

West St. Olaf Lutheran Church

70640 260th Avenue - Hayfield, MN

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 17, 2018

Pastor Paul Thompson Organist: Gloria Pew



INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ENTRANCE HYMN *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* (LBW 250)

GREETING (LBW p. 57)

KYRIE (LBW p. 57)

HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW p. 58)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 62)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . .

God, our maker and redeemer, you have made us a new company of priests to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known your promises to all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 15:34--16:13

The First Lesson is from the 15th chapter of 1st Samuel.

Saul, anointed by the prophet Samuel as the first king of Israel, displeases the Lord. The Lord therefore sends Samuel to Bethlehem where he anoints David, the youngest of the sons of Jesse, to succeed Saul as king.

³⁴Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeath of Saul. ³⁵Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

^{16:1}The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the

LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

and to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

²**to tell of your lovingkindness early in the morning
and of your faithfulness in the night season;**

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre,
and to the melody of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

¹¹The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹²**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

¹³they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁴**that they may show how upright the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is no fault.**

SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

The Second Lesson is from the 5th chapter of 2nd Corinthians.

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord — ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE (LBW p. 62)

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in

with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Faith of Our Fathers* (LBW 500)

CREED (LBW p. 64)

OFFERING (LBW p. 75)

THE PRAYERS

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

O Most High, your divine realm is like a noble tree whose boughs and branches give shade and rest to the peoples of the earth. Make your church a nesting place for all who need your peace and healing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, all the world is a garden for your creativity. Refresh places of drought with abundant rains. Strengthen and keep safe those who fight fires in your forests. Help us tend your mountains and plains, oceans and rivers with loving care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, you speak and your word is accomplished. Speak to the leaders of the nations so they might end cycles of violence, giving people everywhere tranquility and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Bring the abundant healing blessings of the new creation into the lives

of those who suffer illness or deprivation of any kind (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, your steadfast love and faithfulness sustain your people. Bless fathers and all father figures with such love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in uprightness and joy. Bless those who long to be fathers and those for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, just as the earth produces of itself and the harvest comes, you gather up your people from all times and places. Bring us along with those who have died (*especially*) into the lasting harvest of your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING (LBW p. 76)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen

SENDING HYMN *How Great Thou Art* (LBW 532)

DISMISSAL

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WELCOME TO THOSE VISITING



If you are visiting today, we're glad you chose to worship with us. Please sign our guestbook in the narthex. Times for early/late services rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.



JUNE SCHEDULE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

EAST: has early service at 8:30 am

WEST: has late service at 10:00 am

EXCEPT for a Joint Service at East June 24 at 10:00 am, followed by Zion marker dedication & then a light lunch will be provided by both churches.

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

WELCA Chairperson(s): Jan Nordland (June)

Altar Guild: Wilma Kyllö & Cindy Senjem (June)

Acolytes: Usher's cover for summer months

Reader: Wilma Kyllö (June 17)

Ushers: Steve Arett, Scott Iverson, Philip Senjem, and Will Laxen (June)

Deacon: Cindy Senjem (June)

Stewardship: Wilma Kyllö (June)

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation Photos Available to Pick Up at Church

Parents: Confirmation photos are available to pick up at both churches. **At East** they are on the oval table upstairs in the entry. **At West** they are on the podium of the north wall in the entry.

BOTH: JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE at East ~ Next Sunday



Everyone is invited to the June 24 **Joint Worship Service** at East. The service will be at 10:00 am. After the church service, there will be a marker-dedication at Zion cemetery, then a light lunch will be provided by East & West.

East/West VBS has chosen the Dodge County Relay for Life as their mission again this year. The children's offering will go to this mission and we appreciate additional donations from East and West members. Last year \$1,176 was generously donated to the Relay from our churches. *On the last night of VBS, there will be luminaries available to purchase for \$10 in memory or honor of a loved one affected by cancer. You can bring a picture of your loved one to put on the bag and decorate as you wish. We pray a cure can be found for this terrible disease and your donation will help support research*

to find a cure. If you have questions or wish to donate, contact Nancy Peterson @ 365-8875 or nancyp@kmtel.com.

West Members: If you have family photos to submit, please get them to Carma before the end of June. Her email address is carmabjornson@gmail.com or you can send them to her home address: Carma Bjornson, 26671 710th ST, Kasson, MN 55944, or leave them at the church with my name attached. Please include the names of the people in the photo, family name, address, email address and phone numbers both landline and cell (just in case you eventually would drop the landline phone). *We are trying to update our congregation member information at the same time as we do this project. Thank you all for your help with this. We will be starting to work on the activity pages for the directory in the near future.* If you have ideas or pictures you would like to share please contact me at carmabjornson@gmail.com or home 365-8660 or cell 272-7627.

