



THE EPIPHANY OF  
OUR LORD

## **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 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 children and youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome children to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number 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  
First Sunday of Epiphany  
January 8, 2023  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) – Sweet Sounds

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

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.*

**WELCOME**

**+GATHERING SONG—“ WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR GLORY**

VERSE 1

Glory to God in the highest,  
Peace to His people on earth;  
Almighty God, the Father, the Heavenly King. (repeat)

CHORUS

We worship You, we give thanks to You,  
We praise You for your glory. (repeat)

VERSE 2

Jesus, our Lord, and Savior,  
Ruling in glory above;  
Author of Life and Creator of infinite love.  
We call on You now for mercy,  
We pray for your healing within;  
O Lamb of God, so worthy, forgive us our sin.

CHORUS

ENDING

Glory to God in the highest,  
Peace to His people on earth;  
Almighty God, the Father, the Heavenly King

## +SONG—"I LOVE YOU, LORD"

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice,  
To worship You, O my soul rejoice.  
Take joy my King, in what You hear;  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear. (Sing 2 Times)

## +PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC—SWEET SOUNDS

*Word + God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 42:1-9

1 Here 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.  
2 He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
3 a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
4 He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.  
5 Thus 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:  
6 I 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.  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 29** *Please read responsively by whole verses.*

1Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
**2Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**  
3The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.  
**4The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**  
5The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
**6He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**  
7The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.  
**8The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**  
9The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
**10The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**  
11May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONS: “BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD”**

Blessed be the name of the Lord.  
He is worthy to be praised and adored.  
So we lift up holy hands in one accord,  
Singing, blessed be the name,  
Blessed be the name,  
Blessed be the name of the Lord.

**+ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12**

*God’s promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.*

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

<sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sing “BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD” (above) one more time

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

*“We Three Kings of Orient Are”*

- 1 We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*Refrain*

Oh, star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!

- 2 Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again;  
king forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. *Refrain*

- 3 Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, gladly raising,  
worshiping God Most High. *Refrain*

- 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

#### +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.*

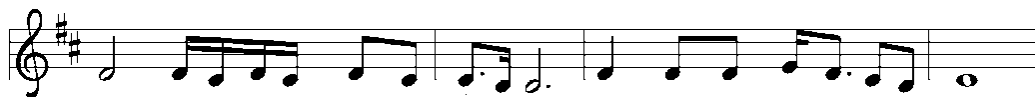
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**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**

*Sing “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” at the beginning, and end of the prayers,  
 as directed by the leader.*

*Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

**Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



## **+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.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **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. These offerings support the ministry of the church—bearing witness to the love of Christ in our community, country, and world.*

### **SONG-WE ARE AN OFFERING      ELW #692**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,  
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you: we are an offering,  
We are an offering.

### **+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.**

**SENDING** ✚ *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**+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**

God bless us and keep us,  
Jesus grant us grace and truth,  
and the Spirit send peace upon our hearts,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**+SENDING SONG—"Shine, Jesus, Shine" ELW #671**

**+DISMISSAL**

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

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006818. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Songs reprinted under CCLI License #2416005. All rights reserved. Hymn words and music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-7187. About Our Worship adapted from ELCA Worship, www.elca.org. Introduction to the Day and scripture summary from Spirit and Truth Publishing, © 2018-2019.

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*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. If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's, please visit with Pastor Janis.*

- **Fellowship:** all are invited to join us for coffee/juice and goodies after worship today.
- **Fellowship Servers:** There is a fellowship sign-up sheet located on the table in the narthex for January and February Sundays. If you are unable to bake, but would be willing to serve, please let Loree or Marian know. Thanks for serving!
- **Today's worship leader is Lisa Maki.** Thank you, Lisa, for leading and preaching in worship today while Pastor Sloka is out of the office. Pastor Sloka will return to the office tomorrow.
- **Readers/Acolytes:** We are looking for readers & acolytes in worship for January & February. There are signups on a table in the narthex along with the readings scheduled for those weeks.
- **Sunday School:** starts today at **11:00 a.m.**
- **Annual Meeting Reports:** deadline is tomorrow, January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Brass Cleaning:** Friday, January 13 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone invited to help!!
- **Crafting:** Friday, January 13 at 4 p.m. and Saturday, January 14 at 9:00 a.m. We meet in the fellowship hall, try to meet once a month, bring whatever projects you want to work on. Good time to get projects finished, and fun fellowship.
- **Women's Raffle:** we will have a raffle along with the Church Supper. We are asking people if they would be willing to put a money donation towards a Cenex and Krause's gift card? We will also have a quilt and jewelry on the raffle. We'll accept all donations. Loree is looking for a person willing to be in charge of the raffle.
- **Annual Meeting:** of St. Paul's will be on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 following worship at 11:00 a.m. There will also be a Soup/sandwich/salad lunch.
- **Soup/Sandwich/Salad Lunch:** January 29<sup>th</sup> after worship to raise money for Senior Scholarships. Free will offering for the lunch.
- **Coffee/Chocolate:** is for sale on a cart in the fellowship hall.
- **Bible Studies:** Men's 10 a.m. Tuesday morning.
- **Devotionals:** two daily devotional resources, "Christ in Our Home" and "The Word in Season", are available on a table in the narthex.

