



"THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER."

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 14, 2024

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040

Pastor John Moeller

www.stpauloaklawn.org

Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

The Word of God works, and that powerful Word is our only source and hope of everlasting life! Through Isaiah, God compares His Word to the rain that He sends to water His creation. That same Word works in our hearts and lives, energizing us for the good work He has created us to do, as St. Paul writes in his letter to the Ephesians. In his Gospel, St John calls Jesus the "Word made flesh," and shows us how He has fulfilled all the Words of Scripture that pointed to Him and now reigns victorious over sin, death, and the power of the devil. As we let the mighty Word of God work through us, we can be confident of His care, no matter what challenges we may face. He will certainly equip and enable each of us for the work He has called us to do.

✠ Preservice Music ✠

"All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine" - arr. R. Farlee

"Fanfare and Processional" - L. Trapp

Prelude

"Word of God, Come Down to Earth"

arr. J. Vyhanek

Opening Hymn:

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

#525, sts. 1, 4, and 5

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity. | His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die. | |
| 4 | Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save. | 5 | Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all. |

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Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 92:1-5; 93:2, 5

P It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

C to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night.

P For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands, I sing for joy.

C How great are Your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

P Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

C Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.

Confession and Absolution

We pause to remember our sins before our gracious heavenly father...

P Let us now confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C **Gracious God, with contrition and repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have said and done things we should not, and have not done what we should be doing as Your servants. We deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. But trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P God is gracious and merciful and hears our prayers. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 84:1–2a, 4, 10b, 11b; antiphon: vv. 9–10a

P Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!

C **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.**

P How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

C **My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD.**

P Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

P The LORD bestows favor and honor.

C **No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray together.

C **Lord God, by the power of Your Word alone You created all things out of nothing. Draw us to You, and open our ears to hear and our hearts to believe Your Word today and always, that by Your grace, we may grow in the faith and the love that are in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

✠ The Compassion of the Lord ✠

Isaiah 55:6-13

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Celebration Ringers

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

T. Osman

Epistle:

✠ By Grace, Through Faith ✠

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

arr. M. Haugen

Holy Gospel

✠ The Word Became Flesh ✠

John 1:1-5; 10-14

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

✠ Confession of Faith ✠

The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

P During His time on earth, Jesus fulfilled all Scripture as God Incarnate, the Word made flesh, and forty days after His Resurrection victory over sin, death, and the devil, He ascended into heaven. Trusting in God's only Son Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we confess our faith with the words of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe 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 was 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.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Sermon Hymn

"Thy Strong Word"

#578, sts. 1, 3(choir only), 5, 6

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

3 (choir only)
*Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!*

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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Sermon

Celebration Ringers Anthem

"A Joyful Ring"

arr. B. Kinyon

Prayer of the Church

A Message from the Northern Illinois District, LCMS

Celebration Ringers

"Come Christians, Join to Sing"

arr. C. Maggs

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.*

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 ✠

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.**

Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

- P** We pray together as our Lord taught us,
C **Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

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

✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

#904

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Blessèd Jesus, at Your Word | Now to seek and love and fear You, |
| | We are gathered all to hear You. | By Your teachings, sweet and holy, |
| | Let our hearts and souls be stirred | Drawn from earth to love You solely. |

2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.

3 Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;

Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

4 Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,
Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word,
Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

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Hymn

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth

#545

1 Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
Word made flesh, we long to hear You.

3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world, by sin now broken.

2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, Your love outpouring.

4 Word that speaks God's tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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Hymn

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

#623

1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.

All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.

2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;

5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.

Text: Public domain

1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
 Our true faith confessing,
 The people of God from His dwelling take
 leave.
 The Supper is ended.
 O now be extended
 The fruits of this service in all who believe.
 The seed of His teaching,
 Receptive souls reaching,
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
 His grace did invite us,
 His love shall unite us
 To work for God's kingdom and answer His
 call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
 To God ever-living,
 The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
 Our faith ever sharing,
 In love ever caring,
 Embracing His children of each tribe and
 race.
 With Your feast You feed us,
 With Your light now lead us;
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.
 Then may all the living
 With praise and thanksgiving
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we
 bear.

