



## **St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point**

**7th Sunday after Pentecost July 23, 2017**

**Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church!!**

**Prayer before the Service**-O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**The Order of Matins.....pg 219**  
**Opening Hymn.....794**

**Psalm 119:57-64 (read responsively, whole verse by whole verse)**

**Old Testament Lesson-Isaiah 44:6-8**

“Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,  
And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
‘I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.  
And who can proclaim as I do?  
Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me,  
Since I appointed the ancient people.  
And the things that are coming and shall come,  
Let them show these to them.  
Do not fear, nor be afraid;  
Have I not told you from that time, and declared it?  
You are My witnesses.  
Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock;  
I know not one.’ ”

**Epistle Lesson-Romans 8:18-27**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

**Gospel Lesson-Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, “Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?” He said to them, “An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ But he said, “No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ’ ”

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.”

He answered and said to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

**Sermon Hymn .....728**

**Sermon**

**Text: Matthew 13**

**Theme: The Kingdom stands in the midst of enemies**

**I. We are often tempted to believe that external circumstances hinder the mission of the Church**

**II. The Kingdom comes, even in the midst of true enemies**

**III. The Kingdom will stand even to and beyond the last day**

**Canticle-Te Deum.....pg 223**

**Offering**

**Prayers**

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn.....923**

**Pastor Speers is seeking members** who would like to take some time to

read through and discuss some of the material from the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, both National and District, on challenges facing Lutheran churches in particular and all Christian churches in the west. Something that has come to the attention of many is that there has been a decrease in the number of young people, ages 17-36, involved in church life throughout the US. (They have recently been designated Nones. Pastor Speers attended a Doxology conference about this group 1-2 years ago). The number has grown from a longstanding average of 15% missing from the churches they attended, to an average of 35% today, in the US. As of right now we have 4 individuals who have indicated interest. Please talk to Pastor Speers (618-367-2697 or 618-483-6993) if you are interested, as we prepare to meet and begin discussing these matters.

**Please return** your baby bottles for the Family Life center as soon as possible.

**The Voters** passed a motion, requested by a member, that there be a brief pause at the end of service for a post service prayer, and ask the congregation to be respectful of others prior to service. Please avoid using cell phones during service.

**Stewardship matters**-We finally received confirmation of the new brokerage account for the general treasury. It will maintain a zero balance but we can now receive contributions of stock, mutual funds, etc. in kind and then liquidate them and place the cash in the general treasury. If anyone has investments that have appreciated and want to take advantage of this kind of deduction, this is a great way to take advantage of this type of contribution.

**Funeral Arrangements** for Vera Klitzing are as follows; Visitation on Tuesday, at Giesking Funeral Home, from 5-7 PM. Visitation at St Paul from 10-11 AM, with funeral service at 11 AM.

**Prayers**-For Dave Ragan and his family, as he is recovering from surgery on an aneurysm; For Kelsey Kort, granddaughter of Helen Klitzing, who is pregnant on bedrest; For Norman Hammer, who has been hospitalized; for the family of Vera Klitzing, who was called to her eternal rest on Saturday.

### **This Week at St Paul**

Sunday: Catechism 11 AM

Numbers 16-18

Monday:

Numbers 19-21

Tuesday:

Numbers 22-24

Wednesday:

Numbers 25-27

Thursday: Pastor at LCC 2 PM

Numbers 28-30

Friday:

Numbers 31-33

Saturday:

Numbers 34-36

### **Those participating-**

**Liturgist**-David Speers

**618-483-6993**

**Organist**-Lucille Klitzing

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