

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Pastor - Rev. Paul Krentz Church (952) 955-1498, Home (952) 955-5097
Preaching Assistant - Rev. Gerald Schwanke 1-320-282-9838

stpaulswatertown.org

CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL:

Principal - Jeff Boehlke (952) 955-1419

ccls.net

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

lhsmayer.mn.org

THANKSGIVING DAY NOVEMBER 24, 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.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD: (*Portions from Isaiah 55*)

- P. Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;
- C. AND YOU WHO HAVE NO MONEY, COME, BUY AND EAT! COME, BUY WINE AND MILK WITHOUT MONEY AND WITHOUT COST.
- P. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?
- C. LISTEN, LISTEN TO ME, AND EAT WHAT IS GOOD, AND YOUR SOUL WILL DELIGHT IN THE RICHEST OF FARE.
- P. Give ear and come to me;
- C. HEAR ME, THAT YOUR SOUL MAY LIVE.
- P. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
- C. SO IS MY WORD THAT GOES OUT FROM MY MOUTH; IT WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT WILL ACCOMPLISH WHAT I DESIRE AND ACHIEVE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH I SENT IT.
- P. O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good.
- C. HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.
- P. We are gathered together in the name of our God.
- C. GOD THE FATHER WHO HAS CREATED US AND STILL PRESERVES US; GOD THE SON WHO HAS GIVEN US VICTORY OVER SIN AND DEATH; AND GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO BROUGHT US TO FAITH AND SETS US ASIDE FOR SERVICE.

- P. We are gathered together this day,
- C. TO REMEMBER THE GOODNESS OF OUR LORD AND TO GIVE HIM THANKS AND PRAISE. AMEN

HYMN: #568 "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

SONG: "Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
(C. 1972 Bud John Songs Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 61:10-11

10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time. 7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles. 8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

RESPONSE: (*From Psalm 103*)

- P. Praise the Lord, O my soul;
- C. ALL MY INMOST BEING, PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME!

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:24-34

24 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. 25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about

clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH IN WORD AND SONG:

ANTHEM: "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" Adult Choir & Cong.

ALL: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear,
now to His temple draw near. Praise Him in glad adoration!

C. I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH AND OF ALL THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE.

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"

MEN: Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.

WOMEN: Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!

ALL: Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been; granted in what He ordaineth?

C. AND IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, BEGOTTEN OF HIS FATHER BEFORE ALL WORLDS, GOD OF GOD, LIGHT OF LIGHT, VERY GOD OF VERY GOD, BEGOTTEN, NOT MADE, BEING OF ONE SUBSTANCE WITH THE FATHER, BY WHOM ALL THINGS WERE MADE; WHO FOR US MEN AND FOR OUR SALVATION CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND WAS INCARNATE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT OF THE VIRGIN MARY AND WAS MADE MAN; AND WAS CRUCIFIED ALSO FOR US UNDER PONTIUS PILATE. HE SUFFERED AND WAS BURIED. AND THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES AND ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN AND SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER. AND HE WILL COME AGAIN WITH GLORY TO JUDGE BOTH THE LIVING AND THE DEAD, WHOSE KINGDOM WILL HAVE NO END.

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"

ALL: Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;

Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with His love he befriend thee.

C. AND I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE, WHO PROCEEDS FROM THE FATHER AND THE SON, WHO WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON TOGETHER IS WORSHIPPED AND GLORIFIED, WHO SPOKE BY THE PROPHETS. AND I BELIEVE IN ONE HOLY CHRISTIAN AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH, I ACKNOWLEDGE ONE BAPTISM FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, AND I LOOK FOR THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD AND THE LIFE OF THE WORLD TO COME. AMEN.

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

ALL: Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him! Let the Amen sound from His people again,
gladly, for aye we adore him!

Thanksgiving Day Only -

CHOIR: Gladly for aye we adore Him! Praise ye, praise ye the Lord!

SERMON: 1 Chronicles 23:30 **"Are We Standing to Give Thanks? Or Giving Thanks to Stand?"**

(A sermon outline with the Scripture reading 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.)

Anthem: "We Praise the Lord" Adult Choir (Thanksgiving Day)

THANKSGIVING PRAYER:

P. O Lord,

C. YOUR BOUNTIES ARE SO MANY AND SO WONDERFUL THAT WE CAN BARELY BEGIN TO COUNT THEM.

P. Even though we do not deserve your love and care,

C. YOU STILL GIVE US AN ABUNDANCE OF GOOD THINGS.

P. Lord, help us to use your gifts wisely,

C. NOT ABUSING THEM OR TAKING THEM FOR GRANTED, BUT BY BEING GOOD STEWARDS. MAY WE USE THEM FOR YOUR GLORY AND OUR NEIGHBOR'S GOOD.

