

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

Matthew 5:6, NRSV



YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

May this hour be a journey of the heart, a renewal of spirit, a pause in our lives as we worship the Lord our God together. If you are a guest this morning we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to sign our guest book located in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary, also known as the narthex. Following our worship service we invite you to share in a time of fellowship over coffee, juice, and snacks in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and becoming a member, please visit with any member of the congregation or Pastor Janis Sloka, III. Thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!

We feel strongly that the faith formation of youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome youth of all ages to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number of roles, such as: ushers, greeters, readers, and musicians. While we expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles, and all—we also understand that sometimes they (and their parents or guardians) need a break; on those occasions, you are welcome to utilize the nursery (unstaffed) located on the north end of the narthex. Additionally, there is a playroom for children and a couch room for older youth on the west end of the Fellowship Hall. You can also find children’s bulletins and crayons on the table as you enter the main church building doors.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

As Lutherans, worship is connected with and central to everything we do—uniting us in celebration, engaging us in thoughtful dialogue, and helping us grow in faith. At the heart of our worship life is the presence of God through the word proclaimed and the sacraments—Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; this is because worship is—first and foremost—fundamentally about what God is doing in the world and in our lives, and then our response to God’s action. In the context of worship we find our response in the liturgy, which is a way of living God’s story. The liturgical texts that form the prayers we pray, the texts we say, and the songs we sing find their roots in both the Old and New Testaments; furthermore, these liturgical texts invite each and every one of us—not just the pastor or choir or any other worship leader—to use our voices to praise God. Through worship we are shaped to be participants in God’s life in this world.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR...

- Assistance with wheelchair seating • Assisted listening devices •
- Large print bulletins • Directions to restrooms •

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2023
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) – Setting 10
Service of Holy Communion

*+Indicates to rise as you are able. Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In today's reading, we continue to follow Jesus through his early journeys in ministry. Jesus' teachings usually concerned the kingdom of God and were often communicated through parables which took something ordinary and flipped it on its head—usually leaving listeners with more questions than answers.

WELCOME

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence for reflection*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

+GATHERING SONG

“Gather Us In” ELW #532

+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.**

+CANTICLE OF PRAISE

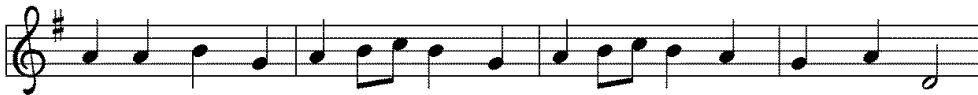
In celebration of the presence of God in our midst, we join the church and all the angels in singing praise to God and, in the process, become messengers bringing the good news of peace on earth.



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

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.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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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.”

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Blest Are They” ELW #728

+APOSTLES' CREED

In holy baptism the triune God adopts us as children and makes us members of the body of Christ, the church. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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

Each petition concludes: Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

+PEACE

The sharing of the peace is one of the oldest traditions in the Christian church. Far more than a sociable handshake, it is a ministry we do for each other that proclaims the promise of God's peace given to us and reconciles us to God and one another.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*Every good and perfect gift is from God. In grateful response to all of God's gifts, we offer our time, talents, and financial resources. Your offerings may be placed in the plates located by the sanctuary doors. **You are also invited to visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.** More information is provided at the end of this bulletin. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC- Sunday School Children "Forever, and Ever, Amen"

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

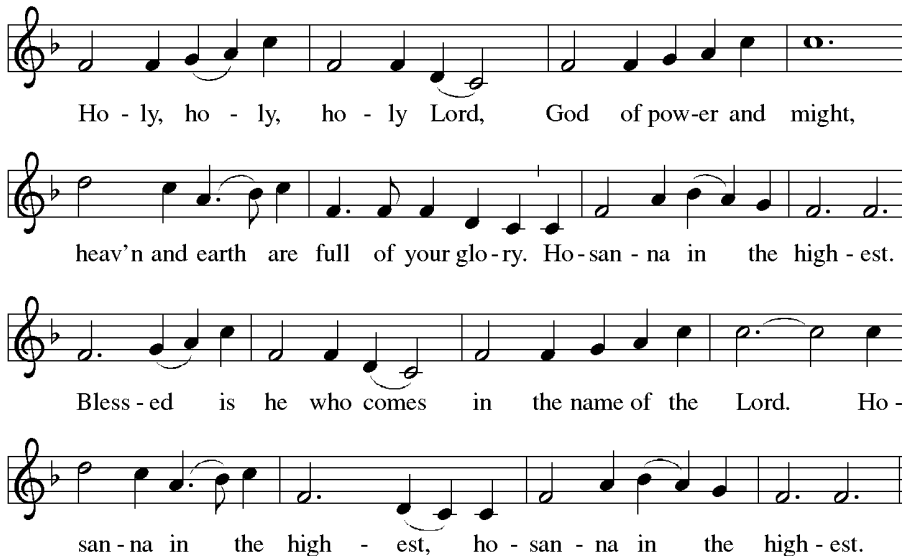
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

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

It is indeed right our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

**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

This is the Lord's table. Jesus himself is the host of this meal and welcomes everyone to come and eat—to be nourished in the faith, fed and forgiven, healed and empowered. The bread is served from a common loaf. The wine and white grape juice are served in individual glasses. If you wish not to receive communion, you are still invited to receive a blessing and may indicate this preference by coming forward with your hands folded. Holy Communion is served continuously by station; please come forward when directed by the ushers.

