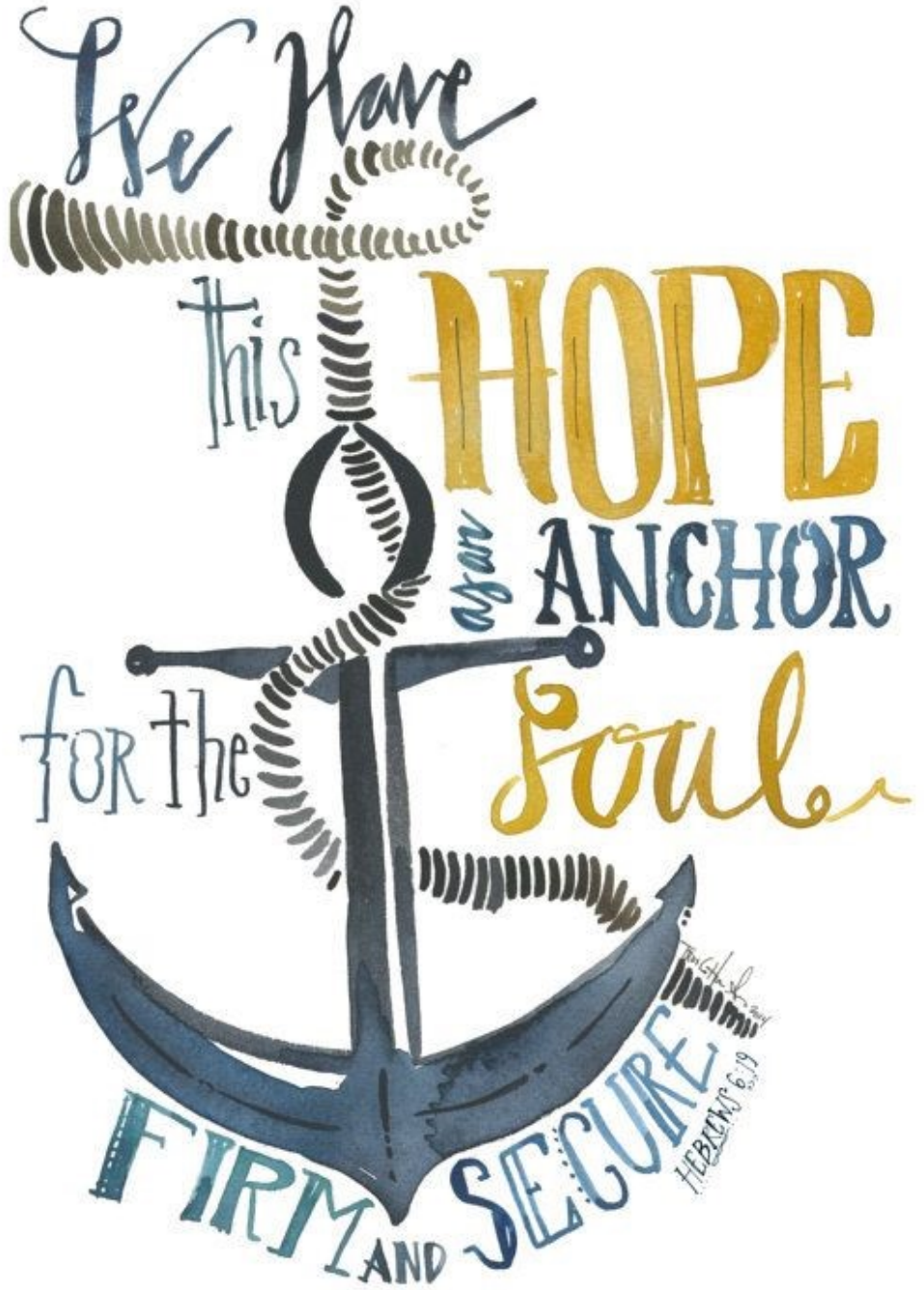


St. Paul Lutheran Church

50th Anniversary Service — 4:00 pm, June 18, 2017





ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

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

Pastor Titus Buelow
Office: (715) 460-3148
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Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us this morning at St. Paul!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the front doors.
- **Bathrooms:** There is one in the narthex and 2 in the basement.
- **Children:** They are welcome! If you feel the need to step out, you can take your child in the narthex during the service (there is a window) or downstairs to the play area (down the stairs to the opposite wall).
- **Changing Table:** changing tables are in all bathrooms, both upstairs and down.
- **Communion:** guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for communion.
- **Large Print Hymnals available, ask an usher**



Today is a day of thanksgiving for the members and friends of St. Paul Lutheran Church. We do not celebrate the success and the greatness of our work, but the success and greatness of the gospel that has taken root in this place and in these people. Jesus promised before he ascended into heaven, "surely I am with you always to the end of the age." We see that truth here as Jesus dwells in the hearts of those who worship here. Let us give thanks for the work that has been done, the work we are currently doing, and the work God will continue to do through this congregation into the years to come. 50 years is just the beginning of God's grace to this community through his instrument, St. Paul Lutheran Church.

