

# *Seventh Sunday after Epiphany*

## *Sunday, February 20, 2022*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**215 N. Warren St.**  
**Orwigsburg, PA**  
**570-366-2316**  
**[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)**

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### **GATHERING**

**PRELUDE** "Immortal, Invisible" H. Stanley

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Through water and the Spirit, God gives us new life. Therefore, let us confess our sins, that we may be renewed in our covenant of Holy Baptism.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you and one another.**

**We have closed our hearts to your love.**

**We have resisted your light.**

**We have failed to extend your mercy.**

**Forgive what we have done and what we have left undone,**

**heal us with your abundant grace,**

**and help us to walk as children of light.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, let us serve the Lord in newness of life.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

### A Reading from Genesis

<sup>3</sup>Joseph 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.

<sup>4</sup>Then 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. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For 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. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So 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. <sup>9</sup>Hurry 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. <sup>10</sup>You 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. <sup>11</sup>I 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.’ ” <sup>15</sup>And 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 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Do not fret because of the wicked;

do not be envious of wrongdoers,

<sup>2</sup>**for they will soon fade like the grass,**

**and wither like the green herb.**

<sup>3</sup>Trust in the LORD, and do good;

so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

<sup>4</sup>**Take delight in the LORD,**

**and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD;

trust in him, and he will act.

**<sup>6</sup>He will make your vindication shine like the light,  
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;  
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,  
over those who carry out evil devices.

**<sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.**

**Do not fret — it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup>For the wicked shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

**<sup>10</sup>Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.**

<sup>11</sup>But the meek shall inherit the land,  
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

**<sup>39</sup>The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;  
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.**

<sup>40</sup>The LORD helps them and rescues them;  
he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,  
because they take refuge in him.

### **A Reading from First Corinthians**

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And 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. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

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

<sup>50</sup>What 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

*Congregation:*

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

*Optional Repeat*

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If 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. <sup>35</sup>But 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. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, 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 “God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”

1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill  
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,  
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease  
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.  
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,

to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.  
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.  
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.  
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.  
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

## THE APOSTLES' CREED (Read in Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary,  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the people of the earth upon whom the light of Christ shines with grace and mercy.

*A brief silence.*

Encourage your church to love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest and defend those who seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness and deliver all whose spirits are troubled. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless families of all shapes and sizes and help us to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for all your saints. Sustain us in faith until we join them in the promise of new resurrection life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(The Pastor concludes):* Hear our prayers, eternal God, and cast your mercy over us and all that you have made. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

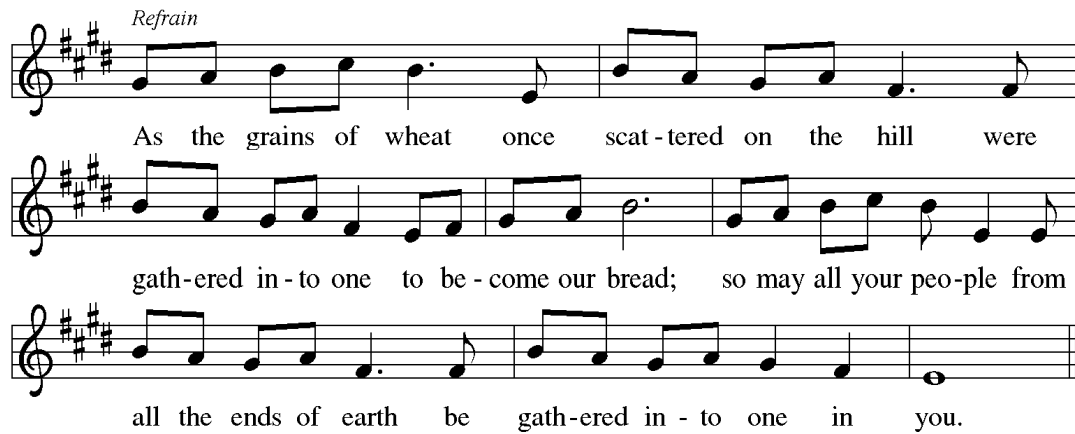
### OFFERTORY MUSIC

(8 AM)	"Voluntary"	H. Purcell
(10:30 AM) ANTHEM	"Seek Ye First"*	L. Larson

\*Seek Ye First is presented in memory of George and Frieda Somers by James Lengel and their families, and, by Justin McClure in honor of his family.

