

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, MN

Pastor: Rev. Paul Krentz

Church 952-955-1498, Home 952-955-5097

CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Principal: Jeff Boehlke 952-955-1419

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:

Executive Director: Joel Landskroener 952-657-2251

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 29, 2008

WELCOME to all who are visiting today! Our greatest desire is to share that wonderful message of forgiveness and eternal salvation for all in Jesus' name. We pray you will be drawn closer to Christ today as the Holy Spirit nurtures us through God's Word. Please, take home any of the material found on the tables in the entrance, and we hope you will join us every week for worship in Jesus' name.

8:00am
WELCOME

SONG: "I Stand in Awe" (Ps 33:8)

Verse: You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words, too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard. Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom, who can fathom the depth of Your love? You are beautiful beyond description, majesty enthroned above.

Chorus: And I stand, I stand in awe of You, I stand, I stand in awe of You; Holy God, to Whom all praise is due, I stand in awe of You.

(Repeat verse and chorus)

Ending.....I stand in awe of You, I stand...in...awe...of You.

(©. 1988 People of Destiny International. Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF SIN:

P. Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?

C. I DO CONFESS.

P. So we should confess; for the Holy Scripture declares:

C. "IF WE SAY WE HAVE NO SIN, WE DECEIVE OURSELVES, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN US.

P. Do you repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?

C. I DO REPENT.

P. So we should repent, as did the penitent sinners:

C. KING DAVID, WHO PRAYED FOR A CONTRITE HEART; PETER, WHO WEPT BITTERLY; THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY; THE PRODIGAL SON; AND OTHERS.

P. Do believe that God, because of His love for us and for the sake of Jesus' death on the cross, will forgive you all your sins?

C. I MOST CERTAINLY BELIEVE.

P. So we should believe for the Lord Jesus declares:

C. "GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE."

P. Do you promise that with the help of the Holy Spirit you will turn away from sin and seek to do good in obedience to God's commands?

C. I DO PROMISE.

P. So we should promise, for Christ, the Lord, says:

C. "LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN."

P. Finally, do you believe that the word of Christ's forgiveness I speak to you as a called servant of God, is from the Lord himself as Jesus said, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

C. I DO SO BELIEVE.

P. Then as you believe, so may it be to you.

C. AMEN.

ABSOLUTION

HYMN: "In You Is Gladness" LW #442

1. In you is gladness, Amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart. By you are given, The gifts of heaven, You the true Redeemer are. Our souls are waking; Our bonds are breaking. Who trusts you surely, Has built securely, And stands forever. Alleluia! Our hearts are pining, To see your shining, Dying or living, To you are cleaving, Now and forever. Alleluia!

2. If he is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth or sin or death. He sees and blesses, In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath. Wherefore the story, Tell of his glory, With hearts and voices; All heav'n rejoices, In him forever. Alleluia! We shout for gladness, Win over sadness, Love him and praise him, And still shall raise him, Glad hymns forever. Alleluia!

(©. 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission)

PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 33:12-23

12 Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' 13 If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." 14 The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. 16 How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" 17 And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." 18 Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." 19 And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." 21 Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. 22 When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

EPISTLE READING: Romans 7:15-25a

15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. 21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

RESPONSE: "Forever, O Lord" (Psalm 119:89)

Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven; Your faithfulness, Lord, continues to all generations. Your covenant magnified, exalted along with Your holy name; Rejoicing in promises, I meditate on all Your righteous ways; I lift up my hands and praise the power of Your commands. Forever, Oh Lord, Your Word shall stand, forever, Oh Lord, Your Word shall stand.

(©. 1988 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI# 1561573)

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:25-30

25 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. 26 Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. 27 "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

CONFESSION OF FAITH: (From Philippians 2)

I believe in Jesus Christ, who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

HYMN: #388 "Just As I Am"

SERMON:

"Prayer Problems - The Practice of Prayer II" or "Prayer Mechanics: What's the Right Way to Pray?"

(A sermon outline with the Scripture references is printed in the bulletin to aid your meditation on God's Word)

OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

(Please sign fellowship book at end of pew.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

P. Gracious and loving heavenly Father, we thank You for this day of rest and gladness.

C. AND FOR THE REST YOU AFFORD US IN YOUR SON, JESUS. HE IS TRULY THE REST FOR OUR WEARY SOULS.

P. Lord Jesus, You have promised to help us bear any burden, so that our "yoke might be easy and our burden may be light."

C. HELP US, LORD, NOT TO BE OVERBURDENED BY THE CARES AND ACTIVITIES OF THIS LIFE.

P. Lord, we are mindful of the burdens we and others must bear in life, especially the sick, the forgotten, the lonely, the hurting, and the bereaved. Be with... (*Special prayers*)...For these, and many others on our hearts and minds,

C. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, COME TO THEIR AID.

P. Trusting then in Your divine goodness and compassion,

C. HEAR AND ANSWER OUR PRAYERS AS WE COME YOU THROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BLESSING

HYMN: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF JULY:

July 13th and 27th – 10:30 Service

Sermon Series: "Prayer Problems - The Practice of Prayer II" or "Prayer Mechanics: What's the Right Way to Pray?"

Scripture References: 2 Corinthians 3:17; John 8:36; 1 Corinthians 8:9; 1 Peter 2:16; Romans 6:1, 2; Galatians 5:1

1. What kind of issues deal with the mechanics of prayer?

2. Where God has not commanded or forbidden something there is _____.

3. Why shouldn't we think of Jesus a "taskmaster"?

4. What does living in Christian freedom mean? What does it NOT mean?

5. How would you explain the term "adiaphora"?

6. When might it be appropriate to kneel in prayer? When not?

7. How could starting the day with prayer help us?

8. When might a "formal" prayer be helpful?

9. What determines whether a prayer should be said fast or slow?

10. Why can we make use of all the ways that are available to pray?