ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025

Whenever you see an asterisk (*), you are invited to stand as you are able.
You are invited to speak sans serif **Bolded type** with the congregation.

Introduction to the Day

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

Prelude

Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Let us pray: 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. **A: Amen.**

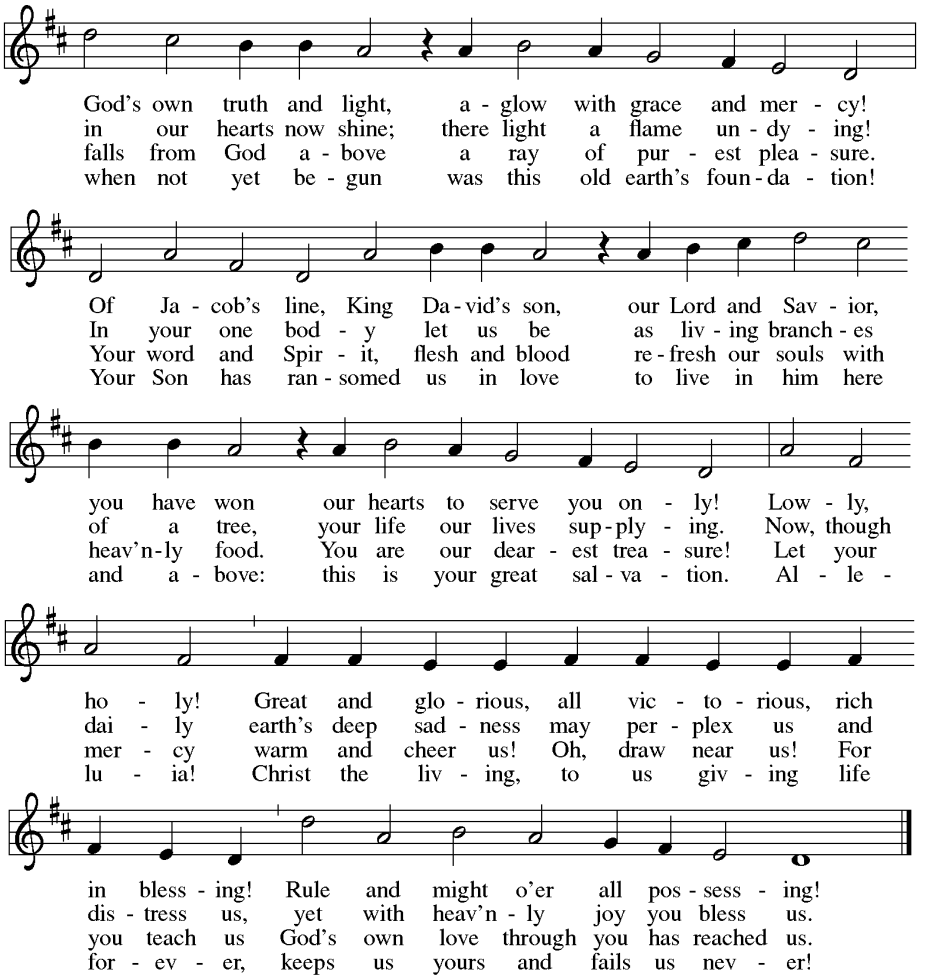
P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sin, in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. A: Amen.

P: 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. **A: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn *"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!"* *(ELW 308)*



