



**Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 24, 2019**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316**

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

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Friendship Pads. Please sign the friendship pads in the pews. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book in the narthex.

Introduction to the day: Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in the Christ.

GATHERING

PRELUDE	“The Lord Is My Light”	F. Allitsen
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Trusting in the mercy of almighty God,
 we gather in the name of the Father,
 and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us now confess our sins.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Almighty and ever-living God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
and against our neighbors
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.**

**In your mercy,
cleanse us and heal us,
renew us and refresh us,
that your holy light
might shine in us—and through us.
Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus who says,
“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to proclaim release to the captives.”

Know that you are forgiven of your sins,
and are freed to love God
and serve your neighbor,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

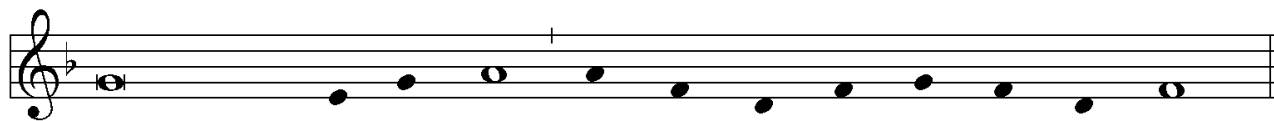
#807

GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

A Reading from Genesis

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. (Genesis 45:3–11, 15)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 37:1–11, 39–40

- ¹Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- ²**For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
- ³Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- ⁴**Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**
- ⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.
- ⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- ⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- ⁸**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
- ⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- ¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**
- ¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- ³⁹**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**
- ⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because in you they seek refuge.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of

wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. (1 Corinthians 15:35–38, 42–50)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” (Luke 6:27–38)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Amazing Grace”

#779

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Fill us with a spirit of generosity and care. Teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the earth. Grant seasonable weather for the planting and harvesting of crops. Bless those who till fields, those who care for livestock, and all who provide food. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations. For all who teach peace and reconciliation to communities in conflict; for those affected by earthquake, drought, or storms, and all who come to their aid. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. For those who lack adequate food, shelter, or access to medical care; for those unable to find gainful employment. Bring comfort to the grieving and comfort those who suffer (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For this assembly. Inspire us to wisely use what you have given to use. Teach us to give freely of time and talents and to offer our lives in service. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have borne witness to your love. Even in the midst of death, give us faith to trust your promise of everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING

Ushers: Come immediately to the front and wait for the Communion Assistant. Receive the collection along the center aisle, from front to back, then walk behind the last pews and up the side aisles to receive the collection on the outside aisles, again from front to back. Return to the back and wait for the Communion Assistant to come forward with the alms basin.

OFFERTORY (8:00)

“Andante Cantabile”

R. Powell

ANTHEM (10:30)

* “More Love to Thee”

T. Fettke

OFFERTORY HYMN



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that your gracious presence might shine forth in us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.



