

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ

Weekly Announcements

June 7, 2026



St. Paul's

OCONOMOWOC

splco.org

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 | 262-567-5001 | www.splco.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer lakeside worship services

Our Lakeside Summer worship services will run on Wednesdays through August 26th, at 6:30pm in our backyard by Fowler Lake. Please bring a chair! The sermon will be that of the weekend prior. If there is inclement weather, the worship service will be moved to the church nave.

Summer office hours

Our summer office hours are 8am to 2pm, Monday through Friday, through August 21st. Please make a note of it.

Couples' Date Night for Biblical Marriage Month

Marriage ministry is putting on a "Date Night" on June 15th, at 6pm, at Johnny Pizza's for Marriage Ministry Month. Come join other couples for a night of socialization and wonderful food! Starts at 6pm, food will be provided, couples are responsible for their drinks. Please RSVP to Anna at 262-337-1211. Can't wait to see you there!

Lutheran Witness

The Lutheran Witness magazine is available again this year. If you are currently on the list and receiving the magazine, please call the church office at 567-5001, or email Heather at heather@splco.org to let us know if you would like to continue your subscription or cancel it. If you would like to start receiving *The Lutheran Witness*, please call the church office so we can get you on the subscription list. The cost for the magazine is \$23.50 for 11 issues (the June/July issue is combined). The deadline for renewal or new subscriptions is June 26th.

Children's Christmas Market

This event will again be held in December for the students of St. Paul's. If you are a crafter, or can just help in any way, please contact Tammy Horton (262-607-1111) or Sue Lindemann (262-567-8985). We all have God-given talents and this is a great way to share with the students at our school. Thank you and God's blessings.

Radio broadcast announcers

Our radio broadcast over WTKM is a very important outreach for our congregation. We are looking for one or two volunteers who would be willing to join our team of announcers. If you are interested, please contact Jim Juneau at 262-434-0991. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Matthew 9:9 – “As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he rose and followed him.” When Jesus talks, Matthew listens and acts. Jesus says, “Follow me,” and Matthew

follows. What does this tell us about Matthew? It tells us that he believes in Jesus. Our actions flow out of our faith. Show me what a man does, and I’ll tell you what he really believes. Our sinful actions uncover our false beliefs and our need for repentance and a return to the forgiveness we find in Jesus. Our godly actions display our faith in Jesus. What kind of faith (or false belief) do your financial actions display? to be.

LWML News

Mission Minute Update: LWML SWD Mission grants (8) for the 2024-2026 biennium (\$236,548.28) have all been funded ahead of the Convention in June where new grants for 2026-2028 will be chosen. National LWML is on track as half of the 2025-2027 biennium grant total has also been paid. This is only possible with prayer and YOUR Mites. If you don’t have a Mite Box please pick one up in the narthex or Fellowship Hall, use the monthly Mite calendar for incentive and help in spreading the Gospel. Watch for the new SWD Mission grants in the August Epistle!

LWML SWD *Gifts from the Heart* ingathering items for the 80th LWML Convention are going to Orphan Grain Train and St. Paul’s Lord’s Cupboard. If you would like to donate you can find the list of items requested by the LWML bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please have items in the bin by Sunday, June 14th.

Requests from local senior apartments

The Breezewood Apartments in Hartland are requesting the following items for the residents’ garden club:

- Perennial flowers (please mark what they are if they are cuttings)
- Garden mix soil and mulch
- Herbs in pots
- 12-inch garden fencing
- 25-50 foot garden hose

Please contact Mary with any questions 414.333.3421 or mary@splco.org



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A RADIO BROADCAST?

Our radio broadcast over WTKM is a very important outreach for our congregation. Below are the dates open for 2026. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these Sundays. The cost is **\$135.00**. We praise God for this valuable community outreach.

May 3	Aug. 9	Nov. 22	Dec. 13
May 17	Aug. 23	Nov. 26	Dec. 20
Jun. 14	Oct. 18	Nov. 29	Dec. 27
Aug. 2	Oct. 25	Dec. 6	

If you are interested in sponsoring a Broadcast please fill out the bottom portion of this page and hand it into the church office or place it in the offering plate. Thank you. Any questions please call Heather in the church office 567-5001.

NAME _____

DATE- 1ST CHOICE _____ 2ND CHOICE _____

Please dedicate to (i.e. in memory of, wedding anniversary, to the Glory of God, in honor of...etc.)

Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
The Second Sunday after Pentecost: *Family in Faith*
June 7-14, 2026

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

The promise of God does not rest on human keeping of the Law, which only brings wrath, but on the righteousness of faith credited to the ungodly (Rom. 4:13–15). In calling Matthew the tax collector, Jesus visibly demonstrates this Gospel reality, showing that He *came "not to call the righteous, but sinners"* (Matt. 9:9, 13). As the Great Physician, He heals the spiritually dead with His grace rather than seeking those who believe they are healthy under the Law (Matt. 9:12; Hos. 6:1), *revealing that God "desires steadfast love and not sacrifice"* (Hos. 6:6; Matt. 9:13) apart from external works. Just as Abraham believed against all human hope in the God *"who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist"* (Rom. 4:17), sinners from all nations are justified entirely extra nos (outside of ourselves) by trusting in the One who *"was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification"* (Rom. 4:24–25). Welcomed by sheer mercy to recline at His table, we who have been justified by faith are now freed from the leverage of the Law to extend that same Christ-like forgiveness to our neighbors.

Order Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

Christ-Centered Theme: Righteousness imputed by faith apart from the Law.

Verse: Matthew 9:13 Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, and not sacrifice." For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Psalm: Psalm 119:65-72 and/or the appointed daily psalms for General Psalms in Psalm Schedule **LSB, p. 304**

Catechism: *The Lord's Prayer – Fifth Petition*

<p><i>The Lord's Prayer (Fifth Petition)</i> And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those trespass against us.</p>	<p>Preschool +</p>
<p><i>What does this mean?</i> We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.</p>	<p>2nd Grade +</p>

The Second Sunday after Pentecost: *Family in Faith*

Day	Bible Stories for Families with Young Children	Readings for Adults & Older Children	
Sun.	Jacob and Esau: Genesis 25, 27	Psalm 67, 46, 93	Mt. 9:9-13
Mon.	Jacob's Dream: Genesis 27-28	Psalm 51, 85, 47	Rm 7:1-25
Tue.	Jacobs' Family: Genesis 29-30	Psalm 54, 28, 99	Rm 8:1-39
Wed.	Esau Forgives Jacob: Genesis 31-33	Psalm 65, 125, 91	Rm 9:1-11:36
Thur.	Joseph and His Brothers: Genesis 37	Psalm 143, 81, 116	Rm 12:1-21
Fri.	Joseph's Troubles: Genesis 39	Psalm 86, 6, 19	Rm 13:1-14:23
Sat.	Sunday's Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:35-10:8	Psalm 122, 141, 91	Rm 15:1-16:27

Prayers: Collects for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at St. Paul's

Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In Our Prayers this Week

Those sick or hospitalized: MEMBERS – Diane Bleke–concussion; Ronna Pagenkopf–injured shoulder; George Menden; Roger Fisher; Art Schuck; John Wickersham; Joyce Anderson; Carol Lenz–hospice; Tammy Frazier–cancer; Ian McMillan; Joanne Kullman; Carol Fellin–cancer care; Jim Braatz; Ruth Polcha; Nancy Wolter; Don Meyer–cancer; Ann Duggan; Jim Duggan; Sally Eubanks; Dick Allen; Truman Seifert–acute myeloid leukemia; Carolyn Nagel–lung cancer; Don Schmitt; Karen Meyer–cancer; Stan Kuehl; Marian Faltersack; Michael Stollenwerk; Marilyn Runyard; Linda Leidel; Lucille Campbell–cancer treatment

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS – Those with cancer: Lisa (nee Rhodee) Liarokis–breast cancer; Bob Duchow (Dorothy's son); Sue Malone (Dan & Brenda Maynard's friend)–brain cancer; Janice Mulvaney Krueger–lung cancer; Della–Diana Radtke's sister; Dana; Curt Duchow (Dorothy's son)–mantle cell lymphoma; Rhonda–breast cancer; JoyAnn; Dan Faltersack–COPD; Jeff–stage four colon cancer; Missy (Sheila Ram's niece)–breast cancer; Dawn–lung cancer; Jim (Jackie Meyer's dad)

Other: Consuelo W. (friend of Bill & Kathy Granzin); Laurie–mental and physical health issues; Dennis & Sue Duffy (Erin Eberhardt's parents)–health issues; Gary Barborich; Dean Wilcox (Tina Gartzke's brother); Dorothy–Alzheimer's; Patricia Eberhardt (Chad's mom); Paul Fellin

Those serving in the military-deployed: Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Greu; Madelynn Matthews–Air Force; Trevor Thiel–Alaska (Fort JBER); Joe; Sam Duggan; Justin Michener; Zach Howard; Theresa; Phil Preston; Casey, Phil, Andy & Steve Koth; Luke; Jacob; Brian; Randy; Kyle; Jake; Jeff; Matt; Brad; Ben; Mike & Rob

