

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, Missouri 65053**  
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**Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>**

**13th Sunday after Pentecost September 7, 2025**

**NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.**  
**Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.**

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Oliver Stoermer
Audio / Video Technician	Dan Tschirgi
Reader	Jana Thompson
Council	Kent Nelson
Greeters	Harry & Jana Thompson
Altar Flowers	Donita Stubinger

Prelude

### **Welcome & Announcements**

**Congregation meeting** – immediately following service today we will stay for about 5 minutes to vote on approving funds from the General Fund to replace the A/C unit in the Fellowship Hall that is no longer working.

**Family Day today** after service. Potluck lunch with the meat, drinks and plateware provided, plus other sides provided by the congregation.

**St. Paul's Lutheran Perpetual Cemetery Fund., Inc.** Lohman will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, September 21st at 1 p.m. in the church Friendship Hall.

**Craft night** will be held at 7:30 pm on Wednesday in the church Friendship Hall. Everyone is invited. We will be doing scrapbooking. If you have a project, you are already doing bring it, or just come to learn what it's all about, come join us.

**St. Paul's Women of the ELCA** will host the Mid-Missouri Fall gathering on Saturday, September 27 beginning at 9:00 am with registration (\$5.00) and refreshments. There will be an opening devotion, group singing and Bible Study will be presented by Pastor David. There will be a lunch and an afternoon program. Details are in this months Epistle. In-Kind gifts for RACS include paper towels, laundry detergent, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant and monetary gifts are also appreciated. We will gather these gifts on or before September 27 at St. Paul's Church.

**NOTE: Use Hymnals to read Music for the Hymns if desired.**

**\*Gathering Song: Hymn # 335 Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross**

**1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,  
there's a precious fountain;  
free to all, a healing stream  
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

**3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,  
bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day  
with its shadow o'er me.**

**Refrain**

**In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.**

**Refrain**

**In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.**

**2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
love and mercy found me;  
there the bright and morning star  
sheds its beams around me.**

**4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,  
hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand  
just beyond the river.**

**Refrain**

**In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.**

**Refrain**

**In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever;  
till my ransomed soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.**

**Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915**

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sins before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

*Silence for Reflection*

**P:** Merciful God,

**C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**C: Amen**

**\* SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**GREETING (Please be seated)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**Kyrie: Hymnal Page # 147 - 148**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For his holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

Help save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **A-men.**

**Hymn of Praise: Hymnal Page 148-149**

Song Leader

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**All**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. A-men.**

**Prayer of the Day:**

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Bell Choir: Blessed Assurance**

**Children's Sermon**

**Children's Sunday School**

## **WORD**

**The 1st lesson is a reading from Deuteronomy, the 30<sup>th</sup> Chapter.**

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 1. (Read Responsively)**

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

**The 2nd lesson is a reading from Philemon, the 1st chapter.**

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation: Hymnal Page 151**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

\*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who

comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon: Pastor David Viles**

**" Can You Afford to Follow Jesus? Can You Afford NOT to Follow Jesus? "**

**Hymn of the Day: Hymn # 802**

**Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,<br/>follow his example pure, through a<br/>world that would deceive us<br/>and to sin our spirits lure.<br/>Onward in his footsteps treading,<br/>trav'lers here, our home above,<br/>full of faith and hope and love,<br/>let us do our Savior's bidding.<br/>Faithful Lord, with me abide;<br/>I shall follow where you guide.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.<br/>Since by death he conquered death,<br/>he will free us from destruction,<br/>give to us immortal breath.<br/>Let us mortify all passion<br/>that would lead us into sin;<br/>and the grave that shuts us in<br/>shall but prove the gate of heaven.<br/>Jesus, here with you I die,<br/>there to live with you on high.</b></p> |
| <p><b>2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,<br/>and with patience bear our cross.<br/>Joy will follow all our sadness;<br/>where he is there is no loss.<br/>Though today we sow no laughter,<br/>we shall reap celestial joy:<br/>all discomforts that annoy<br/>shall give way to mirth hereafter.<br/>Jesus, here I share your woe;<br/>help me there your joy to know.</b></p> | <p><b>4 Let us also live with Jesus.<br/>He has risen from the dead<br/>that to life we may awaken.<br/>Jesus, you are now our head,<br/>we are your own living members;<br/>where you live, there we shall be<br/>in your presence constantly,<br/>living there with you forever.<br/>Jesus, let me faithful be;<br/>life eternal grant to me.</b></p>                   |

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt.

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**\* Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he**

ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **THANKSGIVING**

**Offering:** We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts. Through this small sacrifice, God's love is shown through us, to those who are in need.

**\*(Please Stand) Offertory:**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Offertory Prayer:** Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\* The Prayers of Intercession:**

The congregation's response to "God of Grace," is "receive our prayer."

**\*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.**

### **SENDING**

**\*Blessing:** (Please Stand)

Pastor David Viles

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Song: Hymn # 660 Lift High the Cross**

I Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,

our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory!

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

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P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude