

# **St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Holstein, IA      August 17, 2025      9:00 AM

## **Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**

*The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."*

### **GATHER**

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ☩ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***WORD***

**Jeremiah 23:23-29**

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 82**

(Read Responsively)

- <sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
**giving judgement in the midst of the gods:**
- <sup>2</sup> "How long will you judge unjustly,  
**and show favor to the wicked?**
- <sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
**defend the humble and needy;**
- <sup>4</sup> rescue the weak and the poor;  
**deliver them from the power of the wicked.**
- <sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;  
**all the foundations of the earth are shaken.**

<sup>6</sup> Now I say to you, 'You are gods,  
**and all of you children of the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
**and fall like any prince.'**"

<sup>8</sup> Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
**for you shall take all nations for your own.**

### **Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2**

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

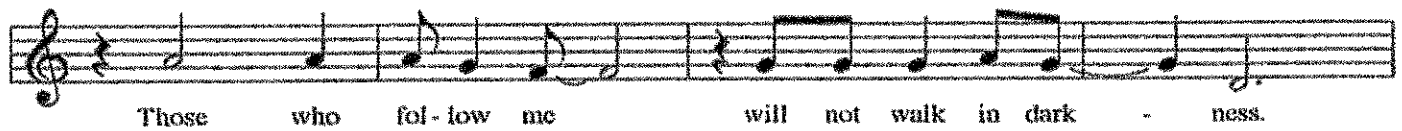
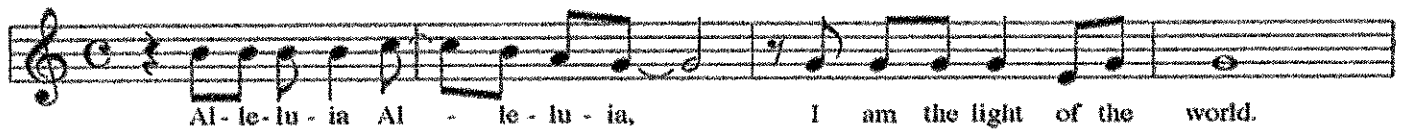
<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Children's Message**



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**Luke 12:49-56**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message** Vicar Millie Anderson

**Hymn of the Day**

***Let Streams of Living Justice***

**#710**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Sharing the Peace**

**The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.**

**And also with you.**

## ***MEAL***

### **Children's Offering /Offering**

#### **Musical Offering - Untitled Hymn (Come to Jesus)**

#### **Offering Prayer**

**Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

#### **The Great Thanksgiving** (sung)

**The Lord be with you.**

**And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Preface** *It is indeed...and join in their unending praise:*

**Sanctus** ***Holy, Holy, Holy***

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of all cre - a - tion,

heav'n and earth are filled with you, God of our sal - va - tion.

Bless-ed is the king who comes to sanc - ti - fy us.

Prais-es let us sing: "Ho - san - na in the high - est."

From the Sanctus; J.Y. © 2000 John C. Yivisakar  
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## Words of Institution

