

*Behold the Lord, the Ruler, has come,
and the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory are in His hand.*

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5, 2025

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18–24

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass

A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

C who made Heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O Almighty God, Merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I 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 ✠

Introit

Psalm 72:1–2, 10–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text

*Behold the Lord, the Ruler, has come,
and the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory are in His hand.*

**Give the king Your justice, O God,
and Your righteousness to the Royal Son!**

May He judge Your people with righteousness,
and Your poor with justice!

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba | bring gifts!**

May all kings fall down before Him,
all nations serve Him!

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;*

as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Behold the Lord, the Ruler, has come,
and the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory are in His hand.**

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

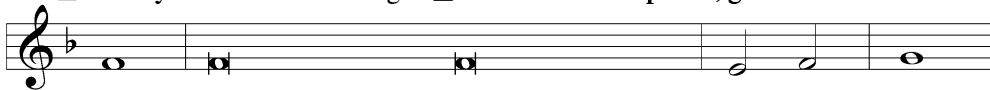


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

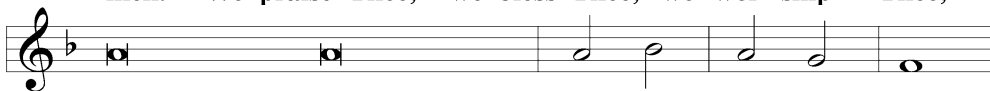
Gloria in Excelsis



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



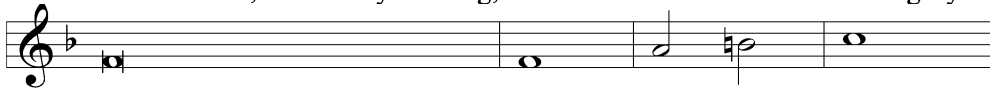
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



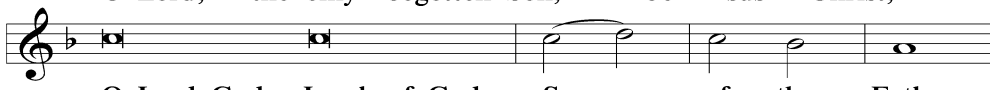
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



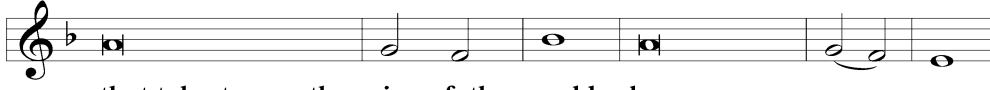
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



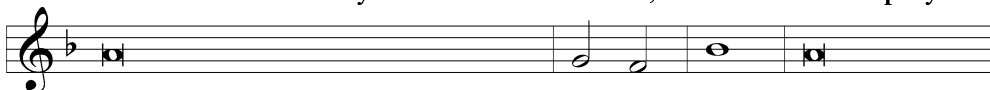
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



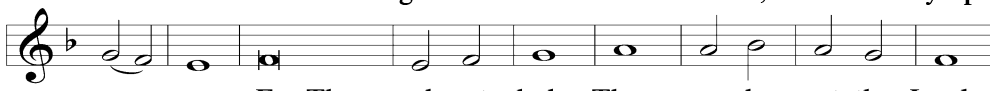
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



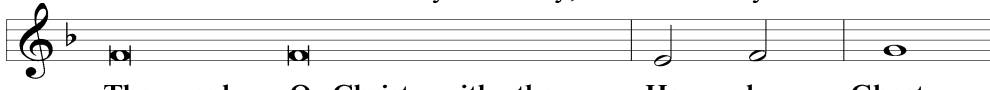
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in Heaven the fullness of Your Divine Presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,
and His glory will be seen upon you.

³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring Good News, the praises of the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 60:6b, 1

Those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring Good News,
the praises of the LORD.

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles –
²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for
you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.
⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was
not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to
His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow
heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the
Gospel.

⁷Of this Gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was
given me by the working of His power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints,
this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to
bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who
created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be
made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to
the eternal purpose that He has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have
boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia & Verse

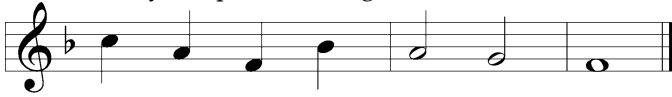
Matthew 2:2b

Alleluia. We saw His star when it rose,
and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a Ruler
who will shepherd My people Israel.””

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the Child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

As with Gladness Men of Old

397

Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory

Tune 397 sts. 1-3



1 As with glad - ness men of old Did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As they offer - ed gift most rare At Thy crad - le, rude and bare,
3 Lord, to Thee our hearts we raise, As we bring our thanks and praise.



