

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

Pastor - Rev. Paul Krentz Church (952) 955-1498, Home (952) 955-5097  
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**CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL:**

Principal - Jeff Boehlke (952) 955-1419

**LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:**

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

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7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 31, 2011

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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.

THIS WEEKEND we celebrate and rejoice that through the waters of Holy Baptism, the Spirit of God will bring Brenley Marie Ritter to faith in Jesus as her Savior, forgive her sin, and give to her the gift of eternal life.

**8:00am**  
WELCOME

**HYMN: #15 "From All that Dwell below the Skies"**

INVOCATION

**CONFESSION OF SINS:** *(From Psalm 143, Spoken together)*

For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble. O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief. Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE:** *(Adapted from Isaiah 43:1-10)*

P. This is what the Lord says - he who created you, he who formed you.  
C. FEAR NOT, FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU; I HAVE SUMMONED YOU BY NAME;  
YOU ARE MINE.  
P. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
C. WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE FIRE, YOU WILL NOT BE BURNED;  
P. For I am the Lord, your God,  
C. THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL, YOUR SAVIOR.

P. You are precious and honored in my sight,  
C. SO DO NOT BE AFRAID, FOR I AM WITH YOU.  
P. Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth -  
C. EVERYONE WHO IS CALLED BY MY NAME, WHOM I CREATED FOR MY  
GLORY, WHOM I FORMED AND MADE.  
P. You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen."  
C. SO THAT YOU MAY KNOW AND BELIEVE ME AND UNDERSTAND THAT I AM  
HE. BEFORE ME NO GOD WAS FORMED, NOR WILL THERE BE ONE AFTER ME.

**SONG: "If God Be for Us"**

*(Ro 8:31, 2 Cor 2:14 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?...But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.)*

If God be for us, who can be against us? For He always causes us to triumph through the Son. We are victorious through the One who strengthens us. More than conquerors are we, for we have won the victory, for He promises that we will overcome. *(Repeat)*  
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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."

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:** *(Spoken together)*

Lord Jesus, may Your Light shine in our lives today and forever. May Your truth be our declaration of faith; For we believe that you are the only Son of the Almighty God, Creator of the heavens and the earth. You came to earth, born of the Virgin Mary, and became man, to live among us and save us from our sins. You died and rose again, and now You live and reign on high with the Father. We look with great anticipation to Your coming again because we know You will take us and all believers home to live with You forever in Your kingdom. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may this truth be our heartfelt declaration today and every day of our lives. May this truth be evident in our lives and in the life of the church in all we say and do. This we believe and declare. Amen - it is so!

**HYMN: #402 "O God, Forsake Me Not"**

SERMON: Romans 7:15-25a **"Fighting Temptation"**

*(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.)*

PRAYERS

**REFLECTION ON THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

P. We pray "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." What do we confess when we pray this petition?

C. WE CONFESS THAT WE SIN EVERY DAY AND DESERVE NOTHING BUT PUNISHMENT.

P. What do we ask for in this petition?

C. WE ASK THAT OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN WOULD FOR CHRIST'S SAKE GRACIOUSLY FORGIVE OUR SINS.

P. Why do we include a prayer for forgiveness of sins in these petitions to our heavenly Father?

C. WE ARE NOT WORTHY OF THE THINGS FOR WHICH WE PRAY AND HAVE NOT DESERVED THEM. WE THEREFORE NEED GOD'S FORGIVENESS SO THAT WE MAY PRAY TO HIM CONFIDENTLY AND IN GOOD CONSCIENCE.

P. What does God want us to do for those who sin against us?

C. OUR HEAVENLY FATHER WANTS US TO FORGIVE AND TO DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US AS JESUS SAID, "IF YOU FORGIVE MEN WHEN THEY SIN AGAINST YOU, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WILL ALSO FORGIVE YOU. BUT IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE MEN THEIR SINS, YOUR FATHER WILL NOT FORGIVE YOUR SINS." *(Mt 6:14-15)*

P. What does it show when we forgive others?

C. IT SHOWS THAT WE TRULY BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS FORGIVEN US.

**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:** *(From Jude 24,25)*

P. To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy.

C. TO THE ONLY GOD OUR SAVIOR BE GLORY, MAJESTY, POWER AND AUTHORITY,

P. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

C. BEFORE ALL AGES, NOW AND FOREVERMORE! AMEN.

**SONGS: "Think About His Love" (Chorus)**

Think about His love, think about His goodness, think about His grace that's brought us through. For as high as the heaven's above so great is the measure of our Father's love.

Great is the measure of our Father's love. *(repeat)*

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**“No Other Name” (Chorus)**

*(Acts 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.")*

No other name but the Name of Jesus. No other name but the Name of the Lord.

No other name but the Name of Jesus, Is worthy of glory, and worthy of honor, and worthy of power and all praise. *(repeat)*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE**

**PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF AUGUST:**

August 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 Service

**Romans 7:15-25a**

**"Fighting Temptation"**

*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!*

1. What does the devil try to get us to believe when he tempts us?
2. What really happens when we give in to temptation?
3. Why is giving in to temptation always a "step down" for us?
4. What moves us to live in obedience to God's commands?
5. Why is trying to do what's right frustrating?
6. Is God's law good or bad for us? Why?
7. How is being a Christian like having a split personality?
8. Who do we often rely upon when it comes to fighting temptation?
9. Where's the only real help to be found in fighting temptation?