



ST. PAUL-ZION DUAL PARISH

SEPTEMBER 2025

A Few Thoughts from Pastor Holle (& Luther)

*And (the penitent thief) said [from the cross], "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."
... and when (Jesus) finished [praying], one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray ..."*

Luke 23:42 & 11:1

"Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray ..." --- I say it often as we prepare to collectively pray the prayer Jesus taught (& still teaches) us to pray. We all know it; we pray it practically every Sunday; and I suspect some of us pray it several times each week. And although it is the prayer that Jesus taught us (via His disciples), I can't help but wonder if sometimes our lips simply go through the motions as we pray it without our brains (and hearts) being fully engaged. I'm speaking, of course, of the Lord's Prayer; the beautiful "Our Father" which came directly from the lips of our Savior. This "little" prayer is pretty short, and it is quite unlike the typical "impromptu" prayers that frequently come from the lips of modern Christians, so maybe we would do well to pause and think about all that is wrapped-up in this God-given prayer.

Years ago, Martin Luther penned a paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer designed to invite deeper reflection on each phrase (or petition) of this "simple" prayer. His paraphrase is consistent with his treatment of the Prayer in his Small Catechism, and so I offer it to you this month hoping that it may help all of us think on and ponder this beautiful prayer ... and to learn (re-learn) how it is we are to talk to God. The following then, by Luther:

... I admonish you, first of all, to lift up your hearts to God to pray with me the Lord's Prayer, as Christ our Lord has taught us and graciously promised to hear us.

That God, **our Father in heaven**, may look with mercy on us, His needy children on earth, and grant us grace so that **His holy name be hallowed** by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of His Word and the fervent love of our lives; that He would graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby His precious name is being blasphemed and profaned.

That **His kingdom may come** to us and expand; that all transgressors and they who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom be brought to know Jesus Christ, His Son, by faith, and that the number of Christians may be increased.

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That we may be strengthened by His Spirit **to do and to suffer His will**, both in life and in death, in good and in evil things, and always to break, slay, and sacrifice our own wills.

That He would also **give us our daily bread**, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us to trust that He will provide for all our needs.

That He would **forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors** so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before Him, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

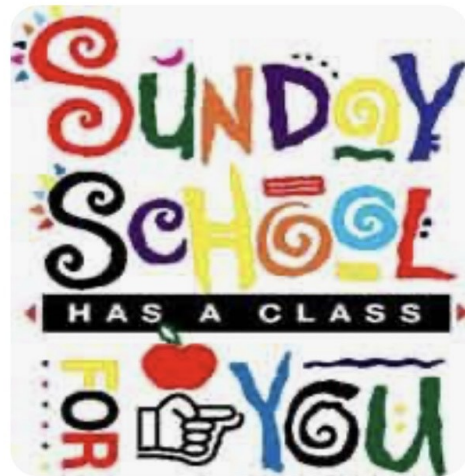
That He would **not lead us into temptation** but help us by His Spirit to subdue the flesh, to despise the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles.

And lastly, that He would **deliver us from all evil**, both of body and soul, now and forever.

All those who earnestly desire these things will say from their very hearts: **Amen**, trusting without any doubt that it is Yea and answered in heaven as Christ has promised: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you shall receive it, and you will [Mark 11:24].

Luther's Works, Vol. 53: Liturgy and Hymns (53:78-80)

In Christ,
Pastor Holle



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite all kids to come and join us for Sunday School!
Sunday School meets each Sunday morning at **9:15am at Zion**.
Sunday School at **St. Paul** starts after the service at **9:30am**.
The Zion Adult Bible Class meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15am.
Please come join us!!

Stewardship



Work and Keep

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” Genesis 2:15

Genesis chapters one and two are familiar to us. We know them best as the Creation Account. Chapter one is where we hear the familiar, “let there be...and there was” directives. Chapter two gives us the account of Adam (the man) being formed from the “Adamah” (the dust) and becoming a living being when he receives the breath of life in his nostrils. Because of this, it would be quite easy to simply lump these two chapters into the category of creation accounts.

But do not be too hasty in this! While these two chapters do faithfully relate to us the account of creation, they also give us the creation of the “office” of steward. The man, created in the image of God in Genesis 1 and formed from the dust in Genesis 2, is created for a distinct purpose. He is created to be a steward of the perfect and beautiful creation that the Lord has made! In fact, this is THE reason that man was made. He - and we - were created in the image of God to be stewards of God’s creation.

This purpose is spelled out in verse 15 of Genesis 2. The steward has one job, with two purposes. It is fitting that in the month that our nation marks Labor Day, we consider the task of steward. The first purpose of the job of steward is to work. The steward is the caretaker of the Garden. Being a steward is work! Before the fall into sin, this was not an onerous task. But it was an active thing.