### 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.

### Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

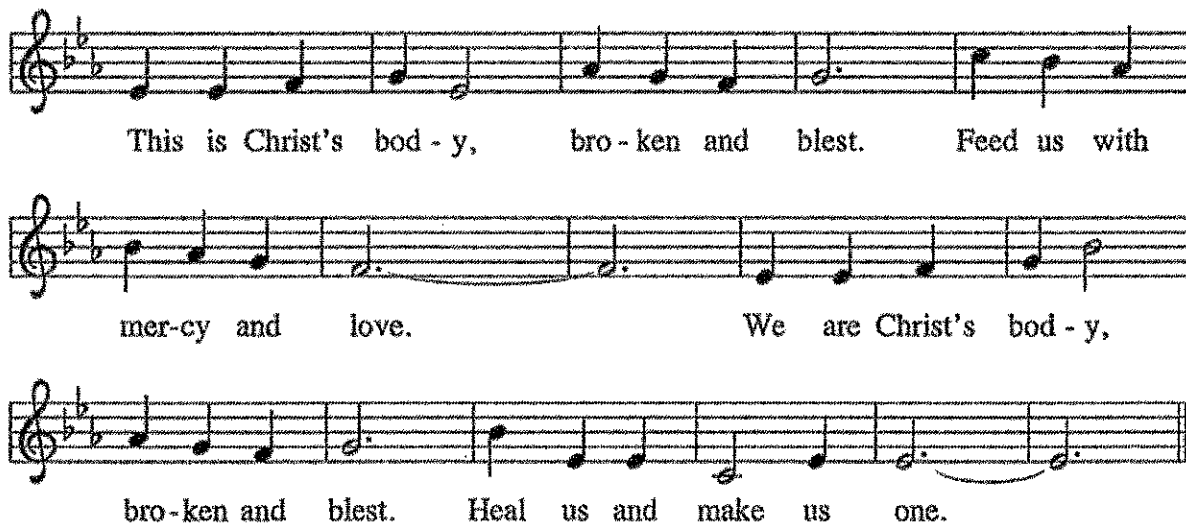
### Distribution

#### ***\*Distribution of the Sacrament\****

*All who trust in Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper,  
where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.  
Please tell the server if you desire grape juice as an alternative to wine,  
or if you require a gluten-free wafer.*

***Please join us in singing:***

#### ***This is Christ's Body***



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with  
mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,  
bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960  
Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ  
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**Prayer After Communion**

Loving God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

***SENDING***

**Blessing**

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit

✠ bless you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Closing Song**

***Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises***

**#535**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**



***Don't miss out on these current events!***



**YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
PIZZA & POOL PARTY!**

PROVIDED BY ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
HOLSTEIN AQUATIC CENTER

PIZZA SERVED AT 12:00  
SWIMMING BEGINS @ 12:30

ST. PAUL WILL COVER ENTRY TO  
ANYONE WITHOUT A POOL PASS  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



**PETERSON BENEFIT  
& SILENT AUCTION  
LIVE MUSIC**

AUGUST 24TH, 2025

**GALVA CITY PARK**

- ✓ Lunch Free Will Donation 11a-3p
- ✓ Silent Auction 11a-2:30p
- ✓ Neil Anders Live Music 1-3p

St. Paul will be hosting a  
benefit meal for the  
Peterson Family  
on September 14th!  
Stay tuned for more  
information!



**Calling all Students &  
Teachers!!**

**Bring your backpacks  
to worship on  
August 24th  
to receive a blessing for  
the new school year!**

## **Worship Participants**

<b>Ministers:</b>	All the members
<b>Vicar:</b>	Emily Anderson
<b>DYME:</b>	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
<b>Organist:</b>	Sharen Borchers
<b>Pianist:</b>	Kris Kistenmacher
<b>Lector:</b>	Meagan Foresman
<b>Special Music:</b>	Cecily Jacobson and Brody Bisenius
<b>Deacons:</b>	Andrew Butcher and Susan Endrulat
<b>Greeters:</b>	Doug & Karen Wessling
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Max Breyfogle and Gabe VanHouten
<b>Sound &amp; Video:</b>	Kelby & Joy Wulf
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	Karen & Doug Wessling Darlene Kistenmacher

## **St. Paul Church Calendar**

### **SUNDAY, August 17 ~ 10th Sunday After Pentecost**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Worship with Holy Communion
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Coffee & Fellowship
<b>12:00 PM</b>	Pizza & Pool Party at Holstein Pool Swimming at 12:30 PM

### **TUESDAY, August 19**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Sewing Day
<b>7:00 PM</b>	Trustees meeting

### **THURSDAY, August 21**

<b>7:00 PM</b>	Congregation Council meeting
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### **SUNDAY, August 24 ~ 11th Sunday After Pentecost**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Worship / Blessing of the Backpacks
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Coffee & Fellowship
<b>12:00 PM</b>	Private Fellowship Hall / Kitchen Rental