WORSHIP NOTES

Order of Service: Special Liturgy
Hymns: 278, 280, Ps. 51b, 538, 529
Playing the Piano: Molly Studemann

Please Stand

Hymn 278 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Invocation

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

C: **Amen**

Dialogue of Remembrance

M: Throughout history God has blessed his Church across the world and throughout time. In 1967 God, through the help of St. Martin, Belle Plaine, and Rev. W Werling, gathered Christians together to form St. Paul Lutheran Church here in Clintonville, Wisconsin. On this day, 50 years ago, 19 charter members had their first worship service at the Veteran's Memorial building. They rejoiced in hearing the true and life giving Word of God preached in its truth and purity.

C: **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
We shall not die but live and declare the praises of God.**

Luke 2:14, Psalm 118:17

M: Throughout the years, God blessed his church with faithful ministers of the gospel: W.W. Werling, Paul Schneider, Michael Krentz, John Smith, Robert Sawall, Erik Gernander, Roger Holtz, Larry Cross, Ryan Schlicht and Titus Buelow. We join in thanks to our God for these called workers God has provided us with in the past and today, since:

C: **It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.**

Ephesians 4:11-16

M: Even as King David desired to build God a house of worship, so also St. Paul laid plans to build their own house of worship. Putting up their own homes as collateral, they bought this property and broke ground for a new church building on August 10, 1969. The church was dedicated in June of 1970. Let us give thanks for their trust in the Lord, their passion for the gospel, their faithful use of their gifts and, most of all, God's providence and grace. For these blessings and their sanctified use we admit:

C: Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.

Psalms 127:1

M: The Word of God set to work accomplishing its mission: to strengthen the faith of those who believe and to draw in those who desperately need hope. Growth came not only from within, but also from without as God moved the hearts of non-members to join the flock. Today, 19 has become 160 who call this congregation their family and their stronghold. For the growth God has granted we confess:

C: Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow-workers.

1 Corinthians 3:7-9

M: The devil would have us glory in none other than outward achievements, rather than praise God for his marvelous grace. Workers, buildings, and growth in numbers are all blessings from God. Still, what remains our crowning jewel is the Gospel, preached through the Word and administered through the sacraments. Throughout its history, St. Paul has acknowledged God's sovereignty and his grace by conducting regular worship, distributing the sacraments, offering opportunities for Bible Study, using the keys of the kingdom of heaven, carrying on personal ministry, and training the youth. All these have been used with God's command, holding firmly to these three promises of God:

C: Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. *Ro. 10:17*

"This is my body," and "this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." *Matt. 26:26, 28*

This water symbolizes that baptism that now saves you. *1 Peter 3:21*

M: Eden was a paradise. We live in a sinful world. Our Lord instructed us to bear our crosses and follow him. St. Paul has weathered rocky paths in the past, dealing with sin and sinners, personality clashes, financial challenges, and spurts of growth and decline. And there have been joys: God claimed little babies for himself through water and the Word, he warmed cold adult hearts by the Gospel, he recalled impenitent sinners

back to his fold, and faithful saints were laid to rest in his sure hands. The apostle Paul echoes our sentiments, saying:

C: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:11-13

M: Already in Eden God promised the solution for sin by his grace. Lord, that grace is what has taken St. Paul through these past 50 years. Your grace provided wisdom, love, patience, and courage. Your grace gave contentment, kindness, and a spirit of service. Lord, we confess that we live alone by grace through faith. Make us ever mindful of our total dependence upon your grace for life, health, and eternity:

C: I lift up my eyes to the hills--where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip- – he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord watches over you--the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm- – he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.

Psalm 121

M: Today is a day for us to look back in order to give thanks for God's love and care in the past. Today is also a day for us to look confidently into the future knowing the God who has been our anchor in the past will continue to be our anchor in the years ahead.

C: We have this hope as an anchor for our lives, safe and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.

Jesus has entered there on our behalf as a forerunner, because He has become a high priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:19-20

Please Be Seated

Hymn 280 Thy Strong Word

Prayer of the Day

M: O God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We thank you for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your favor over these past years. Increase our faith, knit us together in the bonds of love, and make our fellowship an example to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

First Reading *Deuteronomy 7:6-9*

We are part of God's chosen people because of his love and his faithfulness.

