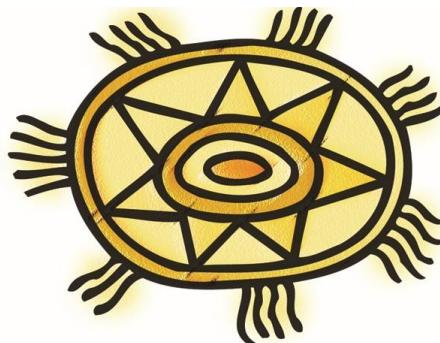




ST PAUL  
PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD (OBSERVED)

JANUARY 4, 2026

# WELCOME TO SAINT PAUL!

## We are happy to have you here!

### HOW TO KNOW WHEN TO STAND, SIT, OR SPEAK

Whenever you see an asterisk (\*) at a heading, you are invited to stand as you are able. You are not required to stand, so if, for health or emotional reasons you cannot or do not wish to stand, that is okay.

You are invited to speak the words printed in **bold type**.

### HOW TO SING HYMNS IN HARMONY

To save space in printing the bulletin, we usually limit what is printed to the melody. If you'd like to sing in harmony, the hymn numbers are listed in our bulletin so you can open the red books in the pews (called ELWs).

### WE ARE AN OPEN COMMUNION CONGREGATION

This means that any Christian who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is invited to receive Holy Communion.

### HOW TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT US



Offerings can be made online at [stpaulpgm.org/give](http://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.

### 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 intolerance 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.

## GATHERING

*The Gathering for worship began when you started readying yourself for worship*

### **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.*

**PRELUDE** – *Out of consideration for our musicians, please refrain from talking during the prelude.*

### **EPIPHANY BLESSING OF THE HOUSE OF OUR CHURCH**

*Feel free to reference the insert for the blessing of your own house. The procession part, which includes participation, is included.*

GREETING

READING

INSCRIPTION

PRAYER OF BLESSING

PROCESSION

*The congregation blesses the space by sprinkling water.*

Christ, bless this nave. **Christ, bless this nave.**

O Christ, bless this nave. **O Christ, bless this nave.**

O Christ, bless this place of worship and praise.

Christ, bless this narthex . . . this place of welcome to your word.

Christ, bless this font . . . this place of washing by your word.

Christ, bless this ambo . . . this place of sounding forth your word.

Christ, bless this table . . . this place of feasting on your life.

*Pieces of chalk used in the church blessing are available for use in the blessing of your home.*

# \*GATHERING HYMN "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!"

(ELW 308)

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,

God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!

Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here

you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -

ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life

in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

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 SCHON LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

*Refrain*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of

God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

P: Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **A: Amen.**

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6**

*As Jeremiah and Ezekiel had promised, God brought the Israelites back home to Jerusalem from their exile in Jerusalem. This rescue, unlikely and unexpected, was itself an Epiphany: an awe-inspiring appearance of God within human affairs to rescue and redeem.*

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples,  
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,

and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

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

# PSALM: 72:1-7, 10-14

(sung to the tune Gordon (HFW 816)

*Like Isaiah the psalmist presents God's blessing (here of the king at his coronation) as a matter of international significance.*



1. O God, fill the king with Your justice anew  
 2. The people will flour - ish like moun - tains a - round,  
 3. And he will en - dure for as long as the sun;  
 4. In his days the right - eous will flour - ish, stand sure,



1. And his roy - al son with your right - eous-ness, too.  
 2. And right - ous-ness like fruit from hills will a - bound.  
 3. As long as the moon through all ag - es that run.  
 4. A - bun - dance a - bound till the moon is no more.



1. Then he'll judge Your peo - ple in true right-eous - ness,  
 2. For he wil de - fend all the need - y and save  
 3. He'll be like the rain fall - ing on a mown field;  
 4. The great kings of Tar - shish and of dis - tant shores



1. And all the af - flic - ted with jus - tice he'll bless.  
 2. their child - ren; put those who op - press - in the grave.  
 3. Like show - ers that wa - ter the earth, fruit to yield.  
 4. will bring him to trib - ute of great - prec - ious ores.

5. The kings of both Sheba and Seba are there,  
 Presenting him gifts of their kingdoms most fair.  
 All kings of the earth will bow down to his fame;  
 All nations will serve him and honor his name.

