

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 1, 2026

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE "The Lord Is My Light" F. Allitsen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who makes all things new, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins.

Silence for Reflection

O God of abundant and everlasting life,
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 welcomed travelers and strangers in our midst.
In your mercy, forgive our sins, reconcile us to one another,
and restore us by your grace.

Hear God's good news of peace and salvation.
Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world,
God has forgiven you and redeemed you! **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "O Master, Let Me Walk with You" (#818)
[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



Ⓐ 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

Holy God, form in us the meekness, mercy, and purity of heart that Jesus proclaims, and give us a hunger seeks justice and strives for peace. Let our lives bear witness to your grace, so that in all we say and do, others may see the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM MICAH

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
he fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

(Micah 6:1-8)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15 (Read responsively)

O LORD, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**

who do not slander with their tongue,

and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

**⁴in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

⁵who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

A READING FROM FIRST CORINTHIANS

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

(1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

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.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

(Matthew 5:1-12)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus, the Very Thought of You”

(#754)

[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

As children of God enlightened by Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church and teach us to boast only in the cross of Christ. Shape and form your people to be kind, generous, and just in all we do. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

Creation bears witness to your faithfulness and holiness. When we misuse or neglect the world you have made, turn us from harmful ways and inspire us to honor and protect all your work. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

Raise up leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt or self-serving and prosper the work of all who labor for reconciliation and the common good. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

Bring health and healing to all in need. Comfort and protect those who face violence, illness, or suffering of any kind. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

Our young people face challenges their parents could scarcely have imagined. In a loud and troubled world, help us to hear your quiet voice and discern what is good and right for us and for those we love. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

Continually remind this congregation how your faithfulness has carried us through challenges and sustained us in our weakness. Keep the cross of Christ at the center of our life together. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

We praise you for faithful men and women in every time and place. As you abided with them in every trial, abide with your people now and in the days to come. **Merciful Lord, receive our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Confident that you hear our prayers and will graciously answer them, we commend all for whom we pray to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. **Amen.**

PEACE

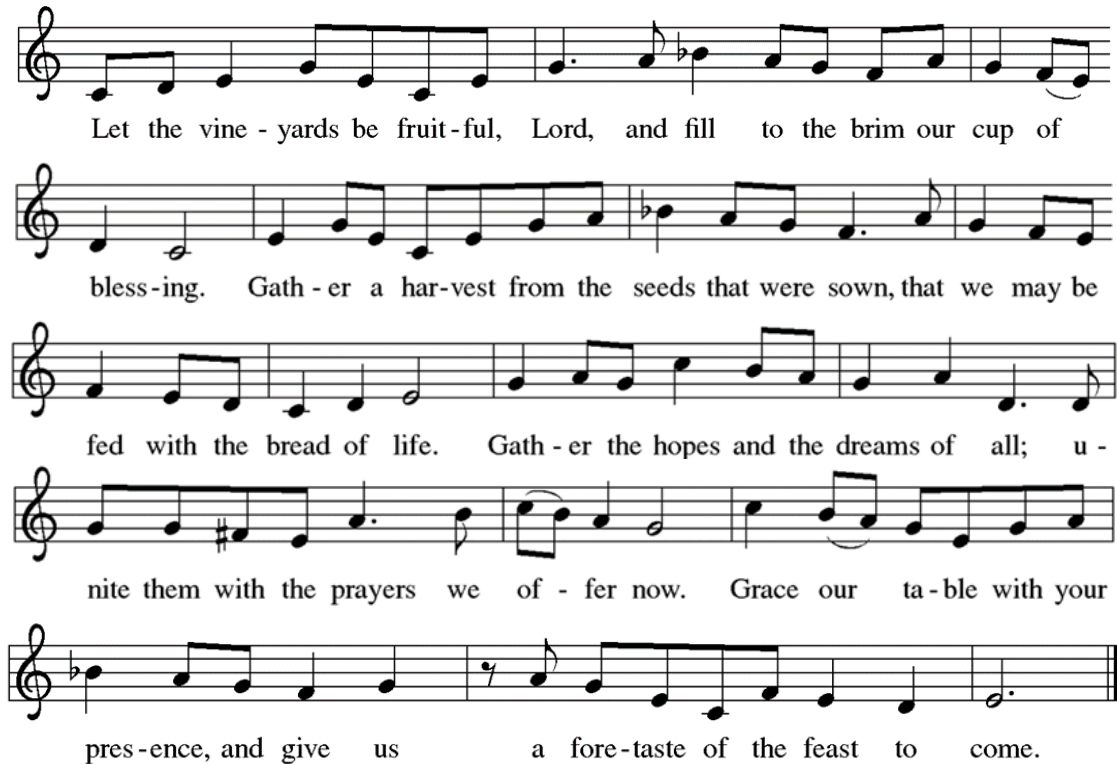
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