Imagine being a farmer in the Garden of Eden! Work would be only harvest. No plowing. No planting. No cultivating. No weeding. The perfect garden that the Lord had made would simply produce automatically to provide for man, woman, and all living beings!

But there is a second task in verse fifteen. The word “keep” is not just a synonym for work. This second task is related to defending. This garden, holy by virtue of its being called into existence by a holy God, needed to be defended. Here is where the vocation of steward becomes priestly. The steward was to defend the perfect and holy garden from that which was unholy. Later in the Old Testament, this was the task of the priests in the tabernacle and temple. They were to defend with their lives the Holy of Holies. This too is the labor of stewardship. It is a labor that calls the steward to be willing to put the garden before life!

Stewardship was always work. It only got burdensome after the original steward, Adam, failed to defend the garden from the alien word of the serpent. But this was not a failure of harvest. It was a failure to defend the garden! As a result, all work that followed that failure became burdensome.

The steward failed but was never fired. That is why we have such an issue with stewardship to this day. We continue to live out a pre-fall vocation in a fallen world as failed stewards. That is why we in the church need to be reminded of our vocational call to be stewards. We so easily forget that this world is not ours to do with as we please. Nothing is ours. We are but stewards entrusted with managing the creation for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor.

It is a daunting task. But it is the one to which we have been called. We cannot do it on our own. Apart from the grace of God shared with us through Jesus, we would be burdened to the point of temporal and eternal death. But the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel! This Gospel connects us to the fertile garden of Christ’s Work on our behalf. Now we are stewards of that grace! The Holy Spirit works this in and through us today and every day.

This is the work of the church. It is also the work of the individual steward. The Lord has placed us in the “garden” with the same twofold purpose: work and keep! Enjoy your labor. For in the Lord, our labor is never in vain!

ST. PAUL DORCAS

Activities in August:

We have set the date for church clean-up, inside and out, for August 16th @ 8:30. For anyone and everyone that could make it that would be appreciated. Many hands make light work.

Like years in the past, we opted not to have an August monthly meeting. Instead we have a congregational picnic held in the church basement, hosted by the officers. Typically a potluck, where we bring a dish or two with drinks and tableware provided. We may have a quilt raffle made by Carolyn Schneider, or other raffle items. With lots of good food, fun, and fellowship. This year it will be Sunday, August 24th at 6:30. Please come, everyone's invited!!

This year we will be back at Maple Heights celebrating with a party for the residents, with 6 of them having August birthdays. We haven't gotten to do this since Covid. We're looking forward to getting back over there. We will provide cookies and ice cream a birthday gift bag, along with enjoying a sing-along while our President Sarah Kleopfer plays the keyboard. Everyone's welcome to join us, we will carpool from St. Paul or just meet there, Wednesday August 27th @ 2:00

See you in September:

Next meeting will be September 7th, Bible Study Leader will be Sharon Meyer and Hostess will be Karen Bauman.

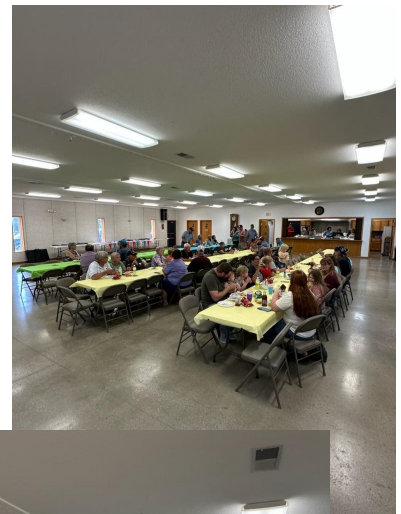
Altar committee will be Evan Brockhoff and Nancy Manche.

Secretary, Becky Meyer

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

Thank you for attending and helping with the Community Cookout! What a wonderful variety of cookies! Looking forward to next year!

Evangelism Committee





Northeast Kansas LWML Zone Gathering
Will continue with the theme from national convention.

Saturday Sept. 20, 2025

Growing in God's Grace



Zion Lutheran Church

613 S. First Street

Hiawatha

Registration at 9:00

(\$5 Registration Fee)

Salad Lunch to follow.

Gifts from the Heart:

Non-perishable foods for the Trinity Center

(Food Bank in Hiawatha)



ST. PAUL CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC



St. Paul will have their congregational picnic
on August 24th at 6:30pm
in the church basement.

Drink & Table Service will be provided.

Please bring a side dish or dessert (or 2) to share.
All members are invited! Please join us!

Please Update!

If you have a new phone number, address, or email address,
please make sure you send it to the office.

You can e-mail the office at office@NEKpartnership.org or call 785-742-3995.