West Erdman's Tapes Due on July 8

A reminder to bring in your Erdman's tapes as they will be due on July 8 (for tapes dated January-June). Thank you!

Last Week's Attendance & Collections

(06/03) Attendance: 29. Current \$1,156.

(06/10) Attendance: 46. Current \$1,800 and Benevolence \$25.

Next Week's Readings: June 24, 2018: 1 Samuel 17: 32-49, Psalm 9:9-20, 2 Corinthians 6:1-13, and Mark 4:35-41

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

06/17	8:30 am	East worship and communion East coffee hour (<i>served by College Fund</i>) East supplies cookies for Season's Hospice West coffee hour
	10:00 am	West worship
		<u>VBS - FIRST NIGHT!!! (NO supper tonight)</u>
	5:30 pm	Register for VBS
	6-8:00 pm	VBS classes

Mon. 9:00-noon Pastor Paul at office
 5:30 pm Supper before VBS
 6-8:00 pm VBS classes

Tue. ----- NO Pastor Paul – at conference in Eden Prairie
 10:00 am East Circle 4 meeting/ quilting/ sack lunch
 5:30 pm Supper before VBS
 6-8:00 pm VBS classes

Wed. ----- NO Pastor Paul – at conference in Eden Prairie
 5:30 pm Supper before VBS
 6-8:00 pm VBS classes

Thur. ----- Pastor Paul’s day off-work
LAST Night of VBS
 5:30 pm Supper before VBS
 6:00 pm VBS classes
 7:30 pm All parents/ grandparents and friends invited to VBS closing program, then help appreciated for tear-down

Fri. 9:00-noon Pastor Paul at office

June 24 (Sun.): **BOTH: JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE**
NO coffee hour before this service
 10:00 am Joint service for all, at EAST, followed by dedication of cemetery marker at Zion, then a light lunch will be served for all at East (the light lunch provided by East and West)

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE (NO NEWSLETTER DAY in June)

June 26 (Tue.): 10:00 am East quilting/ sack lunch

JULY

July hours will be: West at 8:30 am / East at 10:00 am... EXCEPT for a JOINT SERVICE at West on July 15 at 8:30 am, followed by fellowship and goodies after church.

>>NO council meeting at either church in July.

>>July 22-July 29: Pastor Paul/TLC class gone on KY mission trip.

July 1 (Sun.): Both churches have communion

July 4 (Wed.): OFFICE CLOSED ~ Happy Independence Day!

July 8 (Sun.): West Erdman’s tapes are due for Jan. – June

July 10 (Tue.): 10:00 am East quilting/ sack lunch

July 11 (Wed.): 11:30 am West WELCA “special outing” – an old fashioned luncheon at Sheryl Wohlers (*proper attire: hats, gloves, and dresses*)

July 15 (Sun.):

- JOINT WORSHIP at West at 8:30 am with a time of fellowship and goodies after church
- East supplies cookies to Season’s Hospice
- 1:30 pm Pastor leads Field Crest worship (and West WELCA supplies 5 doz. cookies)

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

West Prayers: Vicki Lawrence (*Pastor Darby’s wife*), Loretta Himle, Christine Krause (*sister of Susie Thoe*), Jocelyn Sanvick, Boyd Pew, Bill Tietje (*brother of Carma Bjornson*), Joanne Larsen (*mother of Dan Larsen*), Joann Tiegen, Gene Hyland, Robert Beaver, Danny Linbo, Veronica Riniker (*mother of Donna Larsen*), Philip Senjem, and Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson and Julie Boyum*).

East Prayers: Bev Brandt, Vicki Lawrence (*Pastor Darby’s wife*), Maryann Schultz, Viola Olson, Steve Jensen, Julie Andreason, Kelly Anderson (*friend of Peterson’s daughter*), Heidi Guenius (*cousin of Becky Brakke*), Sharon Boelter, Dale Boelter, Cecelia Miller (*cousin of Yvette Dulohery*), Vern Exe (*father of Pete*), Kevin Kubly (*friend of Yvette Dulohery*), Bill Fritts, David Distad, Patricia Lee, Sally Iverson, Roland Rivera, Carol Severson, and John Heydt (*Pat Nelson’s brother*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday and Friday (9:00 am–Noon... OR by appointment)

SECRETARY Gina Moser: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Office: 507-365-8222 **Cell:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Please send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am–Noon

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

OUR JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

West St. Olaf

President: Debbie Schuck - Primary: 251-7051, House: 477-2655

Vice President: Will Laxen - Cell: 208-5399

Head Deacon: Sheryl Wohlers - House: 365-8816, Cell: 259-5974