



**St. Paul  
Lutheran Church**  
share • care • grow  
La Grange, Texas

The Rev. William J. Sappenfield, *Interim Pastor*  
*Organist:* Jean McHenry - Saturday  
*Organist:* Sherise Davis —Sunday

**Saturday & Sunday  
January 14 & 15, 2023  
Second Sunday of Epiphany**



**Next weekend’s readings:**

**Isaiah 9: 1-4; Psalm 27: 1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18**

**Matthew 4: 12-23**

**LISTEN TO ST. PAUL SERVICES!**

Visit our webpage, [www.stpaulg.org](http://www.stpaulg.org), and click **“Listen”** to hear our services live on your smart phone or computer! You can also view our bulletin, weekly service video, newsletters and current calendar. Visit our Facebook page to view the service live Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Rev. William J. Sappenfield, Interim Pastor

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## Welcome!

- + Welcome to worship! All are welcome at the table of grace. We believe that Christ is truly present as we share the bread and wine. Those at home are invited to participate with appropriate elements.
- + The 9 a.m. service will be on Facebook live & audio streamed on our webpage, [www.stpaullg.org](http://www.stpaullg.org). It will also be posted on our Facebook page. You may listen to last week's service on KBUK 104.9 FM on Sundays at 10 am.

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

## GATHER

### Prelude

### Announcements

**Invocation** *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

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

### HYMN

*Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

# 314

### Greeting

**P:** 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.**

### Kyrie *page 138*

**P:** 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.**

### **Canticle of Praise *pages 139-140***

**P:** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** : Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that thorough your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ , our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

### **The First Reading: Isaiah 49: 1-7**

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— <sup>6</sup>he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to

the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The Word of the Lord. Thanks **be to God**.

### **Psalm: Psalm 40: 1-11**

<sup>1</sup>I waited patiently upon the LORD,  
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they who trust in the LORD!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup>Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

<sup>6</sup>**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;**

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

<sup>7</sup>And so I said, “Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

<sup>8</sup>**‘I love to do your will, O my God;**

**your law is deep within me.’”**

<sup>9</sup>I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup>**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness  
and your deliverance;**

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.

<sup>11</sup>**You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me;**

**may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.**

### **The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9**

*Though God’s church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup>To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation** *ELW 142*

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

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **The Gospel: John 1: 29-42**

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

<sup>29</sup>[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

<sup>38</sup>When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup>He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

# Children's Word

## Sermon

## Hymn

*Christ, Be Our Light*

#715

## Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.*

Strengthen our witness as your children. Give us your strength so that all we do shows we follow you. Use this church to bring light to this community. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In Jesus you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Show your mercy to all nations. Direct leaders to do your will; fill governing bodies with righteousness; bring peace to Ukraine and other places at war, equip judges with discernment and compassion. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be with those who are troubled or ill. We remember especially those we name aloud or silently. Comfort all who are sad and bring peace of mind to your children. Make us signs of your faithfulness to all in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are glorified in the servants you have called. Give us trust in you. Bless us with courage to receive your call to repentance and racial justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In every place and time, you have sanctified your people. We praise you for the testimony of those who have died in the faith. Strengthen us as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.**

## The Sharing of the Peace

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**Offering** *The offering plates will be passed.*

**Offering Song** *ELW 186*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

### Offering Prayer

**P:** God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## MEAL

**The Great Thanksgiving** *ELW 144*

**P:** The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **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 we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,  
through whom you will also make all things new  
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### Words of Institution

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 cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **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**

### **Agnus Dei** *page 146*

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

### **Communion**

*All are welcome to the Lord's table. White grape juice is in the center of the tray of cups. If you are physically unable to come forward for communion, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you. You may also remain in your pew and use a prepackaged kit.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

**P:** God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### **Blessing**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

**Sending Song**      *O Day Full of Grace*      #627

### **Dismissal**

**A:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**THIS Weekend:**

5:00 pm **USHERS:** Bonnie Sladek/Annette Citzler  
**LECTOR:** Annette Citzler  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Gloria Raschke/Ginger Muesse  
9:00 am **USHERS:** Tim & Susan Knesek  
**LECTOR:** Wendy McCredie  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Gloria Raschke/Ginger Muesse  
**FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS:** Annette Citzler  
**FLOWERS:** Open

**NEXT Weekend: 1/21 & 1/22**

5:00 pm **USHERS:** James & Sharon Elias  
**LECTOR:** Sharon Elias  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Jackie Skelton  
10:00 am **USHERS:** Caleb & Ashleigh Parks  
**LECTOR:** Praise Band  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Janet Coronado  
**FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS :** None this week  
**FLOWERS:** Friend of St. Paul

**SATURDAY:** 5:00 pm Worship

**SUNDAY:** 9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

**MONDAY :** 9:00 am Quilters

No Confirmation

**TUESDAY:** 8:30 am Tacky Tuesday

6:00 pm Church Council

**WEDNESDAY:** 6:00 pm Hand Bells

7:00 pm Choir

8:00 pm Praise Band

6:30 pm LYO

**SATURDAY :** 5:00 pm Worship

**SUNDAY: 10:00 am Worship**

11:15 Meal

11:45 Annual Meeting

**REMINDER** — Join us next week for the Annual Meeting of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 22, 2023. **Services will be at 10:00 on January 22, 2023** followed by a meal in the Fellowship Hall at 11:15. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share. The Annual Meeting will start at 11:45. Please bring your copy of the Annual Report to the meeting.

**TACKY TUESDAY**—Quilters will meet at 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Potluck lunch will begin 11:45, a main dish will be provided and everyone brings sides or dessert.

**CHURCH COUNCIL**—will meet Tuesday, 1/17 at 6 pm in the Friendship Room.

**REMINDER**—Christ in Our Home devotionals are available on the ushers counter in the Narthex and on the porch of the office.

Special envelopes for Memorial donations are available at the usher's counter in the Narthex. They are in the plexiglass slots on the top of the counter.