

This Coming Week at St. Paul's

Sun:	Service for At-Risk Members (reservation only)	7:30 am
	Divine Worship	9 am
Sun:	Congregational Meeting	10:15 am
	Sunday School	10:15 am
Mon:	Morning Prayer Service	8 am
Tues:	Morning Prayer Service	8 am
Wed:	Morning Prayer Service	8 am
	Junior Confirmation Class	6:30 pm
Wed:	Private Confession & Absolution	8:30-9 am

Our Gifts to the Lord Last Week

58 people (total) worshipped the Lord at the 7:30 and 9 a.m. services.

\$3,283.00 was received in regular offerings last week.

\$ 3,770.84 is needed every week to meet our church budget.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Facebook: St Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church – Lockport

Pastoral Care – If anyone is in need of pastoral care, please call Pastor Antonetti at (847) 971-0848 and he will help to take care of the situation and address it as quickly as possible. Our elders are also available if you would like to reach out to them as well; call Erich Kittlaus at (630)210-1171 or Ken Gerk at (815)263-0199.

Mr. Lance Thies, Congregation President
Mr. Dennis Zimmer, Kantor

The Sunday Messenger

September 13, 2020

Good morning to all gathered here today at Saint Paul Lutheran Church. A warm welcome to all of you as we gather together to receive God's gifts, His Word read and proclaimed, His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Thank you for being here today. A summary of today's readings for the Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost follows:

Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have *“mercy on your fellow servant”* and *“forgive your brother from your heart”* (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord's forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we *“are the Lord's”* (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will *“stand before the judgment seat of God,”* we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also *“will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand”* (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends *“to bring it about that many people should be kept alive”* (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: *“I will provide for you and your little ones”* (Gen. 50:21).

Upon Entering the Sanctuary – We kindly ask that all conversation cease or be kept to a minimum and at the very most a whisper as we prepare ourselves for divine worship. In the beginning of the hymnal you will find some excellent prayers for worship.

The Lord's Supper – will be celebrated this morning. We ask our visitors and those who have not worshipped with us in a while to please read over the statement of Holy Communion (blue laminated sheet) that is found in each pew rack. Thank you.

Manna Program – Orders due with payment today.

Attendance Slips – In each pew, there are small slips which we are using for attendance. Please fill them out and place them in the offering plate as you leave.

Visitor Slips – There are “visitor” forms available in the narthex. Please don’t hesitate to fill them out and place them in the offering plate if you’re a visitor.

Circuit Meeting – Please note that there will be no Morning Prayer on Thursday, as Pastor Antonetti will be at a circuit meeting.

Adult Bible Class – Adult Bible class begins next week, September 20. It will be in the nave after the 9:00am service and run concurrently with Sunday School. We will begin by studying the gospel of Matthew.

Junior Confirmation – Our four catechumens: Aliviah, Natalie, Hunter & Rachel – will be received in the 9 am service to begin junior confirmation class this week. Please encourage and pray for them to be diligent in study and prayer as they begin their formal training in the Christian faith. *“Train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.”* (1Timothy 4:7-8)

Congregational Meeting - There will be a congregational meeting in the nave immediately after the 9am service on September 13.

Sunday School Teachers – Our Sunday School teachers for this year will be: Dawn Chaney & Lisa Polinski (Elementary); Dennis Zimmer (Confirmation); Lance Thies (Senior Youth); and Denise Pilz (Sunday School Superintendent). Pray for them as they begin to assist in teaching our young people the faith. Thank you, teachers, for your service!

Welcome in Faith – We welcome into faith by baptism today Riggin James Feiler, son of James & Amanda Feiler.

Every Member Visits/Calls – St. Paul said, *“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his*

own blood” (Acts 20:28). To this end, Pastor Antonetti would like to get to know you personally! There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex after the service for times that Pastor can visit and meet your family (You may also indicate if you prefer a phone call due to COVID-19 precautions). Pastor is excited to be here and looking forward to getting to know his St. Paul’s family.

Service for At-Risk Members – Held every Sunday at 7:30 a.m. The service is limited to 25 members, and members must reserve their space by contacting either Pastor Antonetti or the church office by phone at (815) 838-1832 BY THURSDAY of each week. This service will be shorter, to limit personal exposure. We hope that this provides an opportunity for our members who may be concerned about attending the later service. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Pastor Antonetti.

Next Weekend’s Scripture Readings – In preparation for our worship next Sunday, the appointed texts are: Isa. 55:6-9; Psalm 27:1-9; Phil. 1:12-14, 19-30; Matt. 20:1-16

Serving the Lord this Weekend: Preacher: Rev. Christopher Antonetti; **Organist/Pianist:** Dennis Zimmer/Milton Lillie; **Elder:** Jerry Staley; **Trustee:** Matthew Collier; **Hannah Guild:** Rachel Popadowski, Lisa Misiurewicz, Sophia Misiurewicz.

This Week We Lift Up Prayers

Members of our church family: Michael and Tracey Bachmann, Mike Benson, Daena Hinkelman, Heidi Kopp, Marge Fischer, Phill Gerk, Barbara Ferrentino.

Family and friends including: John St. Aubin (Thies); The Rev. Ron Rock; Annie Picard (Gerk); Pastor Dan Teller (Johnson); Gail Ruesch (Jarosz); John Benson (Gudgel); Jeanne Irvine (Wetherbee); Erica Doerfler (Fox); Kelly Lee (Gudgel); Kathy Herman (Gudgel); Parker Vicich (Lemke).