

Thirteenth Sunday After
Pentecost
September 7th, 2025

Order of Service

<u>7:45 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
DSI (pg. 151)	DSI (pg. 151)
<u>Hymns</u>	<u>Hymns</u>
973, 825, 427	973, 825, 427, 425, 783, 729

Wednesday Hymns 973, 825

Sermon
"Follow Jesus"
Rev. Keith Knea

Scripture Readings
Deut. 30:15-20: See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, 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. 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, 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. This day I call the heavens and the 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 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.

Philemon 1-21: Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend

and fellow worker— also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier—and to the church that meets in your home: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord’s people. Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus— that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back forever— no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord. So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in

Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers. Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Luke 14:25-35: Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’ “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples. “Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

Serving in Worship Today
Elders *Charles Zwerk; Ben Bekemeier,
Dave Miller, Scott Wenzel*
Organist *Calista Daenzer*
Usher *Matt Buchinger; Jeff Mossner*

Altar Guild *Kay Buetow, Nicole Buetow,
Heather Love*

Wednesday
Elders *Jason Hecht*
Pianist. *Heiki Palm*
Usher *Mike Buchinger*

This week at St. Michael’s
Today Worship Service 7:45 a.m.
Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.
Communion 10:30 a.m.
Mon *World Relief Quilting*
PTL Meeting 6:30 p.m.
LLL 7 p.m.
Tue Elders 7 p.m.
Wed *School Chapel 10:10 a.m.*
Worship Service 7 p.m.
Next Sun. *Communion 7:45 a.m.*
Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Baptism: Levi James Stuart, son of Seth & Jenni (Herbolsheirer) Stuart will be baptized during late service.

Items for October Newsletter are needed to the church office by Sept. 15th.

Church Alarm Codes: We will be resetting the alarm codes for the church alarm, and need everyone who has a code currently to please contact the church office with your name and code number.

KidzMin & Bible Study resume today at 9:00 at school. Pastor Gillaspie will lead his Bible class there. We will look at today’s Gospel lesson.

New Membership Class: Today at 6:00 p.m. will be our first class. We will meet at church. This class covers the basic teachings of the Bible and

is for those who would like to become members of St. Michael's as well as any current members who would like to review. There is no cost or obligation; simply bring a pen or pencil.

LLL Meeting: Lutheran Laymen's League meets tomorrow night at 7:00. Beef stew will be served, and we will review and vote on the bylaws, so we encourage all members to attend.

Adult Choir starts this Tuesday, September 9th, at 7:00 in the church basement. New voices are always welcome!

Trip to Washington D.C.: Our 7th and 8th graders, along with parents and some of our teachers, will be leaving Thursday to visit our nation's capital. May God grant them safe travel and a great learning opportunity!

St. Michael's Youth Group is open to all 7th-12th Grade students. Our next event is going to be September 21 at 6:00 pm till 8:00pm to have an ultimate s'more night at Mrs. Hoeppner's house Bring a friend and some ideas of things you want to do this year. Where: 6700 E. Holland. If you don't have a 2025 permission slip signed yet, they are on the church website.

Orphan Grain Train School and Hygiene Kit Collection: Shopping lists are available in the marked envelopes on the bulletin board. Please leave donations on the shelves opposite the coat rack by the kitchen by September 28.

KIT Program: We're updating addresses for our members away at college or serving in the military so we can 'keep in touch' throughout the school year. Our students here at St. Michael's are so excited to send some really great projects that they make just for you! Please contact Jenni

Stuart at 989-284-1541 or
jmstuart2015@gmail.com.

Attendance

Sun. August 31st..... 265
Wed. September 3rd 65

Weekly Income: 8/24-8/30: \$18,341.13
Weekly Income includes: Home Purpose Envelopes, Miscellaneous Income, Gifts in Kind, IRA Donations, and Loose Plate.

Other News

The Lutheran Hour airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next Sunday:"It's All on God; It's All on Us". *Dr. Michael Zeigler*; A paradox doesn't make sense, mathematically. But it can be an accurate description of real-life experience. (Deuteronomy 1:31)

Prayers

Health

Larry Bauer; Dennis Bates; Heather Bierlein; Lucas Brown; Craig Compton; Don Duperon; Ron Frank; Hope Hecht; Jim Karst; Brenda MacKay; Norm Petzold; Larry Putman; Charles Rodammer; John Schemm; Bev Schemm; Pauline Scherzer

Thanksgiving

Birth of Koen Wesley Parrent.
Born September 2, 2025 to Eli & Melissa
(Schoenow) Parrent

Mission

Rev. Dr. Ross Shaver serves the Lord as a missionary through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the Dominican Republic. Ross works with mission churches in the area, mentors future pastors

in practice and theology, and assists in the formation of congregational leadership in conjunction with Concordia the Reformer Seminary.

Prayer of the Day

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.