

The Divine Service
The Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost
August 13, 2023



AS WE GATHER

When children cannot understand why they can't do something, the answer is often, "Because I said so." As they grow up, they may get the answers they seek. Job did not get an answer, but he kept his faith in his Creator. In the Gospel, the disciples cannot understand Jesus' walking on the sea, but when He is in the boat with them, they confess, "Truly You are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). Though we may ask God, "Why?" and Paul in the Epistle says we cannot understand God's reasons, we can confess with our mouths and believe in Christ's resurrection. It is an exercise of the faith God has so graciously given us. Why did He come to earth? He came to save us. In great might He destroyed death itself so that we might live with Him forever. That's why!

Prelude

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

Pastor: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in (†) Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Processional Hymn

“This is Amazing Grace”

Verse 1

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Verse 2

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Verse 3

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Verse 4

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

CCLI Song # 6333821 Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro
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Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Cantor: In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,

to Verses

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Cantor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

to Refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er.

to Refrain

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, ruler of this world, comfort us, we pray, with the message that Your rule is good for the whole Church and also for each of us as Your children; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Today's Scripture Readings

The Old Testament

Job 38:4-18

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸"Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'? ¹²"Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶"Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 10:5-17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." ¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Processional (Stand as you are able.)



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fourteenth chapter.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." ²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day **"10,000 Reasons"**

Chorus

Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes (Chorus)

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (Chorus)

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore (Chorus)

Ending

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

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Sermon

"Are You Afraid?"

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer"

Offering

Spoke Folk Songs

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given us and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

A word about Holy Communion: We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

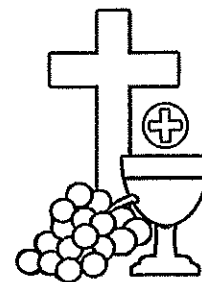
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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.**

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord).

Agnus Dei

(Congregation may be seated following the Agnus Dei)



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymns during Distribution:

"Promises"

Verse 1

God of Abraham You're the God of covenant
Of faithful promises
Time and time again You have proven
You do just what You say

Pre-Chorus

Though the storms may come
And the winds may blow
I'll remain steadfast
And let my heart learn when You speak a word
It will come to pass

Chorus

Great is Your faithfulness to me
Great is Your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun to the setting same
I will praise Your name
Great is Your faithfulness to me

Verse 2

God from age to age
Though the earth may pass away
Your word remains the same yeah
Your history can prove
There's nothing You can't do
You're faithful and true

Spoke Folk Songs

Closing The Table

Verse 2

God from age to age
Though the earth may pass away
Your word remains the same yeah
Your history can prove
There's nothing You can't do
You're faithful and true

Bridge

I put my faith in Jesus
My anchor to the ground
My hope and firm foundation
He'll never let me down
(REPEAT)

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Post-Communion Canticle:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of
life with us 3. Praise to you, O
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing of the Backpacks *Jeremy Becker, Director of Youth and Family Ministry*

Leader: Heavenly Father, we want to begin this new school year as we begin each day, with your blessing and guidance.

People: **Watch over our students, the owners of these backpacks, as they take the next steps in their education.**

Leader: You have called these children to be your own by grace through faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: **Their backpacks will be filled with books, but fill their lives to overflowing with your countless, daily blessings.**

Leader: When they feel overcome by the stress and anxiety and our spirits seem low...

People: **We pray that these students will know that you share the blessing of your heavenly kingdom with us.**

Leader: When they encounter sadness or grief, whether at school or at home...

People: **We pray that these students will know that you provide the Spirit of comfort to all who are mourning.**

Leader: When they serve you humbly, not asking for blessings in return...

People: **Remind them that you bless the meek and humble with an inheritance that overflows our world.**

Leader: Keep their hearts and minds pure as a reflection of your love for them...

People: **Bless them, we pray, to see your face in the face of friends, teachers, parents and others who surround them this year.**

Leader: When they encounter persecution or bullying, particularly when they are standing up for what is right and holy...

People: **We pray that their faith in your blessings and promises is strengthened and that their behavior and faith shines as an example to others of what it means to be your royal children.**

Leader: Throughout each day of this school year, bless these children richly with a constant reminder of the heavenly reward you have promised them through the sacrifice and victory of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

People: **Each one is a precious child in your kingdom and a blessing to behold. We thank you for blessing our lives through them. Amen**

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn "Your Grace is Enough"

Verse 1

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2

Great is Your love and justice God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Pre-Chorus

(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

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Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Mark your calendars!

Saturday, August 19 - Church Workday; 9:00 AM to 12 Noon – Help is needed to spruce up the church grounds before school begins. Service hours for teens are provided.

Wednesday, August 23 - St. Paul Child Enrichment Center Preschool Begins
Preschool classes for children ages 18 months through 4 years old. Space is filling fast!

Sunday, August 27 - Volunteer Training Sunday - In between services we will train new volunteers to serve as ushers, communion assistants, hospitality team, altar guild, AV Assistants. Please come and choose a place to get involved!

Wednesday, August 30 -Youth and Parent Kick-Off Meeting All students 6th grade through 12th grade and their parents are invited to come hear about all the fun events and service opportunities planned for this coming year at 6:30 PM.

Sunday, September 3 - College Care Packages – 9:45 AM in between services. Come help pack a box for the college students.

Sunday, September 10 - Preschool Teacher Installation and Bounce House Sunday - Come meet the St. Paul teachers and enjoy the fun and fellowship following the late service.

Saturday, September 16 - Discovering Life With God This one day class is a great introduction into what Lutherans believe and teach. It is open to anyone wanting to grow in their faith or join the membership here at St. Paul.

Saturday, October 13 - Oktoberfest! All are invited! 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Oompah Band, Beer and Brats! Come join the fun and invite your friends and neighbors.

Saturday, October 14 - First Communion Training 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
All children turning 10 years old this year or in 5th grade are invited to this one day training to learn the meaning of Holy Communion. At least one parent will need to attend along with the student. Children will make their first communion on Sunday, October 15.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth : 9:45 AM –resumes Sept. 10

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM –resumes Aug.13



Website and online giving

St. Paul
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& PRE-SCHOOL