



St. Paul Lutheran Church

The 15th Sunday After Pentecost — September 18, 2022





ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

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

Pastor Caleb Rothfuss
Cell: (989) 220-8833
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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 communion so that we can talk about what we believe about it first.

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



SERVE GOD WITH MONEY, YOU CAN'T SERVE GOD AND MONEY

There are more than 2300 Bible passages that speak about money. Why? Money is a master Satan frequently tempts us to serve. And that evil foe knows how successful his efforts with money can be. Money provides us with a false comfort and a sense of security. It serves as a source of pride. It serves as a wonderful tool for a favorite pastime: justifying ourselves in our own eyes and the eyes of others. Jesus knows that serving money makes it impossible to serve God. The human heart is not big enough for both. As a result, Jesus does all he can to expose the futility of serving money. He also helps us see that the only one truly worth serving is our gracious, loving God. When we serve God, money is put in its proper place. Instead of money being a lord to serve, it becomes a resource for serving the Lord. This is the hard truth. There is no way for us to serve both God and money. But we can serve God with our money.

Vision

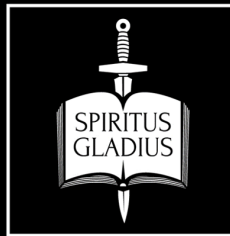
Our passion for the Gospel will make us the chosen place of worship in our community.


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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—Service Setting Two—

The full liturgy can be found on page 162 of the hymnal.

Hymn 779

I Sing as I Arise Today



1 I sing as I a - rise to - day, I call on
2 The word of God to be my speech, the hand of
3 The work of God to be my joy, the house of
4 I sing as I a - rise to - day; I cry out



my Cre - a - tor's might: the will of God to
God to be my stay, the shield of God to
God to be my rest, the grace of God to
my Re - deem - er's name: Lord Je - sus Christ, my



be my guide, the eye of God to be my sight;
be my strength, the path of God to be my way;
be my song, the praise of God to be my best.
hope, my all, to - day and ev - er - more the same.

Invocation *Call to Worship*

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

Group: Amen

Confession of sins

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Declaration of Grace *through Christ*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Kyrie *Lord Have Mercy*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

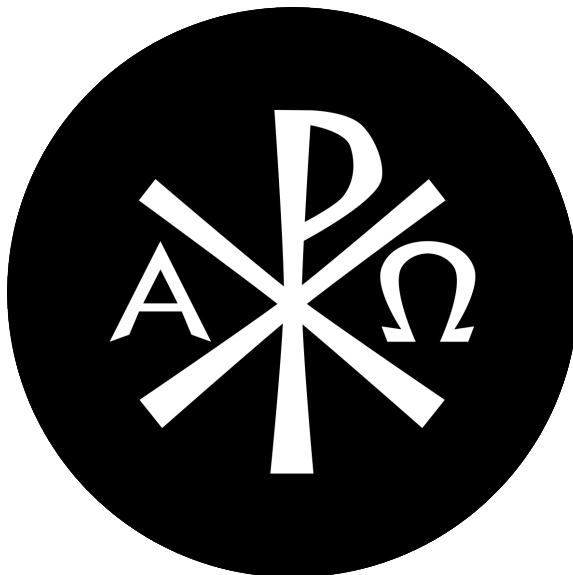
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

Gloria *hymn 953*

Holy God, 32e Praise Your Name

stanza 3 will be sung acapella



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your
 4 You are King of glo - ry, Christ, Son of
 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly

all, we bow be - fore you. All on
 choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u -
 sa - cred name they hal - low; proph - ets
 God, yet born of Mar - y, for us
 Spir - it, three we name you, though in

earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -
 bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing
 swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed
 sin - ners sac - ri - ficed, on the cross our
 es - sence on - ly one, un - di - vid - ed

bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -
 cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac -
 mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to set of
 sins did car - ry; first to break the bars of
 God we claim you, and, a - dor - ing, bend the

main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 sun through the Church the song goes on.
 death, you have o - pened heav'n to faith.
 knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have told us not to be anxious about what we need for this life. Move our hearts to seek you and your kingdom, that all good things may be given to us as well; 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 *Ecclesiastes 5:10–20*

*King Solomon knew from experience that if you serve money,
you will end up disappointed.*

¹⁰Whoever loves money never has enough;
whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.
This too is meaningless.

¹¹As goods increase,
so do those who consume them.
And what benefit are they to the owners
except to feast their eyes on them?

¹²The sleep of a laborer is sweet,
whether they eat little or much,
but as for the rich, their abundance
permits them no sleep.

¹³I have seen a grievous evil under the sun:

wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners,

¹⁴or wealth lost through some misfortune,
so that when they have children
there is nothing left for them to inherit.

¹⁵Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb,
and as everyone comes, so they depart.

They take nothing from their toil
that they can carry in their hands.

¹⁶This too is a grievous evil:

As everyone comes, so they depart,
and what do they gain,
since they toil for the wind?

¹⁷All their days they eat in darkness,
with great frustration, affliction and anger.

¹⁸This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. ¹⁹Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. ²⁰They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 128 *spoken responsively*

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him.

**You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.**

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;

**your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.**

Yes, this will be the blessing
for the man who fears the Lord.

**May the Lord bless you from Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.**

May you live to see your children's children—
peace be on Israel.

Second Reading *1 Timothy 6:6-10,17-19*

Saint Paul teaches in straightforward language that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.

⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 6:33*

Alleluia.

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading *Luke 16:1-13*

All money actually belongs to God; he loans it to us to manage for his glory. Through a parable, Jesus teaches us to be shrewd in the way we use money to serve him.

¹Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ²So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

³“The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— ⁴I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

⁵“So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

⁶“ ‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

⁷“Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“ ‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

⁸“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹²And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn 807

All Depends on Our Possessing



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.
and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.
heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly
I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me
To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.
I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

- 5 Well he knows what best to grant me; 6 If my days on earth he lengthen,
all the longing hopes that haunt me, he my weary soul will strengthen;
joy and sorrow, have their day. all my trust in him I place.
I shall doubt his wisdom never; Earthly wealth is not abiding,
as God wills, so be it ever; like a stream away is gliding;
I commit to him my way. safe I anchor in his grace.

Sermon 1 Timothy 6:6-10,17-19

Where Do You Find Contentment?

Confession of Faith *Nicene Creed*

*The Nicene Creed was written around A.D. 325 in defense of the true Christian faith. .
The Nicene Creed can be found on page 162 of the hymnal.*

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts,
and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth
throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word
and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

Our offering is our reaction to God's grace, do not feel obligated to give.

The Sacrament *spoken*
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *hymn 483 stanzas 1,3*



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *the prayer our Savior taught us*

Words of Institution

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God *hymn 947*



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

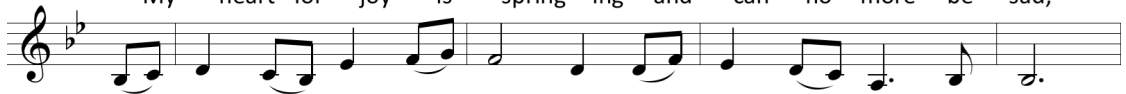
Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymn arrangement by Joey Schumann

If God Himself Be for Me



If God him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;
This I be - lieve, yes rath - er, of this I make my boast,
I build on this foun - da - tion: That Je - sus and his blood
He can - celed my of - fen - ses, de - liv - ered me from death;
No sin can now con - demn me or set my hope a - side.
My heart for joy is spring - ing and can no more be sad,



For when I pray, be - fore me my foes, con - found - ed, fly.
That God is my dear Fa - ther, my friend who loves me most,
A - lone are my sal - va - tion, my true, e - ter - nal good.
He is the Lord who clean - ses my soul from sin through faith.
Now hell no more can claim me; its fu - ry I de - ride.
'Tis full of joy and sing - ing, sees on - ly sun - shine glad.



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, be - friend me from a - bove,
And that, what - e'er be - tide me, my Sav - ior is at hand
With - out him all that pleas - es is val - ue - less on earth;
In him I can be cheer - ful, cou - ra - geous on my way;
No sen - tence now re - proves me; no guilt de - stroys my peace,
The sun that cheers my spi - rit is Je - sus Christ, my King;



What foe or what dis - as - ter can drive me from his love?
Through storm - y seas to guide me and bring me safe to land,
The gifts I have from Je - sus a - lone have price - less worth,
In him I am not fear - ful of God's great Judg - ment Day,
For Christ, my Sa - vior, loves me and shields me with his grace,
The heav'n I shall in - her - it makes me re - joice and sing,



Can drive me from his love?
And bring me safe to land.
A - lone have price - less worth.
Of God's great Judg - ment Day.
And shields me with his grace.
Makes me re - joice and sing.

Hymn 660

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
2 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;



here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
this is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
an - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.



here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:



and all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
the brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
my strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.

5 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.
The bread and wine remove, but you are here,
nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing the Benediction

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 753

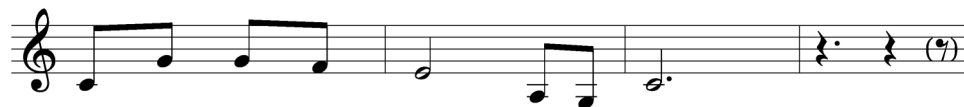
My Worth Is Not in What I Own



1 My worth is not in what I own, not
2 My worth is not in skill or name, in
3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,
4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or
5 Two won - ders here that I con - fess: my



in the strength of flesh and bone, but in the
win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the
youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -
hu - man wis - dom's fleet - ing light. But I will
worth and my un - wor - thi - ness. My val - ue



cost - ly wounds of love at the cross. v. 2
blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. Refrain
ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4
boast in know - ing Christ at the cross. Refrain
fixed— my ran - som paid at the cross. Refrain (twice)

Refrain



I re-joyce in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my



soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.



Building on the
FOUNDATION
of Christ

What a BLESSING!!!

We were just told by the WELS Extension Fund (who we have our mortgage with) that an anonymous donor has graciously offered our church a matching opportunity. The anonymous donor will match your donations for paying off the mortgage from now until the end of the year, up to a total of \$20,000 for our congregation. So every gift you give toward paying off the building renovation and expansion will be doubled!

The support you give the ministry is already appreciated, thank you! If you are able to and so moved to give toward paying off the mortgage, you can give in the normal methods. There is no special process, any donation given between 9/14/22 and 12/31/22 toward paying off the mortgage will be eligible for the match (up to \$20,000 total for our whole congregation). Simply designate offerings towards “building” or put the gifts you want to go to it in an envelope and label it “building”.