

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)
"The Third Sunday After the Epiphany"
Sunday, January 26, 2025
Divine Service
9:30 AM

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Mark Howard

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

Office: 12-4 M-F; 949-599-4760

Website: www.saintpaulsirvine.com

Email: office@saintpaulsirvine.com

Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus

16355 Laguna Canyon Rd

Irvine, CA 92618

Mission

To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.

Vision

To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.

Service Offerings

- Sunday Divine Service at 9:30 am
 - Fellowship in Café at 10:30 am and Adult Bible Study at 11:00 am
 - Wednesday Bible Studies at 10 am and 7:15 pm in our church offices.
- You may come in person or join us via TEAMS fully interactive.

Welcome to Saint Paul's

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the

forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at St. Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

The Lord's Supper

The Holy Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors.**

Prayer Before Divine Service

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in F -- Vincent Lübeck

Greeting

- P** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
- C** **O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

- Psalm 19:14

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

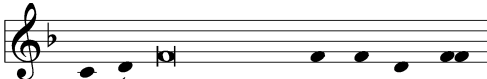
Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn:

398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed (*all stanzas*)

Kyrie

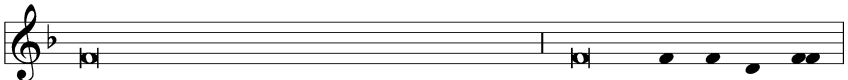
LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



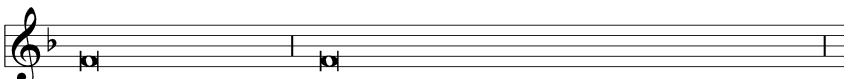
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,




and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



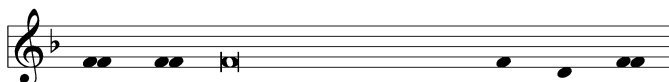
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C 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,

Psalm

Psalm 19:7–14; antiphon: v. 14



Chanted in unison

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable | in your sight,*
O LORD, my rock and my re- | deemer.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviv- | ing the soul;*
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the | simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing | the heart;*
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening | the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for- | ever;*
the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous alto- | gether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even | much fine gold;*
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the | honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is your | servant warned;*
in keeping them there is | great reward.

Who can dis- | cern his errors?*

Declare me innocent from | hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion | over me!*

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great trans- | gression.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning;
is now, and will be forever. | Amen

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable | in your sight,*
O LORD, my rock and my re- | deemer.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we

were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



C 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.

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." ²⁴And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail *(all stanzas)*

Sermon

“United Yet Unique”
(1 Corinthians 12:12-31a)
Pastor Mueller

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P In thanksgiving to the Lord, who has arisen and shown pity to our fallen world and set us free from sin and death; and in thanksgiving for Christ, in whom the appointed time of favor has come for all people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Word of God, that Christ's name would be declared among all peoples and His grace received with delight in every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For eagerness to hear the Word of God with understanding, as in the days of Ezra, that with attentive ears we may receive it, our days be sanctified by it and His commandments be put into practice among us, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all servants in the Church, that blessed with a variety of gifts from the one Holy Spirit, each may use them for the common good of God's people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who govern our communities and country, that they would be given wisdom and courage to lead; that they would follow God's will rather than man's whims; and that our Father would grant us willingness to support them with our prayers and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the comfort of those who mourn and the care of those who need healing, [*especially* _____] that the Great Physician would mend the bodies and uplift the spirits of all who need His compassion, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faith and gratitude among us, that we would not despise the Lord who has come with favor to deliver us, and who gives cleansing and strength in His blessed Sacrament; and that He would dwell among us graciously, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering

Be Thou but Near -- JS Bach

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

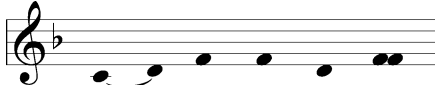
+Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs pastors since they are stewards of the mysteries (1st Corinthians 4:1) to serve only those who share in a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor would love to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface


LSB 160



P The Lord be with you.



