

St. Paul's Lutheran Family, ELCA

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Mike Patterson, Interim Pastor

BRIEF ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

SETTING II



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 12, 2023

SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Family

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us 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 Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: Hymn #804, Come Down, O Love Divine – All four verses

(Pg. 120)

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.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

(Pg. 122)

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:1-8

Refrain



Hap - py are they who fol - low the teach-ing of the LORD.

Psalm 119:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

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¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!
²**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**
³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.
⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them. R**
⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!
⁶**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**
⁷I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
⁸**I will keep your statutes;
do not utter-ly forsake me. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL (Pg. 124)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

(The gospel is proclaimed, concluding...)

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Guest Preacher, Bill Ledford

HYMN OF THE DAY: Hymn #612, Healer of Our Every Ill – All four verses

APOSTLES' CREED

**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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible (*especially*), empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Nurture all in need (*especially*)... Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration (*local restorative efforts may be named*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of that peace.

OFFERING HYMN: Hymn #313, O Lord, Now Let Your Servant – Both verses

OFFERING

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to stand and to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your heart.

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, that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise.

(The minister continues with the preface of the day.)

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Pg. 130)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again after supper, He took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the
forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

And now we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:
**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, the power, and the glory, forever
and ever.
Amen.**

Come to the banquet for all is ready and all belong and are welcome to
Christ's table.

(We practice open Communion with both bread, gluten free wafer, wine, or
grape juice.)

(LAMB OF GOD WILL BE SUNG, Pg. 135)
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world;
grant us peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Communion Hymns

HYMN #674, Let Us Talents and Tongue Employ – All three verses

HYMN #461, All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly – All three verses

HYMN #461, All Are Welcome – All five verses

HYMN #650, In Christ There is No East or West – All four verses

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After our service **TODAY**, please join us from approximately 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. as the Call Committee and Youth Group in partnership host a special Coffee Fellowship Hour with an interactive discussion of St. Paul's history.

The meeting will be held in the sanctuary to enable a livestream review of St. Paul's journey. After a short review of each decade prior to 2018, concentration will be placed on the years since 2018, with an opportunity for participants to write post-it notes with comments and questions.

Livestreaming allows those members of the congregation who cannot attend in person to participate in this event. The best outcome will be achieved with the inclusion of as many congregants as possible.

The goal of this exercise is to create a helpful tool for the Call process. It will also be available to future pastoral candidates to learn about St. Paul's.

SENDING SONG: Hymn #823, Praise the Lord! O Heavens – Both verses

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

See you next week!

Worship Volunteers

Greeter – Nikki Rohrs

Reader – Ken Beaton

Communion Assistant – John Bradtke

Ushers – Dave Harrell and TBA

Counters – Nikki Rohrs and Deanna Fine

Acolytes – Clay Woslum and Greg Griffith

Youth Acolyte – TBA

Live-streaming Team – Jay Olshen, Deanna Fine, and Nick Cotsonis

Musician – Dave Lingensjo

Altar Guild: Hope Chowanski and Heidi Jones

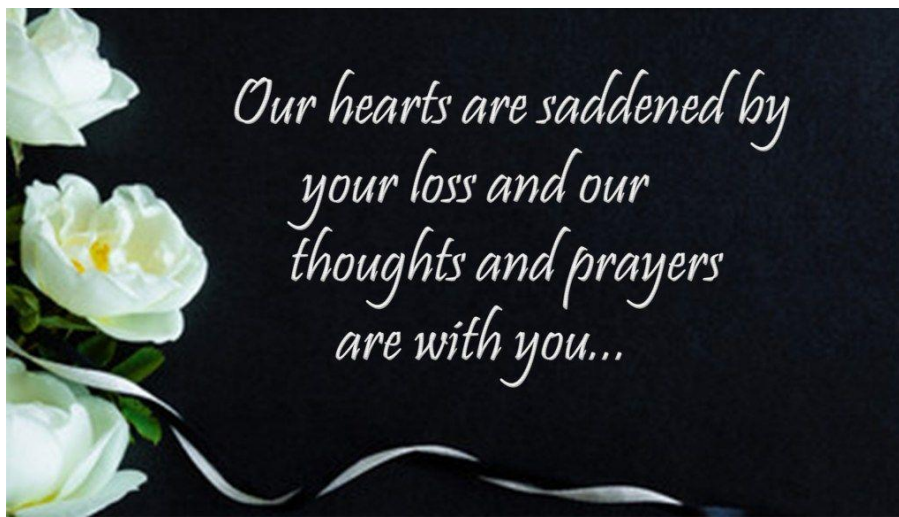
Faith L.I.N.K. meets from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Beverly and Grant, friends of Susan Bunker-Niles, Grant suffered a stroke; David Lingensjo, knee surgery; Eric McPhail (Colin McPhail's nephew) in hospice for cancer; Brita Steyn's granddaughter born prematurely; Vera Logie, Tom, a friend of St. Paul's; Patricia Rickard, mother-in-law of Shirley Rickard, stage-4 lung cancer; Joan Yeskie; Mike Harrell (Dave and Ellen Harrell's son), COVID-19; son-in-law John Samp, a growth on his skull and spine, and daughter Vicki Ranger, early-onset dementia; Glenn Laursen; Edward Yoho; Madelene Yoho; Fern Yoho; Maxine McGregor (Madelene's sister); and a special prayer for all those living with devastating diseases and life-threatening injuries.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

Jim Kennett; Audrey Stroub, rehab from back surgery; Bev Steinert, ongoing vision issues; Bob Stroub; Dick Lowther, recovery from a broken hip; Wayne Opperman; Bill Sandell; Frank and Shirley Bartlett; Bev Gutzman; Sarah Jevne; Carol Kalleres, continued health issues; James Wilson, continued health issues; Mary Ann Adamik, healing; Ellen Harrell, medical issues; Betty Razor, healing; Karen (Hone) Nolte; Hannelore Hanke; and Diana Johns.



We grieve with Mary DeFelice on the loss of her beloved husband and St. Paul's long-time congregant and friend, Angelo.

May his memory be a blessing.