



**St. Paul Ev. Lutheran
Church**
2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 18, 2026

Pastor: David Reim - 549-5250

Organist: Julie Reim

Ushers: Willy and Roman Frank

Preparation for Worship: Read
Psalm 1 – Hymnal pg. 123

Opening Prayer: Dear Father in heaven, we come before you to worship you in spirit and in truth and to be enlightened by you through your Word. Lord, you have revealed that you “are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.” (Ps. 86:5) Lord, show us your goodness that we may trust you completely in all situations. Fill us with true comfort and peace through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In His name we ask it. Amen.

Invocation:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



Opening Hymn: 342 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

1. Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high,
Lived that I might never die,
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love!
Higher than the heavens above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity.
Love that found me--wondrous thought!--
Found me when I sought Him not.

3. Jesus only can impart
Balm to heal the smitten heart;
Peace that flows from sin forgiven,
Joy that lifts the soul to heaven;
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

4. Chief of sinner though I be,
Christ is All in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
Safe with Him from earthly strife,
He sustains the hidden life.

5. O my Savior, help afford
By Thy Spirit and Thy Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

Confession of Sins: P: Jesus invites us saying, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

C: We come to you Lord, with the heavy burden of our sins. We know that You bore our sins in Your body on the cross. Therefore we are confident to confess our sins trusting in You for forgiveness.

C & P: Almighty and most merciful God, I confess that I am a sinner by my very nature, I was born in the sin of Adam. Because of my corrupt nature, I sin against you daily in my thoughts, in my words and actions. I have done the things you forbid, and I fail to do the things you command. Lord, I know I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. Yet, I come before you in repentance, because you are merciful and gracious and have given Your Son to die for me. Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Forgive me, I pray, for Jesus sake.

P: God, our heavenly Father, is truly merciful and gracious, He has given His own Son into death for our sins, and raised Jesus to life for our justification. By His unfailing word of promise, I assure you that all your sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.



Response of Praise:

Hymn 244

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign!
Glory, glory, To the Lamb that once was slain!**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 49:1-9

“Listen, O coastlands, to Me, And take heed, you peoples from afar! The Lord has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name. 2 And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, and made Me a polished shaft; In His quiver He has hidden Me.” 3 “And He said to me, ‘You are My servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.’ 4 Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the Lord, and my work with my God.’” 5 “And now the Lord says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel

is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and My God shall be My strength), 6 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' ” 7 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, to the Servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel; and He has chosen You.” 8 Thus says the Lord: “In an acceptable time I have heard You, and in the day of salvation I have helped You; I will preserve You and give You as a covenant to the people, to restore the earth, to cause them to inherit the desolate heritages; 9 That You may say to the prisoners, ‘Go forth,’ To those who are in darkness, ‘Show yourselves.’ “They shall feed along the roads, and their pastures shall be on all desolate heights.

Response of Praise:

P: I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne:

C: High and lifted up.

P: And I heard the voice of a great multitude, saying,

C: Alleluia: For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns.

P: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands:

C: Serve the Lord with gladness.

P: Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things:

**C: And blessed be His glorious name forever. Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!**

P: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands:

C: Serve the Lord with gladness. Hallelujah!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?”

15 But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him.

16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

P: Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Confession of Faith: The Apostolic Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: 340 st. 1-3, 7-9 Awake, My Soul, to Joyful Lays

1. Awake, my soul, to joyful lays

And sing Thy great Redeemer's praise.
He justly claims a song from me,--
His loving-kindness, oh, how free!

2. He saw me ruined in the Fall,
Yet loved me notwithstanding all.
He saved me from my lost estate,--
His loving-kindness, oh, how great!

3. When I was Satan's easy prey
And deep in debt and bondage lay,
He paid His life for my discharge,--
His loving-kindness, oh, how large.

7. Too oft I feel my sinful heart
Prone from my Jesus to depart;
But through I have Him oft forgot,
His loving-kindness changes not.

8. When I shall pass death's gloomy vale
And all my mortal power must fail,
Oh, may my last, expiring breath
His loving-kindness sing in death!

