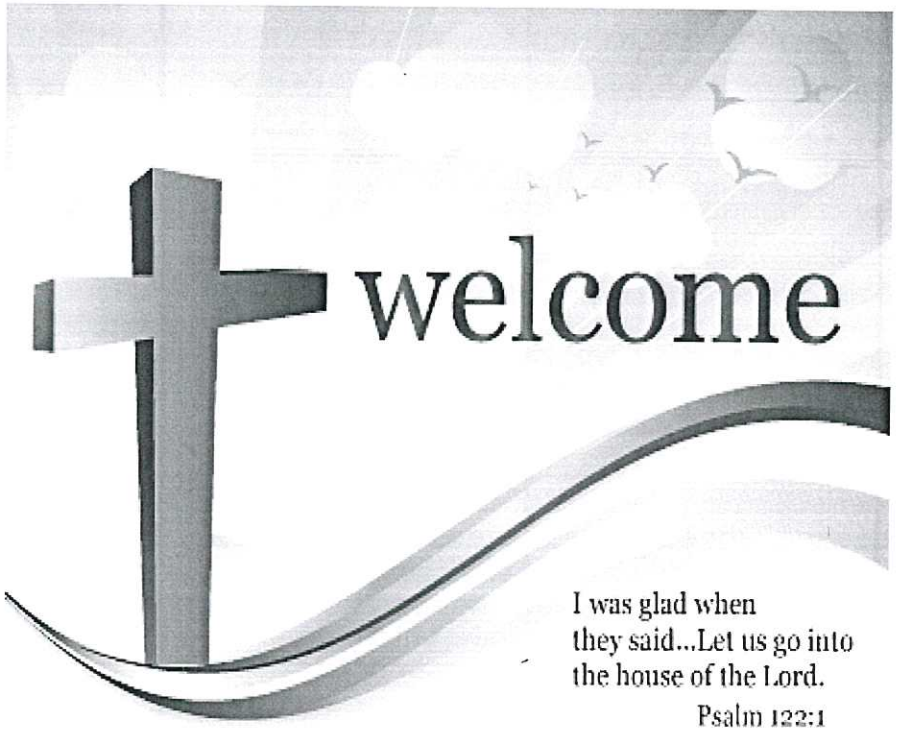

A Christ centered community
striving to make our faith active in love to all!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

226 E. Madison Street
Waterloo, WI 53594
920-478-2570
www.stpaulswaterloo.com
Pastors: Rev. Robert Moberg and Rev. T. Brent Walsworth

Welcome to our church today!

We welcome you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We invite all baptized Christians to partake in the body and blood of our Lord. If you are not comfortable communing at the rail, we have individual communion packets available in the Narthex. You may also come forward at the same time to receive a blessing.

Note: Please turn off your cell phones during the service, thanks!

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 22nd, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The order of service today is "Setting One" from the ELW (red) book in the pew racks in front of you. You will find it on pages 94-115 in the first section of the book.

Brief silence as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Ringing of bell

Stand

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS pg. 94

HYMN Yours, Lord, Is the Glory #849

GREETING pg. 98

PRAYER OF THE DAY pg. 102

P Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

THE WORD

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

[1]Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. [2a]And Joshua said to all the people,
[14]"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. [15]Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." [16]Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; [17]for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; [18]and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

Psalm: Psalm 34:15-22

[15]The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God's ears are open to their cry.
[16]**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,**
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.
[17]The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.
[18]**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted**
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.
[19]Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.
[20]**God will keep safe all their bones;**
not one of them shall be broken.
[21]Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
[22]O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

[10]Be strong in the Lord and in
the strength of his power. [11]Put
on the whole armor of God, so
that you may be able to stand
against the wiles of the
devil. [12]For our struggle is not
against enemies of blood and
flesh, but against the rulers,
against the authorities, against
the cosmic powers of this
present darkness, against the
spiritual forces of evil in the
heavenly places. [13]Therefore
take up the whole armor of
God, so that you may be able
to withstand on that evil day,
and having done everything, to
stand firm. [14]Stand therefore,
and fasten the belt of truth
around your waist, and put on
the breastplate of
righteousness. [15]As shoes for
your feet put on whatever will
make you ready to proclaim the
gospel of peace. [16]With all of
these, take the shield of faith,
with which you will be able to
quench all the flaming arrows
of the evil one. [17]Take the
helmet of salvation, and the
sword of the Spirit, which is the
word of God.

