

Calendar for September 10 – September 16

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|----------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Wed., Sept. 12 | Confirmation Orientation | 6:30 PM |
| Sun., Sept. 16 | Sunday School | 9:00 AM |
| | Worship | 10:15 AM |
| | Children Sing / Noisy Offering | |
| | Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship | 11:15 AM |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are collecting school supplies to be packed and distributed through Lutheran World Relief. The following items are included in a school bag:

- 4 – college or wide ruled 70 page spiral notebooks
- 1 - large eraser
- 1 – BLUNT TIPPED scissors
- 1 - ruler, 30-centimeter or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- 5 – black or blue ink pens (no gel ink), secure together with a rubber band
- 5 - #2 UNSHARPENED pencils, secure together with a rubber bank
- 1 - pencil sharpener
- 1– Crayons, box of 24

Mission Fest raffle tickets are available. Please see Nalani, sooner than later!!

OFFICE HOURS:

At this time, I do not have established office hours, however, I am generally in the office on Wednesday mornings printing the bulletin. Please feel free to call me to arrange a meeting in the office. Do not feel you are inconveniencing me. There are some weeks I feel like I'm in Wilton more than Elroy anyway!!

In an emergency, please call Nalani @608-87-2311, Greg @608-387-2312, or Caitlyn Stanek @608-633-1824.

Pray chain: Please contact Nalani

Nalani: nalanib@gmail.com **Church:** wiltonchurch@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

Find us on **FACEBOOK!!**

Home page: **St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI**



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 129, Wilton, WI 54670
608-435-6647
September 9, 2018
16th Sunday after Pentecost

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

GATHERING Welcome/Announcements

As God's children we are

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

You are invited to practice God's Love and Mercy by turning to those around you, greeting one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you," or something similar.

Confession and Forgiveness

ELW p.94-95

*Gathering Hymn

"Earth and All Stars!"

ELW #731

*Greeting

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 (spoken)

ELW p. 147

*Canticle of Praise

"This is the Feast"

ELW pp. 149-150

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

WORD

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Chapter 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

A reading from Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there is no help.

**⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

**⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People *Pastor:* Karen Sparling *Organist:* Nalani Bever
Greeters: Anita Steinke and Lois O'Rourke *Reader:* Larry Ballwahn
Communion Server: Greg Bever *Altar Committee:* Bev Graunke and Lila Speicher
Ushers: Bob Buchholz, Brian Buchholz, Ed Ross, Justin Arndt

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Matt Zirk, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Robert Cale

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Shirley Meranti, Ron Clark, Carol Osteboe, Mildred Radke, Lorayne Denter, Marjorie Muhr, Ed Bauer, Jerry Eckelberg, Ron Doll, Rod Hermanson, Helen and Evan Summerfield, Don Schreier, Linda Bauer, Rick Brandau, Linda Finnigan, Bob Manson

Wilton's Police Chief, Jeremy Likely, a member of the volunteer group from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, is currently in the State of Idaho fighting the forest fires.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy.....and join their unending hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

*Words of Institution

* The Lord’s Prayer

Distribution

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

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 154

Prayer after Communion

**Holy and compassionate God,
in bread and wine you give us gifts
that form us to be humble and courageous.
May your words come to life
in our serving and in our witness,
that we might speak a living voice
of healing and justice to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.
Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

Sending

‘Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing!’

ELW #886

Dismissal

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip-service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

A reading from James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 151

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles..

The holy gospel according to Mark 7:24-37

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

Sermon

*Hymn "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate"

ELW #722

*Apostles' 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

Congregation Response "hear our prayer"

Offering

*Offertory

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

ELW #512

*Offertory Prayer

**God of life,
you give us these gifts of the earth,
these resources of our life and our labor.
Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,
and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

ELW pp.152-154

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