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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.

Closing Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together

C Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths
 as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not
 knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through
 Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Choir Anthem

"Go Now in Peace"

N. Sleeth

Benediction

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.

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

#895

1 Now thank we all our God
 With hearts and hands and voices,
 Who wondrous things has done,
 In whom His world rejoices;

Who from our mothers' arms
 Has blest us on our way
 With countless gifts of love
 And still is ours today.

Announcements & Notes:

No Sunday Bible Class today, it will resume next Sunday after worship in the Timothy Room. Grab a cup of coffee and something to eat and join in for a deeper dive into the Parables of Jesus!

There is NO Friday Evening Bible Study this Friday, July 19. "The Chosen" Bible resume at 6:30pm on July 28 in the Timothy Room. Join in anytime – All are invited!

There is no Wednesday Evening Communion Service this week. Our midweek services will resume on July 24 at 6pm in the air-conditioned Timothy Room. Watch for more information about these services!

In case you need to cool down, the A/C is on in the St Timothy room and the library.

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 friend is Lorraine Moses, 5236 S. Christiana, Chicago, IL 60632.

School Supply Collection for Worth Township:

Our Faith in Action – Social Ministry group is again collecting school supplies for the children of Worth Township who are in need. Please place your donations in the box in the narthex.

FIA – Social Ministry will deliver St. Paul's donations during the first week in August.

We thank you so much for your support!

A list of suggested supplies is available on the table in the narthex and on the back of this bulletin.

**Please pray for
these members of
our St. Paul family**

Karen Bidus
Sandy Barry
Steve Czerniejewski
George Oberg
Regina Nordquist
Jan Leise
Dawn Schumann
Bob Marcinkowski
Jennifer Garcia
June Hagberg
Dave Purdy
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
Mary Beth Pasqua
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 Wawrzynikowski
Kimberly Rooney

Evelyn & Ron Konieski
Audrey Metes
Richard DeSaga
Ken Wentz
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
Mike Feyerer
Edward Cyga
Ted Gross
Avery Kenny
Ray Jackson
The DeAngelis Family
Lauren Rossetti
George Dodaro, Sr.
Daniel Musser
Rudy DeAngelis
David Frazone
Anna Stendic
Debby Kehrli

We continue our prayers for this congregation, for our Call Committee, and for the Pastor God has chosen to shepherd His flock here at St. Paul.

**Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over
(708) 423-1040.**

School Supply Collection for Worth Township:



Our Faith in Action – Social Ministry group is again collecting school supplies for the children of Worth Township who are in need. Please place your donations in the box in the narthex by August 4th. FIA – Social Ministry will deliver St. Paul's donations the first week in August. We thank you so much for your support! Here's a list of suggested supplies:

- #2 Pencils (black lead)
 - Mechanical Pencils
- Large pink pencil erasers
 - Pencil Sharpeners
- Red, Blue and Black Pens
- Erasable Pens (red, blue, black)
 - Pen ink erasers
- 12" Ruler (in inches and centimeters) (plastic and wooden)
 - Colored pencils
 - Crayola crayons box of 12, 16, 24, 48, or 64
 - Crayola Thin and Wide Washable Markers
 - Elmer's White School Glue 4 oz. bottle
 - Fiskar scissors (both right and left-handed)
 - Glue sticks (large and small)
- Laminated pocket folders (red, yellow, blue, green, orange, black, white)
- Regular pocket folders (red, yellow, blue, green, orange, black, white)
 - Loose-leaf notebook paper (wide rule)
 - Spiral notebooks (wide rule) (1 subject, 3 subjects, 5 subjects)
 - Compasses
- School bag/backpacks
- Binders (all sizes)
 - Calculators
- Black Sharpie Markers
- Index Cards (small and large)
 - Cloth Pencil case
 - Plastic school boxes
 - Protractors
- Clorox wipes
- Paper towels
- Large box Kleenex (350 count)
- Sandwich size zip lock bags
- Gallon size zip lock bags
- Ear buds / headphones
 - Post it notes
- Dry erase markers