5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
the Lord we love is first and last,
the end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
transport us to that happy place
beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
for the day of your returning.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai
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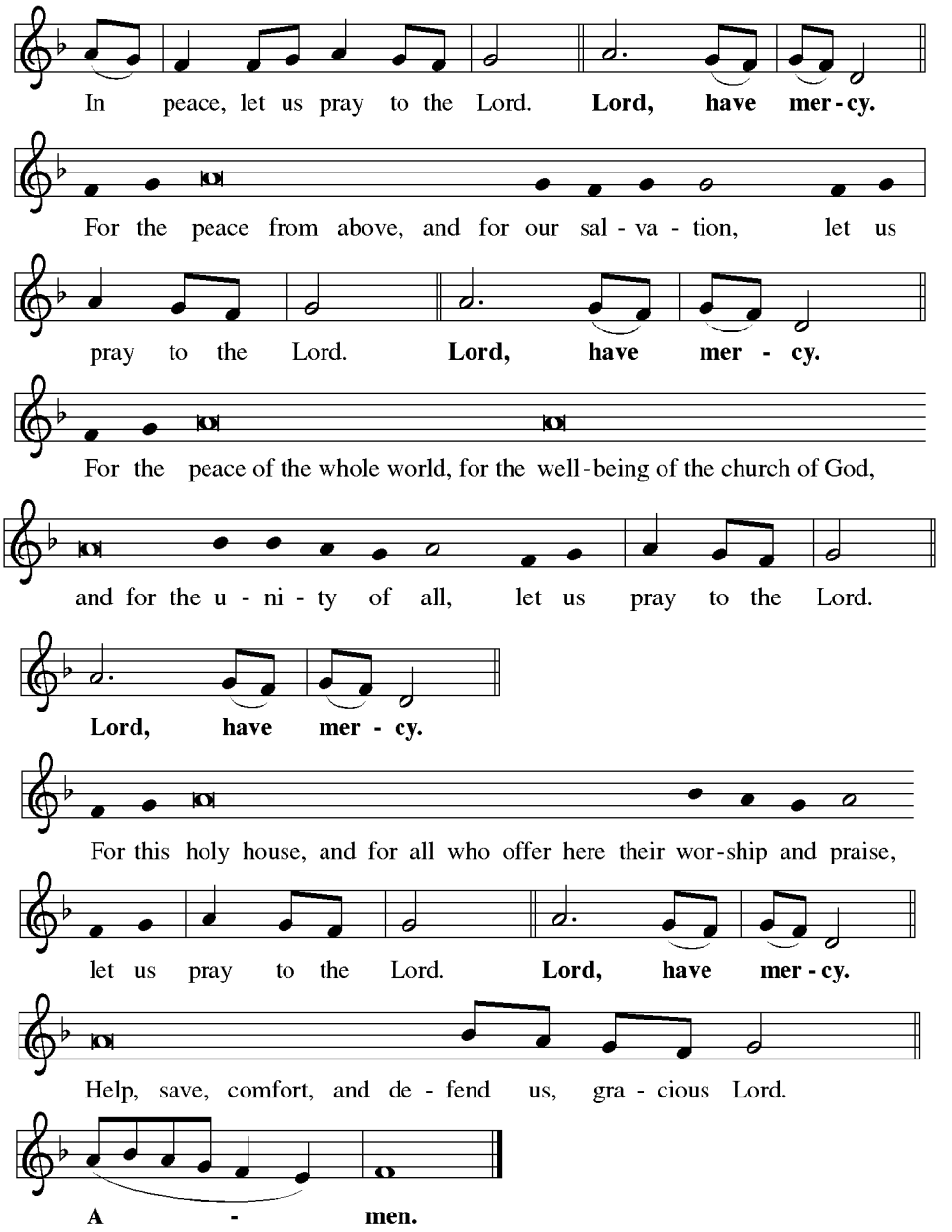
*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **A: And also, with you.**

*KYRIE



*Hymn of Praise

*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also, with you.**
P: Let us pray. Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **A: Amen.**

