

E-Letter Thursday, June 4, 2020



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

“EXTENDING CHRIST’S LOVE TO YOU”

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV)

WE GATHER AGAIN TO WORSHIP!

Greetings in Christ,

It seems like it has been a lot longer than two months since Governor Walz issued the “Stay at Home MN” order. That order changed our lives in many ways; the way we work, the way we play, the way we look at health, and even the way we worship. Now that the “Stay at Home MN” order has turned into a “Stay Safe MN” order things have slowly begun to return to normal. And one way that we at St. Paul’s are returning to normal is in our worship.

It all began on May 24th when we resumed Sunday worship by livestreaming our 8:00 am worship service and moving our 10:30 am service to an Outdoor setting by driving in and worshipping from the comfort of your car or bringing blankets and lawn chairs for sitting in the church yard. Well, this week we make another addition: in-person worship at our 8:00 am service. And for that I share the sentiments of David in Psalm 122: *I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”*

That’s right! In-person worship! It has taken a lot to get here. The state has implemented many guidelines that we must implement to the best of our abilities. There are restrictions on the size of our in-person indoor gathering; 25% of our normal capacity or around 80 people. We can’t serve food or coffee. The Sunday School and the nursery will be unavailable for the time being. We can’t use the water fountains. And we can only allow one person/household to use the bathroom at a time, but we are able to open our sanctuary doors. So, now, you’re probably wondering, “What will 8:00 am worship look like this Sunday, June 7th?”

Well, strangely enough, it all begins on Saturday. As it has been throughout this whole pandemic good health begins with us. If you do not feel comfortable with in-person worship, you are more than welcome to continue to watch the service on Facebook Live and YouTube at 8:00 am or at your convenience or you can join us from your car or on the lawn at 10:30am. Also, if you or someone in your household are not feeling well, please stay home and use one of the online options for participating in worship.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) at this time encourages worshippers to wear a mask but does not require worshippers to wear a mask. As such we will leave that decision to you. The MDH does, however, require masks for church staff and volunteers that directly interact with worshippers, so know that if you choose to wear one you will not be alone. A limited supply of masks have been sewn by the ladies of the congregation and will be available if you would like to have one of your own.

When you arrive at church, please use the North and East doors to the Narthex. When you arrive at the door you will be greeted by an usher who will direct you into the building to a second usher near a Hand Sanitizer station. That usher will direct you to a third usher who will take you into the sanctuary to be seated, filling the sanctuary from the front to the back. All this is being done to maintain appropriate social distancing.

A few additional notes about the in-person service itself... At this point in time, the MDH strongly discourages public singing. We are still going to include hymns as part of our in-person service, but only the first verse. It will be up to you to determine your participation; refrain as per the MDH guidelines, sing, hum,

or meditate on the words. All liturgy for the service will be up on the screens for 8:00 am, with printed bulletins for the 10:30 am. The offering plates will not be passed but will be available for your offering before and after service.

We know that you are also looking forward to participating in the Lord's Supper. We are currently planning to resume the Lord's Supper at both 8:00 am and 10:30 am services on June 21st. It will look a little different from how we have practiced it in the past and we are still working out a few details, so we are waiting a couple of weeks to see how the new flow of worship works, both indoors and outdoors. I'll let you know more as those plans unfold.

After service is over, the ushers will usher you out of the sanctuary in a similar manner as to how you entered the sanctuary. If you would like to visit with people, we ask that you please join up with them outside and maintain appropriate social distancing.

We will keep evaluating our practices for resuming in-person worship on a regular basis. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please let us know. And we look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday in one of the many ways we are offering worship: in-person and Facebook Live at 8:00am, in your car or on the lawn at 10:30 am, or any time that works for you with YouTube and Facebook.

In His Service,
Pastor George

Sunday, May 31st **8:00** am link to view this service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIU-o6w458s>

For video and/or audio on-line worship go to the church website at www.stpaulswatertown.org Click on the Resource tab on the top menu bar, then select Sermons from the drop-down menu, then click on the date of the sermon. Also, the worship services are on Facebook and YouTube. There is a link on the front page of our website www.stpaulswatertown.org to the video that is on Facebook by scrolling down to the bottom of the home page and clicking on the FB icon.