P. There are many who are not so fortunate.

C. WE REMEMBER BEFORE YOU THOSE WHO HAVEN'T EVEN THE BAREST NECESSITIES OF LIFE,

- P. Those whose depression prevents them from using and enjoying your goodness, those who are ill and suffering, especially...(*special requests*)...those who are powerless to defend themselves from oppression,
- C. **THOSE WHO DO NOT ENJOY EVEN THE BASIC FREEDOMS WE TAKE FOR GRANTED, AND ABOVE ALL, THOSE WHO DO NOT YET CALL UPON YOUR NAME, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT.**
- P. Make us happy servants, channels of your love to those we know and to those we do not know.
- C. **MAKE US GREAT WITNESSES, GIVING TESTIMONY TO THE GOSPEL IN WORD AND IN DEED.**
- P. We raise our hearts and lives, cleansed by the blood of our Savior,
- C. **IN GRATITUDE FOR THE BLESSINGS WE HAVE AND FOR THOSE YET TO COME.**
- P. Bless our fellowship the rest of this day with family and friends.
- C. **IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SONG: "Give Thanks"

("Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." Colossians 3:15)

Verse : Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

Chorus: And now, let the weak say, I am strong, Let the poor say, I am rich, Because of what the Lord has done for us, And now, let the weak say, I am strong, Let the poor say, I am rich, because of what the Lord has done for us. *(Repeat verse & chorus)*

Ending...Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.

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THOSE DESIRING COMMUNION: *The Bible teaches under the bread and wine of Communion Jesus gives His real body and blood to assure us of forgiveness. (Mt 26:26-28) It also teaches in receiving this meal together, we are by that act professing a unity of faith with the church at whose altar we commune. (1 Cor 10: 16-21) While Communion is meant as a blessing, we can however misuse it to our harm. Those who eat without repentance or recognizing the presence of Jesus' body and blood sin against the Lord. (1 Cor 11:27-29). Also, when fellowship at this meal is practiced with others who hold beliefs contrary to God's Word, the church is weakened and the truth God tells us to guard is compromised. (Ro 16:17, 2 Thess 3:14) In an effort to avoid these sins and follow God's Word, before*

communing anyone we first seek to teach them about Christ's meal, and have them make a public profession of their agreement with us in the faith. As a matter of loving spiritual care then, not judgment, we invite to commune with us today confirmed members in good standing of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or the American Association of Lutheran Churches (AALC) who have received instruction, and by current membership in one of these sister churches confess a unity of faith with us here at St. Paul's.

NON-ALCOHOLIC COMMUNION WINE: *Out of consideration for those who have difficulty with alcohol a few glasses in the center ring of each Communion tray contain non-alcoholic white wine.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#574 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

"When All Your Mercies O My God" (tune TLH 436)

1. When all your mercies O my God, My thankful soul surveys Uplifted by the view I'm lost
In wonder love and praise.
2. Unnumbered blessings to my soul, Your tender care bestowed Before my infant heart
perceived From whom these blessings flowed.
3. Ten thousand thousand precious gifts, My daily thanks employ Nor is the least a thankful
heart That takes those gifts with joy.
4. In health and sickness joy and pain, Your goodness I'll pursue And after death in distant
worlds The glorious theme renew.
5. Throughout eternity O Lord, A joyful song I'll raise But all eternity's too short, To utter all
your praise.

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MISSION AFFIRMATION:

P. The love of Christ compels us to...

C. **GO IN HIS NAME, PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS, HEAL THE HURTING, TEACH THE TRUTH, SEND ME, LORD!**

BENEDICTION

HYMN: #36 "Now Thank We All Our God"

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

November 27th – 10:30 Service

1 Chronicles 23:30 "Are we standing to give thanks? Or giving thanks to stand?"

30 They were also to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD. They were to do the same in the evening.

1. What is there to thank God for in the morning?
2. What is there to thank God for in the evening?
3. Why isn't our thanksgiving pleasing to God without Jesus?
4. What's the proper posture for giving thanks when a person trusts in Jesus?
5. Why do we think standing in worship is a sign of respect?
6. Why don't we really have the right to stand before God?
7. How does Jesus' death and resurrection make it possible for us to stand before God?
8. Standing in worship before God is not _____,
it's _____.
9. How should being able to stand in God's presence affect us?