*The office would also like the names and addresses
of any members who are at college. Thank You!*

ZION LUTHERAN WOMENS MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Zion Lutheran Church, Hiawatha, Kansas 66434

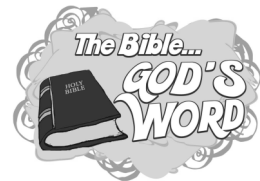
It was decided that we would not hold regular meetings during the months of June, July and August as we did last summer. Any urgent business that needs to be handled can be accomplished with a short meeting following worship services. The next regular meeting will be September 9, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

The new program year is beginning! Welcome Back Night is Tuesday, August 26. The girls request prayers for a safe return to their fall activities and give thanks to God for His VISION for the Troop. They're also thankful for the Charter's support and for a robust, passionate team of adult volunteers!

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Midweek Bible Study meets at 7:00pm on Wednesday nights
and will rotate between St. Paul and Zion. Please join us!



***Pastor Holle has a radio broadcast on KNZA
at approximately 10:05am on Sunday mornings.***

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Military: Spencer Ernst, Alexander Williams

College: Joey Meyer, Megan Brockhoff, Paige Stover, Gunner Smith.

Care Facilities & Shut-Ins: Carol Bauer, Gene Rice, Esther Krug, Doris Rice, Juanita Fritz.

Also in our prayers: David Davidson, Doug Barrett, Rachel Spann, Darlene Atland, Malcolm Gigstad, Tim Bianchi, Jill Kohlmeier, Danny Bauerle, Katie Fry, Jeanne Lowe, Wes Duesing, Aimee Hampl, Carl Mueller.

We Remember the blessed saints who now rest in the Lord (Donald Robidoux) and we pray for their families that they remember all who die in the Lord live with the Lord. (Romans 6:5)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 2-Journey Arnesen, Sept 2-Rebel Arnesen, Sept 4-Marge Shockley, Sept 5-Joann Davidson, Sept 5-Mike Dunaway, Sept 7-Marissa Lee, Sept 7-Myriah Lee, Sept 11-Darryl Hoppe, Sept 12-Dean Bailey, Sept 13-Danny Bauerle, Sept 14-Janis Krug, Sept 15-Doug Kleopfer, Sept 18-Jeff Brockhoff, Sept 20-Katie Doyle, Sept 21-Kim Priest, Sept 23-Jeremy Stover, Sept 27-Bill Priest, Sept 28-Selena Smith, Sept 29-Dwight Kruse, Sept 30-Brenda Rahe

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 1-Debbie & Andy Trent, Sept 30-Noel & Hillary Boye

SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER

(Please trade if you have a date conflict)

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

Sept 7th: Dennis & Cindy Manche

Sept 14th: Jeff & Leslie Brockhoff

Sept 21st: Steve & Nancy Manche

Sept 28th: Galen & Sharon Meyer

Altar Guild for September: Evan Brockhoff, Nancy Manche, Galen Meyer

ZION LUTHERAN

Sept 7th: **Elder**-Travis Hampl, **Acolyte**-Brady Killman, **Ushers**-Bob Freese & Larry Walter,

Greeters-Scott & Jessica Gigstad, **Sound System**-Bob & Virginia Freese

Sept 14th: **Elder**-Scott Gigstad, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Ushers**-David Middendorf & Kurt Killman,

Greeters-Hampl family, **Sound System**-David Middendorf

Sept 21st: **Elder**-Leon Wissmann, **Acolyte**-Brady Killman, **Ushers**-Tim Bianchi & Leon Wissmann,

Greeters-Tim & Jackie Bianchi, **Sound System**-Leon Wissmann

Sept 28th: **Elder**-Travis Hampl, **Acolyte**-Grace Hampl, **Ushers**-Bob Freese & Larry Walter,

Greeters-Bob & Virginia Freese, **Sound System**-Dwight Meyer

Altar Guild for September: Jackie Bianchi & Lela Middendorf

SEPTEMBER, 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day 	2 6:30 AHG Troop mtg.	3 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	4	5 Pastor Holle Day Off	6
7 12 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion St. Paul Dorcas	8	9 6:30 Zion LWML	10 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	11	12 Pastor Holle Day Off	13 AHG Troop Outdoor Day
14 13 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	15	16 6:30 AHG Troop mtg.	17 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	18	19 Pastor Holle Day Off	20 LWML Zone Gathering @Zion Lutheran
21 14 th Sunday after Trinity 9:15 Bible Study @Zion	22 Start of Fall Articles Due for Newsletter	23	24 7:00 Midweek Bible Study	25	26 Pastor Holle Day Off	27
28 15 th Sunday after Trinity Joint Dual Parish Voter's Meeting	29	30 6:30 AHG Troop 30 th Birthday Party and Priceless Patch				