June 4 Thursday Barnabas Curb Side Service 5:30 pm
Thursday CCLS Board of Directors 7:30 pm

June 5 Friday Men's Small Group Bible Study (Bohler) 6:30 am

June 6 Saturday Trustees 8:00 am

June 7 Holy Trinity Sunday Genesis 1:1-2:4a Acts 2:14a, 22-36 Matthew 28:16-20
8:00 am
10:30 am

June 9 Tuesday Women's Bible Study (Cambronne) 9:30 am

June 10- Outreach 7:00 pm

June 11 Thursday Council 7:00 pm

June 12 Friday Men's Small Group Bible Study (Bohler) 6:30 am

June 14 Sunday 2nd Sunday After Pentecost Exodus 19:2-8 Romans 5:6-15 Matthew 9:35-10:8
8:00 am
10:30 am

June 16 Tuesday

June 17 Wednesday Parish Planning & Finance 6:30 pm

June 18 LWML 6:45 pm

Please let the church office know if you plan on resuming your meetings and/or activities that it can be put on the calendar and in the Newsletter. Keep the members informed of your ministry as well as others that may be interested in joining your group. These are uncertain times and you may not plan to gather yet but when you do, please let the office know.

LWML: The LWML will not meet in May. We will have our next meeting June 18, at 6:45 pm. We will not have a June outing, but a work night to make diapers. You can drop off t shirts at church till June 18 to be used for diapers. Call or email Karen Bloomdahl if you have any questions at 952.955.2167 or quilterkaren4@gmail.com.

MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL: At this time, a traditional graduation ceremony is planned for the class of 2020 on Saturday, June 27 at 10:00 AM, with Saturday, July 25 at 10:00 AM serving as the back-up date.

Prom has been rescheduled for Friday, July 10. The event will begin with the Grand March at 6:30 PM.

ST. PAUL'S WEBSITE: Please take the time to register and check out St. Paul's website. If you had registered on the old site, you would need to change your password as things have changed. If you have not registered, you will need to do that as then you will have access to much more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office at 952.955.1498.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CONTACT INFORMATION:

Church Phone: 952-955-1498

E-mail - skohls@stpaulswatertown.org

Website - www.stpaulswatertown.org

Pastor Rev. George Morris 952.955.1498

Visitation Pastor: Rev. Tom Colgrove 763.614.9622

Preaching Assistant: Rev. Gerald Schwanke - 1-320-282-9838

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 14, 2020 (UNAPPROVED)

Members Present: Doug Hoese, Pastor George, Pastor Andrix, Mollie Hoese, Mark Tredray, Brian Hilk, Travis Schauer, Jeff Boehlke, Glory Kohls, Susan Kohls, Denise Berg, Amy Weege, Scott Bohler, Julie Steinborn

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Doug Hoese

Introductions made to Pastor George

Approval of Agenda- Approved as printed

Determine Quorum

Reading of Minutes- Approved as printed

CCLS Board of Directors report: - given by Amy Weege

Executive Board has begun meeting to work on the CCLS budget for 20/21

Principal's report: given by Jeff Boehlke

Progressing through distance learning

Focus on sharing God's Word during this time

Staff morale- going well but feeling weary. All should be proud of teachers

Instruction until May 22 May 26-29 wrap-up week. Return of supplies, etc.

Graduation at CCLS- pending Yard signs at CCLS for 8th graders

Spring Event- pending Golf Tournament- pending for fall

End of year survey will be done with parents.

End of year staff meetings will be done soon. School calendar for the 20/21 school year will be held. Pastor

George will be part of that meeting. August 26, 2020- May 26, 2021

PPP funds have been received- \$106,000.

Another fund coming from the gov't. Possibility for CCLS ESSER and GEER Funds: A developing story.

