

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)



6 p.m. Sat., August 28, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., August 29, 2021  
Sermon: *Wise and Understanding People!?*  
Text: *Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9*



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

## THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(6 p.m. Sat., August 28 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., August 29, 2021 )

### Servants of God's House

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenny Hsu **DCE Intern:** Grace Wolfgram

**Organists:** 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Mabel Huldeen

**Ushers:** Steve Segebart

**Missionaries:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,  
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

**Readers:** 6 p.m. Sat., Grace Wolfgram; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Dallas Schulz

**WELCOME!** We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

**AS WE GATHER** Today we consider what it means to be wise and understanding people of God. As we examine the words of encouragement from Moses to the Israelites in Deuteronomy 4, we will see that God's wise and understanding people are given God's Word and keep God's Word. God is near His people with His goodness and grace shown to us today in His Word and Sacraments.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond with the words written in **bold**.)

#### The Ringing of the Bells

#### The Wave of Fellowship

Hymn of Invocation "I Know My Faith Is Founded"  
(stand as you are able for the last verse)

LSB 587

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### Opening Sentences

P: Lord, the unfolding of Your words gives light.

**C: Your Word imparts understanding to the simple.**

P: Keep steady our steps according to Your promise,

**C: and let no iniquity gain dominion over us.**

P: Cast us not away from Your presence,

**C: and take not Your Holy Spirit from us.**

P: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation,

**C: and uphold us with a willing spirit.**

### Confession and Absolution

P: We are God's people. Through His Word, He has given us wisdom and understanding to follow His ways. Yet, there are times when we have chosen foolishness over wisdom, willful ignorance instead of understanding. Still, even now, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness.

*(Silence for reflection.)*

P: Heavenly Father,

**C: we have ignored Your Word. We have lived according to our own commands rather than Yours. We have chosen the wisdom of the world instead of Your perfect wisdom. Forgive us, create in us new hearts, and renew right spirits within us, so that we may follow where You are leading, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom and grace, sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our sins. Because of Jesus, the joy of our salvation is restored, and no iniquity can remain in dominion over us. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We have been cleansed of our sin. Amen.**

### Introit

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**C: and cleanse me from my sin!**

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**C: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

P: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**C: and renew a right spirit within me.**

P: Cast me not away from your presence,

**C: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

P: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

**C: and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
**C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
**C: and cleanse me from my sin!**

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.  
**C: Holy Spirit, You inspired the prophets, evangelists, and apostles to write the words of the Scriptures. Help us to cherish Your words so that they might be to our benefit for wisdom and understanding; for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9  
(Moses' encouragement to the Israelites)

<p><sup>1</sup>“And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.</p> <p><sup>2</sup>You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you...</p> <p><sup>6</sup>Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say,</p>	<p>‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ <sup>7</sup>For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?</p> <p><sup>8</sup>And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?</p> <p><sup>9</sup>“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.</p>
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L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.* (We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.)

**C: Fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.**

The Epistle Lesson Ephesians 6:10–20 (Put on the whole armor of God.)

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

<sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup>and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the

readiness given by the gospel of peace.

<sup>16</sup>In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup>and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup>praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

<sup>19</sup>and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia and Verse *Matthew 5:8*

**C: Alleluia. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Alleluia.**

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Mark 7:14–23 (What defiles a person?)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” <sup>16</sup>If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

<sup>17</sup>And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. <sup>18</sup>And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside

cannot defile him, <sup>19</sup>since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup>And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

<sup>21</sup>For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup>coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

The Apostles' Creed

(on the back cover of the hymnal)

(Please be seated)

The Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"

LSB 698

Sermon "Wise and Understanding People!?" Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

**St. Paul's members** have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

**To our guest:** Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card** in the box at the back of the church.

*Psalm 95:6-7a—O come, Let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.*

Offertory Hymn "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

LSB 707

(stand as you are able)

The Prayer of the Church

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all people who serve in various vocations, that they be given creativity, wisdom, understanding, discernment, and courage to follow where God is leading. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all those who celebrate good news of births and birthdays, anniversaries and Baptisms, success at work or school, and anything else that is worthy of praise, we thank You, Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all those who mourn the death of loved ones, we pray for comfort in the face of grief. Help them to grasp firmly our hope in the resurrection and eternal life with You. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all those who govern in this nation and throughout the world, that they lead and serve according to God's wisdom rather than the wisdom of the world. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all pastors, teachers, church planters, missionaries, musicians, and servants in Your Church, that God's Word rules their lives and overflows into the lives of others. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all who fight the assaults of Satan, that they find strength and protection in the whole armor of God. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*], that God would grant them healing according to His good and gracious will. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Avery Herfell, Evan Herfel, Cameron Paul, Lisa Sherman, Marcus Williams, Toby Wingert, Verlie Yockey, Erin Schweigert, Adelyn Zediker, Joyce Santi, John Ellickson, Ava Hannemann, Heath Nelson, Alex Strong, Chase Schweigert, Colby Christiansen, Donna Olson, and Jeremiah Sparr. Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

**C: and I will praise Thee without end.**

P: Lord, we commend all these things to Your infinite wisdom and guidance, knowing that You hear us.

**C: Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

#### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

The Closing Hymn    "Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds"                      LSB 867 1,3,5

### Silent Prayer

#### Postlude

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# Wise and Understanding People!?

**Text:** Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

**Date:** 8/29/2021

## **Verse to Remember:**

“Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’”  
Deuteronomy 4:6

## **Points to Ponder:**

Three Realities concerning a Wise and Understanding People:

1. Faith in God
2. More than just knowing them but also keeping them and doing them
3. Enjoying the fellowship with God