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

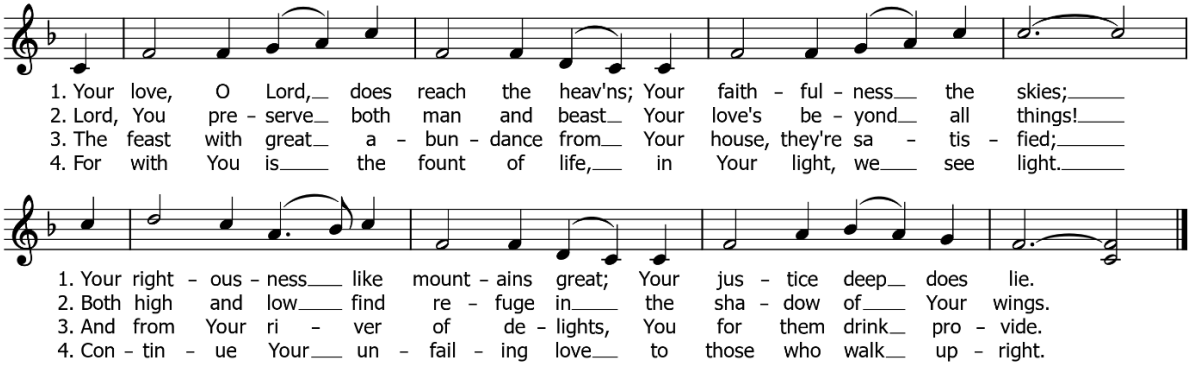
During the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Lent, the first reading is related to the themes of the season. During the seasons when the color is green, the first reading is related to the day's Gospel reading. This week, as we move from festivals into a green season, it's both – the early parts of the reading reflect the season's emphasis on the Gospel spreading into all the world; the last few verses use the images of a wedding, like that in Cana. In every case, this reading reflects the joy of Israel upon its return from exile in Babylon, a joy that God promises to extend to the whole world.

1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn
and her salvation like a burning torch.
2 The nations shall see your vindication
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
3 You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her
and your land Married,
for the Lord delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
5 For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God**.

Psalm: 36

The first reading proclaims the joy of those who, beyond hope, are forgiven and reconciled by God; this psalm expresses that same wonder and delight.



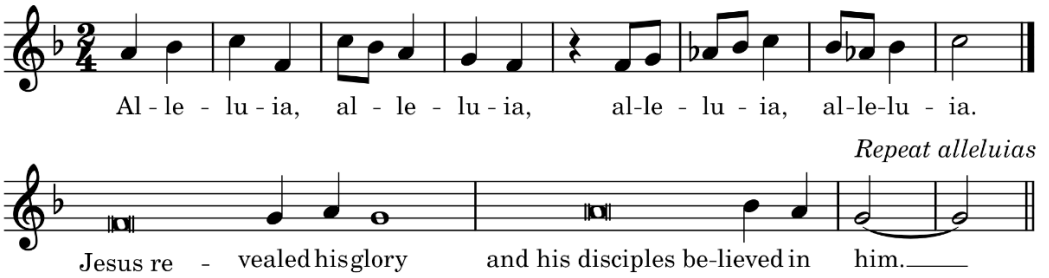
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

For the next several weeks we will be reading almost continuously from the second half of Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth. One of the causes for conflict in that community was a group which wanted to rate gifts of the Spirit, holding that some were more important than others, and therefore that the holders of the more important ones were truer or more faithful Christians than their siblings.

[1] Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. [2] You
know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not
speak. [3] Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever
says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.
[4] Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, [5] and there are varieties of services
but the same Lord, [6] and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates
all of them in everyone. [7] To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common
good. [8] To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the
utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, [9] to another faith by the same Spirit, to
another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, [10] to another the working of powerful deeds, to
another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of
tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. [11] All these are activated by one and the
same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel Reading: John 2:1-11

"John's preaching, which we heard on the Third Sunday of Advent, demands both repentance and a new life which is expressed in just and fair treatment of others. We will hear the voice from heaven saying something similar at the end of this season, on Transfiguration Sunday."

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the second chapter. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was
there. 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave
out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman,
what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the
servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the
Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the
jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out,
and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. 9 When the person in
charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from
(though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the
bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior
wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until
now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his
disciples believed in him. P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Now the Silence"* (ELW 460)

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

*Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Installation of Congregational Council

When set within Holy Communion or the Service of the Word, this order is used before the prayers of intercession. Those who are being installed may come forward after the creed.