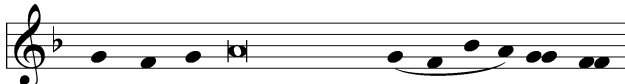
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

C 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the

forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

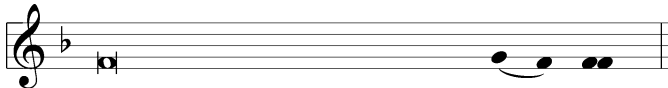
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord’s Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

Distributions Hymns:

839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light *(all stanzas)*

626 Come, Let Us Eat *(all stanzas)*

828 We Are Called to Stand Together *(all stanzas)*

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.
 He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy
 with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

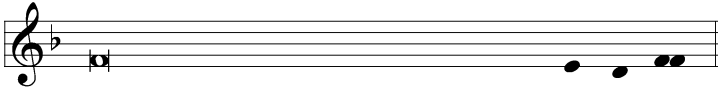
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Postlude

Rondeau -- JJ Mouret

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Announcements

Worship Attendance Form for Members & Guests



Please scan the QR code to fill in an attendance form, or you may fill out an attendance card located in the seatbacks in sanctuary.



GUESTS, please sign our guestbook at the entrance table.

Offerings will be collected during the worship service.

Guests, please note that offerings are always voluntary.

Updated Process for Requesting Announcements



We are updating the process for sending out announcements to the congregation and our community. If you would like an announcement created, you can now submit a request to the Office Administrator, Jackie Johnson, using the form at this link or scan the QR code:



<https://forms.office.com/r/Hsgrm6zAup>

You will be able to choose whether you want your announcement in the bulletin, email, website, livestream, and more

Congregational Meeting- Sunday, January 26th

Mark your calendars! Our next congregational voters' meeting will be held **TODAY**, after Divine Service and a brief fellowship period. This meeting will allow the congregation to discuss the benefits of having a vicar and review our 2025 budget. Please consider joining us for this important discussion about our congregation's fiscal needs.



How to Help Those Impacted by the Recent Fires



Thank you, people of the Pacific Southwest District, for your continued prayers on behalf of our brothers and sisters affected by the Southern California wildfires. If you would like to donate to the PSD Emergency Relief Fund, scan the QR code or go to the link below. Thank you!

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=NTD5GXKZXAALL



Come, let us *sing for joy* to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Psalms 95:1

Choir Schedule for February 2025

- ♪ **Sunday, Feb. 2:** Rehearsal before church at 8:30 am
- ♪ **Sunday, Feb. 9:** Rehearsal before church at 8:30 am
- ♪ **Sunday, Feb. 9:** Sing for Divine Service at 9:30 am

Rehearsal on 2/2 will be in the cafeteria area by the piano.
Rehearsal on 2/9 will be in the Sanctuary. ***Please be prompt!***

Sheet music PDFs and recordings of the music, including the individual parts, are now on the "Choir" page of the church website. Questions? Contact Mark Howard (714) 423-6460 or markahoward@sbcglobal.net.

Daily Devotionals for Reading Through The Holy Bible in 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I will present these devotionals — The LORD permitting — every day on:

- **Facebook @ "Alfonso Espinosa"**
- **TikTok "@alfonsoespinosa356"**
- **Instagram "@alfonsoespinosa88"**

I will also be making these available via email. Let me know if you want to be added to the mailing list.

Let us rejoice that God has revealed how He will keep our faith in Christ strong in 2025: through His Word!

In Your Service and To Christ's Glory,

Pastor Espinosa



Lux et Veritas K-8 Lutheran Classical Academy Update

Lux et Veritas K-8 Lutheran Classical Academy continues preparatory stage to work with LCEF feasibility study in raising funds for the study and conducting groundwork on research for grants and other financial opportunities. In addition, hard work is going into mission and vision formation. The LORD continues to identify for us more people desirous of helping this vision. We are also working closely with the district executive director of schools and our local LCEF representative. Please keep this Great Commission ministry in your prayers for the growth of our congregation and the light of Christ to reach out to many in the Irvine area who may not know the saving Gospel.

*In Your Service and To Christ's Glory,
Pastor Espinosa*

Special Sermon Series for Our Six Wednesday Night Services at 7pm:

Spiritual Renewal According to the 12 Minor Prophets

- **March 5th:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Hosea and Joel*
- **March 12th:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Amos and Obadiah*
- **March 19th:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Jonah and Micah*
- **March 26th:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Nahum and Habakkuk*
- **April 2nd:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Zephaniah and Haggai*
- **April 9th:** Spiritual Renewal According to *Zechariah and Malachi*

Mercy: Love Throughout Life Conference

The conference, hosted by LCMS National Mission, will take place **March 14–15, 2025**. Conference sessions, all livestreamed, will take place in three different locations. Participants may attend in person at one of these locations, or they may watch online. The three in-person locations will focus on the following subject areas:

- **Concordia University, Irvine, Calif., will host sessions on marriage, life and the family at its Concordia – Spectrum Campus.**
- Grace Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg, Fla., will host sessions on *spiritual care*.
- The International Center in St. Louis, Mo., will host sessions on *advocating, teaching and caring for human life*.