6. For he will deliver the needy who cry;  
 He'll help the afflicted when no one is nigh.  
 He will take great pity on both poor and weak;  
 The needy near death, he will save and will seek.

7. He'll rescue them from great oppression and might,  
 For their blood is precious and dear in his sight.  
 O God, fill the king with Your justice anew,  
 And his royal son with Your righteousness, too.

## SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

*It was easy in the early church to consider Gentile Christians to be less legitimate than their Jewish siblings. Many of the New Testament writers preached against this, including the author of Ephesians in this passage. Indeed, today's Gospel reading, of Gentiles adoring Christ, may be told for exactly the same purpose.*

<sup>1</sup> This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, <sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ <sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat alleluias

We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him.

## \*GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 2:1-12

*“Wise men from the East” may mean Zoroastrian astrologers from the Parthian Empire – not only Gentiles, but Gentiles outside the Roman Empire, citizens of the ancient foe of Greeks and Romans. The Magi “worshipped” the child – the same word that will be used when the disciples “worship” the Resurrected Christ, immediately before he commissions them to make disciples of all nations – not simply Israel or the Roman Empire.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the second chapter.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY *We Three Kings of Orient Are*"

(WOV 646)



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west-ward lead-ing, still pro - ceed-ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

## \*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.**

## **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL INSTALLATION**

P: These people have been elected by the congregation to a position 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 *siblings* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

*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*)

You have been *elected* to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

*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 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.

P: 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*?

Council Member: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: 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.**

P: I now declare you installed as *council members* of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **A: Amen.**

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

L: Repairer of the breach, you separate us from our sin and unite us with one another. Heal the animosity in our hearts, and bind us together in love. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Author of life, you sent your spirit over the waters, your breath into your children, and guiding stars across the sky. Awaken us to the plight of the planet and send us to care for your creation. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Light that leads the way, you make yourself known to the nations. Illuminate just paths and guide leaders in the church and the world in your holy will especially our congregation council and its newly installed members. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Voice of the silenced, you cast the mighty from their thrones and fill the hungry with good things. Grant those in need the courage to demand equality and those with abundance the wisdom to share. Respond to any who call out in need this day (especially). Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: Proclaimer of promises, you raise up prophets and messengers in the places we least expect. Equip us to listen well to those who bring both good news and painful truths. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: Redeemer of the saints, you gift us with many people throughout our lives who point the way to you. We give you thanks for the recently departed and all who have loved us especially Royal Kline Jr and Dee Dowling. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

L: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**A: Amen.**

## **\*PEACE**

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

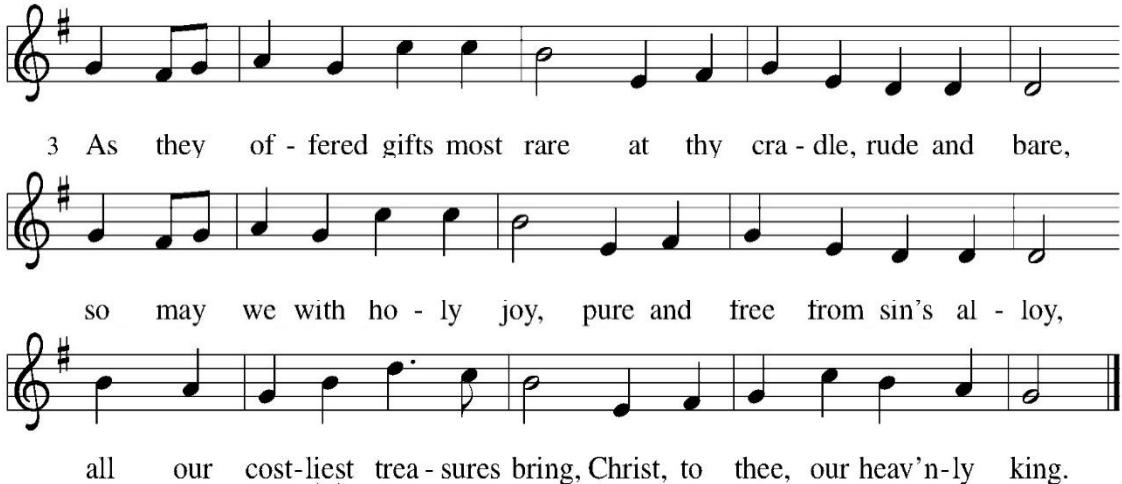
## **MEAL**

## **OFFERING**

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## OFFERTORY: "As with Gladness Men of Old vs.3"