- **2023 Offering Envelopes:** packets of envelopes for offerings are on the table in the narthex, along with single ones in the pews.
- **Sonshine Friends:** K-2 graders will meet this Wednesday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00. Holly is looking for volunteers to sign up for treats for each week.
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars-** Your 2022 Choice Dollars can still be allocated to St. Paul before March. Please consider donating to St. Paul's ministry!
- **Bridges of Hope:** We are collecting items for Heart River's Bridges of Hope program that helps youth and adults get started in life, once they are released from the correctional facility in Mandan. Their program is called "Fresh Start Kit Ministry". There is more information and items that are needed on a table in the narthex. We can collect in January and February for a drop off date in March.
- **Jesse Tree:** Thank you so much for all of the donations on the Jesse Tree! Some went to the Max pantry, some to the Garrison Area Resource Center, and some to Bridges of Hope at Heart River Lutheran in Mandan.
- **Poinsettias:** were beautiful for our Christmas worship and we also donated almost \$300 to GARC. Thank you for your gifts.
- **Recycle:** Our recycle boxes are full. We appreciate anyone who is willing to recycle our paper.

**In Our Prayers:** Bishop Craig Schweitzer, Wayne Klemisch, Travis Kolden, Barb Ferguson, Heidi Smith, Gladys Vanderwerff, Pastor Erin Gullickson, Betty Iglehart, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Lu Graeber, Jeff Wretling, Randy Mautz, Alton Krebsbach, Phil Olstad, Terry Metz, Keith Bjornson. The families of Ida Engel, Jim Iverson, Bill Fure, Gordon Metz, Bill Carlson, Jan Bjerke, Susan Johnson.

**In Thanksgiving:** for the altar guild and those who prepare, set up and cleanup for Holy Communion!!

*It is a privilege to join one another in turning to God in prayer. Please submit prayer requests to Loree, Holly, or Pastor Janis. 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:**

