St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel and University Center
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20th, 2026

Divine Service Setting Four, Lutheran Service Book, page 203
Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

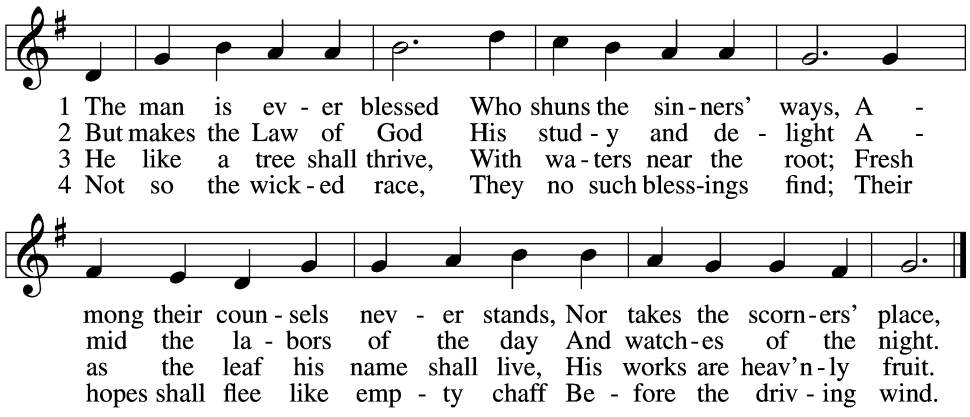
C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

705 The Man Is Ever Blessed



5 How will they bear to stand
Before the judgment seat
Where all the saints at Christ's right hand
In full assembly meet?

6 He knows and He approves
The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet
A dreadful overthrow.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie *LSB 204*

C **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

C **1 To God on high be glory**
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

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

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 55:6–9*

6 "Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 27:1–9; antiphon: v. 4a*

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom | shall I fear?*
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I | be afraid?

2 When evildoers assail me
to eat | up my flesh,*
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stum- | ble and fall.

3 Though an army encamp against me,
my heart | shall not fear;*
though war arise against me,
yet I will be | confident.

4 One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek | after:*
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his | temple.

5 For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of | trouble;*
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

6 And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*
I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

[7]Hear, O LORD, when I | cry aloud;*
be gracious to me and | answer me!
[8]You have said, | "Seek my face."*
My heart says to you,
"Your face, LORD, | do I seek."
[9]Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in | anger,*
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my sal- | vation!

Epistle *Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30*

[12]I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, [13]so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. [14]And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

[19]for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, [20]as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. [21]For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [22]If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. [23]I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. [24]But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. [25]Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, [26]so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

[27]Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, [28]and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. [29]For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, [30]engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

C **These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *Matthew 20:1–16*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[1][Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning
to hire laborers for his vineyard. [2]After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into
his vineyard. [3]And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, [4]and to
them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' [5]So they went. Going
out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. [6]And about the eleventh hour he went
out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' [7]They said to
him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' [8]And when evening
came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages,
beginning with the last, up to the first.' [9]And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of
them received a denarius. [10]Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but
each of them also received a denarius. [11]And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house,
[12]saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the
burden of the day and the scorching heat.' [13]But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no
wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? [14]Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give
to this last worker as I give to you. [15]Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or
do you begrudge my generosity?' [16]So the last will be first, and the first last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T **of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come
Verses 1-5 All
Verse 6 – Women
Verse 7 Men
Verses 8-10 All

5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad

And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

7 Let me not doubt, but truly see
Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"
No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name,
My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.

8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in
The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
The Law no peace can ever give,
No comfort and no blessing.

9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.

D 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessèd name we hallow.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 208*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;**
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

C **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,**
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

