

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our service we gather before Jesus our Savior to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God’s holy and powerful word. Also,

- † Restrooms are down the hall and to the right from the back of church.
- † We love families! Your children are welcome in our service! Thanks for bringing them to hear about Jesus!
- † Please fill out the Friendship Registers located at the end of each row.
- † If you want to review or share today’s service, you can find it on our website.
- † For upcoming events and activities, “like” us on our Facebook page.

Please come again and worship with us very soon!

Worship Participants

Liturgist and PreacherPastor Brian Adams
PianistMrs. Rachel Manske

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship pg. 38

THE OPENING HYMN "As with Gladness Men of Old"

Christian Worship #83



1 As with glad - ness men of old Did the guid - ing
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to your
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare At your cra - dle,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day Keep us in the
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright Need they no cre -



star be - hold, As with joy they hailed its light,
low - ly bed, There to bend the knee be - fore
rude and bare, So may we with ho - ly joy,
nar - row way; And, when earth - ly things are past,
a - ted light; You its light, its joy, its crown,



Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright, So, most gra - cious
You whom heav'n and earth a - dore, So may we with
Pure and free from sin's al - loy, All our cost - liest
Bring our ran - somed souls at last Where they need no
You its sun which goes not down. There for - ev - er



Lord, may we Ev - er - more your fol - lowers be.
will - ing feet Ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.
treas - ures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'n - ly King.
star to guide, Where no clouds your glo - ry hide.
may we sing Al - le - lu - ias to our King!

Please Stand

THE INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

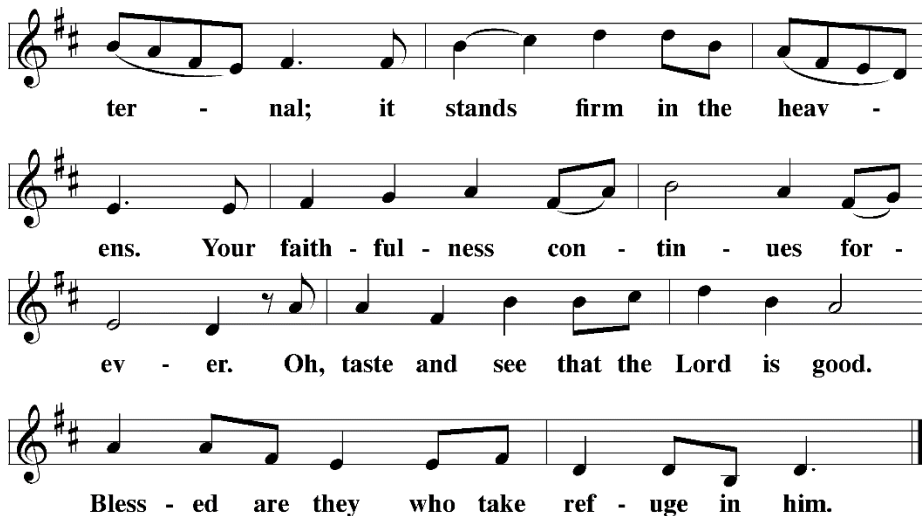
OH, TASTE AND SEE



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Please be Seated

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
 and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

² See, darkness covers the earth
 and thick darkness is over the peoples,

but the LORD rises upon you
 and his glory appears over you.
³ Nations will come to your light,
 and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ "Lift up your eyes and look about you:
 All assemble and come to you;
 your sons come from afar,
 and your daughters are carried on the hip.
⁵ Then you will look and be radiant,
 your heart will throb and swell with joy;
 the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
 to you the riches of the nations will come.
⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land,
 young camels of Midian and Ephah.
 And all from Sheba will come,
 bearing gold and incense
 and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY **Psalm 72**
Christian Worship pg. 93

We will sing the refrain and speak verses responsively

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



Endow the King with your justice, O God,
the royal Son with your righteousness.

**He will defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy.**

He will endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.