(ELW 302)



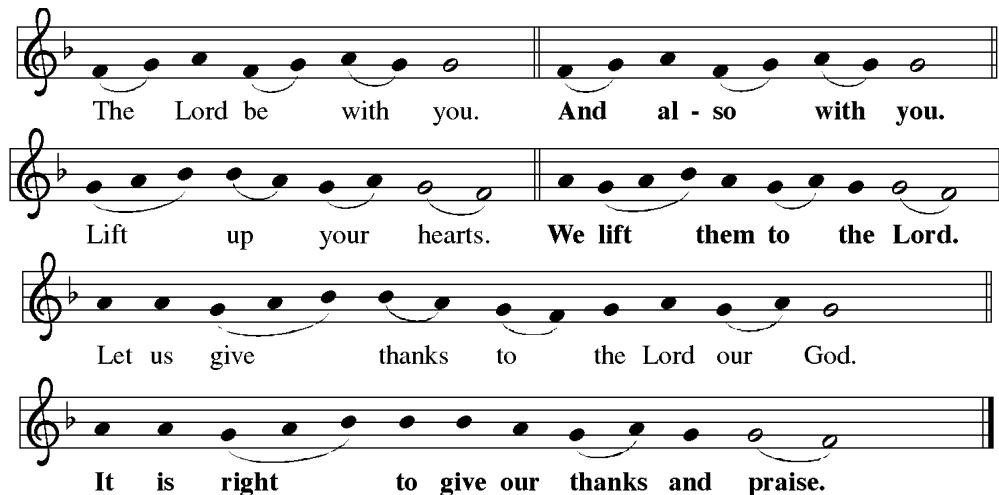
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **A: Amen.**

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### \* DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

## \*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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est.. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, Creator of all, the of Life and the Light of all,  
at the birth of time your powerful word created all things.

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

In the fullness of time,

you sent your Word, born of Mary,  
to shine in our darkness,  
revealing to us your mercy and might,  
and to make us your beloved children.

In the night in which he was handed over,  
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.

In his Nativity and as we eagerly await his great Epiphany, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore,  
his birth and life among us,  
his death and resurrection,  
we await his coming again  
when all things will be restored in him  
and we will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

**A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,  
that, held and nourished by you,  
we, your children, may live as light for the world,  
shining with the brilliant radiance 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.**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

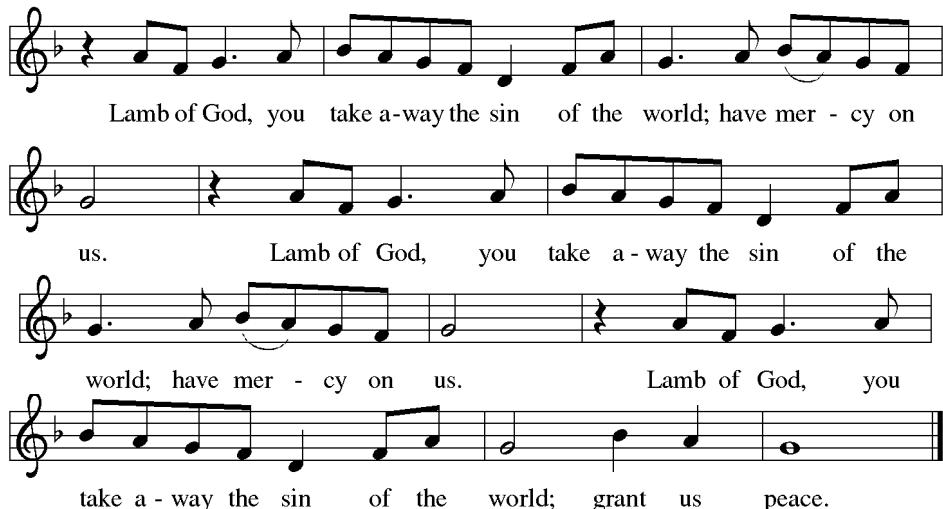
**Lead us not into time of trial,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