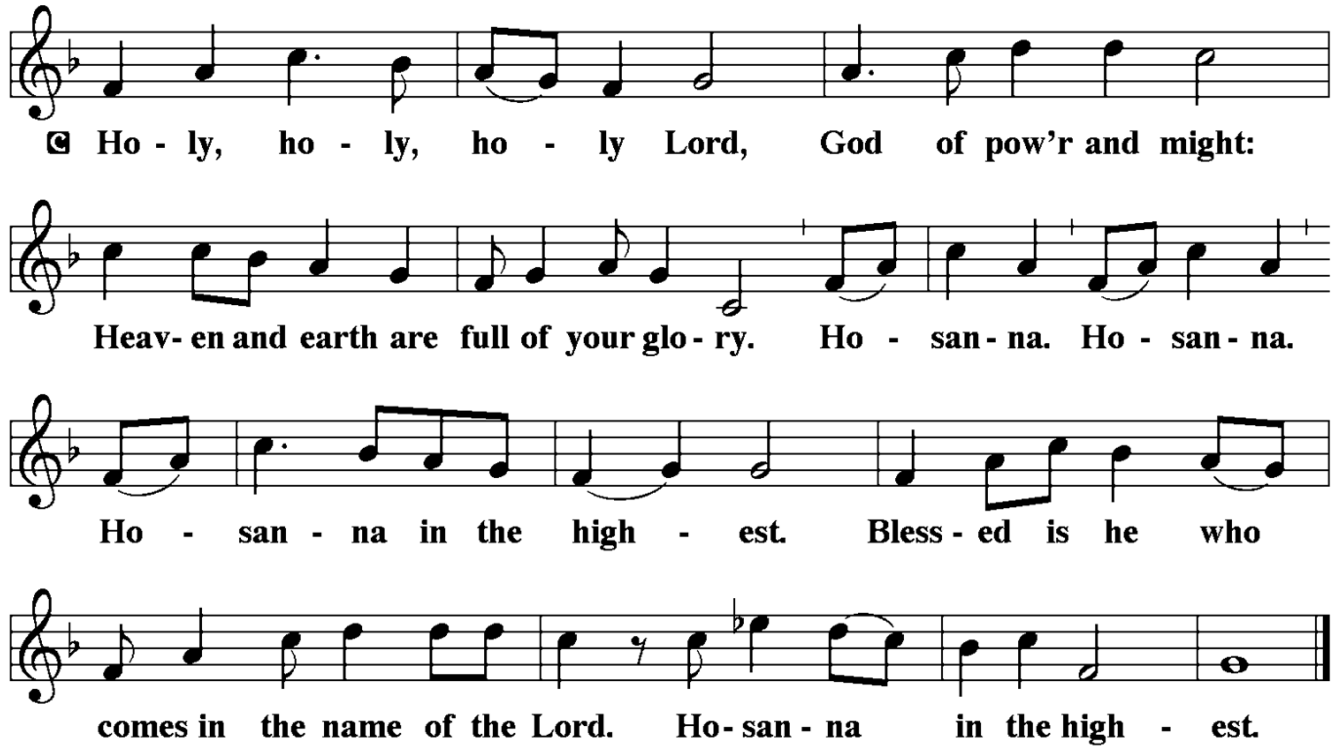
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



G It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should in all times and all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

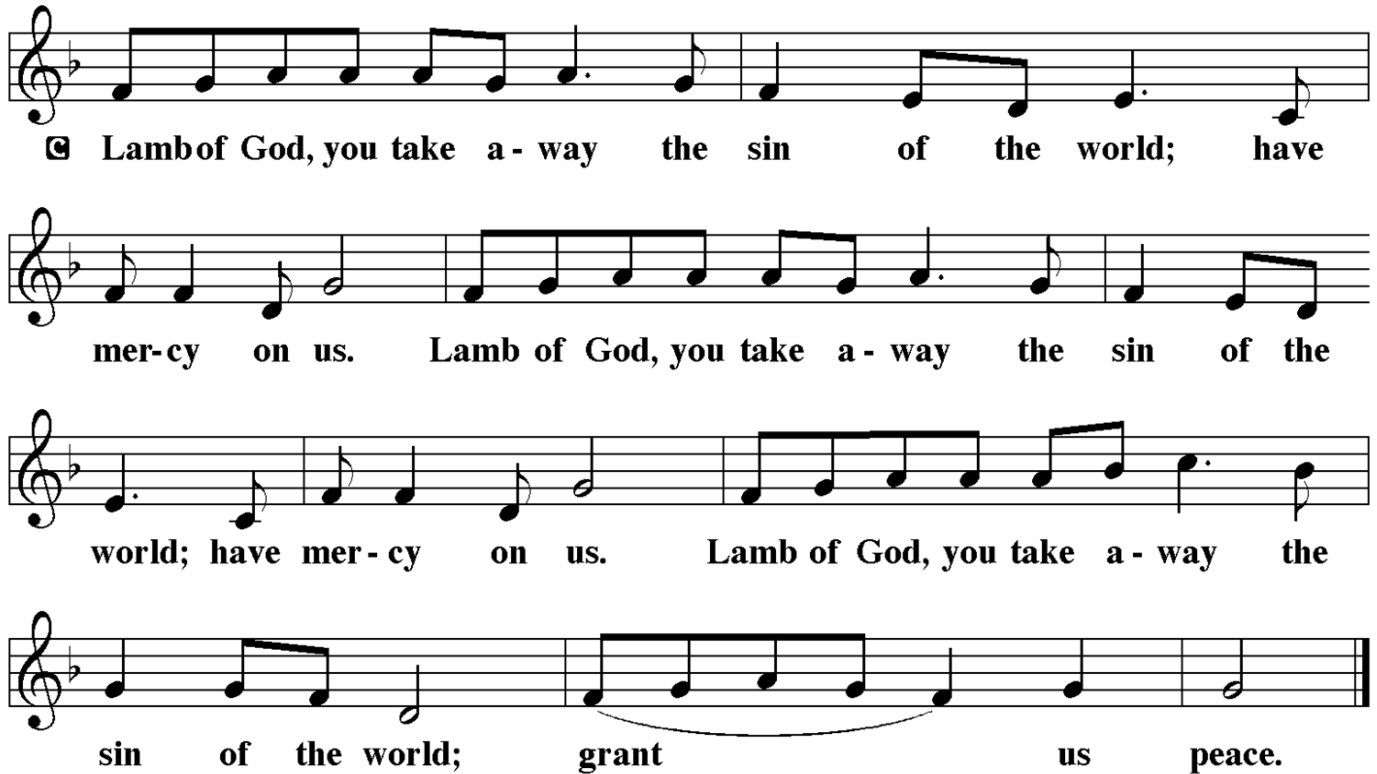
Come to the table.

