

# ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Mr. Michael McEnroe, President      Mrs. Eileen McEnroe, Organist  
Michael Roehl, Pastor                  Miss Suzannah Miller, Organist

**Mission Festival Sunday – July 18, 2010**

## The Opening Prayer by the Pastor

## The Opening Hymn -#494- (Red Hymnal)

"Awake, Thou Spirit, Who Didst Fire"

## The Order of Service – Supplement page 12ff. (Brown Hymnal)

## The Scripture Lessons: (Printed on the back page of this bulletin)

**The Epistle Lesson:** (Romans 10:5-17) The New Testament makes clear that God does not value one soul above another. It is therefore a mistake to think in terms of "us vs. them." A soul is a soul, and all are precious in God's sight. The key to the Great Commission is to share the gospel with those who have not heard it, for Scripture surely teaches that faith comes by hearing the message of the gospel.

## Psalm of the Day: Psalm 66 (Brown Hymnal page 37)

**The Gospel Lesson:** (Matthew 11:25-30) In our Gospel lesson Jesus speaks of rest in connection with a yoke. To the world, the two seem to be at odds, since a yoke is a work implement not generally associated with rest. The soul-rest that Jesus offers – freedom from the burden of our sins – was accomplished by Jesus in our place. He did all the heavy lifting for us when he carried our sins to the cross.

## The Confession of Faith -

The Apostolic Creed – page 15. (Brown Hymnal)

## The Pre-Sermon Hymn -#342- (Red Hymnal)

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

## The Sermon – Text: Galatians 5:1 (Printed on the back page of this bulletin)

**"Freedom"** (Pastor David Koenig, Guest Speaker)

## The Offertory – (Supplement page 16 insert)

## The Post-Sermon Hymn -#373- (Verses 1-4) (Red Hymnal)

"By Grace I'm Saved"

## The Offering

## The Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer

## The Benediction

## The Closing Hymn -#777- (Brown Hymnal)

"Amazing Grace"

## Silent Prayer

**Welcome!** - We warmly welcome any visitors who might be with us this morning and invite you to join us every Sunday at this time. St. Paul is a congregation in fellowship with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) – a conservative Lutheran synod with churches and missions throughout the United States, as well as Canada, India, and Africa. We are glad you are here. Thank you for letting us share the Word of God with you. Please record your visit in our Guest Book, and come again!

## Attendance - Last Sunday (65) 2010 Average (53) Wednesday (14)

## This Week at St. Paul:

<b>Today</b>	<b>-10:00 a.m.</b>	– Mission Festival Service
	<b>-11:30 a.m.</b>	– Fellowship Meal
<b>Monday</b>	<b>-9:00 a.m.</b>	– Study Conference in Lemmon
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>-6:00 p.m.</b>	– Church Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>-7:00 p.m.</b>	– Midweek Worship Service
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>-10:00 a.m.</b>	– Worship Service w/Holy Communion
	<b>-11:15 a.m.</b>	– Fellowship Hour

**CLC News** – Prince of Peace of Loveland has called Pastor Michael Eichstadt. Pastor Frank Gantt has received the call to Red Wing.

**Mission Festival** – Today is our annual Mission Festival, and we are privileged to have Missionary David Koenig serving as our guest speaker. A fellowship meal has been prepared for after the service, to which all are invited. In connection with the meal, Pastor Koenig will also offer a mission presentation that will update us on some of the very exciting work that our God is accomplishing overseas.

**VBS** - Vacation Bible School is scheduled for Thursday and Friday of this week, July 22-23. Please consider non-member children to hear about their Savior. Also please inform the Pastor if others are coming so that we can have materials enough for all.

**Men's Retreat** – The dates for this summer's Men's Retreat/Leadership Conference are July 30-31, which is a Friday afternoon through Saturday noonish. Please sign the sheet if you plan to attend. If you do not now plan to attend, please reconsider. Not only will your attendance benefit you, it will also benefit the larger group. Please see the Pastor for further info.

**Church Council Meeting** – The Council is scheduled to meet this Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. On the agenda is a discussion of what to do with certain church-owned items (like the Christmas tree that we've been using in the fellowship hall, the chalk/white board, and the older brown tables that are now used only by members for home functions). If you have opinions on keeping or disposing of these items, please speak to a Council member.

<sup>NKJ</sup> **Romans 10:5-17** For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down *from above*) <sup>7</sup> or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. <sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." <sup>14</sup> ¶ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" <sup>16</sup> But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" <sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

<sup>NKJ</sup> **Matthew 11:25-30** At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. <sup>26</sup> "Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. <sup>27</sup> "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. <sup>28</sup> "Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> "For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light."

<sup>NKJ</sup> **Galatians 5:1** Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

## The Heart of a Missionary

The heart of a missionary rejoices in the work and that work is confessing Christ. We learn that it was in Antioch where believers were first called "Christians."

In this modern era, the word "Christian" has lost a lot of its luster. There are people who in the name of Christianity or under its banner do abominable things. There are Christians who take the name "Christian" but have so little Christ in what they preach that they really ought not call themselves Christian. But in the sense that the Antioch believers were called Christians, therein lies the heart of a missionary.

A true Christian confesses Christ. Christ is what makes us what we are. He is our rock, the cornerstone, the foundation on which we build all things. Barnabas went to Tarsus and brought Saul back to Antioch. They stayed a year professing and proclaiming Christ. How could they have stayed a whole year in Antioch if they were confessing themselves? How would they have had any success at all in moving the hearts of people and impacting the lives of sinners if it were not Christ whom they were confessing? We preach Christ crucified! None other! Nothing else! (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:23). In that Christ is our life, our salvation, and the reason we are missionaries in the first place.

We confess Christ in the words we support preaching in our congregation. We seek to confess Christ in the words and instruction we give in our school. As missionaries for our Lord, we seek to confess Christ in how we act in our lives, what we say, what we do, how we answer questions that are asked of us, how we respond to the pitfalls of life—the ups and the downs and the challenges. The world is watching. The heart of a missionary confesses its Savior for the world to see.

We certainly pray that the working of the Holy Spirit will create in our hearts such a deep love for the sacrifice for our Savior, and a deep love for our fellow sinners that we are moved to have the heart of a missionary. To have a heart that for our own souls desires nothing more than to remain faithful, and to cling to our Savior who forgives our sins. To have a heart that takes the Savior to all people begrudging no one. To have a heart that rejoices in the work that God gives us the privilege to do and the work that He accomplishes through others. To have a heart that in everything keeps Christ as the focus, the essence of all that we are and all that we do.

Pastor Wayne Eichstadt, Mankato, MN

## All "Us" – No "Them"

One of the rather common distinctions made among us in the area of outreach is "foreign" vs. "domestic" mission work. Some tend to think of mission work as *only* that which is done overseas. Others seem to think that stateside mission work is somehow more important, or that American souls are more valuable than the souls of those in foreign lands.

While love of country and patriotism is commendable, God's Word makes it clear that no such distinction applies with God and his love for sinners. All are loved equally by our God.

**Galatians 3:26-29** For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

**Colossians 3:9-11** Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, <sup>11</sup> where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave *nor* free, but Christ *is* all and in all.

While the Apostle Paul had a patriotic love for his fellow-Jews, he recognized their rejection of the gospel and became the great missionary to the Gentiles.

The message here is that our goal is always to share the message of Jesus Christ with those who do not know him – *no matter where they live*. God opens doors, and we pray both for the wisdom to recognize all such opportunities (home and abroad) and for the zeal and the resources to carry the words of life wherever He leads.

**Mark 16:15-16** And (Jesus) said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."