

**May 4, 2008**

**Confirmation Sunday**

**LITURGIST**

Pastor Carl Otto

**PREACHER**

Pastor William Brassow

**ORGANIST**

Prof. Rebecca Berg

**SERMON TEXT**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

[15] See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. [16] For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. [17] But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, [18] I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. [19] This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live [20] and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**THEME: THE LORD IS YOUR LIFE!**

**SERVICE NOTES**

**8:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

**6:30 p.m.**

ORDER OF SERVICE

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Special Service

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HYMNS

300, 596, (310, 599)

598, 596, 599

PSALM

8, page 67

ANTHEM

Adult Choir

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

Last Week: 679

Last Year: 814

**HOLY COMMUNION** will be celebrated this week in our 8:00 a.m. service (CC) and next week in both the 10:30 a.m. (CC) and Monday evening (IC) services. Members, please register by card; visitors, we ask that you please speak with one of our pastors before planning to participate.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** Our chancel flowers today are given with thanksgiving to God for our Youth Confirmands.

**HOSPITALIZED** St. Mary's: Virginia Aldrich.

**MEMORIALS** To the MLS Foundation: \$20 in memory of John Schultz, \$20 in memory of Fran (Cereske) Popp, and \$35 in memory of Daniel Boehm; to St. Paul's School Library: \$10 in memory of Fran (Cereske) Popp.

**CONFIRMATION** In the 10:30 a.m. service the following young people will become communicant members of our congregation through Confirmation: Austin Bauer, Haley Berka, Danielle Boehm, Todd Brassow, Samantha Carey, Kaitlyn Clauss, Jared Donaghy, Kelsi Frost, Evan Gennrich, Colby Hare, Marion Moffett, Luke Morrell, Maria Prange, and Jesyka Yon. *We also welcome the members of St. Paul's 1983 and 1958 Confirmation classes! We are happy that you could be with us on this Confirmation Day, and we pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to be with you.*

**CHILD OF GOD** Lilliana Margaret Webster, infant daughter of Nicole Webster, will become God's own child and heir of eternal life through the washing of Holy Baptism in the 8:00 a.m. service. May God bless this little one and keep her in her baptismal grace all the days of her life. Thanks be to God!

**ONE IN CHRIST** This weekend two wedding services were conducted at our church. Julie Morrell and Alan Renz were married on Friday, and Melanie Martin and Erick Hathaway were married on Saturday. May God help these couples keep the vows that were made before his altar, and may they always reflect their love for their Savior in their love for one another.

**ATTENTION!** *The appointment times for photo sessions for our new congregational pictorial directory are filling up fast!* Please take a moment after the service today to visit the appointment tables in the lower level to schedule your family's appointment.

**SPECIAL ASSEMBLY** We are invited to a special assembly at our school tomorrow, Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:45 a.m. in the school gymnasium. St. Paul's member, Mitch Towne, who has two children attending our school, will be returning to the Middle East for a third tour of duty this summer. He served in Desert Storm, and this will be his second tour of duty in the Iraq War. He will be showing slides to the students from his first Iraq tour at the assembly. We would also like to give Mitch and his family a show of support. Please plan to be in the gym by 10:30 a.m. tomorrow. (You are also encouraged to wear red, white and blue.)

**SPL CHAPEL** All members are invited to attend the monthly chapel service of our Lutheran Elementary School this Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:15 a.m. in the school gymnasium.

**COOKBOOKS** M.O.M.S. cookbooks can be picked up after church on Sunday in the church basement after the late service. Please call Jennifer Martin (799-8523) if you cannot pick up your copy then.

**OWLS** This Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at the Parish Center, with a potluck dinner beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. "Making Your Pharmacy User-Friendly" will be the theme of our presentation by a local pharmacist, Mr. Brian Cook. All seniors are welcome to attend. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

**FORWARD IN CHRIST** There are some copies of the February, March, and April issues of Forward In Christ. If you did not pick up a copy for your family, please do so today. They are located under the communion registration shelf in the narthex, to the left as you exit the center aisle.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Register now for the MLS Volunteer Weekend at the end of this month (Friday, May 30 and Saturday, May 31.) There are many projects to be completed, indoors and out. Technical skills are welcome; none are necessary. If you are interested, you can sign up at [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org), by email to [lss@mlsem.org](mailto:lss@mlsem.org), or call Laurie Starr at 793-1041, ext. 236.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION DAY** We have set aside Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, as a day to recognize St. Paul's 2008 high school graduates. We will include a special insert in our bulletin that Sunday, listing the names of the graduates and their schools. Parents, please call the office (799-3271) with your child's name, high school, and which college they plan to attend, by Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**This week at St. Paul's**

<i>Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup></i>	10:45 a.m.	Presentation at SPL by Mitch Towne
	6:00 p.m.	Lutheran Girl Pioneers
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Service
	8:00 p.m.	Board of Elders
<i>Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup></i>	8:15 a.m.	SPL Chapel Service
	7:00 p.m.	Boards of Ed/Ev/Stw/Tr
	8:00 p.m.	Church Council
<i>Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup></i>	10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.	Bible Classes
<i>Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup></i>	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
	6:15 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal <u>at church</u>
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Information Class
	1:30 p.m.	OWLS meeting
<i>Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup></i>	3:30 p.m.	Faculty Meeting

**OUR THANK-OFFERINGS**

	ST. PAUL'S MINISTRY	SYNOD MINISTRY	PIF
<b>Weekly Budget Offering 4/27/08</b>			
<b>Budget YTD Offerings YTD</b>			
<b>% YTD Budget</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>92%</b>

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST LESSON**

**ACTS 1:1-14**

[1] In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach [2] until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. [3] After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. [4] On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. [5] For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." [6] So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" [7] He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." [9] After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. [10] They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. [11] "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." [12] Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the

city. [13] When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. [14] They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

**EPISTLE LESSON**

**1 PETER 4:12-17; 5:6-11**

[12] Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. [13] But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. [14] If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. [15] If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. [16] However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. [17] For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ... [6] Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. [7] Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. [8] Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. [9] Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. [10] And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. [11] To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

**JOHN 17:1-11a**

[1] After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. [2] For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. [3] Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. [4] I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. [5] And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. [6] "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. [7] Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. [8] For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. [9] I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. [10] All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. [11] I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one.