(ESSER) Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Funds-

MN- Equitable Participation \$140,000,000 12 different categories for us to use funds

(GEER) Governors Emergency Education Relief Funds MN--Equitable Participation \$43,400,000 Designated by each state's governor E.g. "technology"

St. Paul's Board of Education Report: given by Mollie Hoese

10 seniors- quilts are being completed-no date set yet

Sunday School offering of \$200 for Lutherans in Africa

SCRIP gift for teachers/helpers

Confirmand gifts

VBS- ongoing discussions on what that will look like

MLHS Report *given by Brian Hilk*

Strategic refresh plan- can be forwarded to anyone interested
Board of Directors looking for candidates for 2 open positions

Elders Goals: *given by Mark Tredray*

Installation on Sunday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m.
Future worship services- discussion of parking lot/drive in service with FM transmitter
Recorded services also to continue
Appointment communion times being discussed
Mark Tredray to check into possible Facebook live for installation

Pastors Report: *given by Pastor George*

Discussion about Installation- for good and proper order, must take place for Pastor to begin his service full service vs. condensed service Celebration or recognition will take place in the future. People in attendance limited to those deemed necessary in order to adhere to guidelines for COVID 19
Getting settled into the office
Will be meeting with Pastor Colgrove about shut-in visitations

Lutheran Service Builder

Motion by Amy Weege, Seconded by Mollie Hoese to purchase Lutheran Service Builder for planning of worship services. Motion Carried.

\$425 initial cost /\$175 yearly cost afterward

Trustees Report: *given by Travis Schauer*

Thank you to all who helped with the move for Pastor George John Sandquist- organized the move; Travis Schauer, Greg Pawelk, Tim Parochka
Outside spring cleaning done beginning of May Ron Schmidt- will care for shrubs this summer
Drinking fountain installed in bathroom hallway
Pastor's office- cleaned out- carpets cleaned
Office chair for Susan Kohls needed. Will be purchasing this. Brian Hilk will look into a possible donation first before a purchase is made.
Roofing to be done yet
Information station/Coffee bar moved to new location in narthex

Board of Parish Planning and Finance Report: *given by Glory Kohls*

No recent meeting so nothing new to report.

General Treasurer's Report: *given by Denise Berg*

Behind in payments for CCLS Have been in contact with John Mosher- Treasurer for CCLS
Giving during shutdown has been consistent with before. Online giving has increased. **Donate Now** button.

Head Teller

Updated QuickBooks- until 2023
E-letter- discussion about continuing even after church is back to gathering for worship. PDF version.

Old Business: Installation- discussed above in Pastor's report

New Business: Masks being sewn by 5 volunteers. Will be available for services for those wanting one.
Next meeting June 11, 2020

Adjournment: Motion made- Amy Weege Seconded by Travis Schauer. Motion carried. **Closing Prayer:**
Doug Hoese, Pastor Andrix, Pastor George

Respectfully Submitted Julie Steinborn

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Worship Order of Service
Holy Trinity Sunday June 7, 2020

Opening Hymn: "O Blessed, Holy Trinity" (LSB 876)

1 O blessed, holy Trinity, Divine, eternal Unity, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, This day Your name be uppermost.

2 My soul and body keep from harm, And over all extend Your arm; Let Satan cause me no distress Nor bring me shame and wretchedness.

3 The Father's love shield me this day; The Son's pure wisdom cheer my way; The Holy Spirit's joy and light Drive from my heart the shades of night.

4 My Maker, hold me in Your hand; O Christ, forgiven let me stand; Blest Comforter, do not depart; With faith and love enrich my heart.

5 Lord, bless and keep me as Your own; Lord, look in kindness from Your throne; Lord, shine unfailing peace on me By grace surrounded; set me free.

(Public Domain)

Invocation—Opening Verses—Confession and Absolution

P. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

P. Nicodemus said to Jesus, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

C. **Jesus answered him**, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." *(John 3:2b-3)*

P. Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

C. **Jesus answered**, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

(John 3:4-5)

P. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

C. **In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:11-14)**

P. In Him we have redemption through His blood,

C. **The forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. (Ephesians 1:7)**

P. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,

C. **and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2)**

P. Hear, know, and trust that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise "Holy, Holy, Holy" (LSB 507)

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see, Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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The Word—

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Matthew 28:16-20

Apostles' Creed (Spoken Together)

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.

Sermon— “Trinity 2020?” Matthew 28:16-20

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn “Glory Be To God The Father” (LSB 506)

1 Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One! Glory, glory While eternal ages run!

2 Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain: Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign! Glory, glory To the Lamb that once was slain!

3 Glory to the King of angels, Glory to the Church's King, Glory to the King of nations; Heav'n and earth, your praises bring!

Glory, glory To the King of glory sing!

Go out filled with the joy of Jesus' resurrection