



THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 8TH, 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

"Prelude in G"

G. Handel

✠ Divine Service Setting Four ✠

Stand

Opening Hymn

"When to Our World Our Savior Came"

#551

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | When to our world the Savior came The sick and helpless heard His name, And in their weakness longed to see The healing Christ of Galilee. | 4 | Of long ago: yet living still, Who died for us on Calv'ry's hill; Who triumphed over cross and grave, His healing hands stretched forth to save. |
| 2 | That good physician! Night and day The people thronged about His way; And wonder ran from soul to soul, "The touch of Christ has made us whole!" | 5 | His sov'reign purpose still remains Who rose in pow'r, and lives and reigns; Till ev'ry tongue confess His praise, The healing Christ of all our days. |
| 3 | His praises then were heard and sung By opened ears and loosened tongue, While lightened eyes could see and know | | |

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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 Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: v. 8.

The LORD is the strength of his people;*

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,*

lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down | to the pit.

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,*

when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

Blessèd be the LORD!*

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;*

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, *

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD is the strength of his people;*

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

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.

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

Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; 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

Isaiah 35:4–7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 2: 1-10, 14-18

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

A 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 7:24-37**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his

feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

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.

Sit

Sermon Hymn

“O Son of God in Galilee”

#841

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | O Son of God, in Galilee You made the deaf to hear, The mute to speak, the blind to see; O blessed Lord, be near. | 4 | Meanwhile to them the list'ning ear Of steadfast faith impart, And let Your Word bring light and cheer To ev'ry troubled heart. |
| 2 | O listen to the silent prayer Of Your afflicted ones. O bid them cast on You their care; Your grace to them make known. | 5 | Then in Your promised happy land Each loss will prove a gain; All myst'ries we shall understand, For You will make them plain. |
| 3 | The speechless tongue, the lifeless ear You can restore, O Lord; Your “Ephphatha,” O Savior dear, Can instant help afford. | | |

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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. St

Sit

✠ Distribution of the Sacrament ✠

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord “

#637

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured; Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest. | | To all believers life eternal yields; With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole, Gives living waters to the thirsting soul. |
| 2 | He who His saints in this world rules and shields, | 3 | Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here. O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now. |

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“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

#524

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear! It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away our fear. | 4 | O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, My Prophet, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my way, my end, Accept the praise I bring. |
| 2 | It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the heart's unrest; 'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest. | 5 | How weak the effort of my heart, How cold my warmest thought! But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought. |
| 3 | Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hiding place; My never-failing treasury filled With boundless stores of grace. | 6 | Till then I would Thy love proclaim With ev'ry fleeting breath; And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death! |

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“How Wide the Love of Christ”

#535

- 1 How wide the love of Christ!
It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity
Within its broad embrace.
- 2 How long the love of Christ!
Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound
In everlasting peace.
- 3 How high the love of Christ!
Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives
Unmeasured mercy pours.

- 4 How deep the love of Christ,
Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands
All human pain and loss.
- 5 All praise to You, O Christ,
For love whose depth and height,
Whose length and breadth fill time
and space
With endless life and light!

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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

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”

#842

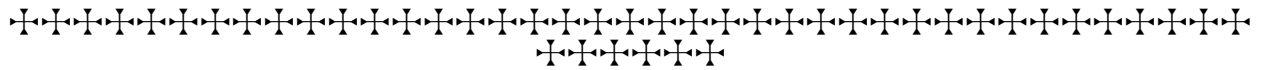
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|---|--|
| <p>1 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race, You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead: Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.</p> <p>2 As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live. Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give. Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.</p> | <p>3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease. By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain, Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.</p> <p>4 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race: By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one, Grant, O grant our hope’s fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.</p> |
|---|--|

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Postlude

“My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker”

D. Buxtehude



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANKS

Guest Pastor: Rev. Carlos Ortiz-Lugo

Organist: Ruth Sievers

Vocalist: Sue Marcinkowski

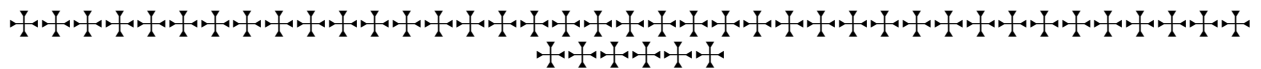
Lector: Ruth Diver

Altar Care: Sue Lilja

Elders on Duty: John Lilja, David Witkosky

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Announcements & Notes

After today's service, please visit the BAKE SALE and purchase delicious baked goods prepared by the members of the Ladies Guild!

Calling all Singers! St. Paul Adult Choir begins fall rehearsals this Wednesday, Sept. 11th, at 7pm. Southwest Lutheran Chorus begins their fall season tomorrow (Monday, Sept 9th) at 7pm. For both rehearsals, please enter the building through the outside Timothy Room entrance. Singers are needed and welcome! Please join us!

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.

ALL WOMEN are invited to a free WELCOME LUNCHEON and first Ladies Guild meeting of the season on Tuesday, Sept 24th! Please sign the sheet on the counter outside the church office so that the Board can plan for food for all! Come and bring a friend!

Please Note: Worship service on Sunday, September 15th will begin at 9:00 am. Service Video, Bulletin, and Newsletter 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 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 Beverly Sellers, 9128 S Turner, Evergreen Park IL 60805

Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family

Sandy Barry
Regina Nordquist
Jerome Kreten
Marilyn Degen
Lisa Rudolph
Karen Bidus
Steve Czerniejewski
George Oberg
Regina Nordquist
Jan Leise
Dawn Schumann
Bob Marcinkowski
Jennifer Garcia
June Hagberg
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
Jan Dietz

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 and Elaine 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
Monica Kato
Herb Kleeman
Debra Kleeman
Sarah Skelton
Barbara Apt
Carrie Aspan
Lisa Anglin
Devon Apt
Tristan Ferry
Sue Berg
Carol Jean & Tim McPhillips
Evelyn & Ron Konieczki
Katherine Zeleny
Elmo Schultz
Jose Urena
Edward Cyga
Ted Gross
Avery Kenny
Ray Jackson
Lauren Rossetti
George Dodaro, Sr.
Daniel Musser
Rudy DeAngelis
David Frazone
Anna Stendic
Debby Kehrli
Dana DeAngelis

***We Give Thanks:** For Pastor John and Martha Moeller, who are celebrating their wedding anniversary this week.*

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