## OFFERTORY HYMN “As the Grains of Wheat”

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, with joyful hearts we offer you these gifts which you have given us; fruit of the field and vine, the work of human hands. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

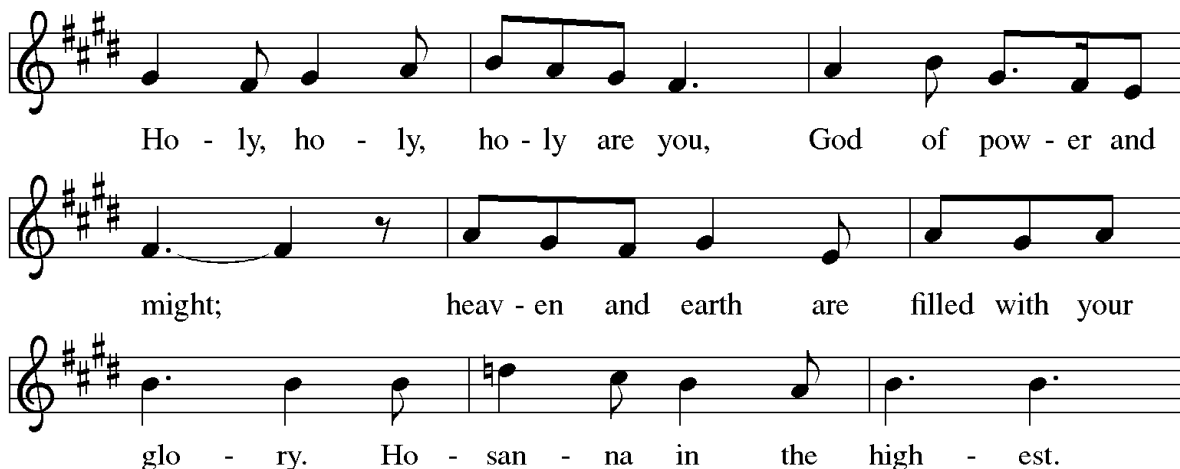
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

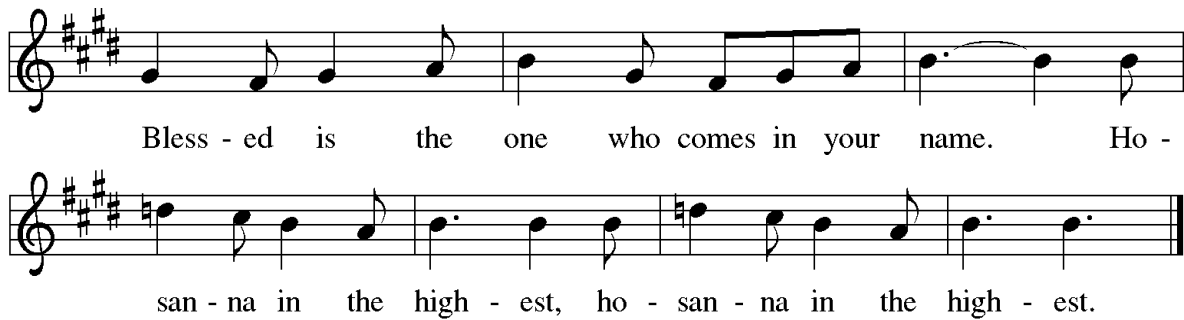
It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the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

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.





## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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 (Read in Unison)**

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 ever. Amen.

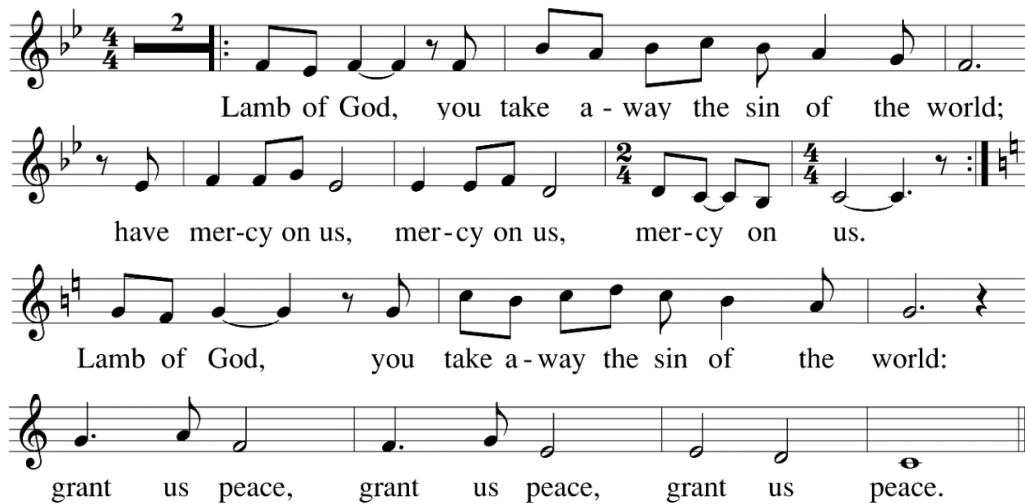
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Through Jesus Christ, a banquet of heavenly food has been set on this table. Come, let us eat and drink.

## INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please move into the center aisle when instructed to do so. When you stand before the Pastor, please open your hand to receive a wafer of bread, and then move toward the Communion Assistant to dip the tip of the wafer into the chalice of wine. After you have consumed the Sacrament, you may return to your seat by the side aisle. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pews. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing."

