

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.
- † Our congregation stands at various times throughout the service. If your mobility is limited, please do not feel that you have to stand. You are welcome to remain seated!
- † 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 PreacherSeminarian Connor Herter
OrganistMrs. Kris Karnopp

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship pg. 38

THE OPENING HYMN "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

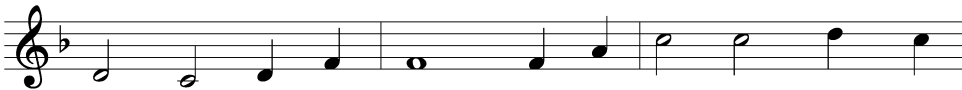
Christian Worship (21) #517



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness with a lib - er -
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren with a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; praise the one who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing
gen - tle, word; praise the one who drove out de - mons with the
in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we



blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the
pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool
may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, calm - ing
wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand; from this
glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done; let us



storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the Fa - ther's word of peace.
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, praise the one who makes us one.

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.**

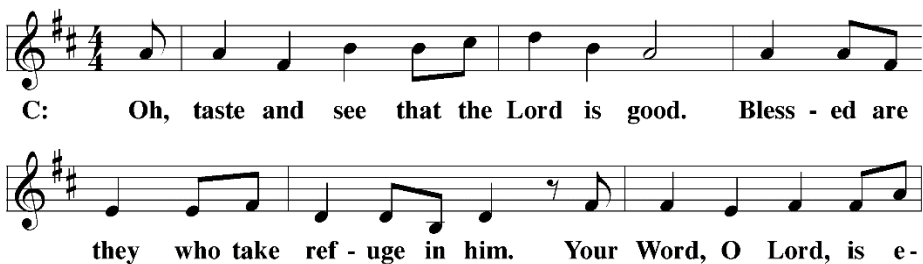
P: God, our heavenly Father has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

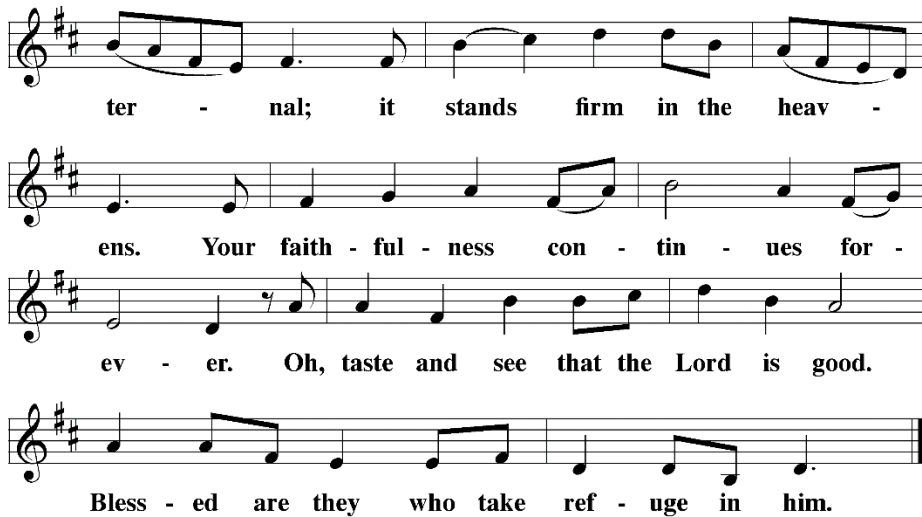
P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, 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 61:1-6

Israel had rejected the Lord. So God allowed them to be conquered and carried off as captives. Yet, he also promised to forgive their rejection and grant them freedom.

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD
for the display of his splendor.
⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins
and restore the places long devastated;
they will renew the ruined cities
that have been devastated for generations.
⁵Strangers will shepherd your flocks;
foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.
⁶And you will be called priests of the LORD,
you will be named ministers of our God.
You will feed on the wealth of nations,
and in their riches you will boast.

Refrain

Lord, you have the words of
ev - er - last - ing life.

Psalm tone *

The heavens declare the glory of God;*
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Their voice goes out into all the earth,*
their words to the ends of the world.

Refrain

The law of the LORD is perfect,*
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,*
giving light to the eyes.

They are more precious than gold;*
they are sweeter than honey.

By them is your servant taught;*
in keeping them there is great reward.


Refrain

Psalm continues on next page


May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart*
be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Redeemer.

**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



Lord, you have the words of



ev - er - last - ing life.

Psalm tone *



THE SECOND LESSON..... Acts 4:23-31

Just as the Jewish religious leaders had rejected Jesus, they rejected the work and words of the apostles. So the apostles prayed for boldness to proclaim the gospel in the face of that opposition.

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together

against the Lord
and against his anointed one.'

