

Oct 1
2023

9:30am
SUNDAY



Real Love

Pastor Marc Castro Preaching
Romans 12:3-13

WORSHIP SERVICE
St. Paul's Evangelical Church
9801 Olive Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63141
stpauls@stpaulsefree.org
314-993-0015
www.stpaulsefree.org

PRELUDE

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

Cruger, setting by Blersch

WELCOME

Rejoice

Kensrue, Townend

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

INVOCATION

Sovereign Over Us

Keyes

CORPORATE PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

God Is Our Refuge and Strength

Pote

(Carter Maier, David Smith, trumpets)

DOXOLOGY

INTRODUCTION OF PASTORAL CANDIDATE MARC CASTRO

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER OF DEPENDENCE

A – Abide

Lord, your word says that we are nothing without you, but when we abide in you we will bear much fruit! So we confess our total dependence on your Holy Spirit to guide our congregation in this season.

Lord, you say that when we trust in you with all our heart, leaning not on our own understanding, but acknowledging you in all our ways, you promise to make our paths straight! So we trust in your ability to completely guide us. We confess that we don't always know

what's best, but we rest in Your Perfect Plan as you are our Perfect Guide.

I – In Pursuit

Lord, thank you for first loving us, so we can love each other. Fill us with a deep realization of your love, a love that is not based on our own merits, but solely on your grace. Help us to pursue each other in that same gracious way so we become the one family you designed us to be, ready to hear your voice.

Lord, you promised that when we come together with all the saints we will be able to comprehend how wide, long, high, and deep your love towards us is.

So we come to you together today as one body, trusting in you to speak to us once again. Show us your loving ways, so together we can discern your loving will.

M – Mission

Lord, your word tells us that all men will know we are your disciples by the love we have for each other. We pray that you would make our body of believers a hotbed of your love that would pour out into our streets and neighborhoods and city.

Lord, you told Jonah that you had great pity on the large city of Nineveh. We worship you as the Compassionate God who loves St. Louis and its many diverse people. Lead us into your compassion for our city. Direct our paths in reaching out to her and Glorify your Name in all you do through us as your workmanship.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:3-13

SERMON

Pastor Marc Castro

Real Love

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

#575

(Carter Maier, David Smith, trumpets)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

PRAYER CHAPEL

Jeff and Christy Drake

To Worship at Home:

By Phone: dial 314-627-6338, enter code 63141, followed by the “#” sign

By Facebook: search for St. Paul's Evangelical Church

By YouTube: search for St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church STL

THIS WEEK AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday	Worship and Trial Sermon 9:30 a.m. vote following Reception 11:00 a.m., Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
Monday	Church Office Closed , Missions Team 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Quilters 9:30 a.m., Prayer and Care Call 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
Thursday	Praise Ringers 6:00 p.m., Chorale 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Women's Retreat 9:00 a.m.
Sunday	Worship with Communion 9:30 a.m.

Fond Farewell to Jamie Stull

Thank you for serving St. Paul's for the last seven years with your inspiring voice, passionate prayers, and so much behind-the-scenes work. We will miss you and wish you the very best in your future.

There's Still Time to Sign up for Small Groups

If you want to join a small group or form one of your own there are sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center and a study booklet on Ephesians.

Office Hours Have Changed to Tuesday through Friday

The church office will be closed on Mondays from now on. If you need access to the building on a Monday, you will need to make prior arrangements with the office.

Last Day to Register for the Women's Retreat October 7, 9:00 a.m.

The theme will be "Healing Hearts" for those who wish to make more time for God in their lives. Breakfast and Lunch are provided as well as activities. Join us for these things as well as prayer, hymns and worship songs.

Yarnworks Thursday October 12, 1:00 p.m.

This month our crafters will meet at the home of Mary Louise Serdy, 13275 Windygate Ln. 63146. All are welcome to come knit or crochet items, and pray over them for those in need. Seasoned crafters, we'll put you to work. Beginners, we are here to help you learn.

September 2023 (PRELIMINARY) FINANCIAL UPDATE

Giving from Members/Attendees

July Receipts:	\$43,473	Year-to-Date Receipts:	\$433,230
July Expenses:	\$50,381	Year-to-Date Expenses:	\$511,451
Difference	(short) -\$6,908	(Short)	-\$78,221
Needed to Support the Monthly Budget			\$61,884

Intercessory Prayer List

Please call the church office to place a prayer request on our list. Prayers will remain on the list for one month unless you call and request an extension or update.

- **Abby**, young friend of Sue Jackson and Barbara van Dyk; pray her three-month visit to family in Peru can help her overcome addiction and depression.
- **Tim Bensing**, back in St. Louis. Pray for continued healing and rehabilitation.
- **Bob Binns**, speedy recovery from hospitalization for head injury, For daughter Cindy and her husband Allan to avoid having to make emergency travel plans.
- **Carol Black**, the Schnellbachers' friend continuing chemo for blood disorder.
- **Bobbie Blackmer**, prayers for Walter Gummersheimer's friend and for her family.
- **Briana**, a young mother of a one-year-old and Joyce Sabine's neighbor, was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. For miraculous healing.
- **Marlene Eschenbrenner**, hospitalized with pneumonia at Mercy. For healing
- **Walter Gummersheimer**, Moved to rehab facility. Speedy recovery from a fall.
- **Heather**, Janet Rolle's co-worker, for success of breast reconstruction surgery.
- **Barbara Helms**, Mary Smith's cousin, being treated with a new strain of chemo. For minimal side effects, no organ failure, and success in dealing with cancer.
- **Matthew Jepsen**, cancer has returned causing severe pain, now on hospice.
- **Laura**, Susan Pollmann's sister, diagnosed with colo-rectal cancer, for strength and peace as she prepares for radiation and chemo treatments.
- **Cara McHaffie**, Rick Marsh's coworker; for successful surgery and quick healing.
- **Tom Milward**, diagnosed with leukemia and is taking treatment. For healing.
- **Nancy Mueller**, recovering from a stroke at home; successful rehabilitation.
- **Kathy Ryan**, for good results of MRI and CT scan.
- **Joyce Sabine**, healing, and good pain management after falling, dislocating her right shoulder and cracking several ribs.
- **Sheila**, Susan Pollmann's friend with an aggressive form of breast cancer. For patience and peace as she awaits for biopsy results and doctors' wisdom.
- **Jan Smith**, continuing shoulder rehab at home.
- **Warren Stulac**, 18-year-old friend of the Thomases with recurring leukemia after a two-year remission. For healing and comfort.
- **Mark Swanson**, Having kidney issues, also, God's help with marriage difficulties.
- **Family of Randy Flowers**, David Oliver's nephew who died September 22.
- **Missions: Mark and Mary Esther Penner, JSL:** Please pray for the team translating the Bible into Japanese Sign Language. The First Corinthians team is hoping to complete revisions and move closer to final recording. Pastor Masumoto in Japan needs prayer for healing of his shoulders from the repetitive strain injury that often plagues those who do sign language translation work. Pray for the staff who are trying to complete the enormous preparations needed for an app update that is set to launch in early October. Thanks for the Christian Japanese company assisting with the new app. And pray for new people needed to participate in community comprehension checks for First Corinthians and Joshua.

Biography of Pastor Marc Castro

Pastor Marc grew up in the Los Angeles area of California. He completed his Master of Divinity at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena Ca in 2012. Marc met his wife Andrea also in 2012. Andrea is from Des Moines, Iowa, so they got married in Des Moines in May 2013. They moved to Minnesota where Marc would pastor his first church. Marc has been a pastor for 10 years. He was an associate pastor in Albert Lea, and a family and staff pastor in Lakeville, Minnesota. He most recently was a lead pastor in Norwalk, Iowa. In these roles, Marc gained experience leading in various areas (family ministry, small groups, missions, preaching and teaching, etc.).

Marc and his wife Andrea just had their 10-year wedding anniversary and went on a Mediterranean cruise to celebrate. They have two beautiful daughter Joelle (6) and Margot (4). Marc and his family enjoy going to parks and zoos together and hosting people in their home. His daughters also are involved in dance, soft ball, and gymnastics.

