

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 8, 2026

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" (#510)
[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

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Holy Spirit, show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

[10:30 AM Only – We will gather our children for Sunday school at this time.]

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. (Isaiah 58:1, 3, 6-9a)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112:1-9 (Read responsively)

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in his commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD.

**⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

A READING FROM FIRST CORINTHIANS

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

(1 Corinthians 2:1-12)

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.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-20)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“You Are the Way”
[See back of bulletin]

(#758)

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.

Call your people to seek your wisdom in all worldly matters. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire our wonder at your creation. Sustain your world and protect all the plants and creatures which fill it from the depths of the oceans to the heights of the mountains. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Instruct the powerful in your ways. Inspire believers to exercise their rights with discernment and raise up public servants who listen to your voice and practice righteousness. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Heal those afflicted in body, mind, and spirit. Comfort those whose spirit is weak or wounded. We especially pray for those who face violence each day and for everyone on our prayer list. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth and light for the world. Keep us mindful of your commandments and open our hearts to treat others with mercy and compassion. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for all whose faith in Christ has been an encouragement to our own. Help us to treasure their memory and in your time, bring us with them into God's glorious and eternal kingdom. 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.**

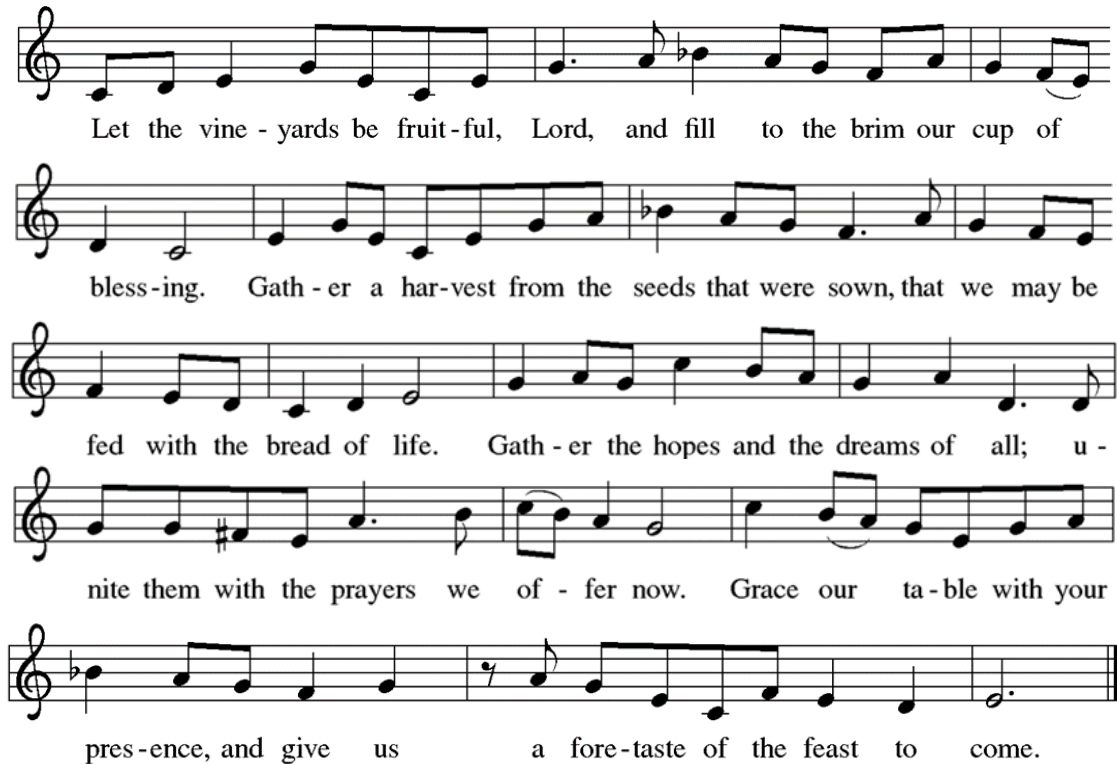
OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8 AM)

ANTHEM (10:30 AM) "Arise, Shine, for Thy Light Is Come"

H. Willan

OFFERTORY HYMN “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”



