St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1407 West Church Road, P.O. Box 644

Beecher, IL 60401

Rev. Michael L. Stein, Pastor

Church: 708-946-2050, Pastor’s Cell: 618- 204-0378

www.saintpaulsbeecher.com

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| 17th Sunday after Pentecost  September 27, 2020 |

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| *Towards Eternity in God’s Love* |

***Welcome****! We welcome in the name of our Savior Jesus all visitors today. May you be blessed, encouraged, and strengthened in your faith as we worship our Lord, Christ Jesus. Please sign our guestbook and fill a card then put it in the collection plate if you would like more information about our congregation or to be contacted by pastor.*

**Ringing of the Bell (Order of Worship – Hymnal, page 15)**

**Hymn of Invocation: 545** “The Morning Sun is Brightly Beaming”  *(please rise for last verse)*

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C: Amen**

**Introit, Psalm 25:1-10***(spoken responsively)*

P: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**C: O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.**

P: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**C: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths.**

P: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation;  
    for you I wait all the day long.

**C: Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,  
    for they have been from of old.**

P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!

**C: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.**

P: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.

**C: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**

**Gloria Patri, The Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis, The Salutation** – (*Hymnal, pages 16-19*)

**Collect for the Day** *(Spoken by Pastor)*

**Old Testament:** Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

**The Gradual** *(sung by Pastor)*

**Epistle:** Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

**The Triple Hallelujah** (*Hymnal, page 20*)

**Response before the Gospel** (*Hymnal, page 21*)

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 21:23–27

**Response after the Gospel** (*Hymnal, page 21)*

**The Nicene Creed** (*Hymnal, page 22)*

**Sermon Hymn 295**  “The Law of God is Good and Wise”

**Sermon**

**Confession of Sins**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

**A: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

**C: Amen**

**The Offertory** (*Hymnal, page 22*)

**The** **Offering** *(NO passing of plates will occur; please place your offering in the plate at the center aisle when you depart)*

**The Prayers and Intercessions**

** *Service of the Sacrament* **

**The Service of the Sacrament** begins with the ***Preface*** on page ***24*** then continues in the hymnal.

**Communion Hymn(s) 395** “O God, Thou Faithful God” 

**The Nunc Dimittis & The Thanksgiving**  (*Hymnal, pages 29-31*)

**The Benediction** (*Hymnal,**page 31*)

**Closing Hymn 398** “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” *(please rise for the last verse)*

With the increase in COVID cases these past few weeks, church leadership has decided to err on the side of caution and after service coffee/treats is postponed. Hopefully we can resume this time of fellowship (and tasty treats) soon.

**Beecher Farmer’s Market is live!** There are only a few more chances to make it out this year! The second and fourth Saturday of each month, 625 Dixie Highway, from 9-1 pm. If you are interested in vending, please see Jessica, otherwise, please come and see what is for sale! Masks required for vendors and strongly requested for visitors.

**Thank You!!** A big “Thank You!” to all who volunteered to cook, donate, serve, clean up and in any way help with Oktoberfest. God gave us great weather, and with all your help, Oktoberfest was more successful than expected! Praise be to our Lord!

**Oktoberfest** If you brought food items for Oktoberfest, please pick up your containers and dishes from the basement. Also, please return any Oktoberfest yard signs so we can use them again next year. Thank you again!!

**Ladies Aid** will again this year be sending care packages to the active military member on our prayer list. We will be assembling the boxes on October 10.  Military addresses can change frequently so if you have family member or friend on that list, would you please verify their addresses and provide to Valerie Lynch by October 9.  You can email to her at [valerielynch1103@yahoo.com](mailto:valerielynch1103@yahoo.com)

**Flowers for the Altar** will be ordered by Marge Kregel from Beecher Florist when they are listed on the chart. Cost is $25.00 for 2 bouquets for a Sunday. If you have signed up for a Sunday, but plan on bringing or ordering your own flowers, please let Marge know so she does not call in an order.  Any questions, call Marge, 708-946-6219. Thanks so much to those who beautify our church in this manner.

**Sunday School Meeting** If you are interested in helping with Sunday School this year or are a member of the Board of Education, please stay after worship today for a brief discussion to make plans. If you cannot attend today, please contact pastor.

**Prayer Warriors**: Our prayer chain has been praying for a couple of years now; we will pray for urgent needs that come up between Sundays; share good news of answered prayers, and are more than happy to pray for non-church members. If you want to join our Prayer Warriors, please send your email to me at tbraun3.16@gmail.com; if you want to participate in these prayers but don’t have an email account, call me and I’ll add members to contact by phone.

**College is tough** College during a pandemic is tougher. Tragically, the college years are when many youth walk away from their Savior. To help encourage them in their faith while they are away studying, let us plan to send care packages to them. Please get the names and addresses (maybe some suggested favorite treats) of members who are away at college into the church office. We will organize sending them these reminders from the church. If you would like to help, let pastor know. College is tough, they need Jesus.

**Trunk oR Treat** It's back on!! (for now) We will host our annual trunk or treat on October 31st. Last year we served over 500 hot dog meals and saw many more children come through. It will be a little different but just as fun! This year we will have a continuous flow of foot traffic going in the same direction. We will be following all CDC and IDPH guidelines. Let's make this fun for the kiddos! If you would like to help, please let Jessica or pastor know.

*Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.* Philippians 2:3-4

**Email request** Pastor is building an "Email Member Directory" Your email address is requested to help us better communicate about church functions, weather closures, Bible Studies, etc.. Please write your email address on a note to pastor, which you may put in the collection plate, or email him at pastor@saintpaulsbeecher.com. Thank you!

