

WELCOME!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor Scamman.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.



INTROIT

Ps. 119:1-2, 5-6; antiphon: Ps. 119:137, 124



| Righteous | are you, / O Lord,—
and right / are your— just decrees.

Deal with your servant according to / your steadfast love,
and teach / me your— statutes.

**Blessèd are those whose way / is blameless,
who walk in / the law— of the Lord!**

Blessèd are those who keep his tes- / timonies,
who seek him / with their— whole heart.

**Oh that my ways may / be steadfast
in keep- / ing your— statutes!**

Then I shall not / be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all / your com—mandments.

**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 for- / ever.— Amen.**

| Righteous | are you, / O Lord,—
and right / are your— just decrees.

Deal with your servant according to / your steadfast love,
and teach / me your— statutes.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OLD TESTAMENT

Proverbs 25:6-14

In those days, Solomon the King said: “Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, ‘Come up here,’ than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another’s secret, lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end. A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver. Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise reprover to a listening ear. Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest is a faithful messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the soul of his masters. Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.”

GRADUAL

Ps. 33:12, 6

Blessèd is the nation whose God is / the Lord,—
the people whom he has chosen / as his— heritage!

**By the word of the Lord the heavens / were made,—
and by the breath of / his mouth— all their host.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 4:1-6

Brethren: I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Silent Prayer

PRELUDE, RINGING OF THE BELLS

Stand and face the processional cross

HYMN OF INVOCATION 587

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KYRIE, GLORIA IN EXCELSIS 186

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Sit

OLD TESTAMENT *

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SERMON

OFFERING

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OFFERTORY 192

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (see insert)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 625

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 905

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS—BENEDICTION 199

Remain standing and face the cross

POSTLUDE

* See inside of bulletin

GOSPEL

Luke 14:1-11

At that time: One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **End of Joint Summer Services:** This week is our last joint service of the season. Beginning next week, October 3rd, we will return to our usual worship schedule at both buildings: St. Paul at 9:00 am (Bible Study prior); First Lutheran at 10:30 am (Bible Study following).
- **Wednesday Evening Program** is canceled for the present time while the kitchen at St. Paul is out of commission.
- **Merger Update:** Last week at a joint Voters' Meeting, the members of St. Paul and First Lutheran voted by an overwhelming majority that our new congregation will be called St. Paul Lutheran Church, and will be a member of the New England District. The Merger Committee will meet in early October to chart out our next steps toward the merger.

WHAT ABOUT... ROBES?

In the Old Testament the priests who served in the tabernacle wore elaborate robes whose every detail had been specially prescribed by God. These men knew that they were entering into the holy presence of God because the cloud of glory visibly covered the tabernacle.

Today, we also know and believe that we are entering the presence of God. There is no visible cloud, but Jesus has promised that his Body and Blood are present in the bread and wine. Because we are truly encountering God at the communion rail, it is fitting that the men who enter the chancel and serve God's people today should dress appropriately. We are not commanded to do this as the ministers of the Old Testament were, but we do so voluntarily out of reverence for Christ. In observing this ancient custom in our churches, we confess our faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Divine Service.

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

September 26th, 2021



ST. PAUL

(203) 531-8466
286 Delavan Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

FIRST LUTHERAN

(203) 869-0032
Divine Service: Sunday, 9:00 am
Bible Study: Sunday, 10:30 am
38 Field Point Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

The Reverend Evan Scamman, Pastor

(203) 962-8700