Second Sunday after Epiphany Sunday, January 19, 2025

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 215 N. Warren St. Orwigsburg, PA 570-366-2316 www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

W. Wold

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us new confess our sins, that we may be renewed in our covenant of Holy Baptism.

Silence for reflection.

Gracious God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

We have not been good stewards of your creation.

We have not shared the gifts you have given to us.

We have not treated strangers with kindness.

Forgive us our sins, so that we may live in the light of your grace. Amen.

Hear God's good news of peace and salvation.

Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world,

your sins are forgiven, and you have the promise of eternal life! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" [See back of bulletin]

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, you showed your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son. As he brought gladness and healing to his people, grant us the same gifts, and lead us to perfect faith in him, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (Isaiah 62:1-5)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 36:5-10 (Read responsively)

⁵Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

⁷How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

¹⁰O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

A READING FROM FIRST CORINTHIANS

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it.

⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. (John 2:1-11)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "What Feast of Love"

[See back of bulletin]

THE APOSTLES' CREED (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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Giver of gifts, you shape each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use the many gifts you have given each of us for the sake of the world. Help us to recognize and nurture these gifts in one another. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Creator, you place all that is living under the shadow of your wings. Guide us to protect habitats and ecosystems. Inspire us to act with compassion and respect for all life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Voice of the oppressed, you call us to speak out in troubled times. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was a voice for equality and justice. Help our nation's leaders strive for what is good and right. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing and wholeness, be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need. Protect those who live amid violence and destruction. We especially pray for the many people on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Spirit of peace, as we observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for all churches and all believers throughout the world. Strengthen unity and renew our commitment to daily live out Jesus' love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Source of endless life, in our living and dying we trust in you. We give you thanks for all the saints who have gone before us in faith. Comfort us with the hope of eternal life and guide us until we finally rest in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

(*The Pastor concludes*): We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8 AM) "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star C. Bach

ANTHEM (10:30 AM) "Arise, Shine For Thy Light Is Come" H. Willam

OFFERTORY HYMN "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord"

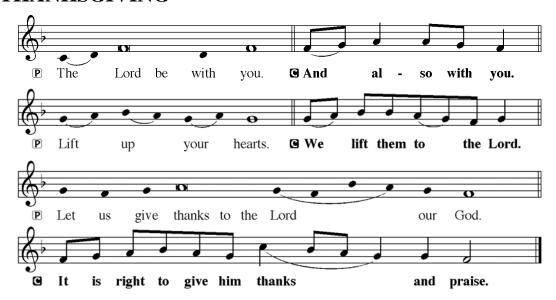


OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

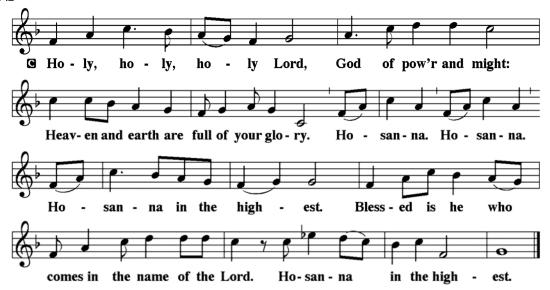
MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world, heavenly food has been set upon this table for us. Come, let us feast!

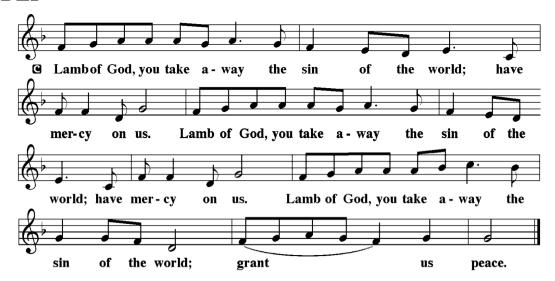
INSTRUCTIONS

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 should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament, and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION HYMN "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" [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

Holy God, through a simple shared meal you reveal your faithfulness to us and to all of humanity. Anoint us with your Spirit, and open our hearts and minds, that we may be signs of your grace and compassion, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the light of Christ, revealed to us in Word and Sacrament, strengthen your faith, embolden your witness, and gladden your hearts. And may Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" [See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Refreshed in faith and renewed in spirit, go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "Glory To God" D. Paxton

Introduction to the Day: The Sundays after Epiphany celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us, as shown to the magi and at Jesus' baptism. Today, the imagery of a wedding feast illustrates this. God rejoices over His people just as newlyweds rejoice over each other. By the Spirit's power, there are abundant gifts for everyone. In Christ Jesus, the best is saved for last. Taste and see.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Elaine Kamp by Tina and Scott Butler.