**He will be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.**

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



All kings will bow down to him,
and all nations will serve him.

**All nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.**

Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds.
May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON.....Ephesians 3:2-12

² Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia.
(Matthew 2:2b)

Please Stand

THE GOSPEL LESSON.....Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law,

he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The lyrics 'C: Praise be to you, O Christ!' are written below the staff.

Please be Seated



THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... "Christ, Your Footprints Through the Desert"

Christian Worship Supplement #709



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert Led to
 2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons As by
 3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan Led at
 4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us One with



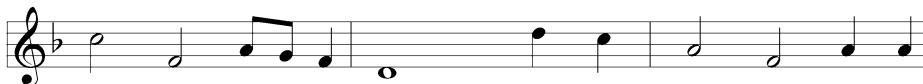
Jor - dan's flow - ing stream. There you heard the
 Jor - dan's bank you stood; Bathed, though sin - less,
 last to Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the
 Christ, our ris - en Lord; Freed us, claimed us,



her - ald cry - ing Is - rael's old pro - phet - ic
 with your peo - ple In the riv - er's cleans - ing
 cross for - sak - en, You ful - filled the Fa - ther's
 cleansed, for - giv - en Through the wa - ter and the



dream: "He is com - ing! He is com - ing! He will
 flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens o - pened; Came the
 will. Lamb of God, we see you dy - ing, Sin - less,
 Word. Help us hear your ur - gent sum - mons, Call - ing



cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners, plunge be - neath the
 Spir - it as a dove; Spoke a voice be - yond all
 yet for sin - ners slain. But where death rose up to
 us to serve you now. Send us forth, your sons and



wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!"
 hear - ing: "See my Son, the one I love!"
 tri - umph, You be - gan your glo - rious reign!
 daugh - ters, With the cross up - on our brow.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Please be Seated

CLOSING HYMN "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

Christian Worship #79, v 1



1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing Star! The na - tions see and



hail a - far The light in Ju - dah shin - ing.



O Da - vid's Son of Ja - cob's race, My Bride-groom



and my King of grace, For you my heart is pin - ing.



Low - ly, Ho - ly, Great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious



Prince of gra - ces, Fill - ing all the heav'n - ly pla - ces.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS DECORATION TAKE DOWN: We will be taking down the Christmas decorations in church following the 10:30 AM worship service today, January 8th. If anyone is willing to help, it would be appreciated – it doesn't take very long!

TEACHER CALL RETURNED: Mrs. Liepert has been led to return our call. We received this letter: Dear members of St. Paul's, It has been a privilege to learn about the ministry being carried out at your church and school through your wonderful faculty and involved, supportive school families. I was able to have great conversations with many people from your school faculty and congregation and I appreciate all of the information that was shared with me. After much thought and prayerful deliberation, I have decided to return the call to be your 1st and 2nd grade teacher. I will continue to keep St. Paul's in my prayers and trust that our God will continue to bless your ministry. In Christ, Stephanie Liepert
*We will announce a new call meeting date soon.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES: There is a delay on our 2023 offering envelopes due to printing press issues at the manufacturing company. As soon as they arrive we will distribute them. In the meantime, you can continue to use your 2022 envelope number. Thank you for your patience!

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Our new Adult Bible Class begins today, January 8th. Retired Pastor Andy Backus will lead us each Sunday in a look at that Sunday's Scripture Lessons as printed in your Sunday Worship Folders. For instance, this week we'll study Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-12, and Matthew 2:1-12, the Readings for The Festival of Epiphany. As promised, he'll talk a little about the word "Selah" in the Psalms. You may bring your own Bible or use one from the shelf in the classroom. We'll have handouts with the readings and space for notes for your use. We meet in between services (9:15 AM) in the Bible classroom, and all are welcome to join us!