[18]Pray in the Spirit at all
times in every prayer and
supplication. To that end keep
alert and always persevere in
supplication for all the
saints. [19]Pray also for me, so
that when I speak, a message
may be given to me to make
known with boldness the
mystery of the gospel, [20]for
which I am an ambassador in
chains. Pray that I may declare
it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW #151 Alleluia**

Gospel: John 6:56-69

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P The Gospel of the Lord

[Jesus said,] 56"Those who eat
my flesh and drink my blood
abide in me, and I in them.
57Just as the living Father sent
me, and I live because of the
Father, so whoever eats me will
live because of me. 58This 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." 59He said
these things while he was
teaching in the synagogue at
Capernaum.

60When many of his disciples
heard it, they said, "This
teaching is difficult; who can
accept it?" 61But Jesus, being
aware that his disciples were
complaining about it, said to
them, "Does this offend
you? 62Then what if you were to
see the Son of Man ascending
to where he was before? 63It is
the spirit that gives life; the
flesh is useless. The words that
I have spoken to you are spirit
and life. 64But among you there
are some who do not believe."
For Jesus knew from the first
who were the ones that did not
believe, and who was the one
that would betray him. 65And he
said, "For this reason I have
told you that no one can come
to me unless it is granted by the
Father."

66Because of this many of his
disciples turned back and no
longer went about with
him. 67So Jesus asked the
twelve, "Do you also wish to go
away?" 68Simon Peter
answered him, "Lord, to whom
can we go? You have the
words of eternal life. 69We have
come to believe and know that
you are the Holy One of God."

C Praise to you, O Christ
Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN *Blessed Assurance* *#638*

APOSTLE'S CREED pg. 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
P Lord, in your mercy,
C Hear our prayer.

PASSING OF THE PEACE
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

OFFERING
OFFERTORY Give Thanks (insert in back cover of hymnal)
OFFERTORY PRAYER pg. 107

Holy Communion

GREAT THANKSGIVING pg. 107

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY pg. 153

LORD'S PRAYER pg. 112

COMMUNION pg. 112

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER pg. 114

SENDING

BLESSING pg. 114

HYMN *On Our Way Rejoicing* *#537*

DISMISSAL pg. 115

Announcements

Church Bible Study

Join us this summer for a gathering to enrich our worship life! Learn more about the Scriptures and gain insight and inspiration while achieving a more fulfilling relationship with God through our weekly classes. Each Wednesday this summer beginning July 7th from 6:30-7:30 P.M. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Beer & Bible Study

If coming to church for Bible study isn't your thing, join us for something more relaxed. This will be a participant-led Bible study with a chance to discuss whatever is on your mind. We hope you will join us to see what the Bible really has to say about all of your unanswered questions.
Thursday evenings from 5:30– 6:30 P.M. at Hubbleton Brewing Company in Waterloo.

Confirmation

Calling all Confirmation students. Those going into seventh & eighth grade and planning to attend, please email or contact the church office so we can order enough Books. We will begin classes on Wednesday September 8th, with worship at 6:30p.m.

CALENDAR

Sun 8/22	9:00 Communion Worship Service
Wed 8/25	6:30-7:30 Bible Study
Thurs 8/26	5:30-6:30 Beer and Bible Study
Sun 8/29	9:00 Communion Worship Service

Each Sunday's 9:00 AM services are live-streamed on Facebook: St. Paul Lutheran Church, ELCA
Archived services can be found on our YouTube Channel: St. Paul's Waterloo, WI; our Website: StPaulWaterloo.com and on Facebook.

Updated Procedure for coming forward for Communion.

Members coming forward should use hand sanitizer on the way up to the altar. You can also leave your blue communion card in the basket. Please stand at the altar. Our Pastors, and/or assistants will wear masks when giving out the sacraments. They will be careful not to touch the hands of those receiving. Members receiving the large wafer, should then carefully dip it into the wine, ensuring that they do not let their fingers touch the wine.
Those who wish to continue using the pre-packaged units and stay in their seats may do so. The pre-packaged ones will be available in the narthex.

Daily Bible Readings from: August 22-28

S	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 Psalm 34:15-22 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69
M	Psalm 119:97-104 Nehemiah 9:1-15 Ephesians 5:21-6:9
T	Psalm 119:97-104 Nehemiah 9:16-31 Ephesians 6:21-24
W	Psalm 119:97-104 Isaiah 33:10-16 John 15:16-25
Th	Psalm 15 Exodus 32:1-14 James 1:1-8
F	Psalm 15 Exodus 32:15-35 James 1:9-16
Sa	Psalm 15 Exodus 34:8-28 John 18:28-32