

Announcements and Readings for Sunday, September 6, 2020

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God,

Enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰“Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

The Word of the Lord, C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:33-40 will be read responsively

³³Teach me, LORD, the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law
and obey it with all my heart.**

³⁵Direct me in the path of your commands,
for there I find delight.

³⁶**Turn my heart toward your statutes
and not toward selfish gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life according to your word.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
so that you may be feared.**

³⁹Take away the disgrace I dread,
for your laws are good.

⁴⁰**How I long for your precepts!
In your righteousness preserve my life.**

The Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

The Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

The Gospel of the Lord – **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

ASSISTING MINISTER and LECTOR: Bev Brosenitsch

GREETER: Eileen Saunders

BELL RINGER: Tim Brosenitsch

CHILDREN: Available on the back pew are coloring books and crayons.

CALENDAR

Saturday 11 TO 2 The Gathering sponsored by the Zelianople area churches

FOOD CUPBOARD – SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Boxes of Taco Dinner Kits.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Pastor Brewer will be celebrating his 50th anniversary of ordination this year, and will be recognized at the online Synod assembly in November. Pastor Brewer served as a pastor of St. Paul from 1989 to 2011. Beginning in 2017, in recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the inauguration of the United Lutheran Seminary, the synod began honoring each of their pastors celebrating 50 years of ordination with a \$500 gift to the seminary toward a new scholarship that will in time honor each year's group of 50-year anniversary pastors and benefit seminarians just entering into public ministry in the church.

If you would like to send Pastor Brewer a congratulatory greeting, his address is 219 S. Pittsburgh Street, Zelienople. Those who wish to help fund the scholarship that will in time help a new generation of faithful servants of the Gospel with seminary expenses may certainly do so. Congratulatory greeting and scholarship contributions may be directed to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, 9625 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Please note in the memo line "50th" Anniversary Scholarship Fund.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

If you did not receive your September newsletter, please pick up a copy from the pamphlet rack located by the flower chart in the narthex. Also if you no longer wish to receive your newsletter by email, please email the office at 215stpaul@gmail.com If you are a visitor, please feel free to take home a newsletter.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be every Wednesday at St. Paul starting on September 16 at 6:30 PM. The same Bible Study will also be offered at Zion on Thursdays starting on September 17 at 1:00 PM. Pastor Tim will be leading the Bible study and we will be discussing the lectionary readings for the coming Sunday. Please join us at either Zion or here at St. Paul depending on which time works best for your schedule.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

We need 3 voting members to represent St. Paul for the 2020 Synod Assembly. The Assembly will take place on Saturday, November 14 via ZOOM meetings. Please see Pastor Tim if you are interested or have any questions.

THE GATHERING – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 – 11-2

A sign up sheet will be passed around in church today for you to volunteer next Saturday. We will need help in setting up tents and tables, staffing the tents, giving tours of the church, taking down of tents and tables. We will be handing out hot dogs, chips and drinks. The following items may be donated: gently used household items, clothes and shoes. Please email Ann Barbish at lbarbish@zoominternet.net or call or text 724-624-4285 and she will be able to meet you to place items in the box truck located at HZUMC parking lot.

VISITORS

We welcome all visitors and invite you to make our church your church.