MARY & MARTHA SOCIETY GUEST SPEAKER: Please join us on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 6:30 PM for a presentation by Pastor Joel Gaertner, National Director of Jesus Care Ministries. He will focus on assisting congregations to share Jesus with those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Everyone is welcome to attend.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND: St. Paul's has offered assistance to families through a "forgiveness program" in which the congregation has taken on the debt for part of their tuition. On average we have been able to help 10-12 families seek Christian Education here at St. Paul's through this method. What a great gift to share the love of Christ with others using the gifts God has granted us. We have a need and an opportunity to help families and we are asking you to help financially. In addition to your offerings, these additional funds will help support the education for families that may not otherwise be able to afford it. We thank you for considering and remind you of the words recorded in Matthew 25:40 *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* If you would like to give, please fill out the envelopes provided on the narthex counter and place in the offering tower.

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE: We are in the process of updating our church directory. Please take a moment to fill out the yellow contact slips on the narthex tables and return them to the bin on the narthex counter. Thank you for your help in keeping our records up to date!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY UPDATE: There are 16 people meeting every other Tuesday with continued lessons on the book "The Narrow Lutheran Middle". Remaining dates are January 17, January 31, February 14 and February 28. It is never too late to join our group. Just tell Jean Terek or Lucy Ellenberger.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS: A new Bible Information class has begun! We meet at 9:15 AM (between the two worship services). The purpose of the class is to present the basic teachings of the Bible as well as to introduce you to the rewarding life of Christian discipleship. This class is open to anyone interested in learning more about our church, considering joining our church or anyone who would like to refresh their knowledge of God's Word. Anyone is welcome to join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Children ages 3 – Grade 6 are invited to join our Sunday School class, which meets each Sunday at 9:15 AM! Class is located in the After School Care room of the school.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES AT OUR SCHOOL - K4 Aide - Classroom Aide - After School Care:

St. Paul's is blessed to have a great PreK program! We are looking for a teacher's aide to support our growing enrollment numbers. There are also other classrooms that would benefit from a part-time aide.

We are also looking for an individual or individuals that could help with our After School Care program. If you are available for a single day, a few days, or all days please get in touch with us. It is a great opportunity to connect with some of our students and help our families that are unable to pick their children up right away after school.

If you are interested in supporting your school by giving us a hand, please reach out to Principal Schulmeister by email at nschulmeister@stpaulsfranklin.org or by phone at 414-421-1930.

WLHS FASHION SHOW: Everyone is invited to the WLHS "In the Image" Fashion Show on Sunday, January 22, in the atrium at the high school from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The event is a celebration for women of all ages. At this fashion show, the Sharon A. Schoeneck ('79) "In the Image Scholarship" will be awarded. Cost is \$10 for front row seats or \$5 for general admission. Visit wlhs.org/image. Seating is limited.

VIKING STEEL WINTER CONCERT: WLHS Viking Steel will present their winter concert on Saturday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m. featuring the high school's three steelpan groups. The concert will be held in the auditorium with free general admission. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. A livestream link to the concert can be found at wlhs.org.

USHERS FOR JANUARY

8:00 AM – TEAM #1 – Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Brandon Wirtz, Gary Boldt

10:30 AM – TEAM #5 – Mark Klein, Chris Klein, Gary Eickhorst, Dan Mertz

6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

ALTAR GUILD

January 4-10 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh

January 11-17 – TEAM #3 – Jane Koplein, Carol Willms, Connie Myer

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

January 8: Set-up – Tony & Mary Tripoli, Clean-up – Andy & Chris Backus

January 15: Set-up – Jerry & Alyce Lehtinen, Clean-up – Beverly Garves

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 8

Worship Service.....8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/Bible Information Class/Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship Service.....10:30 AM
Christmas Decoration Take Down11:30 AM

Monday, January 9

Public School Confirmation Class 5:00 PM
Worship Service..... 6:30 PM

Sunday, January 15

Worship Service with Communion.....8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/Bible Information Class/Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion.....10:30 AM

Statistics – Last Week

New Year’s Day Attendance:
10:00 AM – 104, Communed – 79