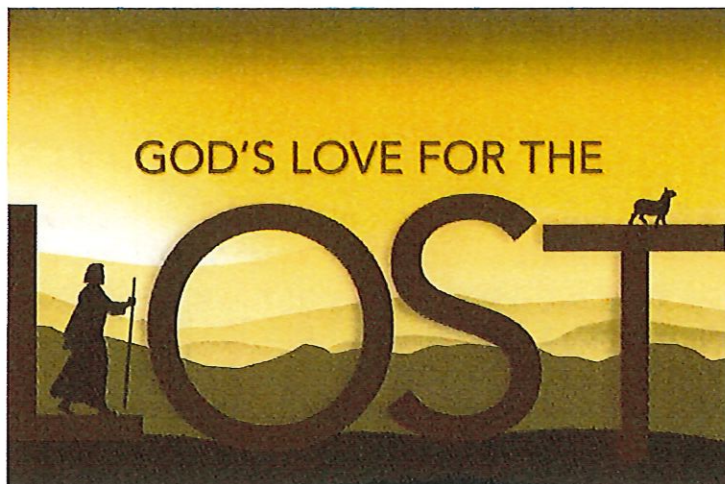


# **The Divine Service**

## **The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **September 6, 2020**



### **AS WE GATHER**

"Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Jesus' disciples asked. Our Lord responded by welcoming a child into His midst. "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Children are highly valued by our gracious God because they are completely dependent. On their own, they have nothing, yet they need everything. This is true for all of us in our relationship with God! On our own, we have only our sinful, broken lives and are unable to please God and fulfill His commands. Yet, in Jesus Christ, we possess everything we need! Forgiveness of sins and the guarantee of life forever with God are freely given to those who turn from their sin and receive the forgiveness earned by our crucified and risen Savior. In Jesus, we are, like children, completely dependent. We have nothing to offer, yet everything we need is ours to receive from the gracious hands of our Savior.

### **Call to Worship / Check In**

### **Words of Welcome/Theme of the Day**

### **Invocation**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** **Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

## Confession and Absolution

Pastor: Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our prayers before You.

*In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord, seeking His cleansing forgiveness.*

Pastor: Most merciful Father,

**People: we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the remission You promise to Your repentant children. Amen.**

Pastor: "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." God the Father has taken your sins and laid them upon our humble Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Christ's sacrifice, God does not count your sins against you. He has taken them away! He remembers them no more! He preserves and delivers you as His child forever! As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## Processional Hymn "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" LSB 707



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot-steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin-cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict-er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de-light-ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!  
Let sin have no do-min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.  
And should I e'er for-get Thy way, Re-store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of-fend a-against my God.

## Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, from whom all goodness and love proceeds, grant to us the posture of true humility and repentance, that turning from our sins, we receive the remission You promise to all who trust in You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

## Old Testament

*Ezekiel 33:7-9*

Pastor: <sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Romans 13:1-10*

Pastor: <sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. <sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The

commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 18:1-20*

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. <sup>10</sup>"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three

witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**      **"Thy Word"**

**Chorus**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path


**Verse 1**

When I feel afraid  
And I think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end

**Verse 2**

I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end

CCLI Song # 14301 Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Word Music, LLC (Admin. by WB Music Corp.) For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved.  
www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2043076

"Thy word is a  
lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto  
my path."  
  
Psalm 119:105

**Sermon**

**"I'm Lost"**

*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**"*

## Gathering of Gifts

### Offertory Prayer

**Pastor:** Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People:** Amen.

### 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.**

## Announcements

## Benediction

Recessional Verse "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

709 verses 1,2,6



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
6 And so through all the length of days Thy good - ness



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er!

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!**

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. We hope and pray you had a chance to see Christ in a very personal and real way. If you have a prayer request or would like to talk to the pastor or one of our Stephen Ministers contact the church office at 954-384-9096 or by email at [office@stpaulweston.org](mailto:office@stpaulweston.org).*



# UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

## Mark your calendars!

**Presidents Equip Conference** -September 24-26; This virtual conference enables you to choose from a wide variety of speakers and breakout sessions from the Florida – Georgia District of the LCMS. Register Today!

**Discovering Life With God** - Saturday, October 3 at 9:00 AM. This class is a great introduction to what Lutherans believe and teach. It is open to all and serves as a path to membership here at St. Paul.

**Blessing of the Animals** - Sunday, October 4, 4:00 PM here at St. Paul spread out on the front lawn area. Bring your pet for this special blessing in honor of St. Francis Day. Pet Parade, music, raffles and more!

**First Communion Instruction** - Saturday, October 10 at 9:00 AM. This one day class for children who are 10 years old or older youth who missed the training last year. Students and at least one parent are required to attend together.

**15th Annual St. Paul Golf Tournament** -Saturday, October 24 at Eagle Trace Golf Club in Coral Springs. Sign-up today!

**Trunk or Treat** - Friday, October 30; 6:00 PM –7:30 PM  
Decorate your car, bring some treats and come on out to the St. Paul parking lot! Food, Fellowship and fun at a safe distance!

**Call the church office at 954-384-9096 for more information.**

### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

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

Mrs. Marlene Michael, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † [office@stpaulweston.org](mailto:office@stpaulweston.org)

[www.stpaulweston.org](http://www.stpaulweston.org)

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.