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
So may we with ho - ly joy, Pure and free from sin's all - oy,
Wise men came from far to Thee There to touch and feel and see.



So, most gra - cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led by Thee,
All our cost - iest trea - sures bring, Christ to Thee our heav - nly King.
In this Supp - er may we know Thy true pre - sence here be - low.

Tune: Conrad Köcher, 1786–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

- P** Let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts.



- C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

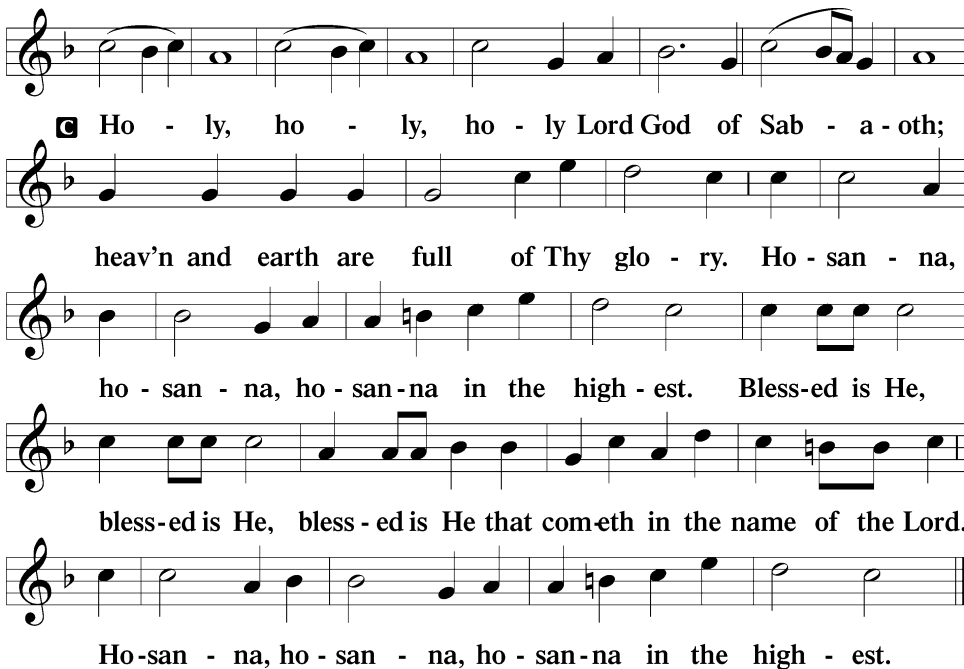


- C** It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution Hymns

Hail to the Lord's Anointed	398
The Only Son from Heaven	402
The People That in Darkness Sat	412

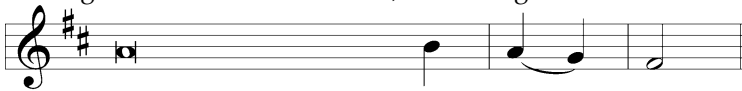
Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P 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.



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

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"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, January 5	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
Saturday, January 11	8:30am	CPR Class	Irmer Hall

BIRTHDAYS

01/05 – David Oravec
01/05 – Taryn Wininger
01/10 – Louise Ahrens

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

01/05 – Jonathan Quiñones
01/09 – Joshua Stonecypther
01/10 – Louise Ahrens

SOCIAL MINISTRY

We are collecting canned foods for the next several months. Please place your canned foods on the Social Ministry cart in the Narthex. These donations to benefit the West Valley Community Food Pantry housed at St. John's Lutheran Church, 7205 N. 51st Ave, Glendale.

EXPERT GUESTS, EXPANSIVE TOPICS, EXTOLLING CHRIST

Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Promises of God, The Top Biblical Archeological Discoveries of 2024, Eastern Orthodoxy, the Book of Lamentations and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at info@stpaullutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Charlie Cook – exp. procedure to heal bladder

Dorothy Paxton, recovering from ankle surgery

Nigel Proctor – suffering from severe digestive issues

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas

Kevin Stamm – health issues

Suzi Riley – suffering from sleep apnea

Jorge Jimenez – fighting cancer

Rose Tressler – health issues

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Rei Irmer (sister of Louise Ahrens) prayers for continued healing.

David Wies (cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with leukemia and will be undergoing treatment.

Bill Garber (cousin of Jeanne Schubring) diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Sharon Wies (wife of Cliff Wies, cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer.

Nick Koontz (husband of Mary Howard’s stepdaughter) diagnosed with leukemia.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Substitute Pastors and their families

Sunday School teachers & children

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

The Rev. Jeff Proctor and family

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Lexington Life Academy families & staff

OUR NATION: For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (*members, friends, or relatives*): **Jackson Buffington, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Juan Garcia, Robert Gilmore, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Ethan Peterman, Andy Smiley, Jacob Wilson**

OUR SHUT-INS: Anne Smith

Acknowledgments

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