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please Stand

THE GOSPEL LESSON..... Luke 4:16-30

In one of Jesus' first sermons, delivered in his hometown, people took offense at his words and ultimately rejected him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

²⁴ "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was

built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be Seated

THE HYMN OF THE DAY..... **“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”**
Christian Worship (21) #384

1 Hail to the Lord’s a - noint - ed, great Da - vid’s great - er Son!
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 Kings shall bow down be - fore him and gold and in - cense bring;
 4 O’er ev - ’ry foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest,

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y and bid the weak be strong,
 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.
 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest.

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light
 To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend,
 The tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are pre - cious in his sight.
 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 his name shall stand for - ev - er— that name to us is Love.

THE SERMON Mark 4:26-34

“Sow the Powerful Seed and see the Tree that is Produced”

Part one: Sow the seed with confidence

Part two: The small seed that shelters all

²⁶ He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰ Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

³³ With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴ He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Please Stand

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 be Seated

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

(We invite you to sign our Friendship Registers in each pew during the offering.)

THE OFFERING PRAYER

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.

Please be Seated

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN "Good News of God Above" *Christian Worship (21) #905*



1 Good news of God a - bove is ours to tell a -
2 The love of Christ pro - claim, who left his home on
3 The Lord of glo - ry lives! From cross and death and
4 Hear now the Mas - ter's word to those who bear his



broad, the Fa - ther's ev - er - last - ing love in
high; to live our hu - man life he came, our
grave his own a - bun - dant life he gives to
name: "So send I you," till all have heard, "make

Hymn continues on next page



Christ the ris - en Lord. For neigh - bors near and
hu - man death to die. The Fa - ther's on - ly
those he died to save. His right - eous - ness and
known, de - clare, pro - claim!" Go forth in all the



far the seed of life is sown; then spread the
Son be - came the sin - ners' friend, our lot to
peace de - clare from sea to sea; his prais - es
earth; em - brace the path he trod with Christ be -



seed by word and deed to make the Sav - ior known.
share, our sin to bear, and death's do - min - ion end.
sound the world a - round for Christ has made us free.
side as friend and guide to bring good news of God.

Please Stand

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.



C: A - men.

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 "May the Peace of God"

Christian Worship (21) #929



1 May the peace of God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther,
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,



and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,
and this grace which makes us what we are,



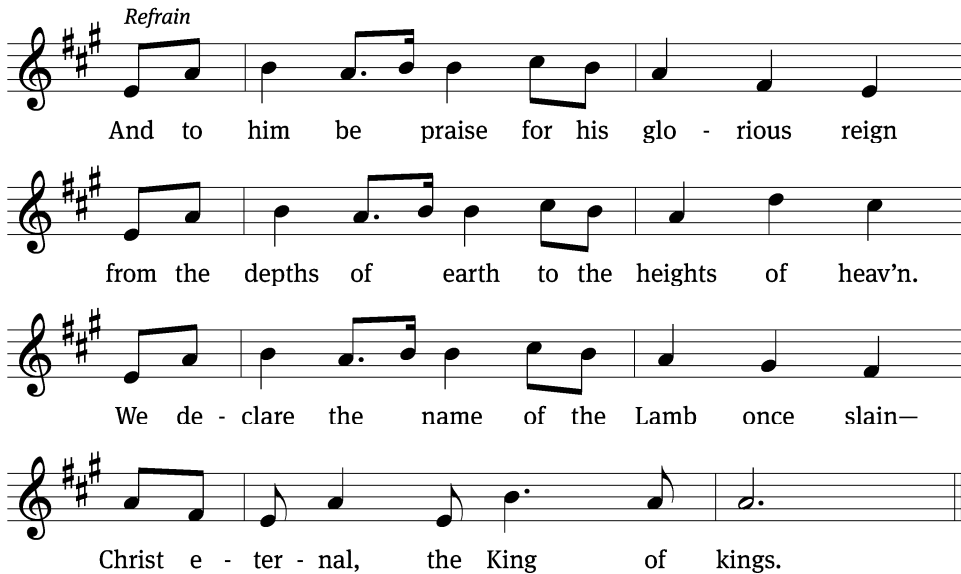
and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion



keep our hearts and minds with - in his love.
make us one in spir - it and in heart.

Hymn continues on next page

Refrain



And to him be praise for his glo - rious reign
from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We de - clare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU: Thank you to Seminarian Connor Herter for leading us in worship this weekend! Connor is in his second year at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

THANK YOU: I am grateful for all the kind words, gifts, and thoughtful messages shared with me on the occasion of my 30th anniversary of serving St. Paul's. All of your support and kindness over the years have truly touched my heart as I celebrate this milestone. - Pastor Adams.

ALTAR FLOWERS: This weekend's altar flowers are given by Gary & Donna Boldt in memory of Londyn Rose House.

CALL MEETING: The Voters Assembly will hold a special call meeting on Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30 PM to extend a call for a new 4K teacher. Our current 4K teacher, Patricia Snyder, has shared her decision to resign from her full-time position at the end of June due to health and recommendations from her healthcare provider. We are grateful for her dedicated service and the positive impact she has made on our 4K program. Please join us as we come together to prayerfully consider this important step for our Church and School.