To register please scan the QR code provided:

Featured presenters will include **Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison**, LCMS president; **Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor**, LCMS National Mission managing director; **Rev. Michael Salemink**, executive director of Lutherans For Life; **Rev. Dr. Alfonso Espinosa**, senior pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Irvine, Calif.; **Rev. Dr. Brian Heller**, manager of LCMS Specialized Spiritual Care Ministry

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote: "Babies are born into the world wrapped in surprising packaging like disabilities or poverty, but even so, God has a perfect plan for each one of them. Abortion is a tragic end to the countless blessings in store for those who would have surrounded these



children." *Brad Mattes, Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message:

Matthew 8:8 – “But the centurion replied, ‘Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.’”

The Word of the Lord is powerful and effective. What God says, goes. “Let there be light” (Gen. 1:3). And there was light. His Word is still effective and creative for us: “This is my Body given for you.” “Your sins are forgiven.” This is why it is no burden for us to live according to the Word of God: we know that His Word is always bent on our blessing.

We are Seeking More Volunteers to Serve the Congregation

We are seeking volunteers for ***Ushers, Altar Guild, Welcome Table*** and ***transportation services*** and visiting shut-ins. Please let Mark Kuntz know if you are interested.



We need additional volunteers for: ***Livestream, Family Sunday School, Quilting & Fellowship Team.***

Please speak to Pastor Espinosa if you might be able to help with these.

Thank you to all our current, amazing volunteers. You are appreciated!

Opportunities to Study God's Word:

1. “Journey Through the Parables”

Our “Journey Through the Parables” Bible Study will **NOT** meet this week due to the voters' meeting **TODAY**. Please consider joining us for the meeting today, and we will continue with our “Journey Through the Parables” study **NEXT** week on February 2nd.



2. Young Adults Group – “Lamplight”

Lamplight is a group of young adults between the ages of 18-23 that aims to study God’s Word in an engaging yet traditional format of Vespers! Come join us as we read, sing, and meditate upon His Word. The fun doesn’t stop there – join us for fellowship after every meeting and our occasional bonding outings! Lamplight meets every second and fourth Sunday at 4pm in the fellowship hall at Light of Christ Lutheran Church in Irvine. For any questions or information, please contact: Shane Perry at (949) 400-6426 or shaneperryca@gmail.com or Instagram: @lamplight_youngadults



3. Wednesday Bible Studies

We will continue our bible study this **Wednesday, January 29th** with Hebrews Chapter 9. We will be meeting at 10 am and 7:15 pm in our church offices. You may come in person or join us via TEAMS fully interactive.

4. The Chosen Bible Study Groups

St. Paul’s now has two *The Chosen* Bible Study groups that meet once per month. If you are interested in the next meeting, please speak to Pastor.

- Group #1: Upcoming meeting time TBA.
- Group #2: Will be meeting at the church on 2/18 at 5:30pm.

5. Confirmation Class for Youth

Our Confirmation group for youth met at Pastor Espinosa’s house on 1/25. We try to meet monthly, depending on the needs of our students' families. If there is a youth in your family who is interested in talking to Pastor more about confirmation, or if you are interested in adult confirmation, please contact office@saintpaulsirvine.com.

6. “Iron Sharpens Iron”

Next Iron Sharpens Iron bible study will be meeting via zoom on February 1st at 12pm. Please contact Jakob Thornblad for more information Jacobiot1998@gmail.com

✿ **Calling All Women: Interest Check for a Women's Retreat!** ✿

We're excited to explore the possibility of hosting a **St. Paul's Women's Retreat**, and we want to hear from you! This retreat will be a time for spiritual renewal, personal growth, and connecting with fellow women of faith.

