

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



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



♩ 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 God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,

I tell you of them. (Isaiah 42:1-9)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 29 (Read responsively)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

**⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**⁶he makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**⁸The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.**

⁹And in the temple of the LORD
all are crying, “Glory!”

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people;
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

A READING FROM ACTS

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

(Acts 10:34-43)

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. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”
(Matthew 3:13-17)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Love Has Come”
[See back of bulletin]

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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Calling God, you open our hearts and minds to new things. Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith. Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, in Jesus' baptism, you reveal the waters of life. Cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds. Bring relief to parched lands and to communities without access to safe water. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, increase cooperation between nations. Guide authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for international peacemakers, and for those who consider us their enemy. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, protect those who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain all healthcare workers, caregivers, and first responders. Bring healing to those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially everyone on our prayer list. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Blessing God, awaken the gifts of your Spirit in your people. Guide the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry. Inspire the clergy and lay leaders of your church to serve with imagination and wisdom. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout the ages. We give thanks for those who have died in Christ. Help us to trust that we will be united with them and all the saints in Christ's resurrection life. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8 AM)

“From Heaven Above”

G. Walther

ANTHEM (10:30 AM)

“Walk in the Light” *

arr. A. Thomas

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Let the Vineyards be fruitful, Lord”

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

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them, we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so 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 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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,

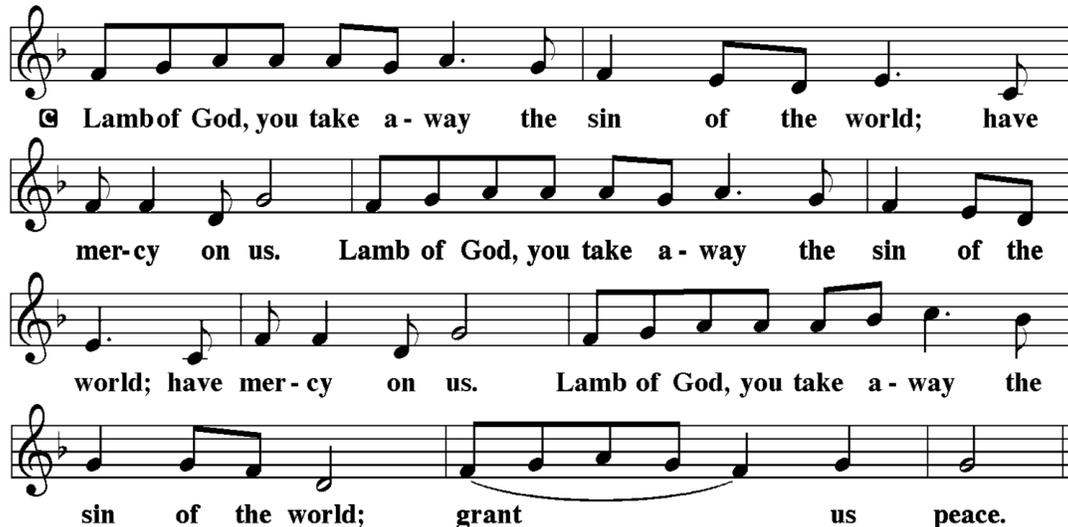
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pew.

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 "Spirit of God Descend upon My Heart" [See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING



Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit bless you now

A - men.

. . . and for - ever.

SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the World”
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“O Blessed Emmanuel”

J. S. Bach

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

Altar flowers are presented in loving memory of brother and Uncle Ron “Buck” Reibie by Sue, Kurt, and Julianne Schenck.

**Walk in the Light* is presented in honor of Tom and Gwen Wehr by Kathryn M. Snyder. (2007)

Introduction to the Day: In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism, we, too, are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God’s beloved children. Our mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God’s healing.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|--|
| Sunday, January 8 | 8:00 AM | Worship with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 AM | Adult Forum |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship with Holy Communion “Second Sunday” Sunday School |
| Monday, January 9 | 6:30 PM | Finance |
| Wednesday, January 11 | 7:00 PM | Chancel Choir |
| Thursday, January 12 | 6:30 PM | Men of St. Paul’s |
| Saturday, January 14 | 5:30 PM | Worship |
| Sunday, January 15 | 8:00 AM | Worship with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 AM | Adult Forum |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship with Holy Communion |

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (1/8/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER/USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Ruth Ann Withers

10:30 AM

GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Glenda Bright; LECTOR: Kristin Durkee

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Evan Davis

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (1/15/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER/USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Doug Travor; USHER: Jessica Swick; LECTOR: Doug Travor

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Reier

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich

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

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children ages 1 to 10 years old will continue every second Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. service. Please join us TODAY, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship.

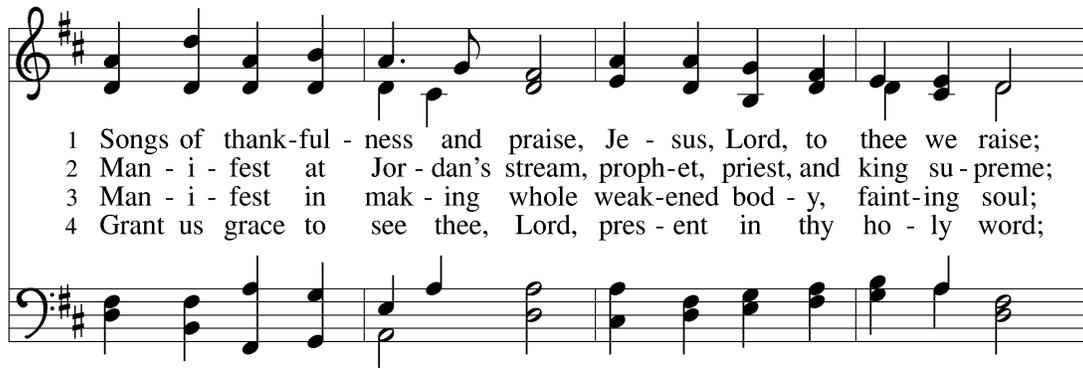
You can also call/text/email me with questions or to volunteer. Sarah Eger: (570) 394-3522 (cell); swoodring86@hotmail.com.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

