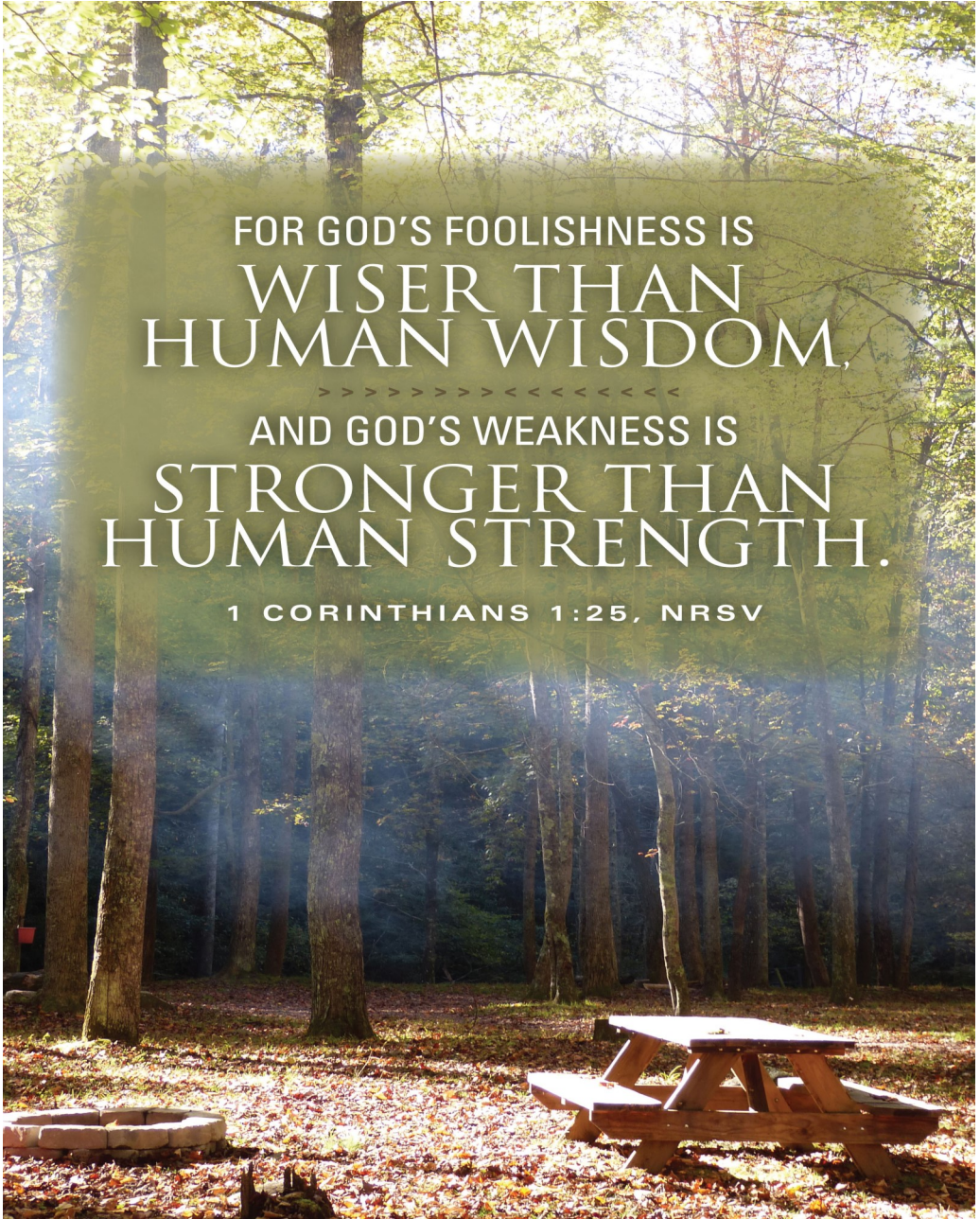


St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101
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FOR GOD'S FOOLISHNESS IS
WISER THAN
HUMAN WISDOM,

> > > > > > > < < < < < < <

AND GOD'S WEAKNESS IS
STRONGER THAN
HUMAN STRENGTH.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25, NRSV

10:45 a.m. Sunday, October 20, 2019
Sermon: "What's the Question?" Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- A Family to Whom You Belong -
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

The Third Sunday in Lent

10:45 a.m. Sunday, March 7, 2021

Servants of God's House Today:

