

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rally Day Homecoming

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 10, 2023

10 AM



Christian Hope & Nourishment-- ***Always Together!***

AS WE GATHER

The need for faithful Christian education has not diminished. Today, we celebrate the blessings God has given us through Lutheran Christian education, and we ask Him for His continued providence in all our schools and teaching.

Everyone has issues in their life – stress, pain, debt, loneliness – wouldn't it be great to have someone to lean on? At St. Paul Lutheran, we're here for you and want to give your family hope for a brighter future, a future filled with the nurture and strength of your Savior! Here you will find real people striving for a better life, which happens when we focus on living life with resurrection confidence! It all centers around the love of God in Jesus Christ.

WELCOME– Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

RINGING OF THE BELL

Home By Another Road*St Paul's Choir*

You taught my heart what love can be, so I'm headed back home by another road.
 I once was bound but now I'm free, so I'm headed back home by another road.
 The lights are on, the welcome warm, as we're headed back home by another road.
 There's room for every person born, as we're headed back home by another road.

Join me now the road is wide, all God's children side by side
 Where justice will shine and love abide, we're headed back home by another road.

God's people on the move again, and we're headed back home by another road.
 The power of God has made us kin, and we're headed back home by another road.

Join me now the road is wide, all God's children side by side
 Where justice will shine and love abide, we're headed back home by another road.

Still worshipping we're on the way, and we're headed back home by another road
 We'll hold each other's hearts each day as we're headed back home by another road

Join me now the road is wide, all God's children side by side
 Where justice will shine and love abide, we're headed back home by another road.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD.
 Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

People: Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

Pastor: It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil;

People: for He gives to His beloved sleep.

Pastor: Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,

People: the fruit of the womb a reward.

Pastor: Like arrows in the hand of a warrior

People: are the children of one's youth.

Pastor: Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them!

People: He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

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.

Pastor: Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD.

I Am a Child of Love

Praise Kids / Praise Team / Congregation

I was walking the wayside

Lost on a lonely road

I was chasing the high life

Try'n to satisfy my soul

All the lies I believed in

Left me crying like the rain

Then I saw lightning from heaven

And I've never been the same

I'm gonna climb a mountain

I'm gonna shout about it

I am a child of love

I found a world of freedom

I found a friend in Jesus

I am a child of love

I've felt the sting of the fire

But I saw You in the flames

Just when I thought it was over

You broke me out of the grave

I'm gonna climb a mountain
I'm gonna shout about it
I am a child of love

I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus
I am a child of love
Nothing can change the way
You love me
Nothing can change the way I belong
to You / Yes I do
Nothing can separate (2x)

I'm gonna climb a mountain
I'm gonna shout about it

I am a child of love

I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus
I am a child of love

I'm gonna climb a mountain
I'm gonna shout about it
I am a child of love

I found a world of freedom
I found a friend in Jesus
I am a child of love

I am a child of love

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS *Psalm 32:1, 5; Matthew 18:3–4, adapt.*

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,

People: whose sin is covered.

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"

People: and You forgave the wickedness of my sin.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, we gather together as the baptized children of God. Let us come to Him confessing our need of His undeserved mercy and begging His forgiveness.

People: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we, Your children, confess to You our waywardness. We have sinned against You in our thoughts, in our words, and in our actions. We are sinful from birth. We do not deserve Your love. Yet by Your own Gospel promise we dare to come before You imploring Your grace. Forgive us our sins, gather us together as Your own children, and give us Your love. Amen.

Pastor: "Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like a child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Upon this your confession and prayer, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: His great mercy overflows. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. You, O Lord, tirelessly seek the lost and the strayed.

People: We praise You for finding us, welcoming us, and redeeming us.

Pastor: Help us never to take Your mercy for granted,

People: and guide us to join You in welcoming all those who are straying or struggling, finding their comfort or answers in You;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who is our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, as one God, now and forever.

People: In that blessed assurance, we say "Amen."

EPISTLE Acts 2:42-47

Reader: ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

People: ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.

Reader: ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 18:1-14 *The Greatest in the Kingdom*

About that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?"

² Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. ³ Then he said,

"I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. ⁴ So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

⁵ "And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me. ⁶ But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea.

⁷ "What sorrow awaits the world, because it tempts people to sin. Temptations are inevitable, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting. ⁸ So if your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It's better to enter eternal life with only one hand or one foot than to be thrown into eternal fire with both of your hands and feet. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It's better to enter eternal life with only one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

¹⁰ "Beware that you don't look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father.