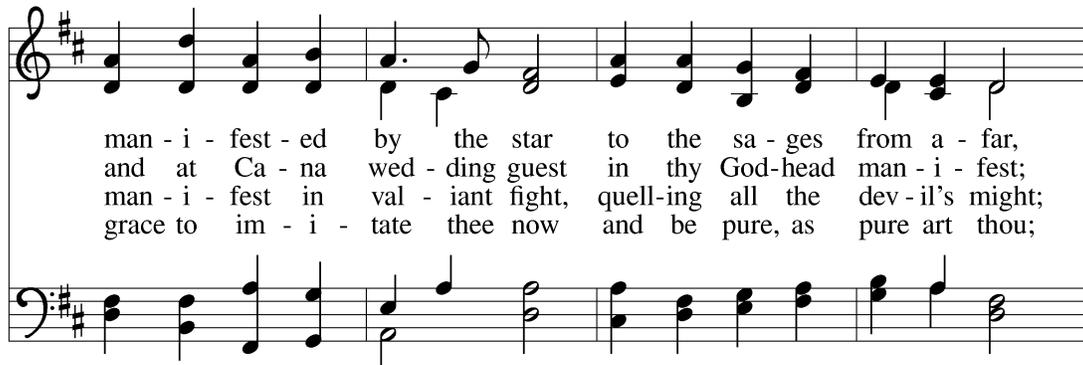
Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, February 12, 2023, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

In case of inclement weather, our annual meeting will be held on the following Sunday, February 19. Members should mark their new calendars for this important meeting!

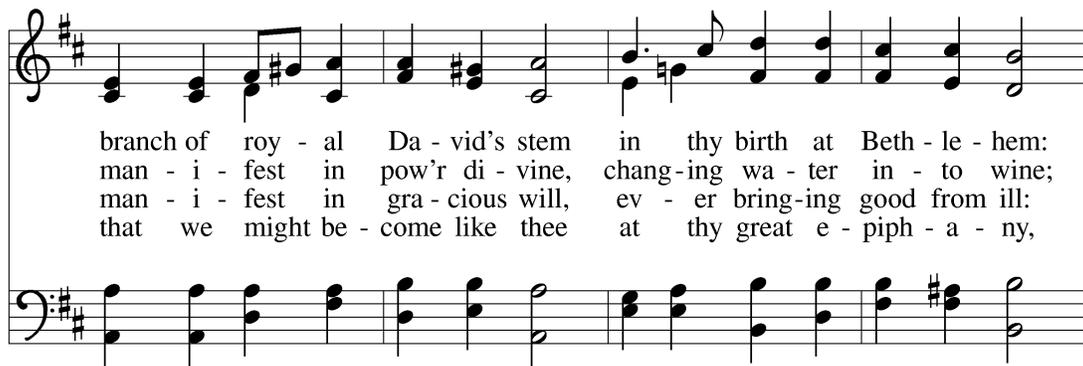
GATHERING HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”



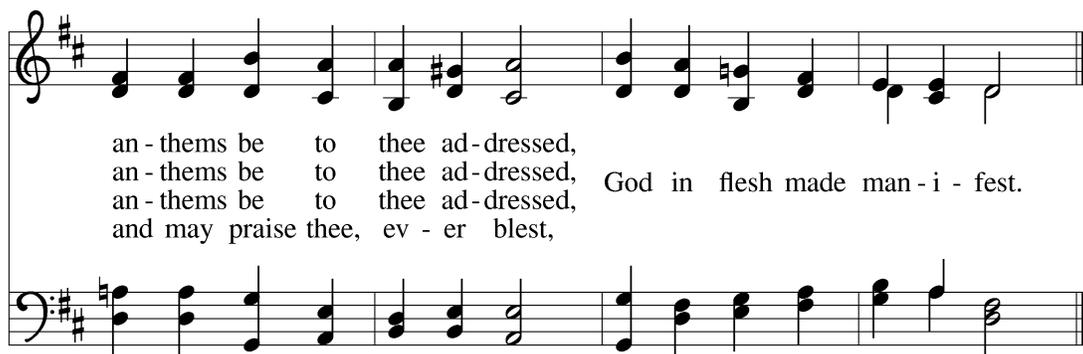
1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul;
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

OPEN POSITIONS ON CHURCH COUNCIL

During our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 12, 2023, we will vote to fill three (3) open positions on our Church Council. If you are an active member and would like to learn more, please contact Council President Doug Travor, any Council member, or Pastor Mike.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Has Come”



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

GIVING STATEMENTS

Members who use their envelopes to contribute to the ministry of this congregation can pick up their 2022 Giving Statements when they come to worship TODAY. Statements are located on a table in our narthex in alphabetical order.

Statements which are not picked up by Sunday, January 22, 2023, will be sent to members via U.S. Mail.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Financial Secretary, Wayne Lutsey at by email: cwlutsey@gmail.com or by telephone: 570-617-9617.

CHILI & SOUP-ER BOWL SALE

The Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup-er Bowl Soup Sale on Saturday, February 11, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. “on the Square.” Our soup will be \$7/quart or 3 quarts for \$20 and chili will be \$8/quart or 2 quarts for \$15. Come for great chili, tasty homemade soups, and many delicious baked goods.

COMMUNION HYMN “Spirit of God Descend upon My Heart”

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,