

**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 3, 2023**

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grant Park, IL

Order of Service: Service Setting One (CW page 154)

Prayer upon entering church: Lord, you tasted the cross for us that we may taste glory with you in heaven. Help us to see our crosses on earth are your tools to draw us to yourself and to ensure our safe passage to heaven with you. Amen.

Opening hymn: God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (CW 679)

Invocation and Confession

The Word

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

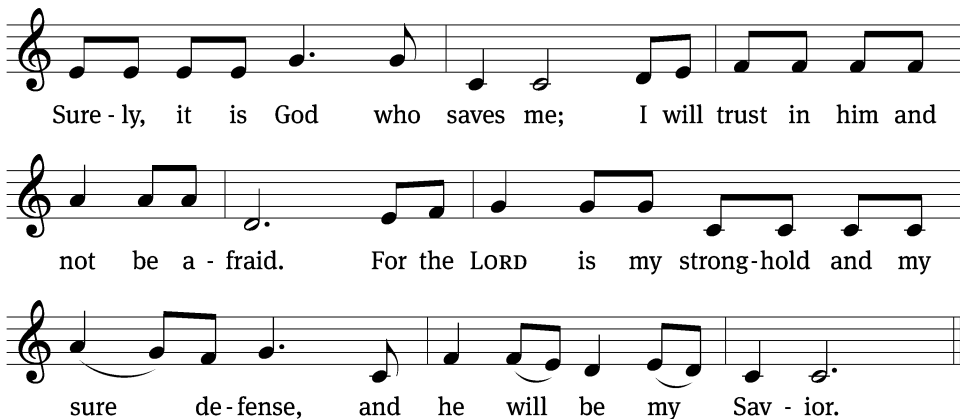
First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace. Your words came to me, and I devoured them. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O Lord God of Armies. I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them. I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

Therefore this is what the Lord says. If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman. They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them. I will make you like a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the Lord. I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

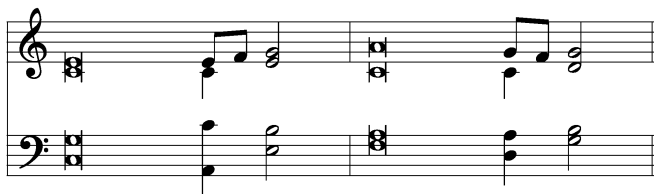
Psalm: Surely It Is God Who Saves Me (Psalm 31)

Refrain



Sure - ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid. For the LORD is my strong-hold and my
sure de - fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Tone



In you, Lord, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Be my rock of / refuge,
a strong fortress to / save me.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, Lord, my / faithful God. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
save me in your un- / failing love.
How abundant are the / good things
that you have stored up for those who / fear you.
Be strong and / take heart,
all you who hope / in the Lord.
**Glory be to the Father and/to the Son
and to the Holy/Spirit,**

**as it was in the be-/ ginning,
is now, and will be forever./Amen. Refrain**

Text: The Draft Proposed Book of Common Prayer

Tune: Jack Noble White

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Second Reading: Romans 8:18-25

For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed. For creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in the hope that even creation itself will be set free from slavery to corruption, in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

For we know that all of creation is groaning with birth pains right up to the present time. And not only creation, but also we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we eagerly await our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. Indeed, it was for this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for something we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patient endurance.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation Mark 8:34

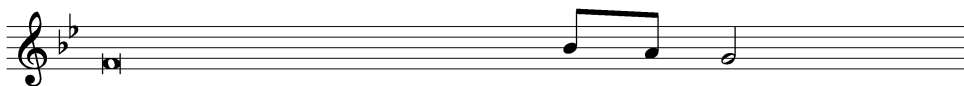


Refrain

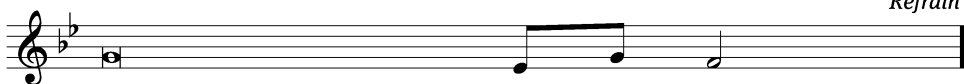


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Whoever wants to be my disciple must de - ny them - selves



and take up their cross and fol - low me.

Refrain

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-26

From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you." But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?"

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken (CW 694)

Sermon: The Cross Leads to Glory (Matthew 16:21-26)

Nicene Creed (CW 162)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering: We give our gifts to the Lord and sing “May the Peace of God” (CW 929) in response to our offerings.

Lord’s Supper (CW page 165)

Communion Hymn: Abide with Me (CW 783)

Prayer and Blessing (CW page 170)

Closing hymn: Jerusalem the Golden (CW 889)

Announcements

Welcome in Jesus’ name to any and all guests and visitors here with us today. It is a joy to be able to worship with you. Help us to remember your visit by signing our guest book. Ask an usher if you need help finding the book. If you would like more information about our church please speak with pastor after church. If you need a hearing device, please speak to a greeter. Please come again!

Weekly Preview next week we’ll celebrate the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. Our lessons and the sermon text will be decided on this week.

Hospitalized/Homebound members/members to keep in your prayers: Bob Jacobs, Laura Biesterfeld (teacher at ILS elementary school) and Karen Zickhur.

A Christian's response I'm not sure about what to say. How do I respond to someone who accuses me of hatred because I hold to what the Bible teaches about _____? Have you ever found yourself asking this question? We'll be starting a Bible Study to examine some of the difficult topics in our day and what a Christian's response might look like. Our Bible Study will begin on September 17.

Address for Karen Zickhur Mrs. Zickhur fell and broke her collar bone. She has moved to a new assisted living facility in Menomonee Falls, WI. Please feel free to send her any well wishes: Karen Zickhur, W180 N7890 Town Hall Rd, D103 Menomonee Falls, WI 53951.

Fall LWMS rally You are invited to the 2023 Fall Rally of the Chicago Area Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society on Saturday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Jerusalem, 6218 Capulina Ave, Morton Grove, IL 60053. All women in an LWMS member congregation (confirmation age and older) are members of LWMS and are encouraged to attend. Guests are also welcome. If you are the driver of the car with the most people in it, you'll be the recipient of a little gift!

Fall mum sale The Charger booster club is having a mum sale to support ILS. There is more info about the sale on a handout in the narthex.

August Financial Report Current: \$7,378, Missions: \$1,240, ILHS: \$100. Total: \$8,718

Thank you to Art Romadka for finishing enclosing the area under the parsonage porch.

Thank you to everyone who contributed for the memorial for Michelle's father, John Lecker. John had drawn up a landscape design in front of the parsonage. Some of the money which was donated for the memorial will be used to purchase the plants for the landscaping.

Communion Service In the Lord's Supper, our Savior offers unworthy sinners a personal pledge of forgiveness of sins through his body and blood. As he draws repentant sinners to himself, he also draws them into a special bond of fellowship with one another. In the WELS, we demonstrate this special fellowship bond in what is called "close communion." Thus, if you have never communed with us before, we ask that you first speak with our pastor. He will share with you the steps toward establishing communion fellowship. Thank you for respecting our practice.

This week at St. Paul

Today: Worship with communion 9am

Sunday: Worship 9am

Organist: Thank you to Michelle Micheel

Last Week's Attendance: 51 attendance

St. Paul Evangelical (Gospel Centered) Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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