

*“Landmark of the Gospel Since 1834”*

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Our Purpose: Led by the Word of God, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family who lives and shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

February 8, 2026

10:30 AM

**Epiphany 5**

*After the ringing of the bell...*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**  
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**  
**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**  
**Turn us to seek your face.**  
**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ✚ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

**HYMN**

*Let Justice Flow like Streams*

**WOV 763**

**1 Let justice flow like streams**  
**of sparkling water, pure,**  
**enabling growth, refreshing life,**  
**abundant, cleansing, sure.**

**2 Let righteousness roll on  
as others' cares we heed,  
an ever-flowing stream of faith  
translated into deed.**

**3 So may God's plumb line, straight,  
define our measure true,  
and justice, right, and peace pervade  
this world our whole life through.**

### **GREETING**

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.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

WOV 651, Refrain, vs. 1, Refrain

[Refrain]

**Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with love and mercy;  
send forth your Word,  
Lord, and let there be light!**

**1 Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me [Refrain]**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]**

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they want God on their side.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

### **PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God’s commandments!

<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup> **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> **For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> **Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

## SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

## VERSE

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PROCLAMATION

HYMN

*Bring Forth the Kingdom*

R228

**You are salt for the earth, O people:  
Salt for the Kingdom of God!  
Share the flavour of life, O people:  
Life in the Kingdom of God!**

**REFRAIN:**

**Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,  
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;  
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,  
Bring forth the City of God!**

**You are a light on the hill, O people:  
Light for the City of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Shine for the Kingdom of God! REFRAIN**

**You are a seed of the Word, O people:  
Bring forth the Kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
Grow in the Kingdom of God! REFRAIN**

**We are a blest and a pilgrim people:  
Bound for the Kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
Love is the Kingdom of God! REFRAIN**

**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**

**We lift our voices,  
We lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices  
Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours:  
We are an offering.**

**All that we have,  
All that we are,  
All that we hope to be,  
We give to you,  
We give to you.**

**We lift our voices,  
We lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering,  
We are an offering.**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet you reveal the wideness of your mercy through word water and meal.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### **THE PRAYERS**

Each petition ends: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

#### **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.**

**BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
 who has put a new song in your mouth  
 and tuned your heart for praise

✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN**

*God, Whose Almighty Word*

**LBW 400**

**1 God, whose almighty word  
 chaos and darkness heard  
 and took their flight:  
 hear us, we humbly pray,  
 and where the Gospel day  
 sheds not its glorious ray,  
 let there be light!**

**2 Lord, who once came to bring,  
 on your redeeming wing,  
 healing and sight,  
 health to the sick in mind,  
 sight to the inly blind:  
 Oh, now to humankind  
 let there be light!**

**3 Spirit of truth and love,  
 life-giving, holy dove,  
 speed forth your flight;  
 move on the water's face  
 bearing the lamp of grace,  
 and in earth's darkest place  
 let there be light!**

**4 Holy and blessed three,  
 glorious Trinity,  
 wisdom, love, might!  
 Boundless as ocean's tide,  
 rolling in fullest pride,  
 through the earth, far and wide,  
 let there be light!**

**DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace, to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

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