¹² "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost? ¹³ And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he will rejoice over it more than over the ninety-nine that didn't wander away! ¹⁴ In the same way, it is not my heavenly Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Our Creed: We Believe (Sung with Praise Team)

We believe in God the Father
 We believe in Jesus Christ
 We believe in the Holy Spirit
 And He's given us new life



We believe in the crucifixion
 We believe that He conquered death
 We believe in the resurrection
 And He's coming back, He's coming back again,

We believe, We believe!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Director of family Life – Jeanette Koch

Borning Cry

I was there to hear your borning cry,
 I'll be there when you are old.
 I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
 to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
 with a faith to suit you well;
 In a blaze of light you wandered off
 to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word
 I was there to cheer you on;
 You were raised to praise the living Lord,
 to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
 and you join your hearts as one,

St Paul's Choir

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
 from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
 not too old, no longer young,
 I'll be there to guide you through the
 night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in,
 and you shut your weary eyes,
 I'll be there as I have always been
 with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
 I'll be there when you are old.
 I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
 to see your life unfold.

Message – *Pastor Christopher Fairbairn.*



On The Banks of The Promised Land

Verse 1

I have built my life on the Solid Rock
Far away from the sinking sand
But I cast my eye to the home that waits
On the banks of the Promised Land

Verse 2

There's a song of praise that is lifted there
By the saints and the angel band
Oh I long to go and to join that choir
On the banks of the Promised Land

Chorus

Hallelujah what a morning
When I reach for that nail-scarred hand
And I'm led from grace to glory
On the banks of the Promised Land

Verse 3

Ev'ry grief and pain that has bound me here
Jesus knows and He understands
They'll be washed away as I cross that stream
To the banks of the Promised Land

Chorus

Hallelujah what a morning
When I reach for that nail-scarred hand
And I'm led from grace to glory
On the banks of the Promised Land

Verse 4

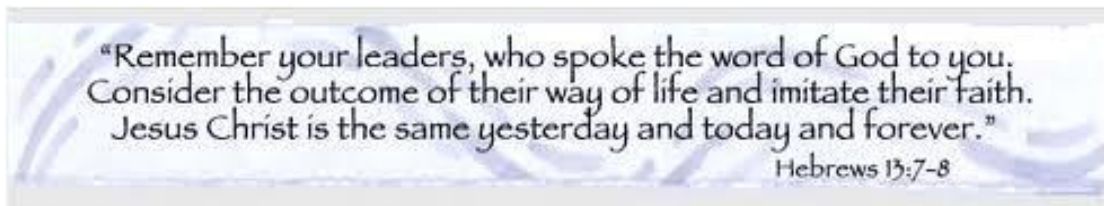
Then I'll see the face of my Savior dear
Beckoned close by His sweet command
All my burdens gone I will rest at last
On the banks of the Promised Land

Chorus

(Oh) Hallelujah what a morning
When I reach for that nail-scarred hand
And I'm led from grace to glory
On the banks of the Promised Land (2X)

On the banks of the Promised Land
On the banks of the Promised Land
I'm goin' to the Promised Land
I'm bound for the Promised Land
I'm goin' to the Promised Land

Prayerful Dedication and Blessing of Sunday School Staff



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For kings, presidents, governors, mayors, legislators, judges, and all appointed by God to bear authority in the civil realm, that they receive wisdom to carry out God's will, that we may lead quiet and peaceful lives, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who preach the Gospel both here and around the world, that they would proclaim Jesus with power, for our teachers to teach the Word with wisdom, and all believers to serve our neighbors in love. Bless our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, that together we join in Your tireless work of seeking the lost and welcoming home the strayed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the sick, the dying, and all who suffer in body, mind, or soul, that they receive strength to bear their afflictions with patient endurance, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the lost souls of our world, that we learn not to hate them or berate them, but to seek them out and show them Your mercy. Give us the joy that resounds in heaven when one lost soul is found. Prepare us to be a **people of comfort, support** and **answers** centered on Your promises. We give thanks for Your mercy as we cry,

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our Sunday School teachers, children and families, giving them the wisdom of Your Word to run the race of life with endurance, that on the Last Day we may enter into the glorious inheritance of our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all these things and whatever else You know that we need, we ask You, dear Father, for the sake of Christ who gave Himself for us, and who embraces us with a mighty power and love!