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

ANTHEM (10:30 AM) "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" C. Gabarain

OFFERTORY HYMN “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”



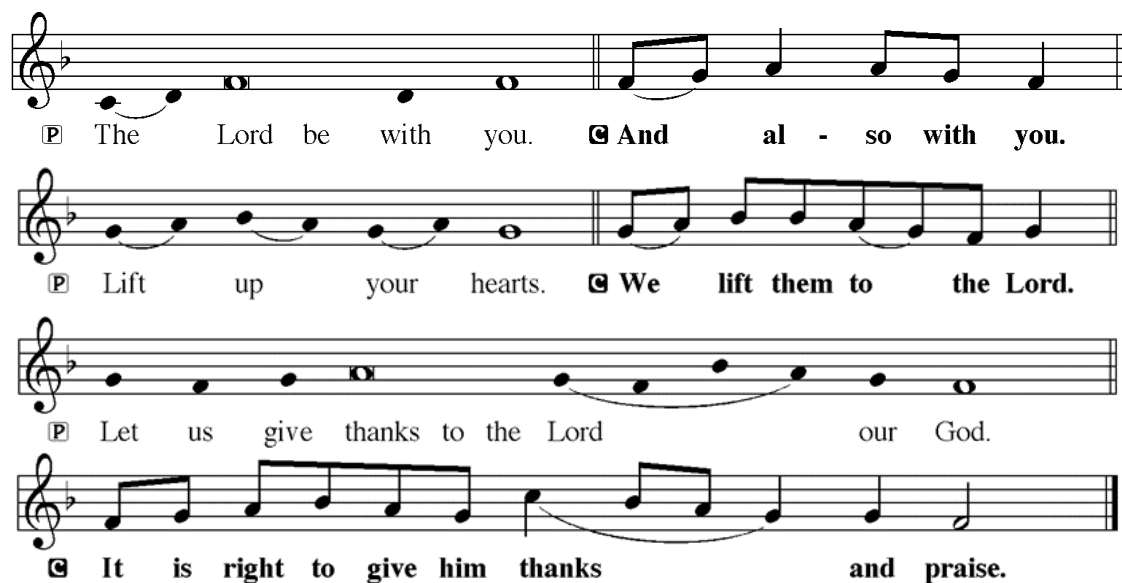
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

MEAL

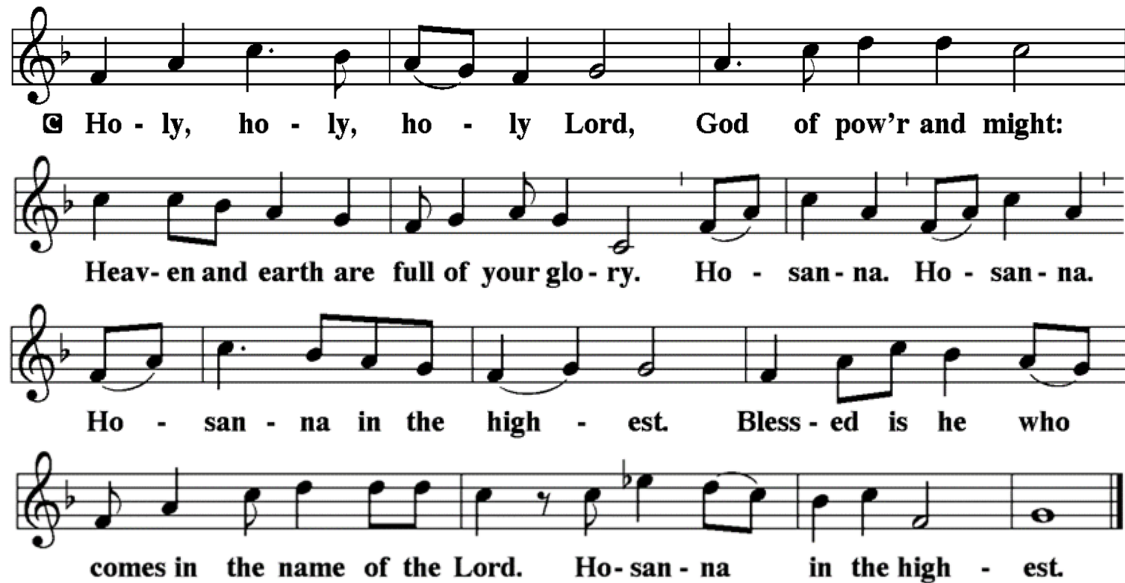
GREAT THANKSGIVING



☐ 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, is made known in the breaking of the bread.

