3:1-5*

The LORD called Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. This served as an object lesson, showing our God is a God who seeks and redeems those who are lost.

¹The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

²So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. ³Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.”

⁴For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. ⁵Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading *2 Corinthians 2:5-11*

A member of the church at Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to lovingly welcome him back.

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

———*We stand out of respect for the words and works of Jesus.*———

Gospel Acclamation *Luke 15:10*

Alleluia.
There is rejoicing
in the presence of the angels of God
over one sinner who repents.
Alleluia.



Gospel Reading *Luke 15:1-10*

Through two parables, Jesus rebukes those who consider themselves already found and not in need of repentance.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

⁸“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Confession of Faith *Apostles’ Creed*

The Apostles’ Creed is a brief statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. This creed was created to teach and unite Christians in the truth of God’s Word. The Apostles’ Creed can be found on page 197 of the hymnal.



Hymn 654

Jesus Sinners Does Receive

1 Jesus sinners does receive;
oh, may all this saying ponder
who in sin's delusions live
and from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

2 We deserve but grief and shame,
yet his words, rich grace revealing,
pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
here their ills have perfect healing
who with humble hearts believe:
Jesus sinners does receive.

3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
are not by the Lord forsaken;
weary souls who lost their way
are by Christ, the Shepherd, taken
in his arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners does receive.

4 I, a sinner, come to you
with a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too;
grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know,
were as scarlet my transgression,
it shall be as white as snow
by your blood and bitter passion,
for these words I do believe:
Jesus sinners does receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace,
from the law I stand acquitted.
Christ has purchased my release
and my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive,
even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave:
Jesus sinners does receive.

Sermon *Luke 15:1-10*

GO AFTER
THE
LOST



Hymn 405

On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



that life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures have no pow'r to hide your face.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, and my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

Offering

Our offering is our reaction to God's Word. Do not feel obligated to give here, we are just thankful you are here. Your offerings here support the ministry here at this church, along with the mission work of our larger synod. The offering is collected in the golden plates by the entrance to the worship area.

Installation of the Sunday School Teachers *thank you for your service*

Dear friends,

In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ set you free from sin and death and made you members of his body, the church. Through Word and sacrament, the Holy Spirit has nurtured your faith and increased your love.

You have now been appointed to serve our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with responsibilities that you are to carry out according to his Word. St. Paul wrote concerning service in the church: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

St. Paul spoke to all who serve the Savior: "It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." The Lord has promised to be with you and give you the gifts you will need to carry out the work entrusted to you.

As servants of Jesus Christ and workers in this congregation, you are to set aside time for study of the Scriptures so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are to strive to be an example of Christian faith and life so that others may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you in the presence of God and this congregation:

Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the work entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Installation

I install you as Sunday School Teachers here at St. Paul Clintonville
in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord pour out on you his Holy Spirit for the work you have been called to do that you may faithfully carry out all your duties and responsibilities with the Word of God as your confidence and guide.

To the Congregation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you to regard these fellow believers as servants of Jesus Christ and God's gifts to his church. Pray for them and support them in their service so that believers may be strengthened in faith and many others may come to know the Savior and the eternal hope he gives.

Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your church through the willing work and special gifts of so many people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit to the servants we are installing today that they may carry out their duties with diligence, wisdom, and humility. Encourage them to seek guidance from your Word and lead them to pray for your direction. Help them to be good examples to others and support the work of the gospel ministry in this congregation. Keep them in your care and encourage them by your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and make your service a blessing to others.

Prayer of the Church *for Christian Education*

Eternal Father, your Word is a lamp for our feet and a light to our path. You inspired the Scriptures for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that your servants might be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**Lead us to love your Word more and more
and to receive your message with great eagerness.**

You have given us your Word that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in his name. Enable us to see the wonders of your love in Christ from the beginning to the end of your holy book.

Help us to see Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Work in all your people, especially in parents, the resolve and patience to teach little children the simple truths about the Savior who loves them. Walk with us as we take our children to the manger, the cross, and the empty tomb. Let them find Jesus in stories, songs, and prayers.

Move us to bring up our children in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Provide wisdom and commitment to teachers who train our young people in Sunday Schools and youth Bible classes. Deepen their knowledge of your Word as they prepare and share the lessons they teach. Move them to model a sincere devotion to the Scriptures.

Lead us to plan for and support the Christian training of children.

Bless the schools and teachers who prepare public ministers of the gospel for service in our churches and around the world. Lead teachers and professors to be faithful to your Word and provide insights that enable them to pass on your truth to their students. Ignite the zeal of young men and women to be willing and eager to share the truths of Scripture with others. Move us to support with our prayers and gifts the schools our synod has established.

We pray that you send workers in your harvest fields.

Work in us that we may find the lasting value of growing in the grace and knowledge of Christ. Lead us to be faithful in our personal study of the Scriptures and in participating in regular Bible classes. Rid us of all thoughts that Christian education ends in our youth. Make us life-long students of your precious Word.