People: Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering box you will find at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

725 Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

INVITATIONS

I'm So Blessed

*(Praise Kids) I'm so blessed hallelujah
I'm blessed
I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed*

Trouble knocking at my door today
I ain't gonna let it in
Worry wanna steal my joy away
I ain't gonna let it win

On my best day I'm a child of God
On my worst day I'm a child of God
Oh everyday is a good day
You're the reason why

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
Got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord I'm so blessed

*(Praise Kids) I'm so blessed hallelujah
I'm blessed
I'm so blessed hallelujah I'm blessed*

Verse 2

When I count the problems that I see
Hope looks all but gone
But when I count the ways You're good
to me

You got me counting all day long

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
Got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest
If I got You Lord I'm so blessed (2x)

On my best day I'm a child of God
On my worst day I'm a child of God
Oh everyday is a good day
You're the reason why (2X)

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
 Got this heartbeat in my chest
 No it doesn't matter about the rest
 If I got You Lord I'm so blessed (2x)

I'm so blessed I'm so blessed
 Got this heartbeat in my chest
 No it doesn't matter about the rest
 If I got You Lord I'm so blessed

On my best day I'm a child of God
 On my worst day I'm a child of God
 Oh everyday is a good day
 You're the reason why (2X)

No it doesn't matter about the rest
 If I got You Lord I'm so blessed



Need some PRAYER? Anyone who desires special private prayer with a pastor or a Stephen Minister may do so by coming forward after service to one of the front pews.

Our Vision — a place to come for comfort, support, answers, opportunities
 to serve, and to strengthen a salvation relationship with Jesus



Where We Serve

Preacher
 Officiant
 Music Director
 Family Life
 Elder
 Reader
 St Paul's Choir

Pastor Christopher Fairbairn
 Pastor Jim Frusti
 Paul Ventimiglia
 Jeanette Koch
 John Hasse
 Mark Ernst

Cheryl Bailey
 Nancy Berg - Crenshaw
 Anne Burgess
 Barbara Hoffmeier
 Linda Johnson
 Jeff Shapiro
 Sue Roman

Praise Kids

Sunday School and Day School Children

Praise Team

Sarah Hughes
 Linda Johnson
 Jeff Shapiro
 Kurt Menhart
 Chris Englert

Guest Musicians

Larry Fratangelo / Percussion
 Cristina Muresan / Violin
 Claire Murphy / Violin
 Cathy Paynter / Viola
 Eric Amidon / Cello

Counters

Jan Greulich
Frank Newman
George Foor

Welcome Center

Marilyn Edick

Tech Team
UshersCurtis Kalina
Jerry Krause
Charleen Hill
Bob McGuigan
Pat McGuigan
Chuck Hempel
Patrick Baker

Greeters

Edick Family

Altar Society

Jan Paver
Lisa Fairbairn

News & Notes

*Attendance Last week : September 3, 2023 – Attendance - 8:30am – 70 + 11:00am – 40 = **110***

*Communion: **93***

Donations needed each week for Church and School – \$9,808

Received week of 9.3.2023- for Church (Envelopes plus loose plate)- \$3,835 - total includes online giving
School - \$9,162.58*

A memorial was given in memory of Celesta Van Hellemont from the Kandah family to the St. Paul Memorial Fund.

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities

SUNDAYS: *Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.*

SUNDAYS: *Mission Trip Bible Study @ 9:45am in room #2 school, runs Sunday 9/17-10/22.*

WEDNESDAYS: *Women's Bible Study @9:30am – Parish Hall*

SATURDAYS: *Men's Bible Study – Every 1st and 3rd Saturday @ 9:00am – Parish Hall*

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Lora Schmidt
20315 Hickory Lane
Livonia, MI 48152

Altar Flowers this week are:



One vase in honor of their 13th wedding anniversary and in memory of Ted Edmond's birthday on the 18th from Rich and Cher Johnson.

One vase in memory of her mother Patricia Delleree from Charleen Hill.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11 am service.

10	SEP, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Worship w/Communion
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Sunday School & Youth Bible Study
		● 11am – 12pm	Worship
		● 7 – 9pm	Adult pick up basketball school gym
11	SEP, MON	● 6:30 – 7:30pm	Board of Day School Parish Hall
12	SEP, TUE	● 3:30 – 4:45pm	Bible Quizzing Practice - Varsity
		● 6:30 – 8pm	K-8 Orientation Night
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Stephen Ministry Mtg. Parish Hall
13	SEP, WED	● 9:30 – 11am	Women's Bible Study - Parish Hall
		● 5:30 – 7pm	Board of Evangelism - Parish Hall
14	SEP, THU	● 3:30 – 4:45pm	Bible Quizzing Practice - Little League
15	SEP, FRI	● 3:30 – 4:15pm	After school donuts & cider playdate on the playground
		● 7 – 9pm	AA Mtg. church parish hall
16	SEP, SAT	● All day	Henning Wedding @ COS
		● 9 – 10:30am	Men's Bible Study parish hall