Let us come to walk in his light.

INSTRUCTIONS

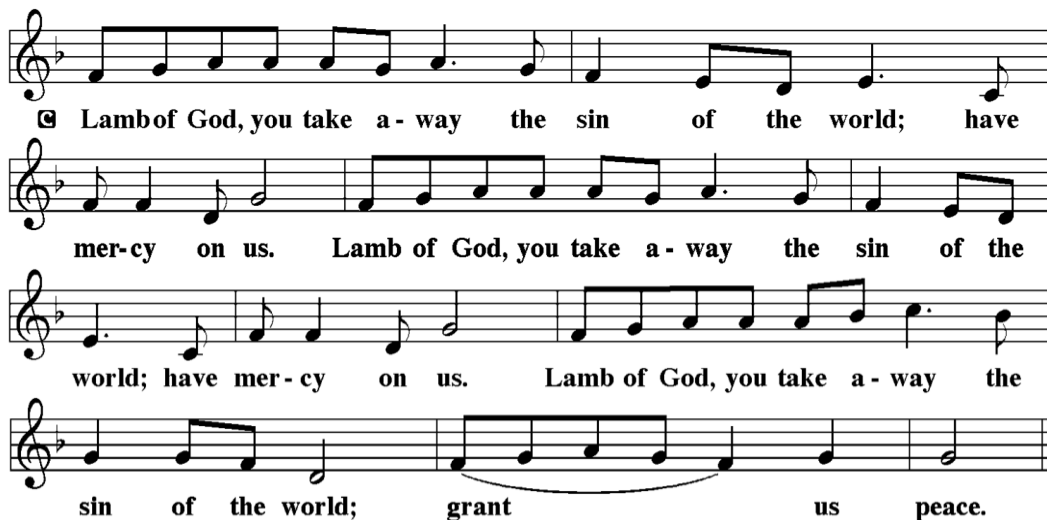
All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. You may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you require a gluten free wafer, please request it from the pastor.

If you (or your child) would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

If you are unable to come forward to receive the Sacrament, please raise your hand.

We will share the Sacrament with those on the pulpit side of the nave followed by those on the lectern side.

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

“Be Thou My Vision”
[See back of bulletin]

(#793)

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, gracious God, for you have blessed us abundantly. Send us forth to bear the light of Christ into the world and make us shine with your good news through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May our triune God, One God, who is the Father, and the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless your going out and your coming in, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

(#873)

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the light of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Lord of Life"

D. Paxton

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY: Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this Christ-like way of living and serving.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be NEXT Sunday February 8, 2026, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please make an effort to attend this important annual meeting! In case of inclement weather (or other emergencies), our meeting will be held on the following Sunday at the same time.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (2/1/26)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR & COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

10:30 AM

GREETER: Evan Davis; USHER: Gwen Wehr; LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky
COMMUNION ASST.: Becky Smoot
ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst
COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr and Glenda Bright

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/8/26)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR & COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Jerry Goessel; USHER: Karen Tavor; LECTOR: Eric Eger
COMMUNION ASST.: Bill Smoot
ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst
COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle and Diane Brobst

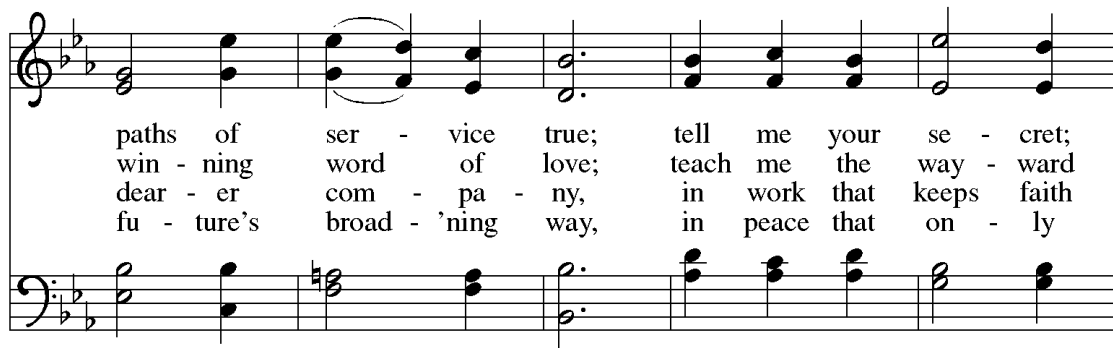
THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, February 1	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, February 2	6:30 PM	Property
Tuesday, February 3	6:30 PM	Evangelism
Wednesday, February 4	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thursday, February 5	7:00 PM	BSF
Saturday, February 7	8:30 AM	Super Bowl Eve Chili & Soup Sale
	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, February 8		SECOND SUNDAY
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum & Youth Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
		Children's Sunday School
		Congregational Meeting following the service

