



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI

17th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 15 2024

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.*

***\*(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, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHOIR

We are wondering if there is any interest in starting a choir this fall. Please let Nalani know if you'd be willing to participate. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.

### MISSION FEST MEATBALL DINNER

Nalani has tickets for you to sell. PLEASE help in selling tickets. A schedule for workers with regard to preparation, distribution, and clean-up is located in the narthex.

### FLORENCE DOUGHERTY

Florence is now at the Morrow Home in Sparta for rehabilitation. Her room number is 104.

### ANNIVERSARY CAKE & COFFEE

Gordy O'Rourke has now returned to Rolling Hill. Gordy and Lois are celebrating their 68th wedding anniversary, with a party being held today, 1:30-3:30 at the Prairie Hills apartments located at Rolling Hills. Cake, ice cream, and a time of fellowship. Congratulations Gordy & Lois!!

### Word

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

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

### First Reading

#### A reading from Isaiah 50:4-9a

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens—  
awakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 116:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**  
<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave  
came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.  
<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**  
<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.  
<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches over the innocent;  
I was brought low, and God saved me.**  
<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, O my soul.  
for the LORD has dealt well with you.  
<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**  
<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

**Second Reading**

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

**A reading from James 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

**\*Hymn  
Dismissal**

**“Lift High the Cross”**

**ELW#660**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.  
**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, Kathy Von Ruden, Lyle Schindler, Ken Von Ruden, Florence Dougherty, Connie Summerfield, Gordy O’Rourke, Lynn Evans, Marilyn O’Rourke

**IN THE MILITARY**

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

**THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God’s People; Synod Authorized Minister: Karen Sparling;  
Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Ava Gruen; Altar: Nalani & Greg Bever

**CALENDAR**

Wed., Sept.11	Confirmation	5:30 PM
Today, Sept. 15	Noisy Offering	
	Birthday and Anniversary Fellowship	
Sun., Sept. 22	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Council Meeting	11:15 AM

**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: Jesus welcomes you to this table.  
Come, here is your God.

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

"Lamb of God"

ELW p.191

Distribution

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Holy God,  
you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### **Sending**

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

### **Blessing**

God all mighty,  
God most merciful ☩ bless you,  
keep you, and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

**"Alleluia"**

**ELW p. 188**

### **GOSPEL READING**

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

### **The Holy Gospel according to Mark 8:27-38**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

**Sermon**

Karen Sparling  
Synod Authorized Minister

**Hymn**

**“Listen Now for the Gospel”**

**Back Page**

**\*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,  
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** (Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great**)

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**\*Offertory Hymn**

**ELW #884**

**“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Blessed are you, O God,  
source of every gift of your creation.  
By these gifts and with our lives,  
help us to serve one another and all in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
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.**