9 - Cade Majeres

Carey Gieser

10 – Kathy Baber

11 - Rae Schumaier

Skylar Bright

13 - Juanita Grosz

Jane Schonauer

14 - Leighnie Leidholm

## **This week at St. Paul's**

Today 9:45 a.m. Worship with Sweet Sounds

10:45 a.m. Fellowship

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

6-8 gr. LOL

11:15 a.m. Choir practice

Monday 6:00-8:00 p.m. MOPS

Deadline for Annual Meeting Reports

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Breakfast Club 9-12

3:00 p.m. 3-6<sup>th</sup> gr. Sonshine Friends

6:00 p.m. 7,8,9 gr. Confirmation

7:00 p.m. Council meets

Thursday 10:00 a.m. Bible Study at the Meadows

Friday 4:00 p.m. Craft Evening

Saturday 9:00 a.m. Craft Day

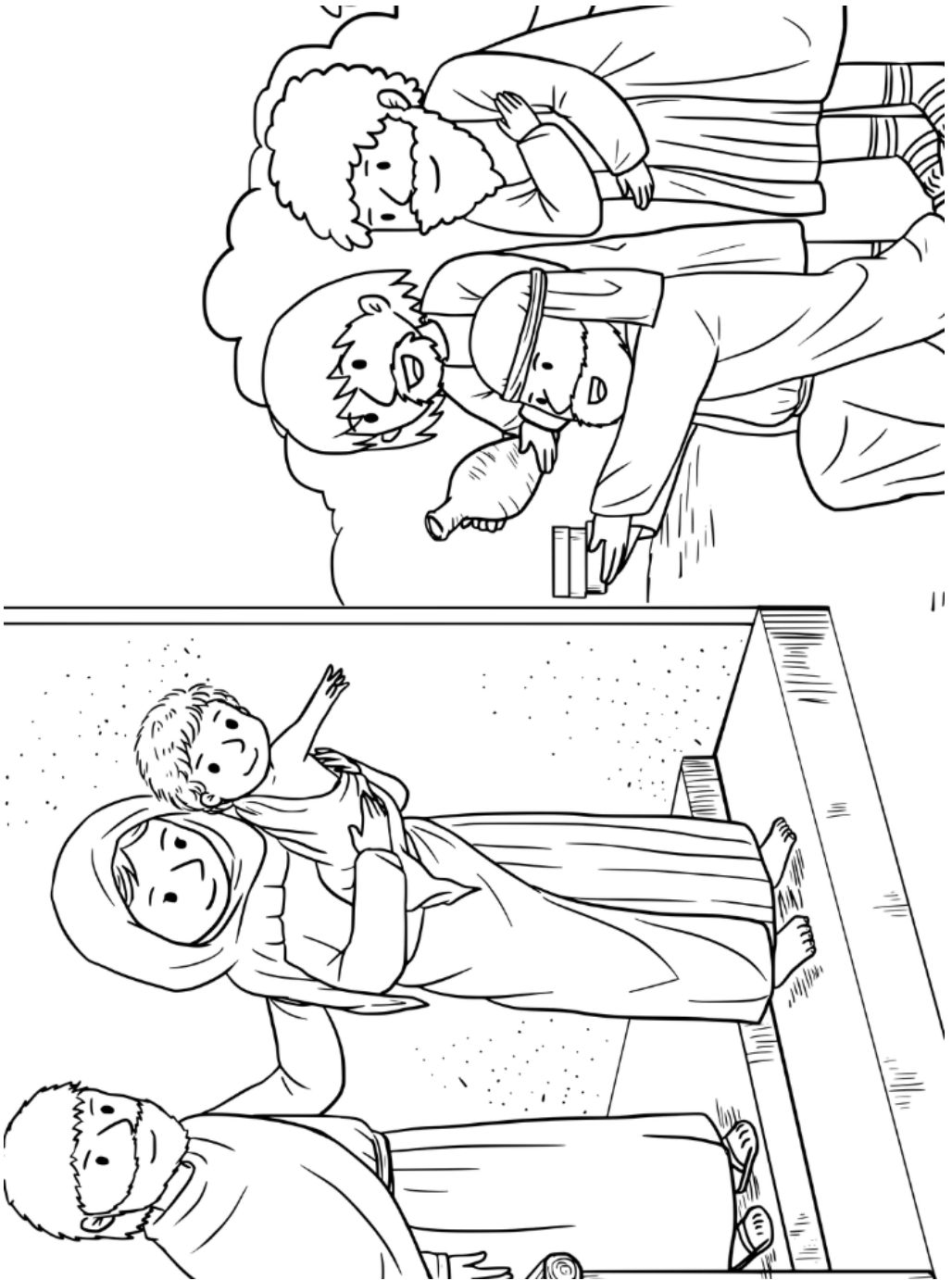
## **January 1-December 31, 2022**

2022 Income	\$191,314.92
2022 Parsonage Principle	\$ 7,670.74
2022 Expenses	<u>\$188,961.29</u>
Difference	<b>(-\$ 5,317.11)</b>
Transferred Contingency Funds	\$ 8,472.70

*Thanks so much for your support of St. Paul and our ministry!*

*If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to visit with Andrew Haugen, Holly Klemisch or Pastor Sloka.*





# 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](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com)

pastorsloka@gmail.com

Pastor Janis Sloka 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>	Janis Sloka, III
<i>Today's Worship Leader</i>	Lisa Maki
<i>Faith Formation Director</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church Council President</i>	Andrew Haugen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church &amp; Financial Secretary</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Custodian</i>	Pam Kolden
<i>Sunday School Superintendent</i>	Lisa Maki
<i>Missionaries</i>	Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto
<i>Choir Director</i>	Lisa Haugen
<i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Organist</i>	Kim Gehring
<i>Reader</i>	Rae Maki
<i>Ushers</i>	Clair Eslinger & Mark/Julie Retterath
<i>Greeters</i>	Katie, Mason & Chandler Hanson
<i>Acolyte</i>	Robbie Maki

## 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.