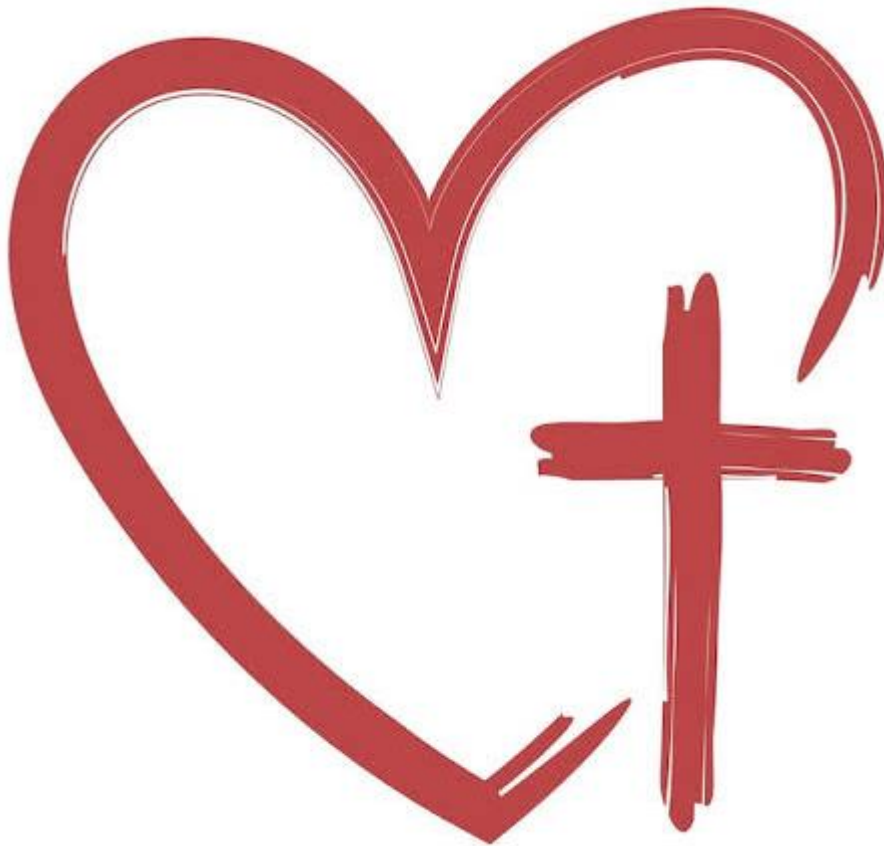


**Time After Pentecost
The Season of Parables – Year A
Setting 3
Sunday September 27, 2026**

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

Sharing the joy of Christ.



For the sake of God's mission, council has decided to non-renew our music licenses as of 10-1-2026. We will use less paper and ink which will be good for the stewardship of creation. A savings of approximately \$1,800. We are thankful for the gifts of the ELW hymnals that were received from Settlement as they closed. These will be re-introduced for usage and our worship bulletin will be shortened considerably.

MUSIC BEFORE WORSHIP

WELCOME

Our hymnal has two primary sections.

The front half of the book is designated by page numbers located at the bottom corners of the pages (includes our orders of worship and the book of Psalms).

The second half of the book is designated by service and hymn numbers notated at the top of the pages.

+ We will begin doing the Confession/Forgiveness and Gathering/Word sections from the hymnal today

*****We will be singing hymns from the hymnal.**

You can use the ribbon markers to mark them in advance.

Here are the numbers:

ELW #526 gathering hymn – God Is Here

ELW #583 hymn of the day – Take My Life that I May Be

ELW #471 communion hymn – Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW #525 communion hymn – You Are Holy sing 2xs

ELW #867 sending hymn – In Thee Is Gladness

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS-- PAGES 94 THROUGH 96

GATHERING HYMN ELW #526 GOD IS HERE

GREETING/KYRIE -- PAGES 138-139

THIS IS THE FEAST -- PAGES 140 -141

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

KEEP IT SIMPLE VOCAL CHOIR – His Eye is On The Sparrow

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10—4:11

A reading from Jonah. (pause)

¹⁰ When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

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

PSALM 145:1-8

- ¹ I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² **Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**
- ³ Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.
- ⁴ **One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.**
- ⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.
- ⁶ **They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.**
- ⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ⁸ **The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from Philippians. (pause)

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.

²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ALLELUIA PAGE 142

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius.

¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'

¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #583 TAKE MY LIFE THAT I MAY BE

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition....

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PAGE 144

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY PAGE 144

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER PAGE 145 TRADITIONAL ON RIGHT

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 #525 YOU ARE HOLY – SING 2xs

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' HAND BLESSING

FINAL TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOOD NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN ELW #867 IN THEE IS GLADNESS

DISMISSAL

PRAYER REQUESTS & **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ST. PAUL HEALING PRAYER LIST

Bob Perdue, **Carol** Rasmussen, **David** Johansen, **Dennis** Dombkowski, **Jean** Marks, **Joan** Chadwick, **Joanne** Bryer, **Joe** Arnold, **Larry** Ross, **Leroy** Hansen, **Katharine** Serviss, **Marlene** Grams, **Russ** Lincoln, **Shirley** Hansen, **Shirley** Moerdyke, **Shirley** Sly, **Steve** Vanhooose, **Sue** Arnold, **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**, **Ryan** Treynor, **Steve** Kowalewicz, **Troy** Thornburg, **Tyler** Markum, **Vaughn** Misner, **Victor** Rivera, **Vinnie** Baza.

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

***DON'T FORGET TO ORDER REMEMBRANCE
ROSES FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY WORSHIP***



ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY

NEEDS YOUR HELP

- (A) Need 2 volunteers for the 3rd Wednesday of each month to serve.
5 – 7 pm. Call: Nancy Lamere
616-232-3388
- (B) Needs food/gift card donations

FIRST FRUITS AUCTION, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Please join your church family for the First Fruits Silent Auction following the service on Sunday, October 11. Proceeds from this fun event benefit the Greenville Area Ecumenical Food Mission. Donations of home grown, homemade and hand-crafted items as well as time, talents and skills can be offered for auctioning. This is sponsored by the Sharing the Joy Committee.

COUNCIL NOTES

Sept 13 – Contributions: \$1,710	Needed: \$5,000
Sept 20 – Contributions: \$907	Needed: \$5,000

Council minutes – available on the round table by the devotion books

This Week

Sunday Sept 27 930 am worship with Holy Communion
Vocal Choir sings
4th Quarter – Christ In Our Home Devos are out
Council meeting minutes are out
AFB class support/help on projects

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

OCTOBER Newsletters are available

4TH quarter Christ in Our Home devotion books are out

Monday Sept 28 5 pm Al-Anon
Building closed
Pastor Sabbath

Tuesday Sept 29 10 am Food Mission
12 pm Senior Citizen Fellowship/Bingo
5:45 pm Bell Practice
Pastor vacation

Wednesday Sept 30 530 pm Food Mission
Mark Sabbath
Pastor vacation

Thursday Oct 1 Pastor vacation

Friday Oct 2 1:30 pm Shalom Zoom Meditation
Pastor vacation

Saturday Oct 3 1030 am Blessing of the Animals on
Our Pavilion
Pastor vacation

Sunday Oct 4 930 am worship
Blessing of the Stuffed Animals in worship
ABP class after worship- support/help
Congregational Annual Reports are available
Pastor vacation