

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Fifth week after Epiphany ~ February 8, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

"This is the Day"

Praise Band

Word and music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson & Tiame Tranter used by permission under CCLI Annual License #1124556

Welcome and Announcements

Children's Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

Screen

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

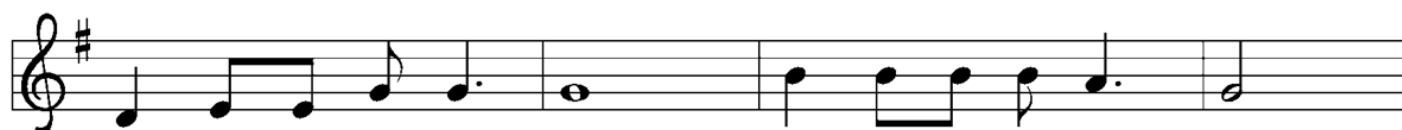
Gathering Song : "This Little Light of Mine" Screen or ELW #677



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;



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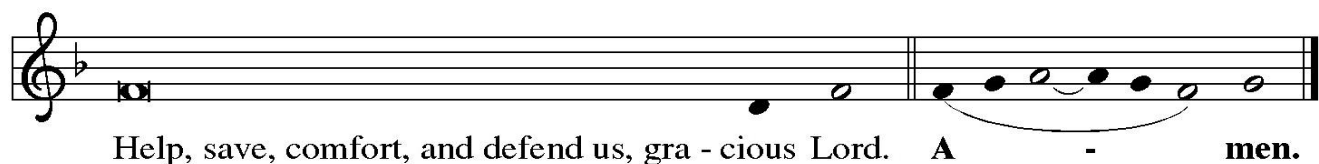
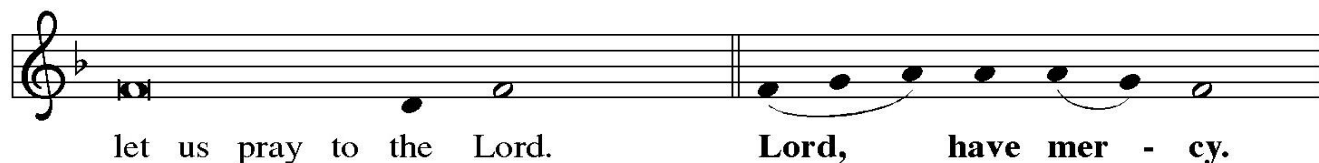
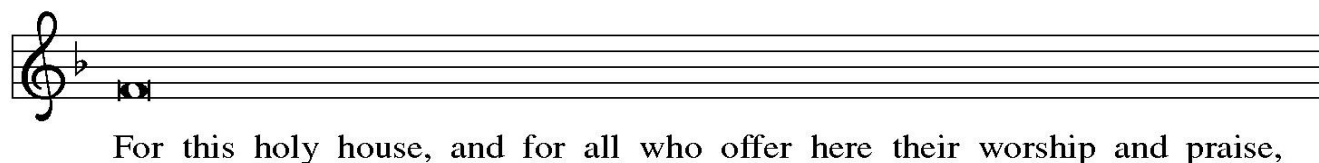
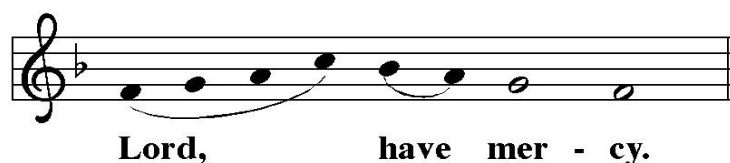
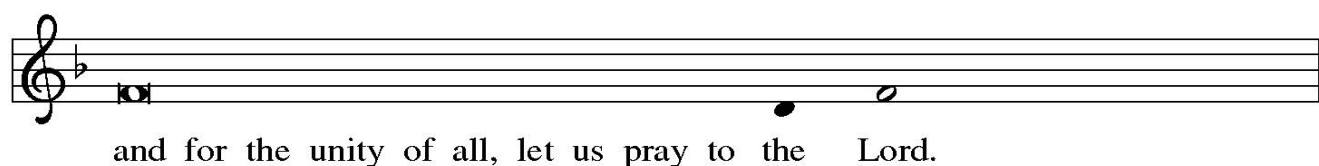
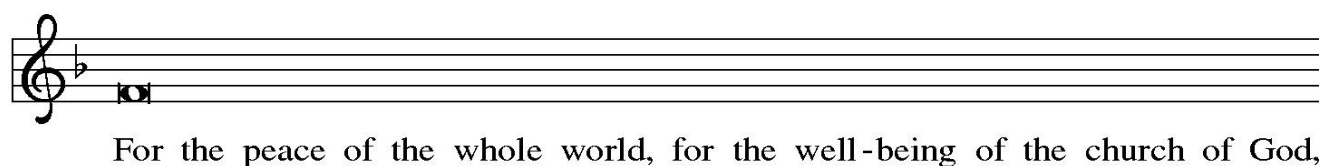
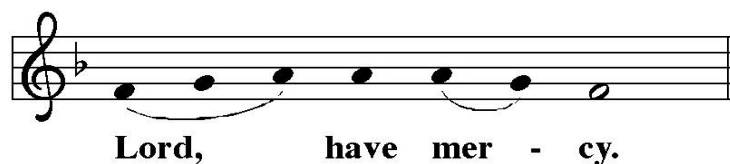
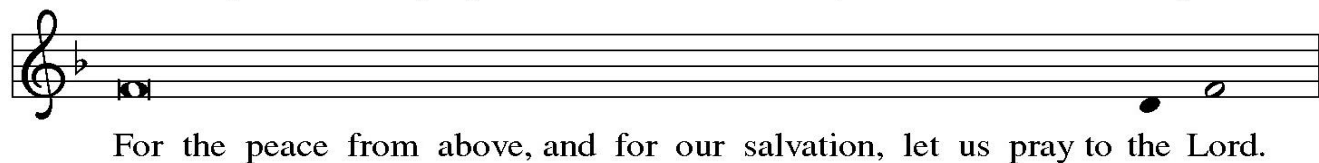
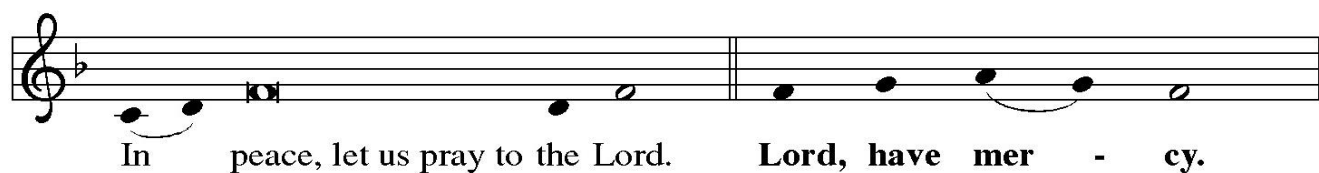