## \*LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

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

## COMMUNION HYMN: "This Little Light of Mine"

(ELW 677)

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

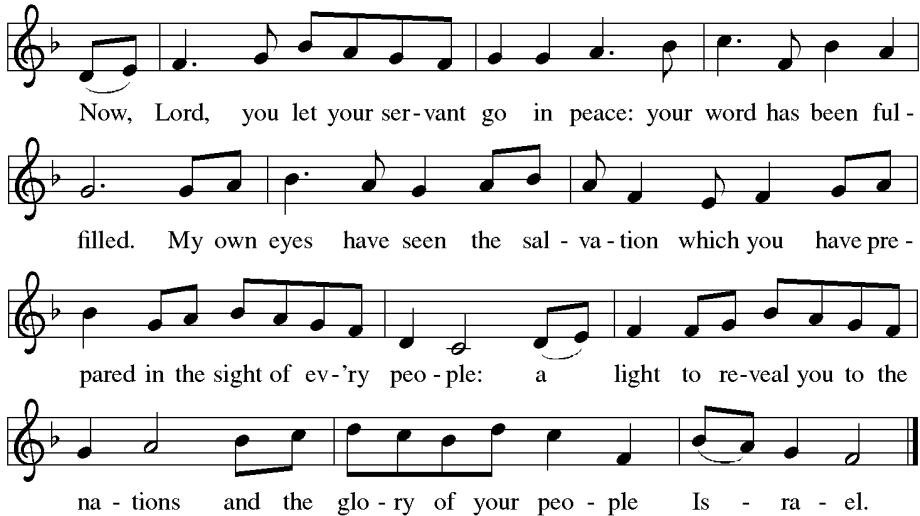
Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you, body, mind, and soul, now, and unto eternal life. **A: Amen**

## \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – *Nunc Dimittis* (Now, Lord)



Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Is - ra - el.

## \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

**A: Amen.**

## SENDING

### \*SENDING OF COMMUNION

*The Pastor prays a prayer for members to bring communion to fellow Christian siblings who could not attend worship this morning.*

## 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,  $\pm$  and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

## \*SENDING HYMN: "Shine Jesus Shine"

(ELW 671)

*Refrain*

Shine, Je-sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo-ry, Blaze, Spir-it, blaze,  
 set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv-er, flow, flood the na-tions with  
 grace and mer-cy. Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of your love is shin-ing, In the midst of the dark-ness, shin-ing,  
 2. As we gaze on your king-ly bright-ness, so our fac-es dis-play your like-ness,  
 Je-sus, Light of the world, shine up-on us; Set us free by the  
 ev-er chang-ing from glo-ry to glo-ry, mir-rored here, may our

*Refrain*

truth you now bring us: Shine on me: Shine on me:  
 lives tell your sto-ry. Shine on me: Shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and Music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE  
 9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain

## **\*DISMISSAL**

L: Glory to God in the highest!

**A: And peace to God's people on earth!**

L: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

**A: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**



## **DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

### **Sunday, January 4**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 or  
Sirach 24:1-12  
Psalm 147:12-20 (12) or  
Wisdom 10:15-21 (20)  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

### **Monday, January 5**

Joshua 1:1-9  
Hebrews 11:32—12:2  
Psalm 72

### **Tuesday, January 6**

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (11)  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

### **Wednesday, January 7**

1 Kings 10:1-13  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
Psalm 72

### **Thursday, January 8**

1 Samuel 3:1-9  
Acts 9:1-9  
Psalm 29

### **Friday, January 9**

1 Samuel 3:10—4:1a  
Acts 9:10-19a  
Psalm 29

### **Saturday, January 10**

1 Samuel 7:3-17  
Acts 9:19b-31  
Psalm 29



## SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister.....	Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....	Karen Magnuson
Musician.....	Jacob Heller
Sacristan.....	Ann Reede
Reader.....	Eleanor Bird

## 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 Conestoga-Susquehannock people, where we gather. 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.

Find out more about the Conestoga-Susquehannock at [www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com](http://www.conestogasusquehannocktribe.com)

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