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. ⁷The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Psalm 51b *printed on the next page*

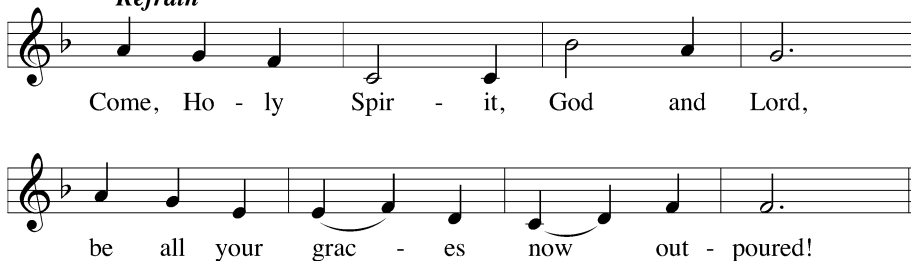
Second Reading *Ephesians 2:1-9,19-21*

By faith in Jesus we are saved and brought into the family of believers.

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from

Psalm 51b

Refrain



Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, God and Lord,
be all your grac - es now out - poured!

Psalm Tone



O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Refrain

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.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

**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.**

Refrain

yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. ¹⁹

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Anthem *by choir*

Cornerstone

Please Stand

Gospel Reading John 17:1,13-26

Jesus prays for his church militant on earth, that God protect them from the evil one, preserve them in the faith, and bless those who believe through the message they proclaim.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ¹³“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

²⁰“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵“Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

Hymn 538

The Church's One Foundation

Sermon *Ephesians 2:21-22*

Jesus Christ, Our One Foundation

- 1. Why Jesus?**
- 2. You Are a Chosen People**
- 3. You Are the Church**
- 4. The Church is Victorious**

Confession of Faith *read in unison*

The Third Article of the Creed

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Ghost has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead; and he will give eternal life to me and all.

Hymn 529

Built on the Rock

Thanks Offering

Children's Anthem

Please Stand

Dialogue of Re-dedication to the LORD

This section is based on Joshua's conversation with the Israelites after they had conquered the promised land. He challenged them to remain faithful to the God who had given them the land and had saved them time and time again. May we also remain faithful to the God who has saved us, builds us up together in him, and sustains us each and every day.

- M: Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods of this world which are anything that take the place of or priority over the true God and his Word such as: superstition, pride, self-centeredness, money, misplaced priorities, technology, human word and human authority. Instead, serve the LORD. But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served or the gods of the culture in the land you are now living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.
- C: Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! It was the LORD himself who wove us together in our mother's womb. It was the LORD who sent his Son to rescue us from our sin, our death, and our eternal punishment. It is the LORD alone who gives forgiveness of sins, new life in the Spirit, and hope for eternal life. It is the LORD who has led us through the ups and downs, the hurt and the joy, so that everything serves us for our eternal good. It is the LORD who has fashioned us for his purpose and for the glory that comes through Jesus Christ. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.**
- M: You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve worldly gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.
- C: We are not able to serve the LORD by our own thinking or choosing or by our own ability. We most definitely have failed to love him and honor him as he rightfully deserves. However, because Jesus has lived and died in our place, we are forgiven. Because of the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in us and therefore by his power and his ability, we can and**

will serve the LORD. Therefore, we confidently say trusting in Jesus' work in us, "we will serve the LORD!"

M: You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD.

C: Yes, we are witnesses.

M: Now then, throw away all worldly gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD.

C: We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.

M: Let us pray:

Lord you have richly blessed this congregation despite our faults and our failures. We ask that you continue to guide our hearts and our efforts through the power of your Word. Keep us humble by reminding us of our sins. Keep us confident by reminding us of the forgiveness you have given us through your Son. Keep us focused on your Word and dedicated to your wisdom. Help us fight against our sinful nature each day and build up our new life in the Spirit. Strengthen the family bond that we have as brothers and sisters in Christ. Use the talents, the gifts and the abilities you have given to each of us to strengthen and build up your church. Motivate us to passionately share to everyone the hope that has anchored us today and forever. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us And lead us not into
temptation, But deliver us from evil, For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory Forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction *Aaronic Blessing*

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Hymn *to the tune of hymn 293*

Our High, Majestic God

Our high, majestic God and Lord, the heav'ns cannot contain you,
And yet you tell us in your Word: "I dwell in you, sustain you."
Though reason cannot see this wondrous mystery
Your Word our trust has won. Let this same grace be shown
throughout all generations.

In ages past King Solomon, before God's people Isr'ael
Confessed what you for them had done when you gave them the Temple.
There they would always find a Father, gracious, kind,
Who would a Savior send, all woes of sin to end
through many, many ages.

So you, through all these many years great grace to us have granted.
Your glorious gospel filled our ears through church and school here planted
So let it ever be that we may ever see
Your perfect, boundless love and reach your home above
with all your true believers.

Our Lord, we magnify and praise your faithfulness unbroken;
For you have kept through all our days each promise you have spoken.
Forsake us not, we pray; preserve us in your way!
As you our fathers led, so shall it here be said:
"He keeps us safe forever!"

Stand for final stanza

God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while worlds endure we keep its teachings pure
throughout all generations.

Closing Anthem *by choir*

May You Go in Peace