Those serving God as missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and family; Daniel & Marie Lowitz (Dominican Republic); Dennis Denow (Thailand), Bob & Chris Prouty (Australia), Pastor Reinke (Deaf Ministry), Rev. Bud Palmer; Rev. Ted Krey, Deaconess Tirzah Krey in the Dominican Republic; all seminary students in the Dominican Republic, and all other pastors and missionaries in Latin America

Those in need: Our Shut-Ins; Sam—a young man struggling to make good choices; those struggling with addiction; Jennifer; Brian; David

Thanksgiving: Ralph (Judy Braatz’s brother) – cancer free

Lord’s Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of the Week: Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611

Looking forward to the Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 2026

Hymns: 580, 611 (617, 543, 609) 820

The Abundant Grace of Christ (Pastor Matthew Thompson)

At Sinai, the Lord gathers His people and declares His purpose: they will be His treasured possession. This calling rests not on Israel’s strength but on God’s initiative. He chooses, He speaks, He binds Himself to them by promise. Grace begins with God.

St. Paul announces that same divine initiative in Romans 5. Christ does not wait for the world to improve. “While we were still weak... while we were still sinners... Christ died for us.” His death justifies the ungodly; His resurrection brings life. Adam’s trespass spread death to all, but Christ’s obedience brings a superabundance of grace.

In Matthew 9 and 10, Jesus looks upon the crowds with compassion and sends His apostles to proclaim the nearness of the kingdom. Their mission will bring hardship, yet the Spirit of the Father will speak through them. The Church’s work is not self-driven but Christ given, carried out in His authority and sustained by His Spirit.

Christ died for the helpless. Christ rose for the condemned. Christ sends His Church to speak His mercy. And because His grace is greater than Adam’s fall, our hope is secure in Him. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

YOUNG ADULT INFORMATION

St. Paul's Young Adults (SPLCO YA)

We provide opportunities at St. Paul's for young adults (18 - 30) to be together in community and build one another up.

Upcoming SPLCO YA Events

- Summer Book Series: Spirituality of the Cross by Gene Veith (6:30pm @ SPLCO)
06/18 – Chapter 3 – “The Theology of the Cross: The Hiddenness of God” (pages 69-86)
07/09 – Chapter 4 08/18 – Chapter 6
07/30 – Chapter 5



Just because the school year is ending, doesn't mean Sunday School is over. We are keeping Sunday School going during the summer! The kids will be meeting as one big group.

Dates: June 7th through August 9th

Who: 4k (potty-trained) through 6th grade

When: Sunday mornings starting with the Adult Bible study until 10:15 am
Please sign up for Summer Sunday school through the QR code or email
amber.butler@splco.org





YOU ARE INVITED TO A

Retirement Party

HONORING

Margie Hertneky

Sunday, June 7 at Noon

**Please bring a favorite dish to pass
as part of our potluck meal.**

A card basket will be available and those who wish may
include a monetary gift as a token of appreciation.

Cards may also be dropped off in the office

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
210 E. Pleasant street
Oconomowoc WI



WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY June 9	Board of Operations' Meeting	Room 201	5:30 pm
WEDNESDAY June 10	Summer Lakeside Worship W.O.W.: Lutheran Basics	Backyard Room 219	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
THURSDAY June 11	Praise Team Rehearsal	Church	6:30 pm
SATURDAY June 13	Journeyman Divine Worship	Maxim's Church	7:30 am 5:00 pm
SUNDAY June 14	Divine Worship Summer Sunday School Life Application Bible Study Divine Worship Higher Things Bible Study	Church Meet in F.H. Fellowship Hall Church Fellowship Hall	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 7:00 pm

BIBLE STUDIES

Life Application Bible Study

Sunday: 9:15 am – Fellowship Hall
262-567-5001

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:15 am - Gym
Where Did the World Come From?
Genesis 1-3:15
Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15am

Women of Joy

Saturday (1st & 3rd) - 8:00 am
Whelan's

Journeyman

Saturday (2nd & 4th) - 7:30 am
Maxim's

NEXT WEEKEND

	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Readings	Exodus 19:2-8	Romans 5:6-15	Matthew 9:35-10:20
Altar Guild	Michelle Wilson	Megan Miller	Karen Dentice
Elders	Jim Juneau	Arno Kirchenwitz	Jerad Luedtke
Greeters	Mark & Sue Baganz	Duane & Sharon Peterson Bruce & Mary Bojko	Tom Miller
Live-Stream	N/A	Hertneky	N/A
Radio	N/A	Tom Krenzke	N/A
Ushering Team	Gary Flanagan	Dan Friedrich	Mike Neff

JUNE 14, 2026

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Pastor: Matthew Thompson

Theme: *The Abundant Grace of Christ*

5pm & 8am Worship

LSB, Divine Service, Setting 4, pg. 203

10:30am Worship

Special Order

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor
Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music
Jill George, Principal

