

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Facebook Live: https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill
19th Sunday after Pentecost October 19, 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	Dan Tschirgi
Acolyte	Morgan Schroeder
Audio / Video Technician	Roger Pennell
Reader	Audrey Bunch
Council	Debbie Raithel
Greeters	Audrey Bunch & Jerry Koestner
Altar Flowers	Cynthia Loesch

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Sunday School today after the Children's Sermon.

Chili Supper Again - St John's Lutheran Church (Stringtown) Lohman will be hosting their annual Chili Supper TODAY. Serving will be 3:30-7:00. The menu includes chili, chicken noodle soup, sandwiches, pies & cake.

Special Offering Envelopes –The Mission Envelope is designated to Central and NE Food Pantry. The Reformation Day Envelope will benefit the Samaritan Center. They do such good work for our local communities. Thank you for your generosity in giving for the sake of those who have so little.

Jr. Lutherans are invited to go to the Russellville Lions Club during the month of October on Friday or Saturday nights with their family for a spooky, scary evening for Halloween. The cost has been paid for by the Jr. Lutherans. Pumpkin carving and decorating will be held in St. Paul's Friendship Hall on Sunday evening, October 26th at 6:00 p.m. Pumpkins will be furnished for everyone to take home. A light meal will be provided.

Trunk or Treat: Friday, October 31, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Come to St. Paul's parking lot with your trunk full of candy and fun things to delight the children.

Announcements Continued

Hymn History – St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) was an Italian friar, deacon, and mystic who founded the Franciscan Order, the largest order in today's Catholic Church committed to poverty, humility, and service, with an emphasis on living in harmony with all of creation and serving the poor. He is the patron saint of Italy and the environment, known for his love of animals as well as the poor and peace. He was originally known for his love of fine clothes, partying, and his interest in troubadours. He adopted a life of voluntary poverty after a spiritual awakening, inspired by scripture. The text of our gathering song "All Creatures, Worship God Most High" was written by him, and the tune for the hymn came along about 400 years later.

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

***Gathering Song: Hymn # 835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High! (4 Verses)**

1 All creatures, worship God most high!

Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;

sing, sister moon and stars of night:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain

you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear sister water, useful, clear,

make music for your Lord to hear:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,

drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, so rich in care,

praise God in colors bright and rare:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 All who for love of God forgive,

all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears;

still make your song amid the tears:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*** 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:

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, and guide us to be good stewards of the animals and all creation you have blessed us with through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Choir: "A Place In the Choir"

Children's Sermon

Children's Sunday School

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Genesis, the 32nd chapter.

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said,

"Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

Psalm 121. (Read Responsively)

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

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 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in

helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Sermon: Pastor David Viles: "Communication is Divine Love"

Hymn of the Day: Your Creatures Fill the Earth

**O God, your creatures fill the earth with wonder and delight,
And every living thing has worth and beauty in your sight.
So playful dolphins dance and swim; Your sheep bow down and graze.
Your songbirds share a morning hymn To offer you their praise.**

**You made the pets we welcome in — They're wondrous blessings, too.
With paws and whiskers, wings and fins, They offer praise to you.
O Lord, you call us to embrace These creatures in our care.
May we show kindness, love and grace To all pets everywhere.**

**You made the creatures on each farm; You know the things they need.
May they grow healthy, safe from harm, And safe from human greed.
Just as a shepherd loves the sheep, You know their joy, their pain.
Lord, bless the animals we keep; May all farms be humane.**

**Your creatures live in every land; They fill the sky and sea.
O Lord, you give us your command To love them tenderly.
We're called to have dominion here — To care for them always.
By loving creatures you hold dear, We offer you our praise.**



***Blessing of the Pets – Please Stand** – If you have pictures of your pet(s) please show or hold them up.

P: Upon the Earth with gentle caregivers

C: With gentle caregivers this companion is blessed.

P: Upon the Earth with wanderings through green spaces.

C: Through green spaces this companion is blessed.

P: Upon the Earth with long naps in a patch of sun.

C: In a patch of sun this companion is blessed.

P: Upon the Earth with food for the body and a home for comfort.

C: With food and home this companion is blessed.

P: Upon the Earth with wild cousins – the wolf and lynx and hawk

C: With gentle caregivers this companion is blessed.

P: Upon the Earth with gentle caregivers

C: With gentle caregivers this companion is blessed.

P: Today we ask God to bless his whole creation. We pray for the blessing of each pet shown today or remembered in our heart. May God bless our pets who are family, they love us and show us how to truly love. Bless us God, to be more like them in the love of our neighbors. **Amen.**

***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: Give Praise to God for Wiggly Worms** (tune "From Whom All Blessings Flow")

Give praise to God for wiggly worms;
Give praise to God for cats who squirm;
Give praise to God for goats and kids;
Give praise to God for giant squid!

As with the animals, so we
should tend each other carefully;
then blessing from the One who loves
will rain on all from heav'n above.

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.

P: Go out into God's world. Live in peace with one another and with all God's creatures.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude