



THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2024

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040

Guest Pastor: Rev. Carlos Ortiz-Lugo

www.stpauloaklawn.org

Director of Music Ruth Sievers

AS WE GATHER

The Readings for today tell us that God will change people's circumstances. The Old Testament Reading lists those who are blind, deaf, lame, and mute. Instead of advising them simply to pray, Isaiah promises that God will take action, like water in the desert. Among the ways God will help is through His people; according to the advice to James, we, who have been given the gift of faith, are called to be fair in court, to try to keep the entire Law of God, and to see that the people around us are clothed and fed. Jesus casts out demons and heals a deaf man in the Gospel. He is doing no less when we become His caring instruments. Today we let the Word come into us so that we might be part of God's healing answer to prayer.

Prelude

"Rondeau"

J. Mouret

✠ Divine Service Setting Four ✠

Stand

Opening Hymn

"May We Thy Precepts, Lord Fulfill"

#698

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill
And do on earth our Father's will
As angels do above;
Still walk in Christ, the living way,
With all Thy children and obey
The law of Christian love. | The end of all our hopes the same,
A crown of life with Thee. |
| 2 | So may we join Thy name to bless,
Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,
From sin and strife to flee.
One is our calling, one our name, | 3 |
| | | Spirit of life, of love and peace,
Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live,
In joyful hope to die. |

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✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought,

word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 51:7, 10–12; antiphon: v.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*
and cleanse me | from my sin!
Purge me with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;*
wash me, and I shall be whit- | er than snow.

Create in me a clean heart, | O God,*
and renew a right spirit with- | in me.

Cast me not away from your | presence,*
and take not your Holy Spirit | from me.

Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,*
and uphold me with a willing | spirit.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*
and cleanse me | from my sin!

Kyrie (*sung*)

p. 204

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

p. 204

1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—

Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

At God's right hand on high—

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of the Day

PThe Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PLet us pray.

O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

¹“Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the just decrees that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. . . .

⁶Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ ⁷For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e’er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.

△ 3 To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.

2 Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow’r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.

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Epistle

Ephesians 6:10–20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (*sung*)

p. 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 7:14–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus] called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." ¹⁷And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

✠ Confession of Faith ✠

The Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and
invisible.
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.

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 worshiped 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.

1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner;
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;
The trumpet call obey;
Stand forth in mighty conflict
In this His glorious day.
Let all His faithful serve Him
Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger
And strength to strength oppose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;
Stand in His strength alone.

The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor;
Each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger,
Be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;
The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle,
The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming,
Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Offerings may also be dropped off at the office or mailed, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please call the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

A word about the Sacrament of the Altar...

We believe Jesus' own words that the bread and wine we receive in Holy Communion are indeed His true Body and Blood and not just a representation of them. We also acknowledge St. Paul's instruction to the Church at Corinth that it is harmful for anyone to receive the Sacrament without recognizing the real presence of His Body and Blood. Because of this, in Christian love we ask anyone who does not understand these truths to please refrain from receiving the Sacrament until you've spoken with the pastor. (*Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-30*)

✠ The Sacrament of the Altar ✠

Stand

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
P It is truly good, right, and salutary ...
...evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (*sung*)

p. 208

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

p. 209

- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:
C **Our Father who art in heaven...**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

p. 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

p. 210

- 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,**

Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

✠ Distribution of the Sacrament ✠

Solo

“What Is This Bread?”

F. Baue, composer

“Fight the Good Fight”

#644

1 Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength, and Christ your
right.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.

2 Run the straight race through God’s good
grace;

Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
His boundless mercy will provide.

Trust, and enduring faith shall prove
Christ is your life and Christ your love.

4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see
That Christ is all eternally.

Text: Public domain

“Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion”

#559

1 Oh, how great is Your compassion,
Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race
In our depth of degradation
You had mercy so that we
Might be saved eternally!

2 Your great love for this has striven
That we may, from sin made free,
Live with You eternally.
Your dear Son Himself has given
And extends His gracious call,
To His supper leads us all.

3 Firmly to our soul's salvation
Witnesses Your Spirit, Lord,
In Your Sacraments and Word.
There He sends true consolation,
Giving us the gift of faith
That we fear not hell nor death.

4 Lord, Your mercy will not leave me;
Ever will Your truth abide.
Then in You I will confide.
Since Your Word cannot deceive me,
My salvation is to me
Safe and sure eternally.

Text: Public domain

Stand

Communion Blessing

P The true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Nunc Dimittis

p. 211

1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Closing Prayer

P Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C for His steadfast love endures forever.

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise, our refuge, our fortress, and our God in whom we trust, for You have refreshed us with the body and blood of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. We ask that You continue to strengthen us as we go from here, even as we stand in the face of temptations and trials; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

p. 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

#919

1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,
Among us with Your grace
That Satan may not harm us
Nor we to sin give place.

2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,
Among us with Your Word,
And thus now and hereafter
True peace and joy afford.

3 Abide with heav’nly brightness
Among us, precious Light;
Your truth direct and keep us
From error’s gloomy night.

4 Abide with richest blessings
Among us, bounteous Lord;
Let us in grace and wisdom
Grow daily through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection
Among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Your love;
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above.