Share in the feast of God's abundant life.

DISTRIBUTION

The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction, pulpit side first. Please move into the center aisle, proceed to the Pastor, and receive the bread in your open hand. Then turn to the assistant, where you may dip the host into the wine and partake, returning to your seat by the side aisle. The lectern side will follow, then the choir. Those unable to come forward will receive the Sacrament in their pews.

AGNUS DEI



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #631

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banquet table with heavenly food beyond compare. Send your Spirit to us, that we may proclaim freedom to the captive, build one another up for service, and in all things reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the God of glory dwell in you, shine brightly upon you, and enlighten your pathway; and may our almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me!”

#595

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“Allegretto”

R. Powell

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in memory of Harry W. Lafko by his family.

Today’s bulletins are presented in memory of Lois Sklar by her family.

* **This anthem** is presented by Steven and Robin Zimmerman in honor of the 40th anniversary of their wedding, May 23, 1976. (2016)

SERVING TODAY:

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Gail Rarick; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul; USHERS: Gail Rarick & Debbie Moyer; ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER: Emily Heydt; GREETER: Carl Heintzelman

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jeff Ritschel; USHERS: Hope Clarke & Steve Zimmerman; ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER:; GREETERS: Jan Snyder & Chris Long; COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Jean Premich & Barbara Sterner; ALTAR GUILD: Chris Long & Tina Butler

SERVING NEXT WEEK (3/3/19)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Connie Teter; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Carl Heintzelman; USHERS: Connie Teter; GREETER: Doug Travor

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Chris Long; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Samantha Clarke; USHERS: Jim & Joanne Emerich; ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER:; GREETERS: Carol Heydt & Scott Butler; COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr & Glenda Bright; ALTAR GUILD: Jean Premich & Joyce O'Rourke

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Tired of dull winter weekends? Why not join your church friends for an enjoyable evening of food and conversation. The Evangelism Committee has set the date of Saturday, March 9, for a progressive dinner beginning at 6:00 PM. We are looking for a volunteer host for the dessert course. Look for the sign-up sheet at the gathering place. If you attend Saturday night worship, you can still join us because we will not be rushing to the second host home and would love to have you join us. Pastor said he will not extend the Saturday night service on March 9!

CALENDAR

Saturday, Feb. 23	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, Feb. 24	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship
	5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
Monday, Feb. 25	6:30 PM	Financial Peace University
Wednesday, Feb. 27	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thursday, Feb. 28	10:00 AM	Rainbow Friends
Saturday, March 2	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, March 3	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship

CHURCH DIRECTORY

In 2019, St Paul’s will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of the formation of our congregation, which formed in 1844. The Evangelism Committee would like to have a new church directory for the special occasion. Anyone interested in helping with the directory, please contact an Evangelism Committee member.

OSS OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:30–12:30
Wednesday 8:30–12:30
Friday 8:30–12:30

From time to time, it is necessary for me to alter the day and/or time that I can be in the office. If possible, I will convey that information ahead of time.

PASTOR’S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays and Thursdays - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Other Office Hours by Request
Please call before you come to visit.

Pastor Mike is in and out the church office on a regular basis. If you would like to meet with him at the church or invite him to talk with you at your home, please call him or leave a message on the church telephone (at extension #11).

