

church building. If you are willing to help paint trim, power wash, pull weeds, lay stone, wash windows, etc., please let Nalani know. November 15 is just around the corner!!

Rally Day

Remember when we had a picnic and played games in the park when summer break was over and Sunday school was back in session each year? Well, we're going to that on September 13 this year. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

112th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

9:00 AM

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

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

**(Indicates the people should stand as they are able.)*

Welcome and Announcements

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

“Change My Heart, O God”

(Refrain x2) ELW#801

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☐ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ’s name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
In the name of God,
Father, ☐ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God’s love.
Amen.

Hymn “All Are Welcome” ELW #641

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Linda, Kristy Gwin Solovey, Marilyn O’Rourke, Larry Arndt,
Nick Evans, Collin Niedfeldt, Mark Drews, Jack Arndt, Carol
Lydon Fronk, Brian, Ben Bender, Darlene Diekrager, Diane
Hornburger, Mike Escutia, Daniel Paulson, Marie Jacobson,
Lenora Martin, Jenny Simpson Erickson, Linda Martin, Andy
Martin, Chad Olson, Doug Path, Greg Brandau, Sharon Karis,
Darrin Dougherty

IN THE MILITARY

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

CALENDAR

Today	Noisy Offering	
	Birthday & Anniversary Reception	
Sun., Aug. 23	Worship	9:00 am
Sun., Aug. 30	Worship	9:00 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Deadline

Please have any articles for the newsletter to the office no
later than next Sunday, August 23.

Anniversary Celebration

We have some “sprucing up” to do on the outside of the

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

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

Distribution

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

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

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
☐ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

Hymn “Jesus Shall Reign” ELW #434

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God’s People; Synod Authorized Minister:
Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Barb Ornes
Altar: Nalani & Greg Bever; Communion Servers: Volunteers

Dear Lord Jesus;

**We lift to you our children and grandchildren. We ask that your spirit will dwell with them according to your will, that they will grow in the knowledge of you and know they are dearly loved by you. We pray for your protection from deception by the evil one and his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning your direction for them. We also pray for all children throughout the world that you will keep them in your loving care. In Jesus name we pray.
Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God’s imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

A reading from Isiah 56:1,6-8

¹ Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
 and hold fast my covenant—
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
 and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
 their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
 will be accepted on my altar,
 for my house shall be called a house of prayer
 for all peoples.
⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
 who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
 I will gather others to them
 besides those already gathered.

Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
 may the light of God's face shine upon us.
² **Let your way be known upon earth,
 your saving health among all nations.**
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
 let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
 for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations
 on earth.**
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
 let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
 God, our own God, has blessed us.**
⁷ May God give us blessing,
 and may all the ends of the earth ¹ stand in awe.

1. **We give thee but thine own,
 whate'er the gift may be;
 all that we have is thine alone,
 a trust, O Lord, from thee.**
2. **And we believe thy word,
 though dim our faith may be:
 whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
 we do it unto thee.**

OFFERING PRAYER

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Words of Institution

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 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.**

***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 (Merciful God, receive our prayer)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

***Offering Hymn “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**

SECOND READING

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.
²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

Gospel Acclamation ELW p. 188

GOSPEL

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, his teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

The holy gospel according to Matthew 15:21-28

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

Sermon

Karen Sparling

Minister

Synod Authorized

Hymn

“Build a Longer Table”

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Build a Longer Table



1

Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,

2

Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;

3

Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.

4

When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.

where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.

Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.

Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,

For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,

When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,

So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.

Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.

Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.

None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
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