

“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.

January 25, 2026

10:30 AM

3 Epiphany

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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

WOV 649, vs. 1&2

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.

**The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]**

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

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the
LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- on a rock.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”**
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

VERSE

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PROCLAMATION

HYMN

The Son of God, Our Christ
Sung To EVENTIDE, See LBW 272

LBW 434, vs. 1,3&4

**1 The Son of God, our Christ, the Word, the Way,
shared human life and toiled throughout the day;
from common folk he called the twelve to be
coworkers in his sacred ministry.**

**3 Today, as then, Christ summons us to dare
to follow boldly and his work to share,
to help and heal the sick, the blind, the lame,
declaring to the world his holy name.**

**4 In city street, in town, or on the soil,
may each serve Christ in faithful daily toil
and in each thought and kindly word and deed,
obey Christ's call and go where he shall lead.**

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

PEACE

May Christ's peace go with you as you follow Jesus. And also with you.

Share Christ's peace with one another...

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY VERSE

R232

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

Jesus Shall Reign

LBW 530, vs. 1,3-5

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
 does its successive journeys run;
 His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
 till moons shall wax and wane no more.

3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
 dwell on his love with sweetest song;
 and infant voices shall proclaim
 their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
 the priso'ers leap to lose their chains,
 the weary find eternal rest,
 and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
 honors peculiar to our King;
 angels descend with songs again,
 and earth repeat the loud amen.

DISMISSAL

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

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