Rev. Jason Schockman, Associate Pastor
Christine Flores, ECC Director

Summer Office Hours: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm (Monday-Friday)



St. Paul's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament: Hosea 5:15–6:6

I will return again to my place,
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face,
and in their distress earnestly seek me.
"Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.
After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth."
What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.
Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Epistle: Romans 4:13–25

The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made

you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:9–13

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Receiving and giving the love and hope of Christ



Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Special services during Advent, Lent & Summer

210 E. Pleasant St., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

262-567-5001

www.splco.org

June 7, 2026

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, School, & Early Childhood Center

- † Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate.
- † *As the prelude begins, worshipers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare for worship.*

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome! We're delighted that you've joined us for worship.

If you have questions, or would like more information about St. Paul's, a greeter, elder, or pastor will be happy to help you.

Please fill out an attendance card, located on the pew in front of you, and place it in the offering plate.

We welcome young children to the service. Try sitting closer to the front by a side aisle. The worship service is simulcast downstairs in our Fellowship Hall for your convenience.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is not a private meal, but a body-and-soul communion with Christ and His body, the Church. In keeping with the Lord's instruction (cf. 1 Corinthians 11.17-34) and with the common historical practice of the church, St. Paul's welcomes only those who are in full confessional agreement to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If you hold a confession differing from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or are not yet confirmed in our confession of faith, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing (Please indicate by folding your hands over your heart.). If you are physically unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you and give you communion. Those communing should mark this on the attendance card. If you have questions, our pastors will be pleased to speak with you.

Distribution and Communion Wine

Please place open hands out to receive the Body of Christ and also to indicate whether you are receiving the Blood of Christ from the common cup or the individual cup. The wine glasses in the center of each tray contain **one drop** of communion wine. The glasses that contain more wine are dark in color.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

5:00 pm – 67 Wed: 32
 8:00 am – 164 **Total: 393**
 10:30 am – 130

Scan the QR code and give electronically. This is a safe and easy way to offer your gifts to God.



THOSE SERVING THIS WEEKEND

	5pm	8am	10:30am
Liturgist	Ps. Thompson	Ps. Thompson	Ps. Thompson
Preacher	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman	Ps. Schockman
Musicians	Allison Mackie	Allison Mackie	Praise Team
Altar Guild	Jackie Smith	Cindy Frederickson	Wendy Tesch
Elders	Pat Smith	Matt Dinnauer	Erik Benes
Greeters	Larry & Bonnie Vasatko	Chris & Pam Kroupa Dona Thurow Judy Mueller	Anne Fait
Live Stream	N/A	Prockl	N/A
Radio	N/A	Jim Juneau	N/A
Ushering Team	Dan Maynard	Joel Tesch	Erik Benes

Radio Broadcast: Sponsored by Judy Mueller in loving memory of her husband, Bert

ST. PAUL'S MEDIA

- † **Radio: LIVE Sunday at 8am on WTKM (104.9 FM)**
- † **YouTube: LIVE Sundays at 8am (stpaulsev.lutheranchurch7279)**
- † **Web: Anytime at www.splco.org or YouTube**

DIVINE SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book

Setting 4, pg. 203

Greeting

Hymn of Invocation **580**

Confession & Absolution **203**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Kyrie **204**

Gloria in Excelsis **204**

Hosea 5:15-6:6

Romans 4:13-25

Alleluia and Verse **205**

Matthew 9:9-13

Nicene Creed **206**

Hymn of the Day **611**

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Distribution Hymns

+ 617, 543, 609

Nunc Dimittis **211**

Post-Communion Collect **212**

Benediction **212**

Closing Hymn **820**

Announcements

Sermon Outline: *Family in Faith*

by Rev. Jason A. Schockman, Associate Pastor
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The Second Sunday after Pentecost
7 June, A.D. 2026
Hos 5.15-6.6; Rm 4.13-25; Mt 9.9-13

What contrast does the sermon draw between how we achieve things in daily life and how we receive salvation?

What promise did God make to Abraham, and what was required of Abraham to fulfill it?

Why does Pastor insist that even Abraham's believing was not his own "work"? Where did his faith come from?

According to Paul, why was Abraham's story written down for us?

How does the sermon define the "Israel" of the New Testament, and why does this matter for interpreting passages like "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem"?

What problems arise when people treat faith as something they must do—e.g., "make Jesus your Lord" or "commit yourself enough"?

How do Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord's Supper illustrate that faith is God's gift rather than our work?

If faith is a gift, why are not all who hear the Gospel saved? Whose fault is unbelief?

What kinds of life circumstances tempt us to doubt God's promise, and where does the sermon point us for certainty when doubts arise?