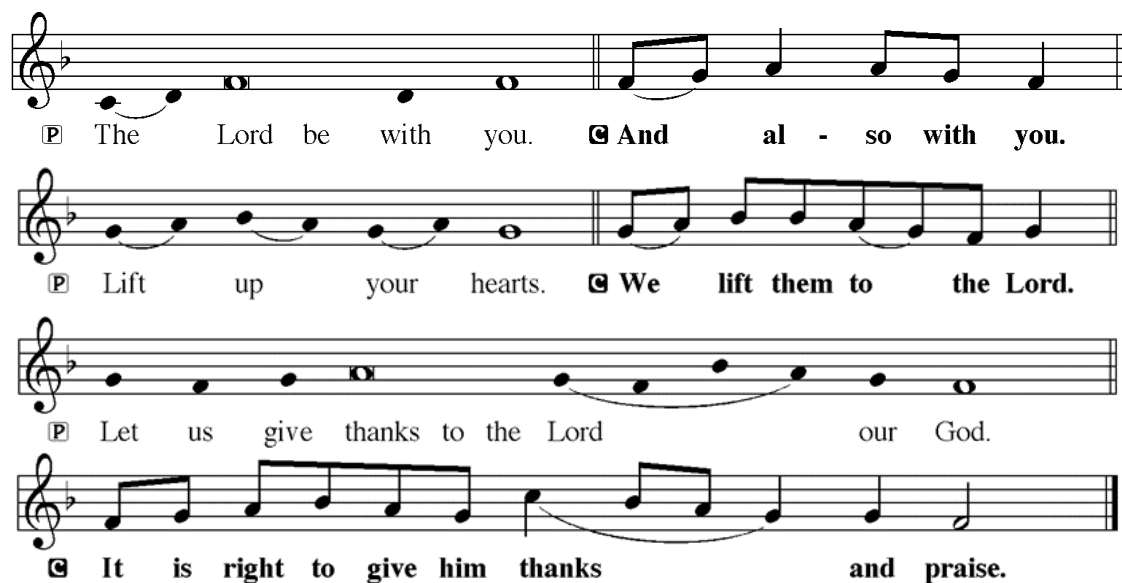
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