**Lead us to believe that at every age
your Word remains a lamp for our feet and a light to our path.**

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your Word. Even when we are old and gray, lead us to meditate on your decrees that we may delight in your wonderful deeds.

Do good to your servants, Lord, according to your Word. Amen.

Prayer Requests

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Hymn 833

I Run to Christ



1 I run to Christ when chased by fear and find a ref - uge
2 I run to Christ when worn by life and find my soul re -
3 I run to Christ when stalked by sin and find a sure es -



sure. "Be - lieve in me," his voice I hear; his words and
freshed. "Come un - to me," he calls thro' strife; fa - tigue gives
cape. "De - liv - er me," I cry to him; temp - ta - tion



wounds se - cure. I run to Christ when torn by grief and
way to rest. I run to Christ when vexed by hell and
yields to grace. I run to Christ when plagued by shame and



find a - bun - dant peace. "I too had tears," he
find a might - y arm. "The dev - il flees," the
find my one de - fense. "I bore God's wrath," he



gent - ly speaks; thus joy and sor - row meet.
Scrip - tures tell; he roars but can - not harm.
pleads my case— my ad - vo - cate and friend.

Thanksgiving

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn 708

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to
2 Hith - er - to thy love has blessed me, thou hast drawn me
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -



sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
to this place; and I know thy hand will lead me
strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,



call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
safe - ly home by thy good grace. Je - sus sought me when a
bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee: prone to wan - der, Lord, I



son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise his
stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God; he, to
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my



name, I'm fixed up - on it, name of God's re - deem - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, bought me with his pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks for joining us this morning!

Welcome, we are glad you joined us this morning! After the service, relax and enjoy some snacks. **Kids** can grab a snack and head downstairs for the first Sunday School of the season!

Teens and adults, there is something for you too. After a while we will gather back in the worship area and start a new Bible study series! Don't miss these opportunities to dig deeper in the Word!



Meditations Booklets

Sorry for the delay, the next Meditation have been ordered. If you would like to pay for yours, a one year subscription (4 quarterly booklets) costs the church \$16. These daily devotions are a great way to daily get into the Word.

Church Family Night: Sunday September 25th

Save the date and plan on coming to our next church family night the evening of September 25th. The event will be here at church so please invite and encourage others to come! More details will come soon but there will be food and games starting at 5:30pm.

Daily Online Chapels

Now that the school year is back in session, don't forget an amazing opportunity we have. Several of our synod's schools livestream and archive their chapels.

Martin Luther College — mlc-wels.edu/streams/

morning chapel @10:30am evening chapel by students @7:15pm

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary www.wls.wels.net/wls-chapel/

Lutheran Leadership Conference: Registration is Open

➤➤➤ FYI: registration for the next Lutheran Leadership Conference is open. The event will be from January 16-18 in Chicago. Details are at lutheranleadership.com This time they have nearly 50 breakout sessions to choose from! Take a look!

In the Footsteps of Paul

So you saw the presentation and now you want to travel in the footsteps of Paul... well this winter Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is holding a 15 day study tour that will focus on Paul's travels in modern-day Turkey. Visit the Seminary website for more details. www.wls.wels.net/

WELS & ELS Singles Events: wels-els-singles.com

Did you know there is a group that organizes resources and events for WELS and ELS singles in Wisconsin. Take a look at their website, it includes information about their November retreat just south of us at Camp Philip (Wautoma).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PAUL

September 13 Tuesday

Sisters in Christ @6:00pm

September 14 Wednesday

Open Office @10am-12 noon

Elders Meeting @6:15pm

September 18 Sunday

Worship @9am

Sunday School @10:15am

Bible Study @10:30am

September 21 Wednesday

Open Office @10am-12 noon

September 24 Saturday

Men's Breakfast Bible Study @6am

September 25 Sunday

Worship @9am

Sunday School @10:15am

Bible Study @10:30am

Church Family Night starting @5:30pm

October 1 Saturday

Men's Breakfast Bible Study @6am



October 2 Sunday

Big Events

Church Family Night
September 25th

Trunk or Treat Evangelism Effort
October 31st

~THE LORD WILING~

 <p>Sunday, September 4th Attendance: 75 Offered: \$3,187.00 General Fund: \$3,062.00</p> <p><small>Estimated Weekly Need: \$3,500 Based on the yearly budget and general fund support given year to date</small></p>	<p><i>Snacks this week</i> Amanda R Michelle H</p> <p><i>Ushers this week</i> Nick B Coulter B Caleb G</p>	<p><i>Snacks next week</i> Angie B Allie B</p> <p><i>Ushers next week</i> Tom G Fred L Kelly Z</p>	<p><i>Communion Help:</i> September: Martin M</p> <p><i>Communion Clean Up</i> Angie B 9/18 Allie B 9/18</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10/2 10/2</p> 
<p>Shut In Visitors</p>			