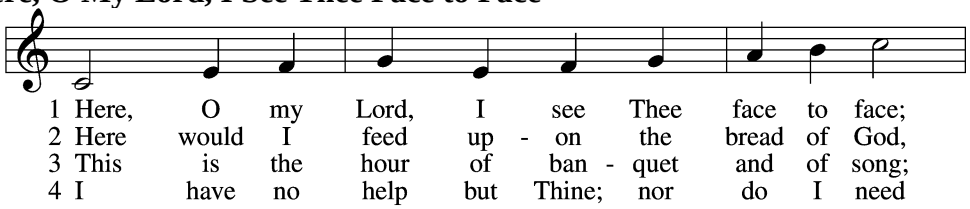
Sit

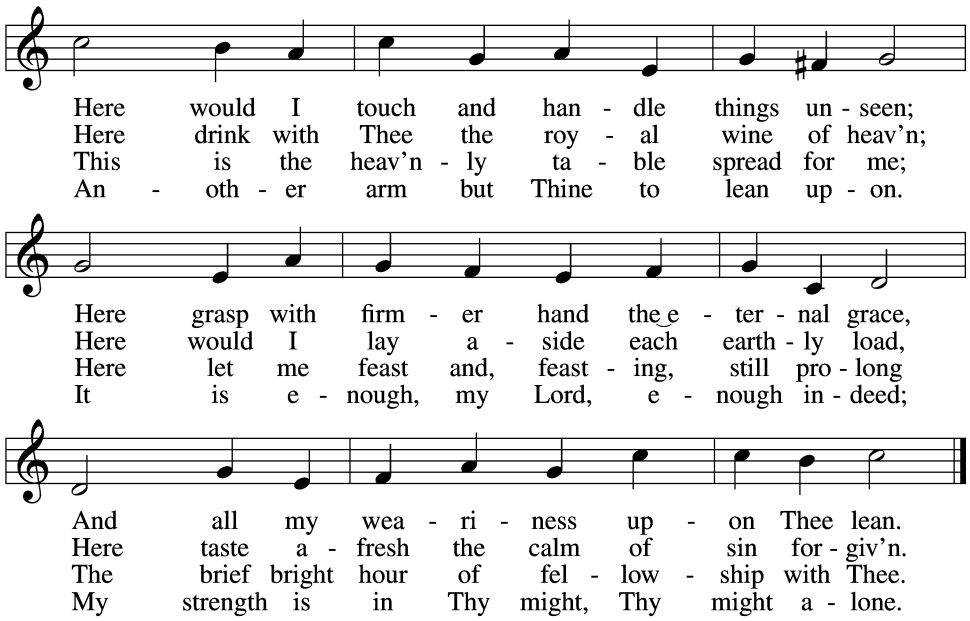
Distribution

We ordinarily offer the Lord's Supper only to those who are communicant members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or of congregations which are part of a church body which is in altar or pulpit fellowship with the LCMS. The Scriptures teach that Holy Communion is to be a confession of a common faith (1 Cor. 10:17, Acts 2:42) and that those who are unprepared may even do themselves spiritual harm (1 Cor. 11:23-32). We do not hereby presume to question another's faith in Christ, but hold this historic position out of love for God's Word and in care for souls. Inviting all Christians to Communion would imply a oneness which does not yet exist but for which we must all pray. Even as we try to respect the practices of other Christian denominations so we ask others to respect our practice. Those who would like to discuss this practice at more length may make an appointment with our pastor to do so.

If you are unable to receive Holy Communion, but wish to receive a blessing, please feel free to come forward. Please stand with your hands behind your back to indicate that you would like a blessing.

631 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face





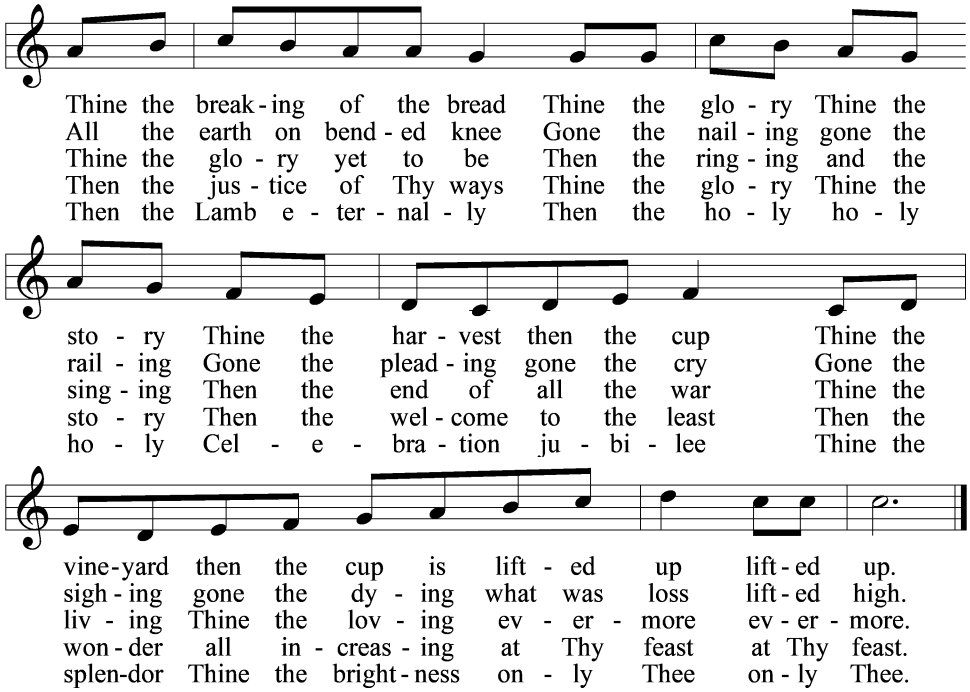
5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.
Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009
Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021
Text and tune: © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001899