The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.
The following people have been *elected* by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *sisters and brothers* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.
A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*
The presiding minister continues.

You have been *elected* to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.
The specific duties of those being installed as outlined in the constitution may be read, or the following or similar words may be said.

Hear the words of our Constitution: The Congregation Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The duties of the Congregation Council shall include the following:

a. To lead this congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals.
b. To seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support.
c. To oversee and provide for the administration of this congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission.
d. To maintain supportive relationships with the pastor(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling or employment.
e. To be examples individually and corporately of the style of life and ministry expected of all baptized persons.
f. To promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill and, as differences and conflicts arise, to endeavor to foster mutual understanding.
g. To arrange for pastoral service during the long term sickness or absence of the pastor.
h. To emphasize partnership with the synod and churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as well as cooperation with other congregations, both Lutheran and non-Lutheran, subject to established policies of the synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
i. To recommend and encourage the use of program resources produced or approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
j. To seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices
to which you have been *elected*?
Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:
Will you support these, your *elected* leaders,
and will you share in the mutual ministry
that Christ has given to all who are baptized?
A: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

P: I now declare you installed as *council members* of this congregation.
P: Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be faithful servants of Christ.
A: Amen.

The service continues with the prayers of intercession. Prayers are included for the newly installed leaders. After the greeting of peace, the newly installed leaders return to their places.

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*Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need (*especially*). God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites (*especially*). Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Guiding Spirit, you raise up leaders in every time and place. Bless the newly installed council members of this congregation with faith, wisdom, and perseverance. Strengthen them to serve with humility and joy, that through their work, your love may be made known. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints especially Henry, Bishop of Uppsala. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
A: Amen.

*Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

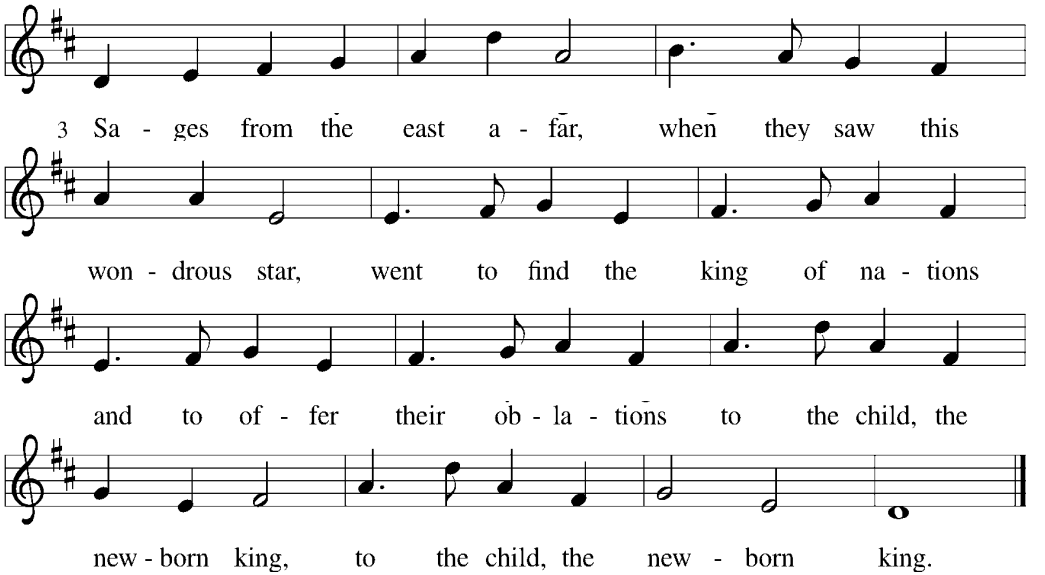
Meal

Offering

Offerings can be made online at ***stpaulpgm.org/give,*** *mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.*