"SECOND SUNDAY" SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will take place on Sunday, February 9! Children ages 1 through 6 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Young people aged 7 through 12 are invited to a youth group with Bible study and activities from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) swoodring86@hotmail.com.

This year the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is Saturday, January 18 through Saturday, January 25. Please prayer for unity and harmony in the Christian church!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S				
Sunday, January 19	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion		
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum		
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion		
	2:00 PM	"Guardianship of Trees" – Reidler Hall		
Monday, January 20		Martin Luther King, JR. Day		
		The church office is closed		
	7:00 PM	Council		
Wednesday, January 22	6:00 PM	Bell Choir		
3 /	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir		
Saturday, January 25	5:30 PM	Worship		
Sunday, January 26	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion		
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum		
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion		
*****	*****	*********		

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (1/19/25)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Amy Dewald

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

GREETER: Sarah Eger; USHER: Wayne Lutsey; LECTOR: Chris Long

COMMUNION ASST.: Jeff Ritschel

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Lafko and Amy Dewald

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

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (1/26/25)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Bill Smoot; USHER: Bill Smoot; LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel

COMMUNION ASST.: Bill Smoot

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Lafko and Amy Dewald

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

A MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT!

Our Evangelism Committee loves sending cards to brighten the day of those who can't join us for worship. To keep our list current, we regularly need updated information for military members and college students who are away from home. If you have new information or address changes, please contact any Evangelism Committee member or call the church office at 570-366-2316. Thank you for helping us stay connected!

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR GIVING STATEMENT TODAY!

Members who use their church envelopes to support our ministry should pick up their 2024 Giving Statements TODAY in our narthex. <u>Any statements not picked up</u> will be mailed to members via U.S. Mail.

A CALL TO MORE FAITHFUL GIVING

Our church needs your support more than ever. Every donation, big or small, shows your dedication to Christ's teachings of love and service to our neighbors. Your regular contributions keep our church running, help those in need, and provide a welcoming space for all. Please consider increasing your giving!

WINTER NATURE SERIES

The Woodland Stewardship Committee of Schuylkill County Conservancy will offer a presentation on the "Guardianship of Trees" in Reidler Hall TODAY at 2:00 p.m. This presentation is the first of a three-part series hosted by local churches. Please contact Sue Reier (570-617-3741) for more information.

SUPER BOWL EVE SOUP & CHILI SALE

As an "appetizer" to football's big event, The Men of St. Paul's will host a Super Bowl Eve Chili & Soup Sale on Saturday, February 8 beginning at 8:30 a.m. "on the Square." Come early for the best selection of delicious chilis, tasty homemade soups, and just baked breads and pastries.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SET

Our annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday February 16, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please mark your new calendar for this important meeting! In case of inclement weather (or other emergency), our annual meeting will be held on the following Sunday at the same time.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God!

RECYCLE YOUR POINSETTIA POT COVERS!

Foil pot covers, often used for special flowers ordered at Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost can increase the cost of our flowers and are frequently discarded after use.

The Worship and Music Committee would like anyone who still has their poinsettia flowerpot covers to kindly return them to the church. A collection box has been placed in the narthex where they can be dropped off. All returned covers will be stored and reused, helping our church save money and protect the environment. Thank you for your support!

PTO SHOE DRIVE

The PTO of Blue Mountain Elementary East has organized a "Shoe Drive" to raise funds and help families in developing countries. Justin Durkee, a student at this school has volunteered to collect and deliver donated shoes to his PTO group.

Please bring your new or gently worn (adult to children and dress to sport) shoes with you when you come to worship. A donation box is in the narthex. The deadline for this drive is Sunday, March 1. Thank you for your support.

CALIFORNIAN WILDFIRES

Fierce wildfires have erupted and spread in Los Angeles County, California. These wildfires have destroyed thousands of homes and businesses. They have caused untold injuries and dozens of deaths.