745 In God, My Faithful God

Text: Veer schöne nye Geistlike Leder, before 1603, Lübeck; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Kurtzweilige teutsche Lieder, 1576, Nürnberg, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

C **1 O Lord, now let Your servant**
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory

Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Benedicamus *LSB 212*

A Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
C **Amen.**

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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In our prayers we pray for John Ireland and Amy Dickmander who are undergoing treatments for cancer.

Upcoming Events!

Instruction in the Small Catechism continues after Bible Study. If you are interested in membership in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Lutheran doctrine, or would like to review the Catechism this class is for you!

September 13 at 5:00 PM
Pork Tenderloin Run. Bring money. Meet at Chapel

September 20 at 6:30 PM

Game night at the Chapel.

October 4 at 2:30 PM
Luther Bowl XXVI, our annual flag football game and dinner. The game kicks off at Willow Creek Park at 2:30 PM followed by dinner at the Mons home.

October 10 at 9:00 AM
Dart Day. Gather at the chapel at 9:00 Am, throw and dart at the map and that's where we are going. Bring money for lunch.

October 11 at 6:30 PM
Monthly Game Night

October 18 at 1:00 PM
Gather at the Chapel for a trip to Wilson's Orchard.

October 23-24 – Women's Retreat at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca
Location: Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, 3271 Sandy Beach Rd NE, Solon, IA 52333

Join us as Sofia van Hattem, MA presents on "Pardon and Power for the Christian Life: The Role of Grace in Your Life."

Originally from Antwerp, Belgium, Sofia received her Master of Arts in Spiritual Care from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 2026. Growing up in a pastor's family, she has been involved in the life and ministry of the Church from an early age. She has worked in the areas of worship & music leadership, youth faith formation, spiritual care & mercy work, event coordination & hospitality, administrative & organizational support, and cross-cultural ministry engagement.
With a heart for people and Christian formation, Sofia enjoys walking alongside others in their faith and exploring how God's Word shapes our everyday lives and relationships. At this retreat, we will reflect on God's grace as Sofia draws on her thesis on the role of grace in the Christian life.

Schedule:
Friday, October 23
6:00 PM - Arrive and get settled.
7:00 PM - Opening prayer
7:15 PM - Session 1
9:00 PM - Social Time
???? PM - Bed

Saturday, October 24
8:00 AM - Breakfast
8:45 AM - Prayer
9:00 AM - Session 2
10:30 AM - Camp activities
12:00 PM - Lunch
1:00 PM - Session 3
3:00 PM - Retreat officially ends

Your cost: $10

Sing-up on the sheet in the Happy Hour Room.

General Information

Cry Room: If you are in need of a place to go with your children during the service, please feel free to use the bell tower. You will still be able to hear the service from there. Also, there is a changing station in the women's bathroom.

Bulletin Announcements: If you are in charge of an announcement for an event, please have it to the administrative assistant by 9:00 AM on the Thursday before the first Sunday you would like it to run. E-mail it to stpaulschapel.iowacity@gmail.com

Lost and Found! In the student center is a wicker storage cube which is the Chapel's Lost and Found. Any items left in the Chapel will be placed in this container. At the end of each month, the bin will be emptied and its contents will be donated to Good Will. All Chapelites are strongly encouraged to check the Lost and Found periodically so we don't donate something of yours!

Auto Debit Offering Option: If you would like to automate or update your existing auto-offering please visit https://stpaulic.com/giving/ or speak with Chapel Treasurer Samantha Zoske, treasurer.stpaul@gmail.com

Calendar

Calendar

20 Today	Divine Service at 9:00 AM Happy Hour Bible class Adult Instruction Game Night at 6:30 PM
23 Wednesday	NO Vespers at 7:00 PM NO Bible class at 7:30 PM
27 Sunday	Divine Service at 9:00 AM Happy Hour Bible class

Private absolution is available by appointment.

Contact Information:

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