

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

CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL:

Principal - Jeff Boehlke (952) 955-1419

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 11, 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.

8:00am
WELCOME

HYMN: "Christ is the World's Redeemer"

1. Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure,
The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure.
The armor of his soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.

2. Christ has our host surrounded With clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph And fire us for the fight.
Then Christ the cross ascended To save a world undone,
And, suff'ring for the sinful, Our full redemption won.

3. Down in the realm of darkness He lay, a captive bound,
But at the hour appointed He rose, a victor crowned.
And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne
Whence he had ne'er departed, His Father's and his own.

INVOCATION

REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD: *(Adapted from Acts 17:24-31)*

- P. The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands.
- C. AND HE IS NOT SERVED BY HUMAN HANDS AS IF HE NEEDED ANYTHING, BECAUSE HE HIMSELF GIVES ALL MEN LIFE AND BREATH AND EVERYTHING ELSE.
- P. From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.
- C. GOD DID THIS SO THAT MEN WOULD SEEK HIM AND PERHAPS REACH OUT FOR HIM AND FIND HIM, THOUGH HE IS NOT FAR FROM EACH ONE OF US.
- P. For in him we live and move and have our being. We are his offspring.
- C. THEREFORE SINCE WE ARE GOD'S OFFSPRING, WE SHOULD NOT THINK THAT THE DIVINE BEING IS LIKE GOLD OR SILVER OR STONE - AN IMAGE MADE BY MAN'S DESIGN AND SKILL.
- P. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.
- C. FOR HE HAS SET A DAY WHEN HE WILL JUDGE THE WORLD WITH JUSTICE BY THE MAN HE HAS PPOINTED. HE HAS GIVEN PROOF OF THIS TO ALL MEN BY RAISING JESUS FROM THE DEAD.

CONFESSION OF SIN: *(Spoken together)*

Lord Jesus, God of heaven and earth, we confess all our sins before you that we have committed in our heart, with our words, and in our actions. We are truly worthy of nothing but your just punishment. Yet believing you to be the Savior who came to deliver the whole world from judgment, we call upon you for mercy. Forgive our sin, and restore us to be your people. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

- P. In worship, Bible class, or Sunday School, we hear that simple but sweet message proclaimed for our assurance again, and again.
- C. "GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE."
(John 3:16)
- P. Assured of our forgiveness in Christ, we are called to rejoice in our salvation, and share that message of life with all people's of the world, as Jesus said,
- C. "GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE." SO BE IT! AMEN.

SONG: “Shine Jesus Shine”

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness shining; Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth You now bring us; Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus: Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory. Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire, Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light. *(repeat chorus)*

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EPISTLE READING: Romans 11:13-15, 28-32

13 I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry 14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. 15 For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? 28 As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, 29 for God’s gifts and his call are irrevocable. 30 Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, 31 so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God’s mercy to you. 32 For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15:21-28

21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.” 23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” 25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. 26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to their dogs.” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she said, “but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28 Then Jesus answered, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

SONG: “Heal Our Land” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

1. If my people will humble themselves, humble themselves and pray, If they seek My face and humble themselves and turn from their wicked ways; I will hear from heaven and forgive their sin, I will hear from heaven and heal their land.

Chorus: Lord, heal our land, Father, heal our land, hear our cry and turn our nation back to You; Lord, heal our land, hear us, O Lord, and heal our land, forgive our sin and heal our broken land.

2. Lord, we bow our knee, we humble ourselves, humble ourselves and pray, Lord, we seek Your face, we humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways; Father, in Your mercy, forgive our sin, Father, in Your mercy, come, heal our land. *(chorus)*

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SERMON: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 “Sunday School and Terrorists?”

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH: (Spoken together)

I believe that the Father Almighty is my God and your God. I believe that He made the galaxies and the earth. He has made all people for Himself and for each other. I believe that He loved each of us so much that He sent His only Son Jesus, to be born a human, to grow and to teach and to love. But being human was not enough; Jesus also had to suffer and die. So God's Son, for the joy set before Him, endured the pain and death on a cross, for you and for me and for all people. After three days, He rose from the grave. He ascended into heaven, and was exalted by His Father to be Lord and King over all. I believe that when Jesus returns to the earth visibly, He will claim all who believe in Him as His royal family, to live in His kingdom forever. I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has given each of us faith in Jesus and preserves us in that faith. He gives to us new life, new hope and an everlasting love. So I also believe that all Christians will rise from death and live with God in eternal glory. And I believe that we have more than a fellowship of people with faith. We have a message for the world, and that message is Jesus is the Christ, in whom alone forgiveness and life with God are found. Amen.

OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP (Please sign fellowship book at end of pew.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

P. Lord Jesus, as the Savior of the world,

C. WE PRAY THAT YOUR CHURCH IN THE WORLD WOULD BE MOVED TO GREATER FAITHFULNESS, IN USING YOUR WORD, AND SHARING THAT LIFE SAVING WORD WITH OTHERS.

P. As the Prince of Peace,

C. WE PRAY THAT CONFLICTS IN THE WORLD WOULD CEASE, AND PEACE PREVAIL.

P. As the God who took our imperfect life upon yourself on the cross, that we might have your perfect life,

C. LORD, RESTORE US, AND HELP ALL WHO ARE IN PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEED, INCLUDING THOSE WHO ARE BROKEN, HUNGRY, HOMELESS, UNEMPLOYED, PERSECUTED, OR ABUSED.

P. Especially we lift before you...(special requests)...Hear our prayers on their behalf,

C. AND COME TO THEM IN MERCY AND MIGHT.

P. Bless us as a congregation with your wisdom to guide us in the mission of seeking the lost.

C. HELP US. SAVE US. DEFEND US. COMFORT US, AND EMPOWER US AS YOUR REDEEMED PEOPLE, GRACIOUS LORD. AMEN.

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 Psalm 67)*

P. May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us!

C. THAT YOUR WAYS MAY BE KNOWN ON EARTH, YOUR SALVATION AMONG ALL NATIONS!

P. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the people praise you.

C. MAY THE NATIONS BE GLAD AND SING FOR JOY, FOR YOU RULE THE PEOPLES JUSTLY AND GUIDE THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH!

SONG: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"

My country, 'tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side, Let Freedom ring!

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free, Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with rapture thrills Like that above.

Our fathers' God to Thee, Author of Liberty, To thee we sing,
Long may our land be bright; With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might; Great God, our King!

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

September 11th and 25th – 10:30 service

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

"Sunday School and Terrorists?"

1 This is what the LORD says: "Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. 6 And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him, to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant— 7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." 8 The Sovereign LORD declares— he who gathers the exiles of Israel: "I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

1. What one simple truth connects Sunday School to terrorist attacks?

2. How did God use the Israelite nation in a special way?

3. Why did the Lord warn the Israelites to maintain justice and do what is right?

4. What good is membership in a church if you don't have faith in Jesus?

5. Jesus is _____ Savior.

6. Who does God promise to receive and accept as his people?

7. God threatens judgment against _____.

8. God offers forgiveness _____.

9. How are terrorist attacks and Sunday School connected?

10. What do we sometimes do with God's offer of forgiveness?

11. What happens to our own assurance when God's offer of salvation in Christ is limited?

12. Jesus gave up his life _____.