!! Calling all YOUNG ADULTS !! The St. Paul Young Adult's group has decided to set our monthly gatherings to the third Friday of each month, starting at 6:00 P.M. Our next event will be a Bonfire on September 15th. Please join us at the Patterson house for games, fellowship, and a bonfire. Hot dogs, chips and smores will be provided but please bring your lawn chair if you have one. For the Patterson address, please send a text to Kara Patterson at 989-751-6185. Looking forward to seeing you there.



St. Paul Bible Quizzing - Kids & Adult Volunteers Needed!

The 2023-2022 Bible Quizzing season starts soon! This year we'll be learning Paul's short epistles of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Philemon. Kids in 2nd-12th grade are welcome to join. Membership at St. Paul is not required. All experience levels welcome (no prior Bible knowledge required!). Practices are Tuesdays @ 4PM-5PM (for 7th-12th graders) OR Thursdays @ 3:30PM-4:45PM (for 2nd-6th graders) in the church Parish Hall starting August 25. Competitions are 2nd Saturdays from October to March.

Adult volunteers are also needed! No knowledge of the material or Bible Quizzing rules is required. We just need lots of helpers who are good with kids to help at 1 practice each week and monthly competitions! Interested in quizzing or volunteering? Talk to Jake Fairbairn <jakecfairbairn@gmail.com, (248) 231-9684>.

Guatemala Eyeglass Mission Update A GoFundMe page has been created to support this Fall's St. Paul Guatemala Eyeglass Mission. The page is titled "Sharing God's Love Through the Gift of Sight." The link is: <https://gofund.me/1b12bca4>. Please check out the page and consider sharing with friends and family on Facebook or other social media to support the mission.

Women in Christ features a different LWML grant each month. These grants are fulfilled through the MITE boxes we collect regularly. MITE money is used to further God's kingdom through the mission grants selected by delegates at district and national conventions. During this month, please keep in your prayers the mission grant entitled "Expanding Christ's Love with the Aging and Unchurched in Michigan through Weekly Television on Worship Anew" for \$25,000. This grant will enable the proclamation of God's Word through the television broadcast ministry of Worship Anew in the Michigan District and throughout the world. Women In Christ graciously thanks you for helping us fulfill our mission grants.



Please Welcome OUR NEW MEMBERS

Kristina Koslowski went through newcomers' class in the spring and recently became a member. Kristina's children are students at St. Paul and were baptized here in May. Hannah will be in 4th grade and Christian will be Kindergarten this year .

Cindi and Paul Gliesman formally of Historic Trinity in Detroit were received recently into membership by transfer.

Delia Abboud attended the spring newcomers' class and officially joined the St. Paul family this month. She lives in Northville and we look forward to getting to know her.

ALTAR FLOWERS - Many available vases for October. October 9 - one vase, October 23 - one vase, October 30 - 2 vases. If you would like to purchase a vase please call Valeria Krause 734-464-4188 and leave a message.



AWCP presents it's fall banquet
Hope & Triumph

Thursday, October 19 @ 6 pm
 Italian American Banquet Center
 St. Paul will have reserved tables

SAVE THE DATE

More information to follow
 Any questions contact Robert McGuigan



3rd ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP
Whalen Lake Hartland
Friday Sept 29 -Saturday Sept 30th
(It's a half day of School)



Come out Friday Night for a Camp Fire Cook Out
Hobo Stew and some fun desserts!!!!
It's Fun for everyone!!! Camp Fire Songs and devotion



Last Swim of the Year, boating, Storytime around the bonfire, and if we have enough people a game of baseball.

There are 5 cabins, or you can bring a tent or pop-up RV.

Please RSVP by Sept 22nd so I know how many.

Jeanette Koch 248-974-3323 text me RSVP

SAVE THE DATE



DETROIT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

3rd ANNUAL FALL SERVICE DAY

WHEN: September 30 9 am – 1 pm

WHERE: 19370 Greenfield, Detroit 48235

WHAT: Outside clean up, possible painting & whatever needs to be done.

BRING: Rakes, clippers, trimmers, etc., and very important work gloves

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP: We can always use yard waste bags. There is a box in the church hall for donations.

ANY QUESTIONS: Contact Pat McGuigan (734) 718-8597 pking1252@gmail.com