9. Then shall I mount and soar away
To the bright world of endless day
And sing with rapture and surprise
His loving-kindness in the skies.

Sermon Text: 1 John 3:1-6

3 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears

we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. 4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

Theme:

Embrace Your Identity!

1. Know Your Present Reality.
2. Consider Your Future Glory.
3. And Abide in Him!

Hymn: Abide in Jesus, Precious Word

1. Abide in Jesus, precious word,
Invited by our gracious Lord,
To find in Him, our Life, our Peace
From sin & death we find release.
2. Abide in Jesus, precious Vine,
Receive His strength and power Divine,
To live our life to do His will,
His precepts ever to fulfill.
3. Abide in Jesus' precious blood.
To be Forgiven in that flood.
His Holy Name to glorify,
Now, as we live and when we die.
4. Abide in Jesus, precious grace;
Come to His Word and see His Face.
When He appears then we will be
Like Him for all eternity.

Offering of Thankful Hearts:

Sing - while offering is brought forward Hymn 441 st. 1-2

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Prayers of the Church:

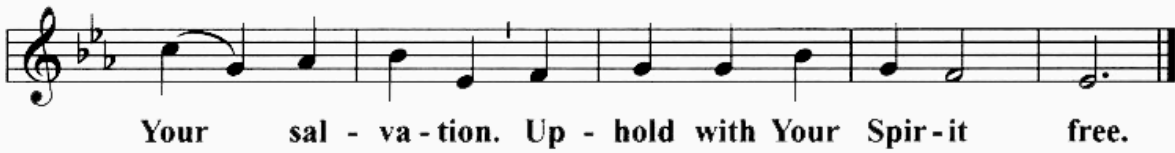
The Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: The peace of God which surpasses all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus

OFFERTORY



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



Benediction: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



Closing Hymn: 53 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

1. Abide, O dearest Jesus,
Among us with Thy grace
That Satan may not harm us
Nor we to sin give place.
2. Abide, O dear Redeemer,
Among us with Thy Word
And thus now and hereafter
True peace and joy afford.
3. Abide with heavenly brightness
Among us, precious Light;
Thy truth direct and keep us
From error's gloomy night.
4. Abide with richest blessings
Among us, bounteous Lord;
Let us in grace and wisdom
Grow daily through Thy Word.

5. Abide with Thy protection
Among us, Lord, our Strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.

6. Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Thy love;
Grant steadfastness and help us
To reach our home above.



Scripture Treasure to Remember:

John 15:7

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today - Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20

Wednesday - Skype Bible Study with Kenneth at 9:30.
Midweek Bible Study.

Thursday - Board of Doctrine meeting at 12:00
PCPC Study Club at 2:00

Friday - Shut-in visit with George at 1:30
Catechism class at 5:00

Next Sunday - Worship Service at 10:00 am.
Sunday School and Bible Class at 11:20.

Annual Voter’s Meeting - Sunday February 8th.

Ash Wednesday Lent Begins - Wednesday February 18th.

Midweek Bible Study

We are making arrangements to meet for our weekly Bible Study at Orchard Valley where Helena Born is living. They can fit us in at 2:00 on Wednesdays starting in February. What would you like to do the last two Wednesdays in January?

CLC Call News

Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea School in Inver Grove Heights, MN, has **received** the call to Redeemer School in Cheyenne, WY.

Pastor Emeritus John Schierenbeck has returned the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran in Saginaw, MI, has **returned** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's in Red Wing, MN.

Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Mankato, MN, has **returned** the call to Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Phoenix, AZ.

Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption in Lynnwood and Ascension in Tacoma, WA, has **received** the call to Messiah in Eau Claire, WI. **Pastor Johnathan Schnose** of Bethel in Morris, MN, has **received** the call to Trinity Lutheran in Spokane, WA.

Mr. Peter Reim has returned the vacancy call to Red Wing, MN.

CLC wide Women's Retreat

The online Women's retreat, "Press Pause—The Future is the Lord's," is scheduled for on Saturday January 31, at 9:00 am. Register at: [Https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26](https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26)