

WORSHIP NOTES

If you are a guest today, please sign our guest book! Welcome here! We're very glad you came!

Children in Worship: We welcome and encourage children to share in worship. Even very young children see faith in action as we pray and sing and commune together. Children's lessons are available at both entrances, or by checking with any of the ushers.

Communion: If you are unable to reach the serving pastor during communion - they can come to you. Please let an usher know and they will make sure you receive communion.

Hearing Assistance: Devices are available at the sound booth.

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for one for yourself or a loved one!

Cell phones and pagers should be turned to silent.

Washrooms: located in the narthex and Education Wing, upstairs and down.

Elevator: located next to the church office.

Masks are optional at all services.

Drop Box: The drop box at the side entrance nearest to the office remains available for envelopes or small items.

Office Hours: 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday



A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #504

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| 1) A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious; he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious. The old evil foe, sworn to work us woe, with dread craft and might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal. | 3) Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us. This world's prince may rage, in fierce war engage. He is doomed to fail God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him. |
| 2) No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected. Ask who this may be: Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus our Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious. | 4) God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it; for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit. If they take our house, goods, fame, child, or spouse, wrench our life away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever! |

Text and Music: Martin Luther; Public Domain

Devotion

Singing "A Mighty Fortress" with brass and organ on Reformation always brings me joy. Martin Luther's Reformation hymn sets the stage of life's battle when he speaks about the craft and dreadful might of our satanic foe who has sworn to undo us. Verse 2 then reminds us that if we rely on our own strength, we would lose the battle. But as is, we can be confident that we have the right man on our side, Christ Jesus, and he must win the battle. Verse 3 describes the specter of a world filled with devils and evil. Yet Martin Luther's words say confidently that we have power to endure over the devil...one little word will do him in. Would that Word be Jesus, the Word made flesh? Yes! That Word (v. 4) is above all earthly powers, and in that Word, the Spirit and gifts of God are ours. In the end - even at the end of life - we can let go of goods and kindred and our earthly body and cling to God's truth. God's kingdom - beginning now and brought to perfection in the life to come - is forever.

Prayer
Christ Jesus, when evil and sin overwhelm our lives, threatening to do us in, help us to rely on you, the Prince of Peace. Give us comfort and joy knowing you have defeated sin, death, and the devil. Amen.

Daniel B. Carlson '82 M.Div. Retired; serving ELCA Mission Investment Fund, Green Valley, AZ.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STEINBACH INC.

MEMBER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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Sunday, June 16th, 2024 Welcome to our Traditional Worship Service On this IV Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 16th
9:30 - Service
10am - Worship in the City

Sunday, June 23rd
10am - Service
Farewell for Pastor Annemarie & Bishop Smith

Sunday, June 30th
10am - Service

Thursday, July 4th
Ladies Tubing Event

Sunday, July 7th
10am - Service



HOLY COMMUNION

God feeds and renews us with the presence of Jesus Christ. In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission. In response to the Lord's invitation I come - confessing my sin, trusting that the Lord is truly present, believing that to receive Him is to receive forgiveness - to partake of the Lord's Supper. People of all ages and faith communities are welcome.

Holy Communion is served in a continuous format unless announced otherwise. Participants are asked to fill out a registration card, available in the pews or at both entrances, and place them in the baskets at the entrances, or in the offering plates.

Ushers will direct you toward the aisle to come forward to the serving stations. If you desire to commune, extend your hand to the server who will place a wafer in your hand. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, simply say "gluten-free" to the server. Wine is served from the chalice or individual cups; white grape juice is served from individual cups.

Come and hold in your hand and taste on your lips the love we cannot comprehend.

OUR MISSION

God's purpose for
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:
Accepting all people through God's grace,
sharing our faith in Christ,
and making disciples.

KEEP IT REAL! BRING IT HOME!



THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 16TH, 2024

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

L: God, our provider,

C: **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song

"For the Fruit of All Creation" #679

L: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie - p. 203

Canticle of Praise - p. 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

C: Amen.

GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²² Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³ On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴ All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

L: It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

C: **to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

L: on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

C: **For you have made me glad by your acts, Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands...**

L: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

C: **Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

L: they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

C: **that they may show how upright the Lord is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

⁶ So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord - ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹² We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³ For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: "Alleluia" - p. 205

**Alleluia! Lord and Saviour,
open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing,
for the good news that you bring.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶ He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.' ³⁰ He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' ³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day

"Build Us Up, Lord" #670

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the People

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Song

"Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil" #512 (2x)

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

L: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

C: **Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving - p. 206-207

The Lord's Prayer - p. 208

Communion Hymns

"Blessed Assurance" #699 WOV

"A New Commandment" #664 WOV (2x)

Seek Ye First the Kingdom" #783 WOV

"Bind Us Together" #748 WOV

"To The River"

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.

C: **As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.**

L: In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" #551

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER REMINDERS



In your prayers this week, please remember:

Cari Doerksen, Adelaide Freund, Lorna Freund, Chris Funk, Janet Harder, Tina Heckert, Herta Kihn, Marlene Klassen, Ruby Myran, Ray Schalla, Eric Nadeau & Amber Sobering, Arabella Teeaert & Jaxon Schirrmeister, Helmuth Renz, and Khrista Vogt.

FAREWELL

Please plan on joining us after service on June 23rd for coffee and goodies as we say farewell and thank you to Pastor Annemarie for serving as our interim pastor and Bishop Smith for providing home visitations. Both have provided wonderful services to us all and we need to offer our gratitude!

LADIES TUBING

Attention ladies!! Summer is upon us and it is time to prepare for the next grand tubing adventure! Reserve Thursday, July 4th on your calendar. Sign up is by the office. We will leave the church around 9am and return between 5 & 6pm. Bring a picnic lunch, swimsuit, towel, lawn chair etc. All who



have participated in this in the past have had a fantastic time, so come join the fun!

FALL PLANNING

Would you or your children like to be more involved in our corporate worship? Our 11:00 Family Service is looking for people to help lead us in praise and thanksgiving when our services resume in September. We're looking for musicians and singers, altar servers, Scripture readers, and intercessors (to lead the prayers of the people). Are you interested? Do you know someone who may be? Are you over 8 years old (6 with parental participation)? Training is provided! Please contact the office or speak to Pastor Tim.

FALL KICKOFF!



Yes, we are already planning for the next school year!!! Our Fall Kickoff event with the Blessing of the Backpacks will be on Sunday, September 8th with service starting at 10am! Mark it on your calendars and plan on attending! Our regular "winter" schedule will resume the following week on September 15th with 2 services, confirmation class and Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

Love kids? Want to get involved somehow? Please consider being one of our intrepid Sunday School Instructors this fall! The goal is to have enough people in place that you get the opportunity to worship at the 9:30 service several times a month. If you want to take on a class full time, there is the 11am service to worship at as well! You don't need a teaching degree, just a heart for kids and the Gospel!

VISITATION

If you are homebound or in the hospital or know of someone who is and would like to receive visits from our Visitation Team or receive communion at home, please call Jen in the office and she'll make sure you are on the list!

OFFICE INFORMATION

Please have all announcements in to the office by Thursdays at 10am if you want them in the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday. Bulletins are being printed at 11am on Thursdays so don't miss the boat! If you have events or meetings to go on the monthly calendar, get them to the office the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month.

THANK YOU DEPARTMENT

Thank you to all who have assisted with the service today.



**ATTENDANCE: June 9, 2024
Service - 184**

OFFERING: \$6146