

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Pastor - Rev. Paul Krentz Church (952) 955-1498, Home (952) 955-5097
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Principal - Jeff Boehlke (952) 955-1419

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 4, 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.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC + WELCOME

SONG: "I Stand in Awe" (Ps 33:8)

Vs. 1 You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words, too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard. Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom, who can fathom the depth of Your love? You are beautiful beyond description, majesty enthroned above.

Chorus: And I stand, I stand in awe of You, I stand, I stand in awe of You; Holy God, to Whom all praise is due, I stand in awe of You.

Vs. 2 You are beautiful beyond description, yet God crushed You for my sin; In agony and deep affliction, cut off that I might enter in. Who can grasp such tender compassion, who can fathom this mercy so free? You are beautiful beyond description, Lamb of God who died for me. (*chorus*)

Ending.....I stand in awe of You, I stand... in awe....of You.
(C. 1987 Sovereign Grace Praise Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

INVOCATION

REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD:

P. "Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand,

C. THAT HE MAY LIFT YOU UP IN DUE TIME." (1 Peter 5:6)

P. "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence,

C. THAT WE MAY RECEIVE MERCY AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED." (Hebrews 4:16)

CONFESSION OF SIN: (*Spoken together, adapted from Psalm 28*)

To You I call, O Lord, my Rock; do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if You remain silent, I will be like those who have gone down to the pit. Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward Your Most Holy Place. Do not drag me away with the wicked, with those who do evil. Forgive my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin against You. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE: (Adapted from Psalm 28)

P. Praise be to the Lord,
C. FOR HE HAS HEARD MY CRY FOR MERCY.
P. The Lord is my strength and my shield;
C. MY HEART TRUSTS IN HIM, AND I AM HELPED.
P. My heart leaps for joy,
C. AND I WILL GIVE THANKS TO HIM IN SONG.
P. The Lord is the strength of his people,
C. A FORTRESS OF SALVATION FOR HIS ANOINTED ONE.
P. Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;
C. BE OUR SHEPHERD AND CARRY US FOREVER. AMEN.

CALL FOR MERCY: (*Tune "I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus" LW #408*)

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy; Lord, we trust Your grace.
Lord, have mercy on us as we seek Your face.

HYMN OF PRAISE: (*Tune "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling" LW #318*)

1. "Glory be to God, the highest;" "Peace," "good will," with angels sing.
You we worship, praise and honor, Glorious Lord God, heav'nly King,
God the Father, the Almighty. Jesus, sole begotten One,
Lord God, merciful and mighty, Praise to You, the Father's Son.
2. Christ, the Lamb of God, have mercy, Take the whole world's sin away.
Lord, have mercy on Your children; For Your name's sake, hear us pray.
You who sit at God's own right hand, Grant us mercy, Holy Lord.
You, O Christ, and Holy Spirit, With the Father be adored.

PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

9 There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 10 He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” 11 The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 14 He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” 15 The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. 16 Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. 17 Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. 18 Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him.”

EPISTLE READING: Romans 9:1-5

1 I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit— 2 I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(From Philippians 2)*

I believe in Jesus Christ, who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SONG: "My God, My God"

(Ps 40:5 "Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.")

Chorus: My God, my God, how great you are, You are wonderful in deeds; My God, my God, how great You are, You are wonderful in deeds. For we are Your mighty deeds, changed in hearts and lives; For we are your mighty deeds, changed in hearts and lives.

Verse: You're Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace; and You shall reign forevermore. (Chorus)

(C. 1988 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

SERMON: Matthew 14:22-33 **"Look at Me!" or "Who Get's the Credit?"**

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

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL: *(Tune "We Give You But Your Own" LW #405)*

1. Create in me, O Lord A heart made clean from sin.
Give me, by Your own work restored, A spirit right within.
2. O, cast me not away From You, but draw me near.
O, let Your Holy Spirit stay; My Savior, hold me dear!
3. Rejuvenate in me Salvation's joy and peace.
Uphold me with Your Spirit free, That faith and life increase.

THE OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP *(Please sign book at end of pew)*

PRAYERS

HYMN OF ADORATION: *(Sung responsively. Tune "Lord of Glory..." LW #402)*

- P. Our Lord's peace be with you always,
C. AND WITH YOU, HIS SERVANT, TOO.
P. Lift your heart and voice to sing praise.
C. LORD, WE LIFT GLAD HEARTS TO YOU.

IT IS GOOD AND RIGHT TO ALWAYS THANK YOU HOLY, MIGHTY LORD.
EVERLASTING GOD AND FATHER; BE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST ADORED.

HE THROUGH DEATH AND GRAVE FOR US, LIFE ETERNAL OPENED WIDE;
SO WE NOW JOIN HOSTS OF HEAVEN SINGING "CHRIST BE GLORIFIED!"
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD, YOUR GLORY FILLS ALL EARTH AND SKY.
BLESSED ONE IN GOD'S NAME COMING; SHOUT TO HIM HOSANNAS HIGH!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HYMN OF ASSURANCE: *(Tune "Savior, Thy Dying Love" LW #374)*

O Christ, the Lamb of God have mercy, Lord.

You take away the sin of the whole world.

Have mercy on us, Lord, O Christ, the Lamb of God.

Have mercy on us Lord; grant us your peace.

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

RESPONSE: *(Tune "Take My Life, O Lord Renew" LW #404)*

1. Now we go in peace, dear Lord. As You promise in Your word.

Your salvation has been shown. Here You mark us as Your own.

2. Glory to the Father, Son, And the Spirit, three in one,

As it was, is and shall be, Now and through eternity.

BENEDICTION

SONG: "Rejoice The Lord Is King"

1. Rejoice the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph ever more.

Chorus: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say rejoice.

2. Jesus the Savior reigns! The God of truth and love.

When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above. *(Chorus)*

3. His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n.

The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n. *(Chorus)*

4. Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, and Judge shall come

And take His servants up to their eternal home. *(Chorus)*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

September 11th and 25th – Praise Band – 10:30 Service

(Liturgical portions of this service written and arranged by Rev. Vance Becker. Used by permission.)

Matthew 14:22-33

"Look at Me!" or "Who Get's the Credit?"

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. 25 During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." 28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." 29 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

1. What can we learn from this account of Jesus walking on the water?

2. How might Peter have reacted when he walked on water?

3. Why isn't it wrong to admire our good accomplishments?

4. When does admiring our accomplishments become sin?
 - A.
 - B.

5. True Christian life is always _____
_____.

6. Who does Scripture give credit to for everything except sin?

7. How does God get the credit for an automobile, when we are the ones who build it?

8. How should we as believers in Christ celebrate Labor Day?