**Life Quote from Lutherans for Life:**   “As Christians, we understand better than most that life is weighted with profound suffering and buoyed by eternal hope. As such, it’s time to raise our children to appreciate what a big, beautiful struggle parenthood is and that it simply cannot happen without offering compassion, love, and grace to children still in the womb and to the mothers and fathers who view the scales more filled with suffering than hope.” *Tawnia Hoehne, Frazee, Minnesota* – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*

**Vestry Renovation** Just because the virus has stalled much of our lives, this is a perfect time to plan for the future. One area which has been discussed to re-work is the vestry. If you have ideas to help reorganize the vestry getting it ready for Adult Bible class and other future uses, and you would like to be a positive part of the process, please let pastor know.

**Bulletin Announcements:** If you have anything you’d like to put in the bulletin, please email it to Tammy at tbraun3.16@gmail.com or call 708-769-9066. Bulletins are generally printed on Friday evenings so Thursday is the deadline.

**Zion, Grant Park to host Lemons to Lemonade 26.2!**

After training for the Chicago Marathon (which was cancelled), Christena Estby and her friend, Anne Benson, decided to “turn lemons into lemonade” and continue their training and run a marathon in the Grant Park countryside with the hopes to raise additional funds for Zion’s ongoing parsonage building project. Zion is hosting a celebration luncheon on Saturday, October 10, 2020 from 11am-1pm (the ladies anticipating completing their marathon run around noon). The Frank Paul Band and Dance in the Light will be performing and the A&G Pizza Stop Truck will be serving food! We invite you to join us for a fun family afternoon in Zion’s courtyard. Lemons to Lemonade t-shirts (the same softness as the Thrivent shirts we all love!) are available for pre-order through September 13th ($15 for adult sizes, $12 for youth). Pre-orders for food (pizza by the slice or whole pies, salad, pop/water, cookies – or a take-and-bake option!) are available through October 4th. Limited walk-up food orders may be available. Please call Zion’s church office (815-465-6011) for more information or to place your orders! Don’t delay!

***In Praise to God -Sept. 20th:***

$1,740 General Fund; $100 Siding Fund; $25 Altar flowers

**Tuesday Evening Bible Class -** This Tuesday evening, at 6:30, we begin a discussion of Philippians. Since we are starting a new study it is a great time for you to join us. We will meet both in the church and use the internet for those at home.

**Dream Box** God is still at work in His world and He has a mission for you and St. Paul’s. Share those dreams, plans, goals, and wishes for the church in the small box on the back table. This could be ideas about a Bible study, improvements to the property, future growth areas, community outreach, or whatever other ideas the Spirit inspires within you. Let us work together using the time, talents, and treasure with which God has blessed us to continue to serve each other and our community to His glory!

וַעֲשׂ֥וּ לָכֶ֛ם לֵ֥ב חָדָ֖שׁ וְר֣וּחַ חֲדָשָׁ֑ה וְלָ֥מָּה תָמֻ֖תוּ בֵּ֥ית יִשְׂרָאֵֽל

18:31,32וְהָשִׁ֖יבוּ וִֽחְיֽוּ יחזקאל…

*Make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? … So turn, and live. Ezekiel 18:31,32*

*In the Lord's Supper Jesus offers us His body and blood, bringing with it the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. This sacred meal is a confession of the unity we have in Christ, a unity shared with our brothers and sisters in the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. If you are a visitor who does not belong to a congregation in our fellowship, please speak with the pastor before coming to communion today. When you take Communion, the ushers will invite you to the altar pew by pew {following distance protocols between family units}. You may kneel or remain standing—receive the host —and for the interim, ONLY the individual cups will be offered.*

**It is recommended** everyone practices social distancing and wears a mask as you are able, following CDC guidelines for the health and wellbeing of those with compromised immune systems. If you have personal health concerns which make wearing a mask difficult, please practice social distancing, if you cannot wear a mask. Jesus said in Mark 10*,* “Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Paul in both Romans 14 and 1 Cor. 8 advices his readers about how our actions might cause another to stumble. So, please consider the needs of those with weakened systems regarding mask wearing, while still honoring your own health needs.

**Flowers on the Altar** this morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of the **37th** **Anniversary of Tim and Mary Hannig**. Many Blessings on your special day!

**In Our Prayers this Week:**

**Birthdays:** 27-Nick Wilke Oct. 1- Jeff Bleyle 4-Rachel Fox

**Shut-ins:** Madelyn Schaefer, Dorothy Stolzenbach, Marlene Dietrich

**Hospitalized/Ill/Recovering**: Ray Moeller, Jill Holzaepfel, Fred Meyer, Zyaire Cannon, Judy Wolf, Rachel Fox, Gail Lynch-Vanek, Artie Weismann, Holly Braun, Caitlyn Morgan

**Servicemen:** Michael Kaminski, Jason Stolzenbach, Cody Drees, Kyle Kranzer, Jonah Packard, Jeremy Meyerchick, Fred Rohde, Nico Ligasan and Michael Faloona.

**Assisting with Worship this Week:**

Organist: Aaron Heldt

Acolyte: Don Fette

Ushers: Stan Heimerl & Joe Burgess

**Next week:** Acolyte- Gideon Stein; Ushers- Steve Stein & Parker Woodruff

**~Dates to Remember~**

**Today**: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

**Tuesday**: 6:30 p.m. Evening Bible Discussion

**Next** **Sunday**: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion