

Service of Dedication for the Spark Building Project

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Sunday, September 20, 2015
9:45 a.m.

Gathering Music

Nick Klemetson

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Verse 1

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven
Joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praises everlasting ring!

Verse 2

God be praised for grace and favor
To our forebears in distress.
God be praised, the same forever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia
Glorious is God's faithfulness!

Verse 3

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
Blows the wind and it is gone.
But, as mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the great eternal One!

Verse 4

Angels sing in adoration,
In God's presence face-to-face
Sun and moon and all creation
All who dwell in time and space
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Sisters and brothers: With gratitude for the building in which we now stand, we are gathered to dedicate it to serve almighty God and to build up of the body of Christ. From this day forward let it be a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the gospel through word and sacrament, and a place for bringing life and hope to all.

Peace be to this house, and to all who enter here. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Most High God, whom the heavens cannot contain, we give you thanks for the gifts of those who have built this place to your glory. We praise you for those—even those yet unborn-- who will enter this space and encounter you in mercy and majesty. We pray that all who seek you here may find you and be filled with joy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Partners in the Spark project

History of the Project	Mandy Keith and Don Meyer
Duane Svoboda	AHTS architects
Richard Carlson	First National Bank
Dan Keagle	Peters' Construction
Charles Infelt	Mayor of Waverly

Cherub Choir: “Sanctuary” by Thompson and Scruggs.

Directed by Karen Dickman, assisted by Drew and Marisa Schneider, Noah and Sam Solheim.

Partners in Witness and Mission

Dr. Darrel Colson	President of Wartburg College
Pastor Dennis Bauer	Lutheran Services of Iowa
Clark Baldwin	Director of Camp EWALU
JoAnn Headington, board member	Bartels' Lutheran Retirement Community

Blessings from former Pastors

Pastor Durwood Buchheim, Pastor Dennis Dickman, Pastor George Hanusa, Pastor David Solberg, Pastor Larry Trachte, and Pastor Glen Wheeler.

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

The vines were planted, seeds were sown	Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares
They grew in your good pleasure.	We lift in prayer before you.
What once was common, daily food	Lord, by your grace now come to us,
Becomes a holy treasure.	As humbly we adore you.

Prayer of Dedication

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts. By your holy wisdom all things have been made to reflect your glory, for the sustenance of life, and for the use and delight of your living creatures. Send your blessing upon us and upon this space and upon all that adorns it. Fill us with your Spirit as we set apart all to your praise and honor.

May warmth and welcome fill this place. May it be a home for the community and a haven for the stranger; a safe place for sorrow and for tears, for prayer and for intercession, for dance and for song, for inquiry and learning, and for play and for wonder.

- You who ever gather and ever send, inspire all who enter this space to depart from it emboldened for acts of service, justice and mercy.
We ask your blessing, Lord.
- You who are praised by infants and children, bless and sanctify musical instruments given for this space that they may lead in loud praise and quiet contemplation.
We ask your blessing, Lord.
- You who provide manna in the wilderness, bless places of food among us that through them we welcome the stranger, the hungry and thirsting in your name.
We ask your blessing, Lord.
- You who fill our world with order and beauty, bless the work of artists' hands in this place and open our eyes to the splendor of your love.
We ask your blessing, Lord.
- You who call us and equip us for ventures unknown, unleash your Holy Spirit and give birth in us new ways of faithfulness amid change and challenge.
We ask your blessing, Lord.

Pour out the abundance of your blessing on us and on this place, which we dedicate to your glory and honor and to the service of all; in the name of the Father † and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit †. **Amen.**

Blessing

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: Let All Things Now Living

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| <p>1 Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.</p> | <p>2 God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!</p> |
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SPARK PROJECT—A SHORT OVERVIEW

The discussion for expanding facilities St. Paul's Lutheran Church began in 2007. Leadership recognized that St. Paul's needed to move forward in the growing and vibrant community of Waverly. In addition, for many years, many saw the benefits of combining church and school ministries under one roof. Following the 2008 flood, the congregation purchased Second Street and also flood-damaged adjacent Faith United Church of Christ for possible expansion. In 2012, the congregation authorized a feasibility study to determine support for preliminary plans. The initial "wish list" project of over \$7 million did not find support in the feasibility study. However, support did materialize for a redesigned project in the \$3.9 million range. The congregation authorized a capital campaign for 2013 and for construction to proceed with groundbreaking in June of 2014.

The original Spark committee from 2011 included Mandy Keith as chair; John Wuertz, Brent Steere, Jean Buckingham, Hank Bagelmann, Josie Beckstrom, Don Meyer, Jennifer Sassman, Russ Jerome, Jerry Elsamiller, Alan Johnson, Dorothy Bahlmann and Ron Zelle. Rod Drenkow chaired the financial management team, Linda Moeller communications and Barbara Zemke, coordinator of prayers for discernment and guidance

Presidents of the congregation in the various stages of Spark: Hank Bagelmann (2007-08), Rod Drenkow (08-09), Karen Thalacker (09-10), Ron Matthias (10-11), Jane Juchems (11-12), Dan Black (12-13), Ron Zelle (13-14) Bill Hamm (14-15), and Abigail Jerome (15-16)

Soli Deo Gloria

- For the Spirit-inspired guidance, prayers, faith and resolve behind the SPARK effort.
- For ongoing generosity in commitments to the capital campaign.
- For staff at school and church for patience during the trying months of noise and disruption.
- For the Yamaha Disklavier for new chapel and music room, a gift of Keith Schuldt in loving memory of Joy Schuldt
- For the Martin Luther drawing gracing the new narthex, commissioned by William Hamm.
- For the canopy entrance donated in memory of loved ones by the Corson families.
- For all who gave talent, and material for the chapel altar and lectern, narthex furniture, chapel furnishings, landscaping, and office equipment.

"Martin Luther" by Diego B. Lasansky was commissioned by William E. Hamm and donated to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in celebration of its new Narthex (2015). The piece -- in ink, colored pencil and collage on paper. Diego Lasansky is an American painter and printmaker, born and raised in Iowa City. He is the grandson of internationally renowned artist and master printmaker Mauricio Lasansky and nephew of artists William, Leonardo and Tomas Lasansky. Diego Lasansky is a student in the printmaking department at the University of Iowa (2016) which was founded and then led by his grandfather for 40 years.

Volunteer and Donor Recognition: A special volunteer and donor recognition dinner is in the planning in the next few weeks. Watch the weekly information announcements for date and time.

Radio Broadcast of this service of dedication is supported by a gift from Stephanie and Andrew Moeller in memory of their grandparents.

Fellowship: Areas of new construction in both church and school are open for tours. Light refreshment stations are placed throughout the building. Tables and chairs are set up in the narthex for fellowship. We invite all to relax and share the beauty of community in these new and promising spaces.