Musical Offering

*Offertory: *"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky (vs.3)"* *(ELW 301)*



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.
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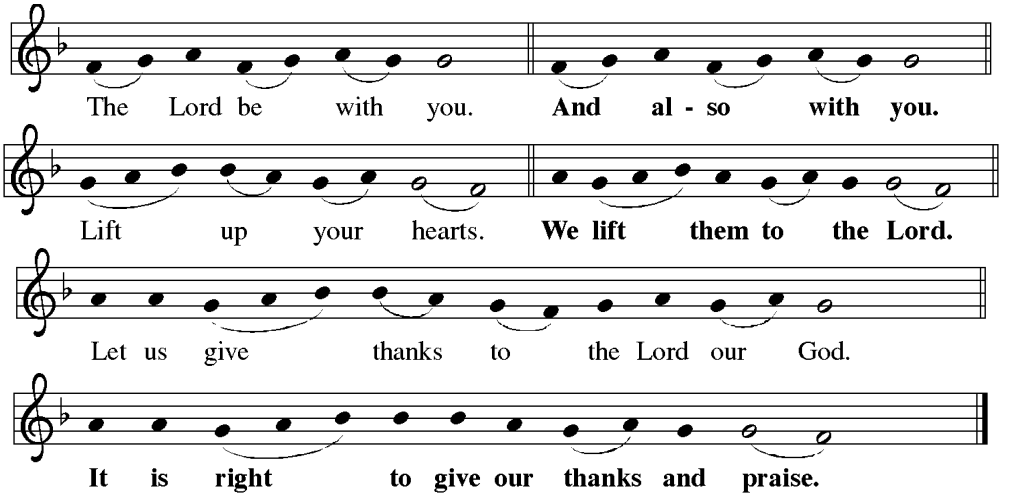
*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray: God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

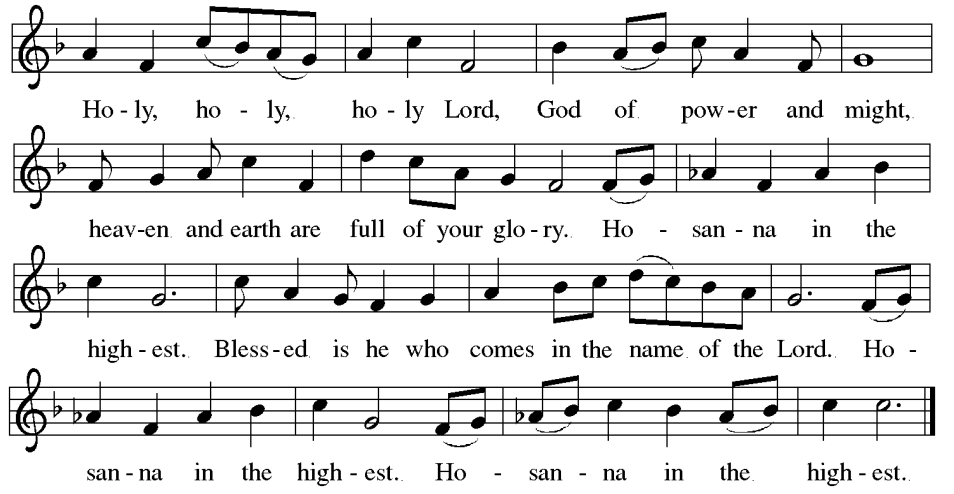
* DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

P: 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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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:

*SANCTUS



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O holy God:
you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

Until his great Epiphany, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.
A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
A: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.
A: Amen