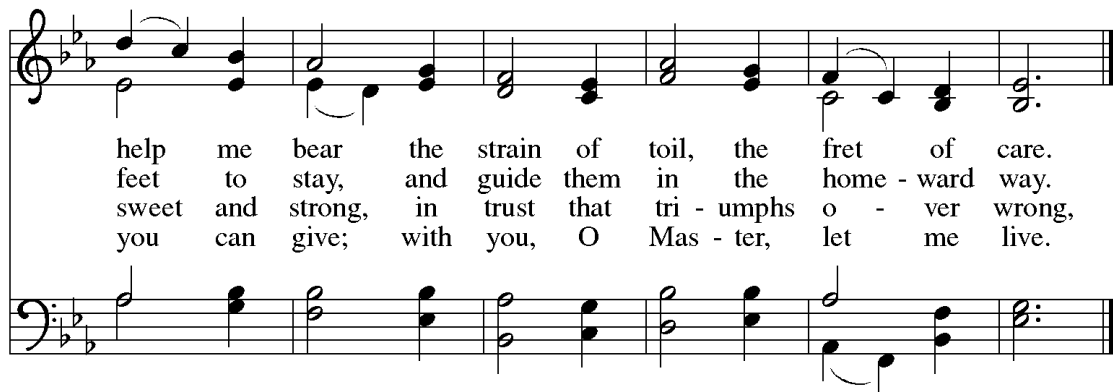
GATHERING HYMN "O Master, Let Me Walk with You"



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

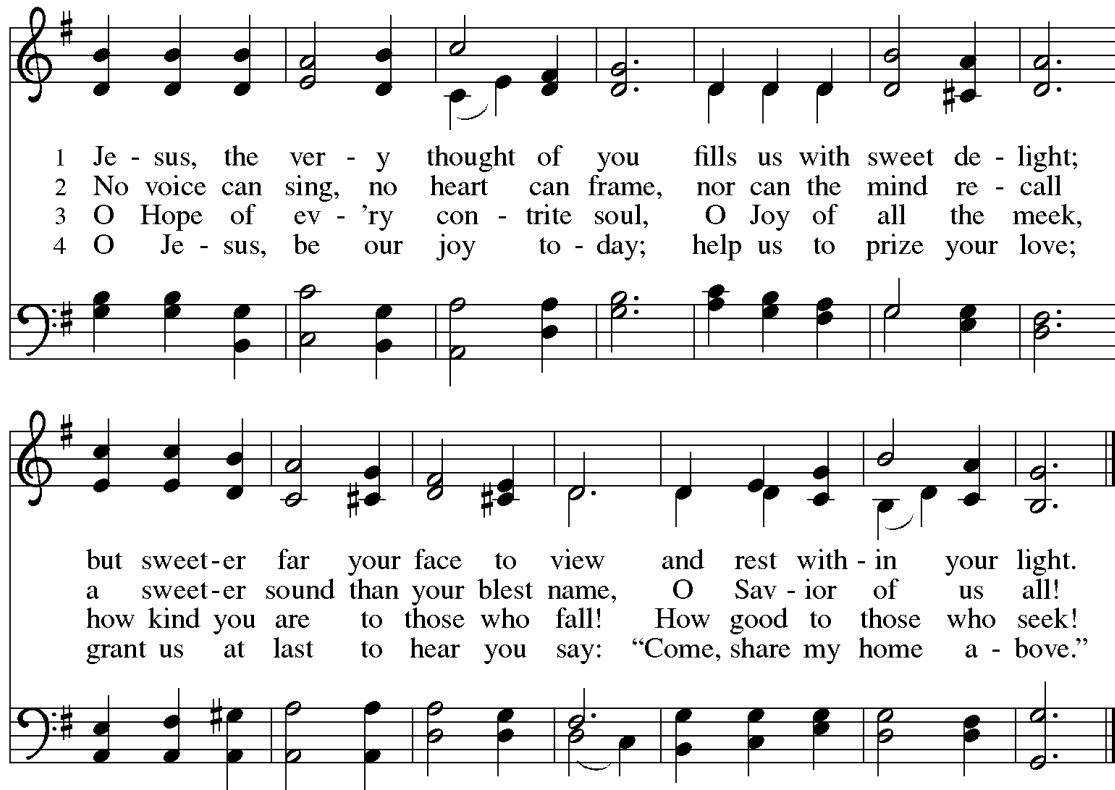
PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Evangelism Committee has set the date of Saturday, February 28, for a "progressive" dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Room soon for those who would like to host a portion of the meal or simply attend. Please sign up by Saturday, February 14.

