

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

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 26, 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

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC + WELCOME

SONG: "Almighty"

Chorus :Almighty, most Holy God, faithful through The ages; Almighty, most holy Lord, glorious Almighty God.

1. The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, Are silent to call out Your name; The earth has no voice, and I have no choice; But to magnify God unashamed. Let the rocks be kept silent for one more day; Let the whole world sing out, let the people say.*(chorus)*

2. Well, time marches on, with the innocence gone, And a darkness has covered the earth; But His Spirit dwells, He speaks, "It is well," And the hopeless still offered new birth. He will break the leash of death, it will have no sting; Let the pris'ner go free, join the dance and sing.*(chorus twice)*

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INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF SINS:

P. Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your boundless mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C. O MOST MERCIFUL GOD, SINCE YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON TO DIE FOR US, HAVE MERCY UPON US AND FOR HIS SAKE GRANT US FORGIVENESS OF ALL OUR SINS; AND BY YOUR HOLY SPIRIT INCREASE IN US TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF YOU AND OF YOUR WILL AND TRUE OBEDIENCE TO YOUR WORD, TO THE END THAT BY YOUR GRACE WE MAY COME TO EVERLASTING LIFE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

CALL TO WORSHIP: (From Psalm 31)

P. Be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.

C. HOW GREAT IS YOUR GOODNESS, WHICH YOU HAVE STORED UP FOR THOSE WHO FEAR YOU, WHICH YOU BESTOW IN THE SIGHT OF MEN ON THOSE WHO TAKE REFUGE IN YOU.

P. Love the Lord, all his saints!

C. THE LORD PRESERVES THE FAITHFUL, BUT THE PROUD HE PAYS BACK IN FULL.

P. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord!

SONG: "He is Exalted" (1 Chronicles 29:11)

Verse: He is exalted, the King is exalted on high. I will praise Him. He is exalted, for ever exalted and I will praise His name!

Chorus: He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

(Repeat Verse and Chorus) (C. 1985 Straight Way Music. Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

PRAYER

EPISTLE: Romans 3:21-25a,27,28

21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood...27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

GOSPEL: Matthew 7:15-29

15 “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. 21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ 23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ 24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” 28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(The Apostle’s Creed)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG: “Who Am I”

1. Who am I that the Lord of all the earth, Would care to know my name
Would care to feel my hurt. Who am I that the Bright and Morning Star
Would choose to light the way, For my ever wand'ring heart.

Bridge: Not because of who I am But because of what You've done
Not because of what I've done But because of who You are.

Chorus: I am a flower quickly fading Here today and gone tomorrow
A wave tossed in the ocean A vapor in the wind; Still You hear me when I'm calling,
Lord You catch me when I'm falling. And You've told me who I am....
I am Yours. (I am Yours)

2. Who am I that the eyes that see my sin Would look on me with love
and watch me rise again. Who am I that the voice that calmed the sea,
Would call out through the rain, And calm the storm in me. (*Bridge – Chorus*)

ENDING.... I am Yours.

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SERMON: Deuteronomy 11:18-21 **"The Fight against Sinful Thoughts"**

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

SONG: "Change My Heart, O God"

Chorus: Change my heart, Oh God, make it ever true; Change my heart, Oh God, may I be
like You.

Verse: You are the Potter, I am the clay; Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

(Repeat chorus, verse, chorus)

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THE OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

(Please sign book at end of pew.)

PRAYERS

REFLECTION ON THE LORD’S PRAYER:

P. We pray “Our Father who art in heaven.” What does this mean?

C. WITH THESE WORDS GOD TENDERLY INVITES US TO BELIEVE THAT HE IS
OUR TRUE FATHER AND THAT WE ARE HIS TRUE CHILDREN, SO THAT WITH
ALL BOLDNESS AND CONFIDENCE WE MAY ASK HIM AS DEAR CHILDREN
ASK THEIR DEAR FATHER.

P. In what way does the word “Father” encourage us to pray?

C. THE WORD “FATHER” TELLS US THAT GOD LOVES US AND WANTS US TO
PRAY TO HIM CONFIDENTLY AND WITHOUT FEAR.

P. What does the word “our” impress upon us when we pray?

C. IN JESUS ALL BELIEVERS ARE CHILDREN OF THE ONE FATHER AND SHOULD PRAY WITH AND FOR ONE ANOTHER.

P. What do the words “who art in heaven” say about God?

C. THESE WORDS ASSURE US THAT OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, AS LORD OVER ALL, HAS THE POWER TO GRANT OUR 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

SONG: “Love the Lord”

Verse 1. Love the Lord Your God With all your heart With all your soul With all your mind and with all your strength. Love the Lord your God With all your heart with all your soul With all your mind and with all your strength.

Chorus 1. With all your heart with all your soul; With all your mind with all your strength Love the Lord your God With all your heart with all your soul With all your mind and with all your strength.

Verse 2. I will serve the Lord With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind and with all my strength. I will serve the Lord With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind and with all my strength.

Chorus 2. With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength. I will serve the Lord With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind and with all my strength.

BRIDGE: (CONG. SING ECHO)

I will love You (I will love You) I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You) I will trust You Lord (I will trust You)

Chorus 3. With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength.
I will love You Lord With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind and with all my strength. I will love You Lord With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind and with all my strength. (C. 2005 Integrity's Praise! Music Used by permission CCLI#1561573)

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

Deuteronomy 11:18-21

"The Fight against Sinful Thoughts"

18 Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 20 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

1. Why do our thoughts sometimes make us feel uncomfortable?
2. What did the Lord want his people's lives to be filled with?
3. Why did Jesus become "poor"?
4. Why do we have good things to think about and be filled with?
5. What do some people believe, since we can't control our thoughts?
6. What is "coveting"?
7. How are coveting and contentment connected?
8. What's the only thing we as humans can do when it comes to sinful thoughts?
9. How does getting filled with Jesus' word help us when it comes to sinful thoughts?
10. Why do we have hope that our minds and thoughts can be transformed?