Before we move forward with planning, we'd love to gauge interest and see how many women would like to participate. If you're excited about the idea of taking time away to recharge, grow spiritually, and build meaningful connections, please talk to Laura Miller or email the church office at office@saintpaulsirvine.com

Light of the World Podcast

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Circle of Friends



For those we care about to come to saving faith and have a church home. Have a friend who needs prayer or would like a meeting with pastor?



Use this QR code to let us know! More comfortable with pen and paper? Paper forms are available on the entrance table.

Words of Evangelism

Ch. 3 - Death and Guilt

From the Evangelism Committee. There are three points you should remember when the opportunity to share the Gospel presents itself. First, death and guilt are universal problems. Second, there are two religions in the world; Christianity and all others. Third, remember the Gospel. Christ has died for you and your sins and gives you eternal life. Let's talk about this first point, death and guilt are universal problems. Concerning guilt, we can ask others if they have upheld their own moral standard. Most people, if they are truly honest with themselves, will acknowledge they have not upheld theirs. Most people will acknowledge they have guilt. "There is none who does good, not even one." (Ps 53:3) "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin." (Rom 3:20) Here, Paul identifies that the Law serves as a mirror that reflects our own sin back to us and makes it plain. With this in mind, there are some great questions you can ask somebody while trying to engage them about Christianity. Have you upheld your own moral standard? Do you feel guilty about something you have done? Do you have regrets? Concerning death, people fear death and grieve at the loss of a loved one. "It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." (Heb 9:27) A great thing to proclaim to somebody to get their attention is to tell them that they are going to die. Remembering that death and guilt are universal problems and thinking of questions to ask about these points cut through to the heart of the matter. They help cut through the chaff so that you can proclaim the Gospel to those who need it. For the Gospel tells us that Jesus Christ died for our sins so that our sins and regret no longer bring us death but life.

Lord God, we confess before you that we have a heart and flesh problem. Our sin is ever before us and leaves us humbled. We have sinned by not loving you, o God, before all other things and by not loving our neighbor as ourselves. We plea with you, o God, to remember your promises that you gave us through Christ. For the sake

of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, forgive us our sins. Amen.



Please pray for our Missionaries Council Members & Elders



St. Paul's is helping to support these missionaries with financial gifts to the national synod annually:

- Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad
- Serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic
- Erin Mackenzie
- Serving the Lord in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region
- Britt Odemba
- Serving the Lord in Kenya
- Rev. Dr. Tom Park
- Serving the Lord in Taiwan

St. Paul's has formed friendships with these missionaries and are not currently supporting them financially:

- Tirzah Krey, Regional Human Care Coordinator
- Serving the Lord in the Latin America and Caribbean Region
- St. Paul's also supports our local evangelist Rev. Mark Jasa.

Please pray for our Church Leaders:

Our Parish Council members and Elders are so appreciated. Please pray that God grant them strength and bless their ministry to our church:

St. Paul's Parish Council Members:

- Debbie Dannemeyer – President
- Matt Bures – Recording Secretary
- Ken Mott – Treasurer
- Laura Miller – Financial Secretary
- Jon Rutherford – Trustee Director
- Ali Frank – Stewardship Director
- Mark Kuntz – Presiding Elder
- Renee Mott – Fellowship Director
- Bradley Hustad – Evangelism Director
- Jacob Thornblad – Education Director
- Miles & Jackie Johnson – Youth Director

St. Paul's Elders:

Mark Kuntz (Presiding Elder), Bruce Dannemeyer, Bryan Kilduff, John Church, Jon Steele, Karl Blanke, Michael Padilla, Steve Fischer, Ricky Cuenca, Alex Padilla

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

Date	Altar Team	Ushers/ Greeters	Elders on Duty	Entrance Area	Livestre am
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
4 th Sunday 1/26/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, A. Wright	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	John Church, Jon Steele	Anne Wright	Jon Steele
1 st Sunday 2/2/2025	Nina Mueller, Myra Taylor	Barney Wright, Miles Johnson	Alex Padilla, Bruce Dannemeyer	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
2 nd Sunday 2/9/2025	Mei Kuntz, Elizabeth Brothwell	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla	Myra Taylor	Shane Perry
3 rd Sunday 2/16/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank and Ed Miller	Bryan Kilduff, Mark Kuntz	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

4 th Sunday 1/26/2025	Gary & Daisy Minter, Renee Mott
1 st Sunday 2/2/2025	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2 nd Sunday 2/9/2025	Espinosa's
3 rd Sunday	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer

2/16/2025	
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