

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

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LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 23, 2011

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 as the Holy Spirit nurtures us through God's Word in this service. Before you leave, please, take time to sign our guest register in the entrance way, and we hope you will join us every week as we gather as God's family in worship.

10:30am
WELCOME

SONG: "Let the River Flow"

Whosoever believes in me...streams of living water will flow within him. John 7:38

Verse: Let the poor man say, "I am rich in Him," let the lost man say, "I am found in Him," and let the river flow; Let the blind man say, "I can see again," let the dead man say, "I am born again," and let the river flow, let the river flow.

Chorus: Let the river flow, let the river flow; Holy Spirit, come, move in power. Let the river flow, let the river flow; Holy Spirit, come, move in power. Let the river flow, let the river flow, let the river flow. *(repeat)*

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INVOCATION:

P. O Lord, open my lips,
C. AND MY MOUTH WILL DECLARE YOUR PRAISE
P. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
C. AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.

CONFESSION OF SIN: (Selected verses from Psalm 25)

P. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
C. IN YOU I TRUST, O MY GOD.
P. Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.
C. REMEMBER NOT THE SINS OF MY YOUTH AND MY REBELLIOUS WAYS;
P. According to your love remember me,

C. FOR YOU ARE GOOD, O LORD.

P. Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

C. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR NAME, O LORD, FORGIVE MY INIQUITY, THOUGH IT IS GREAT. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SONG: "You Are My King" (Amazing Love)

Verse: I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted, You were condemned I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me, Because You died and rose again.

Chorus: Amazing love, how can it be, That You, my King, would die for me? Amazing love, I know it's true,, It's my joy to honor You, In all I do, I honor You. *(repeat verse and chorus)*

Bridge: You are my King, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King. *(Chorus X 2)* (1997 worship together music Used by permission CCLI #1561573)

PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

1 The word of the LORD came to me: *2* "What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: "'The fathers eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? *3* "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. *4* For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son—both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die. *25* "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? *26* If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; because of the sin he has committed he will die. *27* But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. *28* Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die. *29* Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust? *30* "Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. *31* Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel? *32* For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:28-32

28 “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ 29 ”‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. 30 “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. 31 “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

RESPONSE: *(From Psalm 25)*

P. Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths;

C. GUIDE ME IN YOUR TRUTH AND TEACH ME, FOR YOU ARE GOD MY SAVIOR.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SONG: “All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises”

Verse: You took, You take our sins away O God. You give, You gave Your life away for us. You came down, You saved us through the cross. Our hearts are changed, because of Your great love.

Chorus: You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise. You did, You’re alive! You rule, You reign, You said You’re coming back again. I know that You will, and all the earth will sing Your praises. All the earth will sing Your praises. *(Verse – Chorus)*

*Ending....*All the earth will sing Your praises. All the earth will sing Your praises.

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PRAYER:

P. O Lord, almighty and everlasting God,

C. YOU HAVE BROUGHT US IN SAFETY TO THIS NEW DAY.

P. Preserve us with your mighty power,

C. THAT WE MAY NOT FALL INTO SIN NOR BE OVERCOME IN ADVERSITY.

P. In all we do,

C. DIRECT US TO THE FULFILLING OF YOUR PURPOSE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST
OUR LORD. AMEN.

SERMON: Philippians 2:1-11 **"Others First?"**

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

SONG: “Heart of Worship”

1. When the music fades, all is stripped away and I simply come; longing just to bring something that’s of worth, that will bless Your heart.

Refrain: I’ll bring You more than a song, for a song in itself.; Is not what You have required. You search much deeper with-in through the way things appear; You’re looking into my heart. I’m coming back to the heart of worship, And it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Jesus. I’m sorry Lord, for the thing I’ve made it, When it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Jesus.

2. King of endless worth, no one could express, how much You deserve. Though I’m weak and poor; all I have is Yours, ev’ry single breath. *(Refrain)*

*ending....*I could sing of Your love forever (x4)

And it’s all about You, it’s all about You Jesus!

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OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

(Please sign fellowship book at end of pew.)

SPECIAL PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER: *(Spoken together)*

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.

BLESSING:

P. May the Lord keep us in his grace by the continued work of the Holy Spirit.

C. MAY HE LEAD US TO GREATER FAITH AND OBEDIENCE, AND BRING US TO LIVE WITH HIM FOREVER THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD IN WHOM WE TRUST AND PRAY. AMEN.

SONG: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a Friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness, Take it the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our Refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer; In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER:

October 23rd and 30th – 10:30 Service

Philippians 2:1-11

"Others First?"

1 If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

1. Why is it hard to imagine a life where people think of others first?

2. In the midst of our self-centeredness, how does Jesus give us:

A. Encouragement?

B. Comfort?

C. Fellowship?

D. Tenderness and compassion?

3. Jesus' life is always the starting point for _____.

4. Why can't we get rid of our sinful attitudes?

5. How does Jesus affect change in people's lives who don't believe in him?

6. In what way are we like-minded, have the same love, and one in spirit and purpose as God's people?

7. What makes us so sure Jesus will help us be less self-centered?

8. Why can the apostle Paul instruct us to think of others first before our self?

9. Why don't we have to worry about getting short-changed on blessings if we think of others needs first?