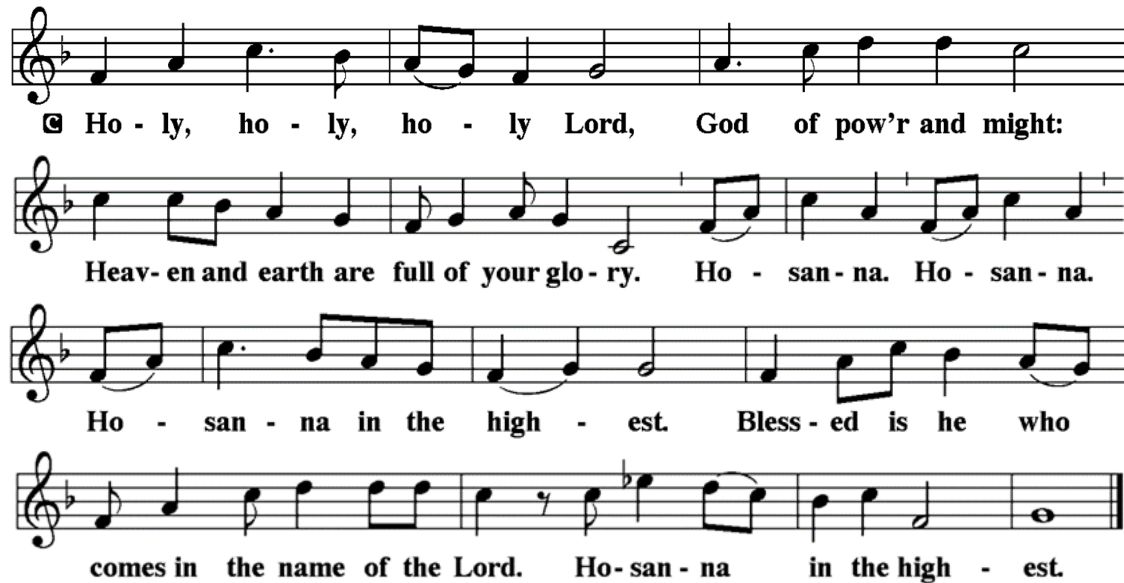
GREAT THANKSGIVING



☐ 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

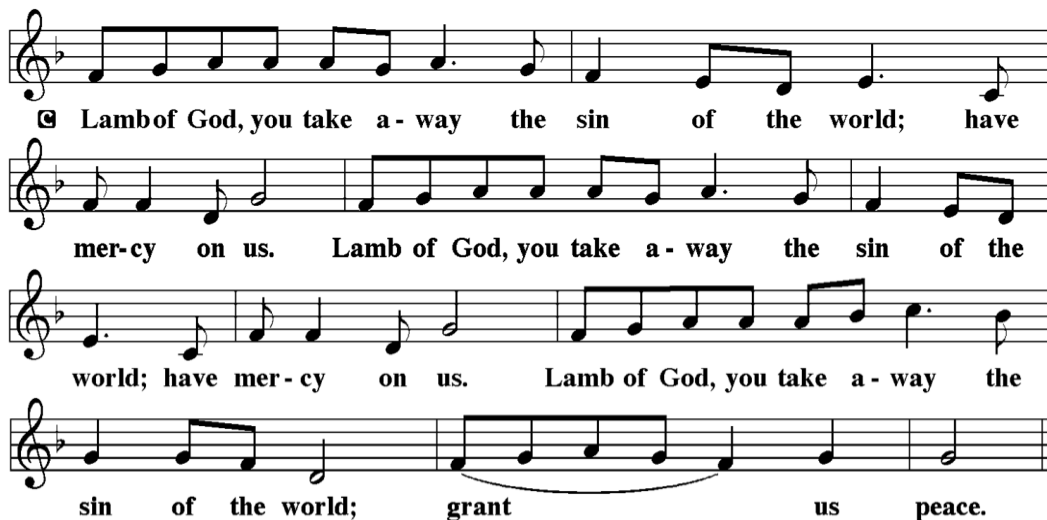
All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. You may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you require 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 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"
[See back of bulletin]

(#815)

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 “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” (#551)
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY: Today’s readings remind us that God’s light breaks into the world wherever justice and mercy are practiced. Isaiah teaches that when we loosen the bonds of injustice and share with those in need, God’s light rises like the dawn. Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, calls his followers to let their good works shine so that others may see God’s love. Through baptism, we are sent to bear this light of Christ into the world.

Altar flowers are presented in loving memory of my husband, Tom’s birthday by his wife, Gwen.

Chancel flowers are presented in honor of Kurt’s birthday by Sue & Juli Schenck.

Bulletins are presented in memory of my father, Francis Piacine, by daughter, Danielle.

NEW MEMBERS’ SUNDAY

New Members Sunday has been postponed until April. Please see our upcoming newsletter for more information.

SERVING THIS 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 Travor; LECTOR: Eric Eger
COMMUNION ASST.: Bill Smoot
ALTAR GUILD: Glenda Bright and Diane Brobst
COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle and Diane Brobst

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/15/26)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR & COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

GREETER: Tina Butler; USHER: Wendy Schuld; LECTOR: Jeff Ritschel
COMMUNION ASST.: Sue Reier
ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 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 |
| Monday, February 9 | 7:00 PM | Council |
| Wednesday, February 11 | 6:00 PM | Bell Choir |
| | 7:00 PM | Chancel Choir |
| Thursday, February 12 | 6:30 PM | BSF |
| Friday, February 13 | 5:30 PM | Second Sunday Movie Night |
| Saturday, February 14 | 5:30 PM | Worship |
| Sunday, February 15 | | TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD |
| | 8:00 & 10:30 AM | Worship with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 AM | Adult Forum |

GATHERING HYMN "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“You Are the Way”

1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "You Are the Way". It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the continuation of the lyrics. The third system contains the continuation of the lyrics. The fourth system contains the continuation of the lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes.

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.

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.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be TODAY Sunday February 8, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please stay for this important meeting, if you are able to do so!

During this continued stretch of winter cold, please take care of yourselves and one another. Stay warm, pay attention to your body’s needs, check in with neighbors and friends, and keep an eye on the weekly weather forecast. With more winter still ahead—at least according to Punxsutawney Phil—let’s stay prepared and be safe!

COMMUNION HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Continued...

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

VALENTINES FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our STiC group has potted plants, gift bags, and Valentine's Day cards for homebound members. If you have not already done so, please stop by the Gathering Room to sign our "Valentines" TODAY.

CRAFTERS' GUILD NEWS

The Crafters' Guild has a small selection of Valentine's Day items available for purchase in the Gathering room until Valentine's Day. Take any items you like and leave a donation. All proceeds will go to support the ministries of the church. Pick up a free Pocket Prayer Square and Valentine Scripture Card for yourself and a friend. Let's share God's love with one another.

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.

SENDING HYMN “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT

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.

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!

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!

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.