COMMUNION

+TABLE BLESSING

+PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

+OUR MISSION

Our mission statement reminds us of our collective calling as St. Paul Lutheran Church in light of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

What is the mission we share together? **Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.**

+BLESSING

+SENDING SONG

"We Are Called" ELW #720

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. To love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Annual Meeting:** is in the Fellowship Hall after worship today. Annual Reports will be on the tables.
- **"Scholarships for Seniors fundraiser":** today, January 29 after worship – Soup/Sandwich/Salad/Bars – get your lunch and sit in on the Annual Meeting. Our seniors this year, will be serving you. The Social Action Committee's goal is to give \$500 scholarships, (depending on our funds), to youth who apply and have been active in church or youth events after they've been confirmed. There is also the opportunity for anyone to sponsor a full scholarship or any part of one. Questions can be directed to Deb Youngs or Holly Klemisch.
- **"Fresh Start Kits" for Heart River Brides of Hope:** collecting for during January and February. There is more information on the table in the narthex.

- **Office Hours:** are from 9a.m.-12 noon all Mondays-Tuesdays-Wednesdays of February and March.
- **Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd.** Each night we will have supper. It will be provided by Lenore's Catering. We need volunteers to set up, serve and clean up. A sign up sheet is on the volunteer tables.
- **St. Paul Annual Spring Supper:** is on March 5th.
- **Fellowship Hosts:** We still need hosts for February and March.
- **Readers:** are needed for March. A sign-up sheet and a copy of the readings is on a table in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary.
- **Paper Products Month:** February is the month we collect Copier Paper; 8 ½ X 11 & 8 ½ X 14; Toilet Paper and tissues. This collection helps to keep costs down.
- **Update our Living Wall:** People are encouraged to send updated pictures to the church to put up on the Living Wall. Bring in a picture to the office or email your picture to the church, stpaul@restel.com. Faye Seidler will then put them on the wall.
- **Live Facebook:** each week at St. Paul's. The 4 Ministers are also on FB and Instagram each week.
- **Equal Exchange:** a variety of coffee and chocolate are for sale, at cost, on a cart in the fellowship hall. This supports the small coffee farmers.

You invited to visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.

Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul!



In Our Prayers: Robert Ziemann, Steve Seidler, Bishop Craig Schweitzer, Wayne Klemisch, Travis Kolden, Heidi Smith, Gladys Vanderwerff, Pastor Erin Gullickson, Betty Iglehart, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Jeff Wretling, Randy Mautz, Alton Krebsbach, Terry Metz, Keith Bjornson. The family of Shelly Fuller at the death of her grandmother and the family of Vickie Fure at the death of Don Ficek.

In Thanksgiving: for our missions.

It is a privilege to join one another in turning to God in prayer. Please submit prayer requests to Loree or Pastor Annie. Those for whom prayers have been requested will remain on our prayer lists and named in worship for four weeks, unless requested otherwise.

Birthday Wishes This Week To:

Dannika Rasmussen 30
Dillan Rasmussen 30
Zachary Roberts 30
Darren Kolden 31
Jeanna Severance 1
Lorinda Johnson 2
Jerry Mehlhoff 2

This week at St. Paul's:

| | | |
|---------------|------------|--|
| <i>Sun.</i> | 9:45 a.m. | Communion Worship-Sunday School sings |
| <i>Sun.</i> | 10:45 a.m. | Soup and Sandwich Scholarship Fundraiser |
| | | Quick Choir Practice |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | | St. Paul Annual Meeting |
| <i>Tues.</i> | 10:00 a.m. | Men's Bible Study |
| . | 7:30 a.m. | 9-12 Youth Breakfast Club |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Circle |
| | 3:00 p.m. | 3-6 Sonshine Friends |
| | 6:00 p.m. | 7 th Confirmation |
| | 7:00 p.m. | 8-9 th Confirmation |
| <i>Thurs.</i> | 10:00 p.m. | Community Bible Study at The Meadows |
| <i>Sun.</i> | 9:00 a.m. | Choir Practice |
| | 9:45 a.m. | Communion Worship – Choir – Council Installation |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Fellowship |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 11:15 a.m. | Choir Practice |

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA

P.O. Box 726 – Garrison, ND 58540

stpaul@restel.com

Church Office: 701-463-2019

Sunday Worship – 9:45 a.m.

www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com

pastorsloka@gmail

Pastor Janis Cell: 701-861-9915

Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

SERVING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Ministers</i> | The People of St. Paul Lutheran |
| <i>Pastor</i> | Rev. Janis Sloka, III |
| <i>Faith Formation Director</i> | Holly Klemisch |
| <i>Church Council President</i> | Andrew Haugen |
| <i>Choir Director</i> | Lisa Haugen |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Holly Klemisch |
| <i>Church & Financial Secretary</i> | Loree Jeffers |
| <i>Custodian</i> | Pam Kolden |
| <i>Sunday School Superintendent</i> | Lisa Maki |
| <i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i> | Loree Jeffers |
| <i>Missionaries</i> | Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto |
| <i>Organist</i> | Kim Gehring |
| <i>Reader</i> | Stu Merry |
| <i>Acolytes</i> | Eli Ferguson and Chandler Hanson |
| <i>Greeters</i> | Jennifer Rasch and Pam Syvertson |
| <i>Ushers</i> | Jan Norenberg and Tyler Syvertson |
| <i>Communion Assistants</i> | Pam Syvertson and Kathy Baer |
| <i>Fellowship Hosts</i> | Graduating Seniors and the Fellowship Committee |

MISSION STATEMENT

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.