*Lord's Prayer

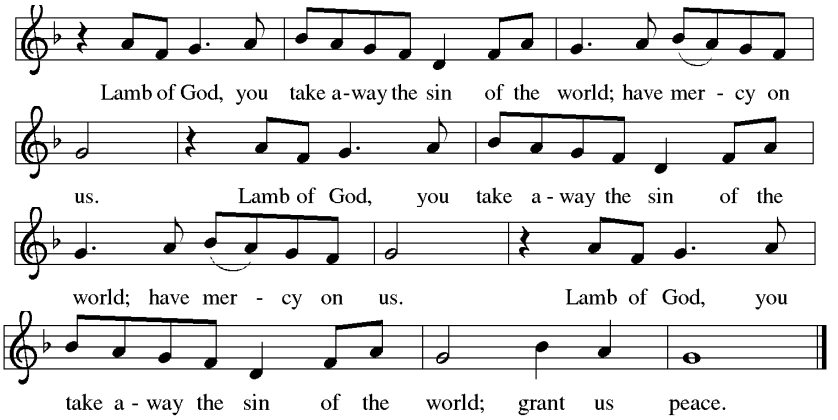
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

*Lamb of God



A note on Communion Wafers

To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain 15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.

If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Communion

L: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

Communion Hymn: "*Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness*" (ELW 488)

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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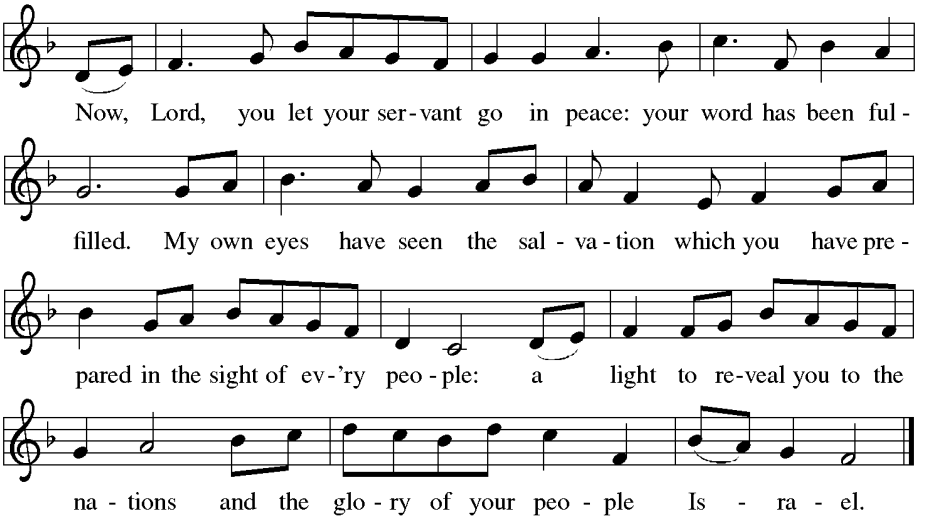
*Post-Communion Blessing

L: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in grace.
A: Amen.

*Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis* (*Now, Lord)*



*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. **A: Amen.**

Sending

*Sending of Communion

Announcements

You may be seated.

*Charge to the People

*Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: *"Brightest and Best of the Stars"* *(ELW 303)*

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, January 19
Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10 (8)
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Monday, January 20
Isaiah 54:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Psalm 145

Tuesday, January 21
Song of Solomon 4:1-8
1 Corinthians 1:3-17
Psalm 145

Wednesday, January 22
Song of Solomon 4:9—5:1
Luke 5:33-39
Psalm 145

Thursday, January 23
Isaiah 61:1-7
Romans 7:1-6
Psalm 19

Friday, January 24
Isaiah 61:1-7
Romans 7:1-6
Psalm 19

Saturday, January 25
Nehemiah 5:1-13
Luke 2:39-52
Psalm 19

ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....Linda Govere
Organist..... Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Ann Reede
Reader.....Joy Kling

About St. Paul

Purpose

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

Mission

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

Core Values

Faith ❧ Compassion ❧ Generosity ❧ Community

Our Bible Verses

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

Land Acknowledgement

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

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