

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



10:45 a.m. Sunday, August 29, 2021
Sermon: "Wise and Understanding People!?"
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

10:45 a.m. Sunday, August 29, 2021

Servants of God's House Today:

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

Praise Team Accompanist: Doris Hill

Ushers: Tim Draube

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

Reader: Frank Tenuta

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 in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

The Invocation

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.

Opening Song **“How Great is Our God”**

Verse 1

The splendor of the King, Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

Chorus:

How great is our God! Sing with me, How great is our God!
And all will see How great, how great is our God!

Verse 2

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The God head, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. (chorus)

Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!

(Chorus 3 times)

(Words & music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash, 2004 worship together, Six Steps Music, used by permission, CCLI # 11440148 and 20162974)

Apostles’ Creed

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

¹“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.

²You 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...

⁶Keep 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.’ ⁷For 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?

⁸And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹“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.

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

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For 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. ¹³Therefore 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.

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

readiness given by the gospel of peace.

¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying 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,

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

(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

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

¹⁴And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵There 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.” ¹⁶If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁷And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸And 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, ¹⁹since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

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

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.

Children's Message

The Song of Instruction "Above All"

Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things,
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man; You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has
ever known,

Above all wealth and treasure of the earth; there's no way to measure what You're
worth.

Crucified and laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

(repeat)

Oh, You were crucified and laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

(Words & music by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche, Integrity's Hosanna! Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

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

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

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 “Amazing Love”

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit lives within me Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit lives within me Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.

You are my king
You are my king
Jesus, You are my king
Jesus, You are my king

Amazing love, how can it be? That you my King should die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true. It's my joy to honor you. In all I do, to honor You.
(Words & music by Billy Foote, EMI Christian Music Publishing, CCLI #11440148 and
20162974)

The Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song “Forever”

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King, His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things, His love endures forever
Sing Praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn, His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong, Forever God is with us – Forever,
Forever.

From the rising to the setting sun, His love endures forever
By the grace of God, we will carry on, His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong, Forever God is with us, Forever
Forever God is faithful Forever God is strong, Forever God is with us – Forever
Forever

(Words & music by Chris Tomlin, 2000 WorshipTogether.com Songs/Six Steps Music/ ASCAP, used by permission CCLI #114410148 and 20162974)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

Worship Services	Traditional (Sat., 6:00 p.m. & Sun., 8:15 a.m.) Contemporary Service (10:45 a.m.)
Sunday School:	9:30 a.m. (Starting Sept. 12)
Youth & Adult Bible Classes	9:30 a.m.
Pastor:	Rev. Kenneth Hsu
DCE Intern:	Grace Wolfgram
Christian Day School:	Preschool through Grade 5 (before and after school care)
Principal:	Mrs. Alyce Strong Davis
School Financial Consultant:	Mr. Lon Stuhr
Other Ministries for Children:	Vacation Bible School
Other Ministries for Youth:	Lutheran Youth Fellowship, Juniors in Fellowship Confirmation Program
Other Ministries for Adults:	Friends of Christ Fellowship Club Women's League, Women's Circles, Sewing Group Prayer Chain, Soup Kitchen Volunteer Church Library, Lamplighters Evangelism

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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