

**St. Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday, February 8, 2026

PRELUDE

GATHERING WITH THE WORD ON THE DAY

The missional emphasis of this season shines like a beacon of light and hope in the dead of winter, bringing good news in the middle of this world's not-so-good news. This week God provides the mission in Isaiah—feed the hungry, care for the homeless, clothe the naked. Upon accomplishing this mission God tells the people, "Your light shall break forth like the dawn." Paul continues his Spirit-led mission, encouraging the church in Corinth, "No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him." Jesus teaches his disciples, "You are the light of the world. . . . Let your light shine before others" (Matt. 5:14, 16). Through these words in Jesus' sermon, he gives followers of every day and age a mission to share the light which scatters the darkness.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. 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.**

GATHERING SONG *God's Work, Our Hands* (ACS 1000) - Printed in Bulletin

THE APOSTOLIC 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.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 147)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)



Assisting minister

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

All

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.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you gave the law to show your people the way of righteousness. Help us receive your commandments as grace and live as your obedient children that your goodness may shine through us, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

¹ 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. ² 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.

³ “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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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?

⁶ 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? ⁷ 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? ⁸ 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. ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

THE EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

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

⁶ 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. ⁷ But we speak God’s wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ 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”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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.

Here ends the Epistle of the Day. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹³ "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.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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.**

THE MESSAGE PASTOR KATHLEEN KERIN

HYMN OF THE DAY *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)

THE 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, 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

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING SONG: CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART (ELW 186)

OFFERING PRAYER

Like a spring whose waters never fail, God calls us to share what we have received. Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God. **Amen**

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.

THE SENDING & BLESSING

May Christ, ✝ the true light, shine upon you, that you may walk in righteousness all your days. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Thank you to our lector **Marcy Griffin** for serving this morning. Readers and Communion Assistants are now on a rotating schedule. Thank you for everyone's flexibility and working together to support our Worshiping Community! Please consider signing up to assist in worship in the Narthex.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation will take place **TODAY following worship**. Each year we gather together to review the previous year's activities, programs, financial statements, and future of St. Paul's church.

Spring is in the air, marked not by blossoms yet, but by early spring cleaning—and freshly cleaned carpets in the church that make everything feel new. On January 22nd the carpets in the church were cleaned, bringing a fresh start to the season ahead. Many thanks go to Wayne Geisser for spearheading this work, Lynn Geisser, Gary Wagner, and Rich Hayes for their time and effort to move the furniture to enable cleaning.

We kindly ask that no food or drinks be brought inside of the Sanctuary. Please continue to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the Narthex. Thank you for helping to keep it clean.

Upcoming Worship Readers

Feb 15 Gary Wagner

Feb 22 Malcolm Furbert

Mar 1 Karen Santiago

Mar 8 Ann Farley

Mar 15 Cathy Silverio

Mar 22 Jason Tapscott



PRAYER LIST

Andy, Tara McFarland, Bruce Drelich, Jared, Lois Rodemer, Axel Bayala,
Jackie Duffy, Carla, Ann Dearden, Donna Curry, Paul Oetinger and Ann Farley.

If you would like to add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact Tracey in the office at stpauls19120@gmail.com Be sure to provide the person's full name and (if possible and safe to do so) a little bit about the prayer needs.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Marcy Griffin February 4 Judith Frei February 20 Connor McFarland February 21

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday	11:00am Following worship	Worship Service Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Monday Pastor at St. Tim's	7pm-8pm	AA Meeting (<i>Luther Room</i>)
Tuesday Pastor at St. Tim's	9am-12pm 6pm-7pm 4pm-5pm	Food Pantry (<i>Community Wing</i>) AA Meeting (<i>Luther Room</i>) Bible Study at St. Tim's resumes
Wednesday	9am to 12pm 6pm to 8pm 12:00 noon	Food Pantry (<i>Community Wing</i>) NA Meeting (<i>Luther Room</i>) Senior Wednesday Bible Study
Thursday	7pm-8pm 7:30 - 8:30 pm	AA Meeting (<i>Luther Room</i>) Bible Study resumes on ZOOM
Friday	7pm-8pm	AA Meeting (<i>Luther Room</i>)
Sunday	11:00am	Worship Service w/ Communion

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Ash Wednesday is February 18th

Pastor Kathleen will lead Worship with the imposition of Ashes at noon at St. Paul's in Olney and at 4:00 pm at St. Tim's. Stay tuned for more details on our Conference's Annual

Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup and Service tradition begins on February 28th and continues each Wednesday evening at a different church in our conference throughout the Lenten Season. A full schedule will be forthcoming.

St. Paul's will be hosting this year on March 11th. Please mark your calendars to attend and a sign up sheet for SOUPS, SALADS, BREAD, & DESSERTS will be in the Narthex.

ST. PAUL'S OUTREACH

SENIOR WEDNESDAY

10 am to 12 pm

ST. PAUL'S FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-11:30am

We are looking for volunteers to assist people who come to our door on Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 11:30 am, and assistance to help carry in supplies on Thursday mornings.

OPENING HYMN - ACS 1000 (Sung to a familiar tune)

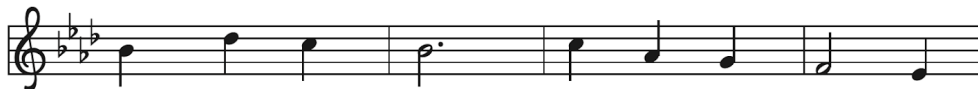
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

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Tracey Sims, Administrator

Kathleen Kerin, Pastor

Matthew Brenner, Organist

Thank you for joining us for worship. We look forward to welcoming you at Sunday Service, beginning at 11:00 am. If you are unable to attend in person please consider worshipping from home by joining us Live on Facebook.

Are you in need of a space to hold your celebrations or host an event? St. Paul's Church is available! Contact the Church Office at 215-424-4800 for more information

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday	2 Kings 22:3-20	Romans 11:2-10	Psalms 119:105-112
Tuesday	2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25	2 Corinthians 4:1-12	Psalms 119:105-112
Wednesday	Proverbs 6:6-23	John 8:12-30	Psalms 119:105-112
Thursday	Exodus 6:2-9	Hebrews 8:1-7	Psalms 2
Friday	Exodus 19:19b-25	Hebrews 11:23-28	Psalms 2
Saturday	1 Kings 21:20-29	Mark 9:9-13	Psalms 2