Text: Public domain

Postlude

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

J. Pachelbel



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANKS

Guest Pastor: Rev. Carlos Ortiz-Lugo

Organist: Ruth Sievers

Vocalist: Sue Marcinkowski

Lector: Betty Shamasko

Altar Care: Cheryl Horan

Elders on Duty: John Lilja, Dave Kandel, Bill Leise

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Announcements & Notes

BAKE SALE next Sunday, Sept. 8th after the 8:45 am worship service! Ladies Guild members who are baking for this Grandparents Day event should bring their baked items (plated and priced) to our sale table by 8:30 am. Please support the Guild and stop by to enjoy our delicious treats!

Calling all Singers! The **first rehearsal** for the Fall season of the **Southwest Lutheran Chorus** will be held on **Monday, September 9, 2024 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 4660 West 94th Street in Oak Lawn at 7:00 PM**. All singers are welcome. You can park north of the church and enter at the door on the right, which will be marked. We look forward to seeing you! For more information, please contact Deborah Hochgesang at dhochgesang@comcast.net and (708) 499-2866.

Sunday School is resuming at St. Paul on September 15th from 10:15am to 11:00am, for all children ages 3-10. We would love to see your children's smiling faces. While your children are learning about Jesus, there is an Adult Bible Study and all parents are welcome to attend. Families are always welcome to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:00am.

Respectfully, Board of Evangelism/Parish Education

On Saturday September 21st, 2024, All Military veterans are invited to a luncheon to honor those who have served. The event will take place at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Doors open at 10:30 am, Luncheon is from 11am-2pm. Reservations are required, please RSVP by September 16th, by calling the church office at (708) 423-1040 . Flyers with further information are on the table in the Narthex.

Please Note: Worship service on Sunday, September 8th will begin at 8:45 am, so that our guest pastor can return to his own congregation for their services.

Service Video, Bulletin, and Newslettr can be found on our website, www.stpauloaklawn.org. If you are having trouble accessing the video, please contact Michelle in the church office.

Bible Study: Sunday Mornings at 10:30, where we are studying the Parables of Jesus. Grab coffee and a snack and join us in the Timothy Room!

Wednesday evening worship service and Friday evening Bible study have been suspended until further notice.

Remembering our homebound friends is a caring ministry of St. Paul meant to help us stay in touch with our members who aren't able to be with us for worship. Please remember them in your prayers. You may also like to send a note or a card. This week our homebound friends are Andrew and Elizabeth Schubkegel, 6635 Dawn Avenue, Countryside IL 60525 Oak Lawn IL 6045

Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family

Sandy Barry
Regina Nordquist
Lisa Rudolph
Karen Bidus
Steve Czerniejewski
George Oberg
Regina Nordquist
Jan Leise
Dawn Schumann
Bob Marcinkowski
Jennifer Garcia
June Hagberg
Judy Anderson
Carl Hoppe
Amanda Greene
Janice Janiszewski
Dorothy Pavella
Vic & Marty Both
Rich & Jan Przybycien
Bill Volk
Arthur Gerth
Ingrid Lesko
Jan Briede
Roy Hodgeman
Katherine Hice
Kurt Seehofer
Flora Jones
Graham Jackson
Kevin Hickey
Gloria Meyer
Elaine Lebron
Melva Smith
Delores Stegemann
Carol Small
Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski

Beverly Sellers
Betty Beegle
Warren Miller
Delphine Cherry
Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank
Betty Kruckow
Herta Iversen
Loretta Frank.
Barbara Prendergast
Nancy Bundley
Rosa Richardson
Sarah Weber

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Roberta & Carlos Owens
Dorothy Kroll
Emily Feehan
LeRoy Bitner
Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta
Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow
Janet Trierweiler
Vicki Warren
Rhonda Scott
Michelle Mitchell
Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi
Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher
The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross
Louise Hrynkow
Gloria Folsom
Shirley Fairchild

Simeon Hoppe
Ron Lunt
Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath
Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres
Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo
Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.
Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter
Fred Raddatz
Allyson Seehofer
Selma Carmichael
Bernadette & Rich Trusk
Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson
Guillermo Ramirez
Vern Howe
Shawn Harland
Ann Herold
Barb Potter
Wayne Volk
Lance Barrientos
Linda Shuman
Doris Potts
Doreen Holford
Judy Collins
Phyllis Hicks
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.
Cathy Becker
Ken Matz
Jean & Al Zirbel
Carol Loecherbach
Charley Heitz
Sophia Salus
Justin & Ashley Fasel

Frank Coglinase
Gene Wawrzynkowski
Kimberly Rooney
Evelyn & Ron Konieski
Audrey Metes
Richard DeSaga
Margaret Lundgreen
Julie King
Sharon Bryant
Anika Seger
Monica Kato
Herb Kleeman
Debra Kleeman
Sarah Skelton
Barbara Apt
Carrie Aspan
Lisa Anglin
Devon Apt
Tristan Ferry
Hillary Pittelko
Sue Berg
Carol Jean & Tim McPhillips
Evelyn & Ron Konieczki
Katherine Zeleny
Elmo Schultz
Jose Urena
Edward Cyga
Ted Gross
Avery Kenny
Ray Jackson
The DeAngelis Family
Lauren Rossetti
George Dodaro, Sr.
Daniel Musser
Rudy DeAngelis
David Frazone
Dana DeAngelis
Anna Stendic
Debby Kehrl

***We pray for Pastor Samuel Clay, as he considers the call to St. Paul Lutheran Church
Please let us know when your need for congressional prayer is over.***

