*Hymn "Praise and Thanksgiving" ELW #689
Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene, Babbitt, Laurie Switz Johnson, Heidi Stenerson, Dan Paulson, Richie Vlasak, Kristy Gwin Solovey, Bud Speicher, Hudson Steckl, Kathy Von Ruden, Lyle Schindler, Jared Gruen, Ken Von Ruden

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Allen Roscovious, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton,

CALENDAR

Sun., Aug. 18 Today 10:00 AM
Birthday/Anniversary Celebration
Noisy Offering
Sun., Aug. 25 Worship 9:00 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Synod Authorized Minister: Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Lori Arndt; Altar: Barb Bever and Karla Richie

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have any items you wish to include in the Sept./Oct. newsletter to the church office no later than Wednesday, August 28.

MISSION TRIP, 2025

Is your child in high school for the 24/25 school year and might be interested in a mission trip? Pastor Dawn at Peace Lutheran is starting to put numbers together. Please let Karen or Nalani know if you feel your son/daughter might have an interest.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 18, 2024

People to

Journey with Christ's Family in Spreading God's Love and Mercy

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

*(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)
Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

God, our provider, help us.
It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you.
Where else can we turn?
Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision" ELW#793

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

*KYRIE ELW p. 184

*Canticle of Praise "Glory to God" ELW p.185

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.

"Lamb of God" ELW p.191

Distribution

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

^{*}Prayer of the Day

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Merciful God, receive our prayer.)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*Offertory Hymn "Voices Raised to You" ELW #845

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Please join together in the Offertory Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Great Thanksgiving

ELW p. 190

*Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 190

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution

*LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

A reading from Proverbs 9:1-6

¹Wisdom has built her house,

she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town,

⁴"You that are simple, turn in here!"

To those without sense she says, ⁵"Come. eat of my bread

and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:9-14

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.

¹¹Come, children, and listen to me;

I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

¹²Who among you takes pleasure in life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

¹³Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Second Reading

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

ELW p. 188

GOSPEL READING

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

The Holy Gospel according to John 6:51-58 Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn "I Am the Bread of Life" ELW#485

*Apostle's 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,

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.

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this