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

Elders: Tim Draube **Praise Team Leader:** Doris Hill

Ushers: Mike Popken Team

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

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 The Church has what the world doesn't want: God's Law, which always accuses us sinners, and His Gospel, which allows for no boasting on our part. To this day, Jewish leaders teach that God will not demand what we cannot achieve. What a stumbling block, preaching a Messiah who becomes a sacrifice for our failings, both in our actions and our very nature. The polytheistic society of Paul's day and the secular one of ours both find the Law an encumbrance, preferring to judge by their own standards (or lack of them). What folly, our society believes, to preach a God who chooses people whom everyone knows to be weak. Today is a day for foolish preaching: Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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

St. Paul's School Choir "Praise Him" Words and music by Celeste Clydesdale

The Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Song "Here I am to Worship"

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You, hope of a life spent with You

Chorus: So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God
(And) You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to
me

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the Earth You created, all for love's sake became poor

(chorus)

And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross,
And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. (chorus twice)

(Words & music by Tim Hughes, 2000 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, used by
permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

Nicene Creed

First Lesson Exodus 20:1–17 (The Ten Commandments)

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness

against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the

(The foolish wisdom of God)

foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

Holy Gospel John 2:13–22

John 2:13–22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their

tables.

¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body.

the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²²When therefore he was raised from

Children's Message

The Song of Instruction "Make Me A Servant"

Make me a servant, humble and meek. Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the pray'r of my heart always be: Make me a servant, make me a servant.
Make me a servant today. (repeat)

(Music & words by Kelly Willard, Maranatha! Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

The Word "What's the Question?" Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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.

Mark 8:35-36—For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Offertory "Seek Ye First"

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you- Allelu, alleluia!
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you- Allelu, alleluia!
3. Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

(Words and music by Karen Lafferty, copyright 1972 Maranatha! Music, used by permission, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

The Prayer of the Church

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Douglas Williams, Kenny Sherman, Sr., Eric Sherman, Justice Sherman, Rose Attema, Vera Hanna, Brady McCormick, Karen Sherrill, Sherry Welte, Jennifer Robles, Brenda Robles, and Vickie O'Dell. Lord, in Your mercy.

C: hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 19:12–14*

P: When we use the Ten Commandments and other parts of the moral code as a mirror, we see that we have fallen from the perfection of God's good creation and His perfect Law.

Who can discern his errors?

C: Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

P: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

C: let them not have dominion over me!

P: Our gracious Lord has promised full and free forgiveness to all who call out to our heavenly Father in His name. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C: O God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Worse, in our fallen nature, we are sinful and unclean, and in the eyes of many we are weak, lowly people. But because You have graciously chosen us and worked faith in our hearts, we humbly ask for mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive, renew, and lead us in paths of righteousness.

P: The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. We preach Christ crucified, and for us the word of the cross is the power of God. 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

P: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

C: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

INVITATIONAL SONG ("Praise Team):

He said come to the table

Come join the sinners who have been redeemed

Take your place beside the Savior now

Sit down and be set free

Come to the table

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

READING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT CARD FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Praise Team will be served communion at this time.)

DISTRIBUTION “You Are”

Verse 1 When I can't find the words to say how much it hurts, You are the healing in my heart. When all that I can see are broken memories, You are the light that's in the dark.

(Chorus)

You are the song, You are the song I'm singin'.
You are the air, You are the air I breathe in.
You are the hope, You are the hope I'm needin'. Whoa, You are

Verse 2 And when my circumstance leaves me with empty hands, You're the provider of my needs. When all my dirtiness has left me helpless, You are the rain that washes me. **(Chorus)**

(Refrain)

If I had no voice, If I had no tongue, I would dance for You like the risin' sun.
And when that day comes and I see Your face, I will shout Your endless glorious praise. (Repeat 2x) **(Chorus)**

You are the song, You are the song I'm singin',
You are the air, You are the air I breathe in.
You are the hope, You are the hope I'm needin'. Whoa, You are

(Words & music by Rhyan Shirley, Jared Martin, Colton Dixon, Mike Busbee, arr. by Carol Tornquist. 2012 EMICMG Music, used by permission) CCLI #11440148 and 20162974

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song “Be The Center”

Jesus, be the center. Be my source be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

Chorus: Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.
Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision. Be my path, be my guide, Jesus. (chorus)

Jesus, be the center. Be my source by my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus. (chorus)

Jesus be the center , be my source, be my light, Jesus,

Be my source, be my light, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

(Words & music by Michael Frye, 1999 Vineyard Songs, used by permission, CCLI License 11440148 and 20162974)

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“What’s the Question?”

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

Date: 03/07/2021

Verse to Remember:

For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

1 Corinthians 1:25

Points to Ponder:

1. “Jesus is the answer,” but “What’s the question?”
2. Where is the one who is wise?
3. Where does the wisdom of this world lead us to?
4. It’s a sign! Are you looking for a sign? Can you trust it?
5. What is God’s answer?