

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 26, 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.

As We Gather

The season of Advent and The Twelve Days of Christmas celebrations have passed for another year. Today we celebrate the mystery of the one true God. Our celebration, however, seems to say, "CHRISTMAS isn't really over." Even though we have rebelled and brought death by our sin, still God's glorious and "very good" creation has become even better in Christ, with eternal life the way God originally intended things to be. In the meantime, we have the assurance that God continues to meet all of our needs. This is the great good news we proclaim all our days by which God brings hope, forgiveness, and life to all, making disciples in all the nations of the earth. Blessings on your worship today!

Stand

Hymn

Christ is Our Cornerstone

912

- **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,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O Almighty God, Merciful Father,
- 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* 97:1, 10–12; antiphon: *Psalm* 97:6, 9

The heavens proclaim His righteousness, and all the peoples see His glory.

For You, O LORD, are Most High over all the earth;

You are exalted far above all gods.

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;

let the many coastlands be glad!

O you who love the LORD, hate evil!

He preserves the lives of His saints; He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light is sown for the righteous,

and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to His Holy Name!

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

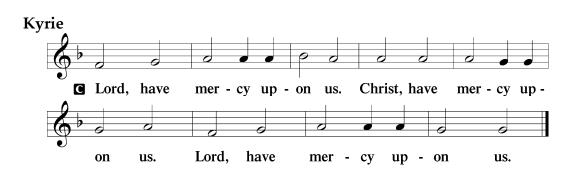
as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The heavens proclaim His righteousness, and all the peoples see His glory.

For You, O LORD, are Most High over all the earth;

You are exalted far above all gods.



Gloria in Excelsis



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- P Let us pray. Almighty and Everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Isaiah 40:28-29

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and to him who has no might he increases strength.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 102:15–16

Nations will fear the Name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth will fear Your glory.

For the LORD builds up Zion;

He appears in His glory.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 2:1–5

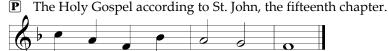
¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia & Verse Psalm 97:1

Alleluia. The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; Let the many coastlands be glad! Alleluia.

Holy Gospel John 15:1-5



Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

1"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.



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.

Sermon

Offering

Stand



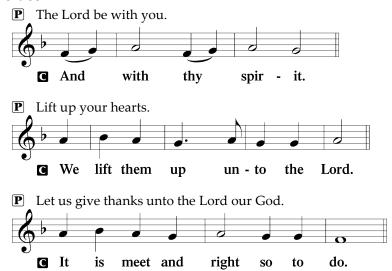
Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

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

→ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT →

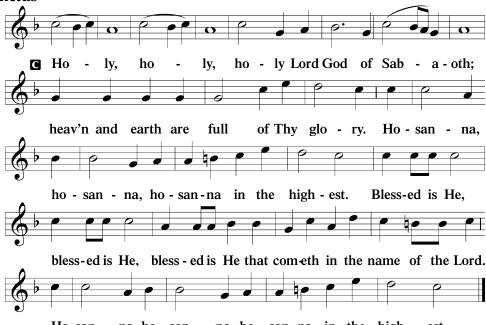
Preface



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-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

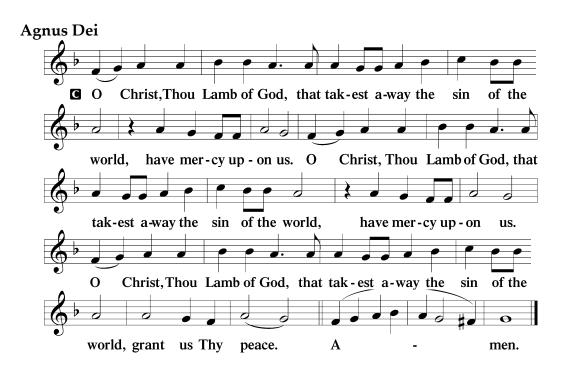
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My +Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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.





Sit

Distribution Hymns

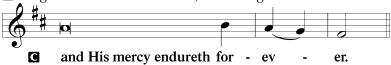
All Depends on Our Possessing	732
Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me	756
God Loved the World So That He Gave	571

Nunc Dimittis



Thanksgiving

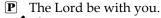
P O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



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.



Salutation and Benedicamus





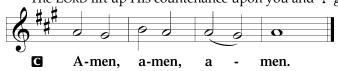




Benediction

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.



Hymn

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, January 26	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library

BIRTHDAYS

01/28 – Kaylee Wininger
01/31 – Nicholas Jimenez

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

We will participate in "Souper Bowl of Caring" on Sunday, February 9th. This year we will provide a "soup pot" for monetary donations but we will also be collecting plastic bowls and canned soup, following our Divine service. Every year we participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring where donations are collected across the country on NFL Super Bowl Sunday to benefit hunger-relief programs in their own communities. Our donations will be given to the West Valley Community Food Pantry in Glendale which is housed at St. John's Lutheran Church.

THE BIBLE & OTHER RELIGIOUS WRITINGS

The Koran, The Book of Mormon, The New World Translation, The Analects of Confucius, The Gospel of Thomas. Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, is doing a series on the origins of religious writings with Dr. Adam Francisco of Concordia University Chicago. You can listen to this multi-part series at issuesetc.org/religiouswritings.

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

Nigel Proctor – suffering from severe digestive issues

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas

Kevin Stamm – health issues **Jorge Jimenez** – fighting cancer

Rose Tressler – ongoing 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.

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.

Please pray for all those affected by the Southern California fires, as well as those assisting in containing the fires and those helping to aid victims. For updates, latest resources, and more... visit: www.psd-lcms.org/disaster-response.

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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