



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 15, 2021  
**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family  
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.*

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

**Gathering**  
*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God\**

*Prelude....A time for silent reflection*

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.  
**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ☩ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Gathering Hymn

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**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074,  
Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever,

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

Additional Contact Information:

Pastor Cathleen: [cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu](mailto:cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu)

Justin Arndt: [arndt.now@gmail.com](mailto:arndt.now@gmail.com)

Church: [wiltonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:wiltonchurch@gmail.com)

Nalani Bever: [nalanib@gmail.com](mailto:nalanib@gmail.com)

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

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

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\*Benediction

Sending Hymn

Dismissal

P: Go in peace.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **THOSE SERVING TODAY**

Ministers: All God's People, Pastor: Cathleen Morris,  
Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: ; Communion Server:  
Karen Arzt

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

Katie Wallace, Judy Bever, Darlene and Paul Babbitt, Pam Eaton,  
Alrita Ornes, Tessa Klipstein, Jim Finer, Jerry Nading, Rhett Flaten, Bob  
Schendel, Richard Zitlow, Jeff DuCharme, Louie Voltz, Etta Mae Henze,  
Gary Von Ruden, Judy Nofsinger, Larry Voltz. Sue Ann Degenhardt

### **IN THE MILITARY**

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Robert Cale,  
Seth Tormoen, Danelle Dougherty

### **CALENDAR**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

P: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Canticle of Praise**

“This is the Feast”

ELW p. 149

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

#### **Word**

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

### **FIRST READING**

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

#### **Proverbs 9:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Wisdom has built her house,  
she has hewn her seven pillars.

<sup>2</sup>She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,  
she has also set her table.

<sup>3</sup>She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls  
from the highest places in the town,  
<sup>4</sup>“You that are simple, turn in here!”  
To those without sense she says,  
<sup>5</sup>“Come, eat of my bread  
and drink of the wine I have mixed.  
<sup>6</sup>Lay aside immaturity, and live,  
and walk in the way of insight.”

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

### Psalm 39:9-14

<sup>9</sup>Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,  
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.  
<sup>10</sup>**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,  
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**  
<sup>11</sup>Come, children, and listen to me;  
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.  
<sup>12</sup>**Who among you takes pleasure in life  
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**  
<sup>13</sup>Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from lying words.  
<sup>14</sup>**Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it**

### SECOND READING

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### Ephesians 5:15-20

<sup>15</sup>Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, <sup>16</sup>making the most of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup>So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup>Do not get drunk with wine, for

### Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ\*

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW p. 152

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW p. 153

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.**

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

Distribution

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

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 154

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life,  
**we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.  
In your name we pray.  
Amen.**

Hymn

### 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** (Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer**)

### OFFERING

*Offering plates are located in the Narthex as you enter and exit the church.*

Offertory Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life,  
**you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.  
Gather what has been sown among us,  
and strengthen us in this meal.  
Make us to be what we receive here,  
your body for the life of the world.  
Amen.**

that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit,<sup>19</sup> as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts,<sup>20</sup> giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

ELW p.151

### \*GOSPEL READING

*In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.*

**The gospel according to John 6:51-58**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,]<sup>51</sup> "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

<sup>52</sup>The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"<sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.<sup>54</sup> Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day;<sup>55</sup> for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.<sup>56</sup> Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.<sup>57</sup> Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.<sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

Sermon