SOUP & CHILI SALE RETURNS!

As an "appetizer" to Super Bowl Sunday, the award-winning Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup Sale "on the square" on Saturday, February 7, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Come early for the best selection of delicious chilis, tasty homemade soups, and just baked breads and pastries.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus, the Very Thought of You”



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;

but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: “Come, share my home a - bove.”

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!

ASH WEDNESDAY

This year, our Ash Wednesday service will take place on Wednesday, February 18 at 7 p.m. The service will include the imposition of ashes and the sharing of Holy Communion. Please invite a neighbor or friend to join you for this special service.

NEW MEMBERS' SUNDAY

Our Evangelism Committee will celebrate our newest members on Sunday, February 15. A reception for them will follow the 10:30 a.m. service. Let us give thanks to God for our newest members and warmly welcome them!

We will not “pass the plate” during today’s worship service. Our offering plate in the back of the nave near the center aisle. If you would like to give an offering, please do so before the service has begun or after our service is over. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our next Second Sunday School class will take place NEXT Sunday, February 8!
Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell)
swoodring86@hotmail.com.

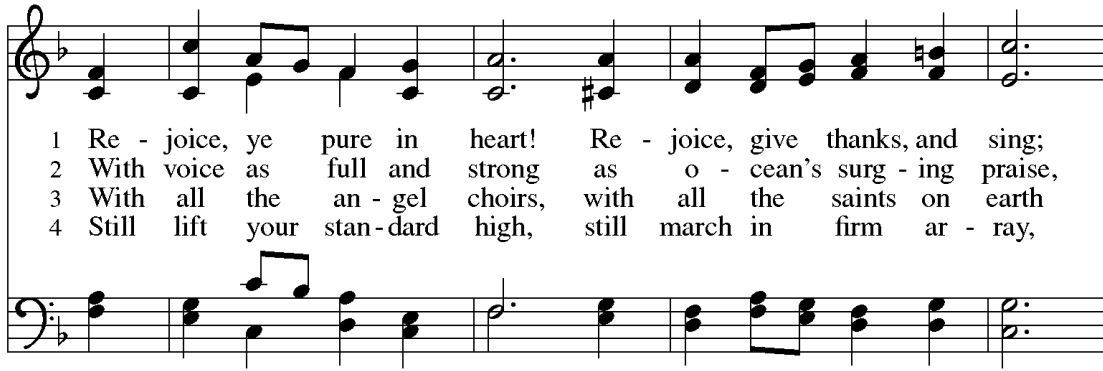
OUR PASTOR & STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - 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	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

OUR CHURCH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON!

SENDING HYMN

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

SUNDAY SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT

As a Valentine's Day treat, all Sunday School students are invited to join us Friday, February 13 for a movie night in Reidler Hall! Parents can drop off their child/children at 5:30 p.m. and pick them up at 8:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Sarah by Monday, February 9.

Easter Flower Orders

Please detach lower portion of this form and place it along with your payment in the offering basket located in the Gathering Room or return it to church by US Mail.

Deadline: Sunday, March 8, 2026

Please "PRINT" all necessary information!

Your name: _____

FLOWER TYPE	QUANTITY	PRICE	DEDICATION
Easter Lilies	_____ X	\$11.00	H/M _____
Daffodils	_____ X	\$9.00	H/M _____
6-bulb Tulips	_____ X	\$9.00	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinths (Purple)	_____ X	\$9.00	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinths (Pink)	_____ X	\$9.00	H/M _____
3-bulb Hyacinths (White)	_____ X	\$9.00	H/M _____
Hydrangeas	_____ X	\$19.50	H/M _____

[NOTE: H = In Honor of *or* M = In Memory of]

TOTAL \$ _____

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE YOUR FLOWERPOT COVERS!

Please check this box if you wish to donate the flowers to the church and not take them home.

If more space is needed for dedications, please attach another sheet.