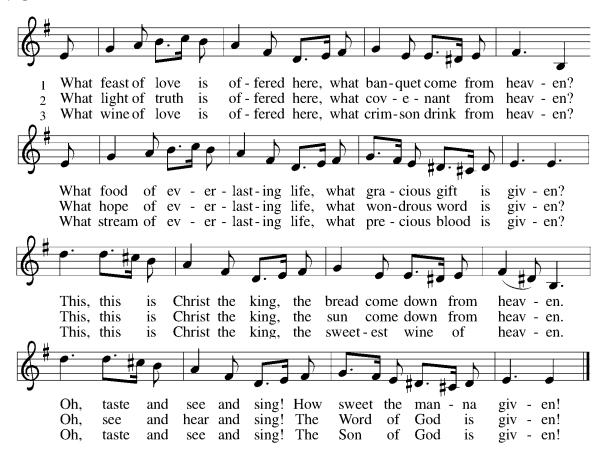
If you would like to give a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response to provide for immediate needs and recovery efforts, please give your donation to our congregation. Make sure to indicate that it is for "LDR - Californian Wildfires." We will forward it to the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response Office. Please know that every penny of your donation will be used to assist those affected.

GATHERING HYMN "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"



HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Feast of Love"



WEATHER CHECK: STAY SAFE!

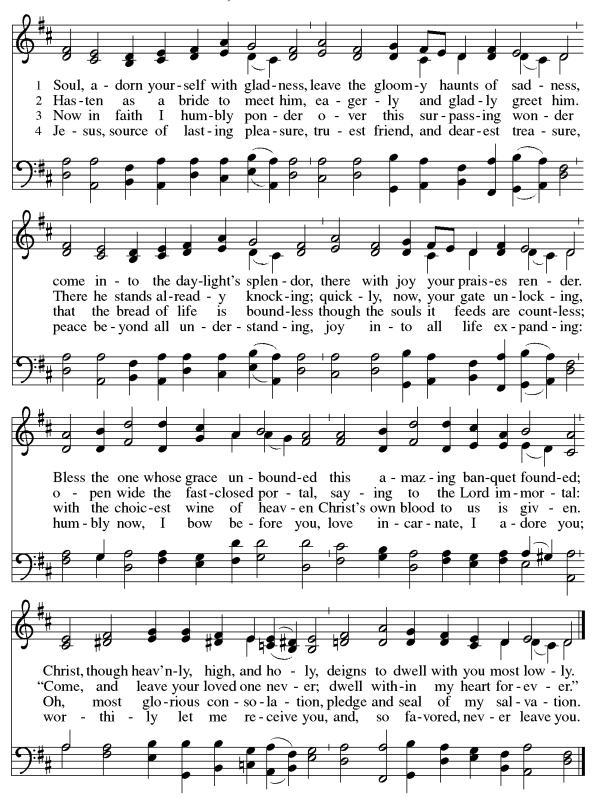
If you're unsure if worship is still on due to bad weather, just give us a call at (570) 366-2316 and listen to the outgoing message. You can also check our Facebook page for any updates. Stay safe — check before you head out!

WELCA PET FOOD AND BLANKET DRIVE

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA are sponsoring a blanket and animal food drive to support our local SPCAs and Red Creek Wildlife Center. Please bring clean, used (but not knitted or crocheted) blankets and dry or canned dog and/or cat food to our choir room prior to rehearsals on Wednesday nights and/or prior to our 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday mornings. Donations will be accepted from Sunday, January 12 through Wednesday, January 29. *Please help us help those who have no voice!*

For more information, please contact, Tina Butler, Sue Reier, Cindy Ritschel, or Sue Schenck

COMMUNION HYMN "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

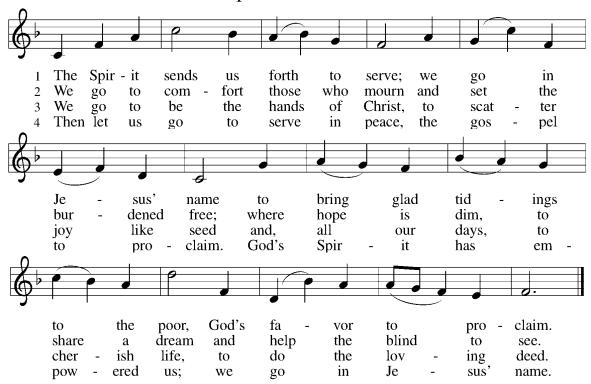


PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Evangelism Committee has set the date of Saturday, February 22, 2025, for a "progressive" dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the Gathering Room for those who would like to attend.



"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"



VALENTINES FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our STiC group has potted plants, gift bags, and Valentine's Day cards for our homebound members. Please stop by the Gathering Room to sign our "Valentines."

OUR PASTOR & STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky 570-36	6-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	iessica@stpauls-orwiasbura.ora

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. to 12 NOON