

**Time After Pentecost
The Season of Parables – Year A
Setting 3
Sunday August 15, 2026**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
9844 SW Greenville Road
Greenville, MI 48838**

Sharing the joy of Christ.



WELCOME

****We will be singing hymns from the hymnal today. Hymns are numbered at the top of the pages and are located in the back half of the hymnbook.*

*You can use the ribbon markers to mark them in advance.
Here are the numbers:*

789 Gathering hymn SAVIOR LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US
856 Hymn of praise HOW GREAT THOU ART
172 Gospel acclamation HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH
779 Hymn of the day AMAZING GRACE
471 Communion hymn LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
677 Communion hymn THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE
543 Sending hymn GO MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of the
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #789 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you. (hands out)

KYRIE

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 this 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.
Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW #856 HOW GREAT THOU ART

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from Isaiah. (pause)

56 Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered. [\[a\]](#)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

- ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
² **that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ **The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**
⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SECOND READING Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans. (pause)

11 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.
²⁹ The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #172 HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH
SING 2XS**

GOSPEL Matthew 15: 10-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #779 AMAZING GRACE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind. We especially lift prayers for...

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, o God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. (*hands out*)

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. (pause)

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION

All are welcome to come to share in Holy Communion at God's Table.

If it is too difficult to come to God's Table, please let an usher know and Pastor Nan will bring holy communion to you.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion server says
As you receive the bread and wine:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Each person may respond: **Amen.**

These hymns are sung during Holy Communion to help us focus on the Gifts of God for the people of God.

ELW #471 LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER ON OUR KNEES

ELW #677 THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

FINAL TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
+ in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. (pause)

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

GOOD NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Creator, + Redeemer,
And Sustainer,
Bless, heal, and hold you
Today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #543 GO MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER REQUESTS & **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ST. PAUL HEALING PRAYER LIST

Bob Perdue, **Carol** Rasmussen, **David** Johansen, **Denise** Hoppe,
Dennis Dombkowski, **Jean** Marks, **Joan** Chadwick, **Joanne** Bryer, **Larry**
Ross, **Leroy** Hansen, **Katharine** Serviss, **Karen** Buchholz, **Ken** Billmeier,
Marlene Grams, **Mary Ann** Johnson, **Mary Jean** Mallo, **Nelda** Gallagher,
Peter Hansen, **Russ** Lincoln, **Shirley** Hansen, **Shirley** Moerdyke,
Shirley Sly, **Steve** Vanhooose, **Terri** Clark.

****If you want to have someone added, please email the main office, leave
a voicemail on the main church phone number or text Pastor Nan*

MILITARY

Brian Blomstrom, **Chris** Miller, **Hanah** MacMillen, **JD** Johansen, **Marcus** R
oy, **Ryan** Treynor, **Steve** Kowalewicz, **Troy** Thornburg, **Tyler** Markum,
Vaughn Misner, **Victor** Rivera, **Vinnie** Baza.

PRAYER CHAIN If you would like to join the prayer chain, please contact Lynn Cooper at 616-754-5579.



**ANNUAL
CONGREGATION REPORTS
ARE DUE – AUGUST 31**



Ice Cream Social

**BARRIE'S HOUSE
1 PM – 3 PM TODAY**

This Week

Sunday Aug 16 930 am Worship with Holy Communion
Council Packets are available in the office for Pickup
Loose Change offering for youth education
ABP class after worship or 11 am
1 – 3 pm Ice Cream Social at Barrie's House

******Coffee Fellowship for August is posted on the bulletin table**

AUGUST Newsletters are available

3rd quarter Christ in Our Home devotion books are out

Monday Aug 17 5 pm Al-Anon
Building closed
Pastor Sabbath

Tuesday Aug 18 10 am Food Mission

Wednesday Aug 19 2 pm Pastor Lenny book study
5:30 pm Food Mission
Mark Sabbath

Thursday Aug 20 **5 pm Council Meeting**

Friday Aug 21 1:30 pm Shalom Zoom Meditation

Saturday Aug 22

Sunday Aug 23 930 am worship with Holy Communion
Blessing of the Backpacks/Briefcases
ABP class after worship or 11 am

AUGUST SERVING

St Paul Service Calendar	Assisting	Proclaimer	Sound	Lead Usher	Nursery	Coun
August 2	Janet W-M	Amy S	Lee H Diane C Karen H	Curt B	Donny M	Jo Kar
August 9	Josh S	Connie T	Diane C Paul R Connie T	John C	Shirley H	Joh Lis
August 16	Rocky H	Barb B.	Lee H Diane C Lisa B	Bob K	Amy S	Shir Con
August 23	Alicia D	Janet W-M	Paul R Lee H Tara C	Kevand S	Volunteer	Keva Dian
August 30	Connie T	Karen P	Paul R Lee H Tara C-T	Curt B	Donny M	Joh Lis

Dates, and names are Subject to change.

If you are going to miss a Sunday that your scheduled, please get a sub.