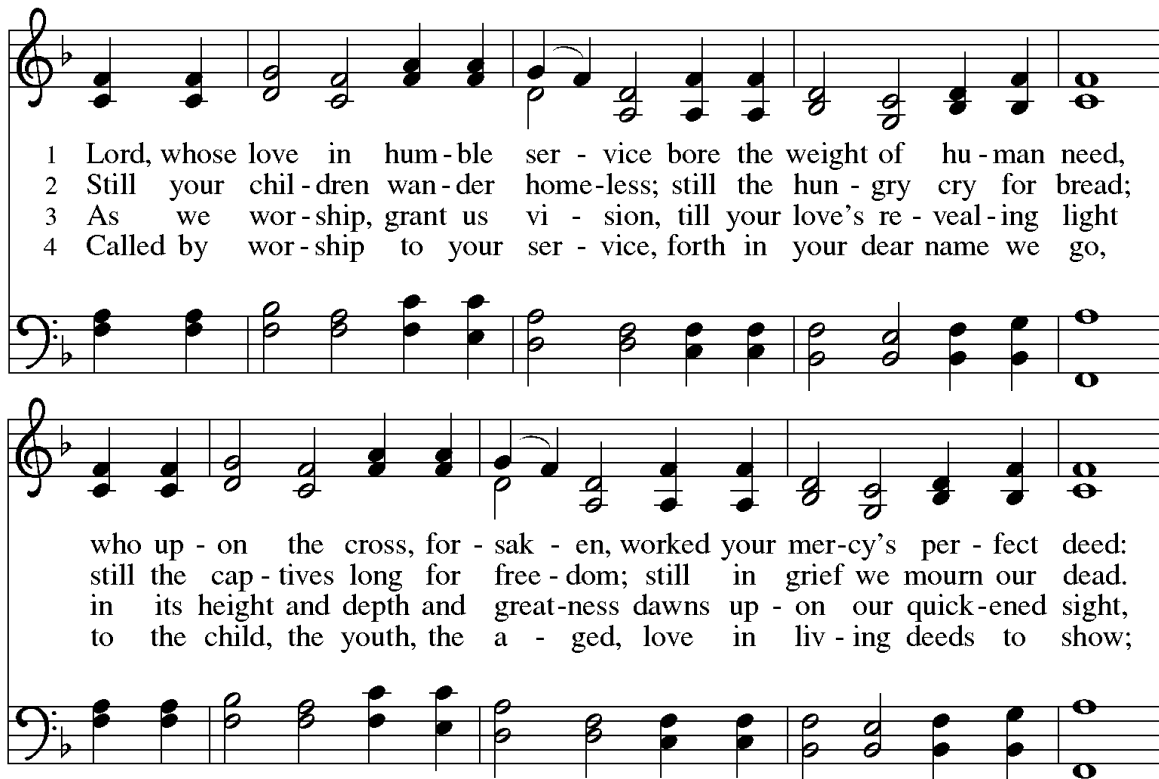
## AGNUS DEI



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

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:  
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,

who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:  
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;

we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,  
 hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

## TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, through this meal you reveal your faithfulness to us and to all of humanity. Anoint us with your Spirit, that we may be signs of your grace and compassion, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

May the epiphany of Christ, revealed to us in word and sacrament, strengthen your faith and gladden your hearts. And may Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

## “God, Whose Almighty Word”

1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
 2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
 heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
 speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
 Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
 lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
 lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
 full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

### THE DISMISSAL

Refreshed in faith and renewed in spirit, go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

#### "Lord of Life"

T. Kendall

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**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 reflects God's glory revealed in Christ.

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**Altar flowers** are presented in honor of Tom Wehr's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by his wife, Gwen.

**Bulletins** are presented in honor of Jackson J. Ritschel on his 7th birthday by Jeff and Cindy Ritschel.

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

Sunday, February 20      8:00 AM      Worship with Holy Communion  
   9:15 AM      Adult Forum  
   10:30 AM      Worship with Holy Communion

Monday, February 21                                      PRESIDENTS' DAY (observed)

Wednesday, February 23      6:00 PM      Bell Choir  
   7:00 PM      Chancel Choir

Saturday, February 26      5:30 PM      Worship

Sunday, February 27      8:00 AM      Worship with Holy Communion  
   9:15 AM      Adult Forum  
   10:30 AM      Worship with Holy Communion

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**SERVING THIS SUNDAY (2/20/22)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Connie Teter

COMMUNION ASST.: Connie Teter

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Sarah Eger; USHER: Chris Long; LECTOR: Hope Clarke

COMMUNION ASST.: Sue Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/27/22)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Amy Dewald

COMMUNION ASST.: Amy Dewald

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; USHER: Jim Spotts; LECTOR: Sarah Eger

COMMUNION ASST.: Sue Reier

ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES**

We will continue to host a Sunday School for children every second Sunday of the month. Kids ages 1-10 are invited to join us during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, March 13, 2022, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. Teenagers are also invited to participate as helpers. Please contact Sarah Eger at [swoodring86@hotmail.com](mailto:swoodring86@hotmail.com) or 570-394-3522.

## **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Our Ash Wednesday service is set for Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7: 00 p.m. The imposition of ashes and the sharing of Holy Communion will be offered at this service. Let us faithfully gather to worship together on Ash Wednesday as we begin the season of Lent.