MEDITATIONS AND FORWARD IN CHRIST SUBSCRIPTIONS: It's time to renew! The current Meditations and Forward in Christ subscriptions will expire on March 1st. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the narthex if you would like to renew or become a new subscriber. Payment is due when you sign up -- please place your payment in the basket next to the sign-up sheet. Prices are listed on the sign-up sheet.

MARY & MARTHA GUEST SPEAKER: Please mark your calendars for our next presentation scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM with guest speaker, Kimberly J. Gehrig, RN, MSN, Nurse practitioner, with her presentation "focus on neurology, Alzheimer/stroke patients". Kim is our member Sherry Kosovich's daughter.

STEM NIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: St. Paul's is hosting a STEM Family Night for 3K-8th Grade students and their families. We are encouraging hands-on learning while integrating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. We are looking for ways to get our church and school families involved! We need volunteers to run stations at this event.

We are setting up the gym like a science fair. Students and families will move freely between stations. We need at least one or two adults at each station to run an activity. All activities are prepared ahead of time and directions will be laid out clearly for all volunteers. The only expectation will be to arrive at 5:30pm, Thursday, February 27th (30 min prior to the event) and be ready to have some fun with kids and STEM! To thank you, we will provide volunteers with pizza and a free t-shirt! If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on the poster in the narthex!

STEM NIGHT: Raffles! Real Scientists! Free Books! ← This is just some of the STEM excitement we have in store at our St. Paul's STEM Night, Thursday, February 27th from 6:00-8:00 PM. 3K – Grade 8 can discover the fun of Science, Technology, Engineering and

Mathematics through hands-on activities. Sign up by Friday, February 14th by scanning the QR code on the poster in the narthex, or using this link: [STEM Night Sign Up](#)

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: Do you know anyone looking for a great school? Let them know about our Open House on Sunday, February 2nd from 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM! Families can tour the school and meet the teachers. Yard signs are available in the narthex for you to take home and display in your yards!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS: Retired Pastor Andy Backus is leading our Adult Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. The Bible is full of different people that are part of God's plan of salvation. These people are filled with stories. Some of the people in the Bible are well-known; some are not. In our study we will look at some of these people and the stories that they tell. We may even find that some of these stories could be found in your life today! **This week our focus will be on Mary & Martha, and next week, Isaiah.**

WLC WELS YOUTH NIGHT: Wisconsin Lutheran College will be hosting a WELS Youth Night for Grades 9-12 on Sunday, January 26th from 6-8 PM. The night will feature games, snacks, worship, a keynote address from Pastor Ben Blumer and small group discussions. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/YNWLC>. The event will take place in the Center for Arts and Performance, 8815 W. Wisconsin Ave., with free parking available in the Parking Center, 8701 W. Wisconsin Ave.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE: Dads and daughters (age 2 years old through 8th grade) are invited to a Daddy Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 8th, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. Dress to impress and get ready for an evening filled with great music, dancing, games, and delicious refreshments. Cost is \$15 for both dad and daughter and any additional daughters are \$5 each. For more information, visit wlhs.org/dance.

USHERS FOR JANUARY

8:00 AM – TEAM #1 – Gary Boldt, Bob Hille, Brandon Wirtz, Larry Stujenske, Craig Gebert, Pete Kosovich

10:30 AM – TEAM #4 – Mark Klein, Gordy Lesser, Jace Bolda, Dan Mertz

6:30 PM – TEAM #7 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

USHERS FOR FEBRUARY

8:00 AM – TEAM #2 – Tony Tripoli, Larry McKee, Steve Mess, Micah Milhans

10:30 AM – TEAM #5 – Randy LaPorte, Tom Spitzer, Gary Eickhorst, Nathan Riel

6:30 PM – TEAM #7 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

ALTAR GUILD

January 22-28 – TEAM #4 – Marge Gebert, Renate Nazimek, Sarah Carabacan

January 29-Feb 4 – TEAM #4 – Marge Gebert, Renate Nazimek, Sarah Carabacan

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

January 26: Set-up – Tony & Mary Tripoli, Clean-up – Beverly Garves

February 2: Set-up – John & Jean Terek, Clean-up – Kevin & Debbie Swanson

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 26

Worship Service.....	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Class	9:15 AM
Worship Service.....	10:30 AM

Monday, January 27

NO Public School Confirmation Class

Worship Service..... 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 28

Call Meeting..... 6:30 PM

Sunday, February 2

Worship Service with Communion.....	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Class	9:15 AM
Worship Service with Communion.....	10:30 AM
School Open House	11:30 AM

Statistics – Last Week

8:00 AM – 59, Communed – 46

10:30 AM – 229, Communed – 141

6:30 PM – 16, Communed – 10

Total Attendance – 304

Total Communed – 197