let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual
 Public Domain

Greeting

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





Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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

P: Let us pray. Lord God,

C: with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

WORD

Screen

First Reading – Isaiah 58:1-9a

A: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

A: 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?
⁸Then 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."
 A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – Psalm 112:1-9

Screen

A: We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

A: Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
 and have great delight in God's commandments!

**C: Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
 the generation of the upright I will be blessed.**

A: Wealth and riches will be in their house,
 and their righteousness will last forever.

**C: Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
 the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

A: It is good for them to be generous in lending
 and to manage their affairs with justice.

**C: For they will never be shaken;
 the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

A: They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
 their heart is steadfast, trusting I in the Lord.

**C: Their heart is established and will not shrink,
 until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

A: They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
 forever;
 they will hold up their head with honor.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Screen

A: A reading from the book of 1 Corinthians.

A: 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.

A: Word of God, Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Screen

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel – Matthew 5:13-20

Screen

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: [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."

P: The Gospel of our Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation is invited to be seated

Sermon

Please rise in body or spirit.

Song of the Day: "Bring Forth the Kingdom" Screen

Vs. 1

Leader: You are salt for the earth, O people, **(All): salt for the kingdom of God!**

L: Share the flavor of life, O people, **(All): life in the kingdom of God!**

Refrain:

**(All): Bring forth the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!**

Vs. 2

Leader: You are a light on the hill, O people, **(All): light for the city of God!**

L: Shine so holy and bright, O people, **(All): shine for the kingdom of God!**

Refrain:

**(All): Bring forth the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!**

Vs. 3

Leader: You are a seed of the word, O people, **(All): bring forth the kingdom of God!**

L: Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, **(All): grow in the kingdom of God!**

Refrain:

**(All): Bring forth the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!**

Vs. 4

Leader: We are a blest and a pilgrim people, **(All): bound for the kingdom of God!**

L: Love our journey and love our homeland, **(All): love is the kingdom of God!**

Refrain:

**(All): Bring forth the kingdom of mercy, bring forth the kingdom of peace,
Bring forth the kingdom of justice, bring forth the city of God!**

**C: 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Screen

P: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

A: Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving especially Deanna Wilson, Eva Cowley,

Roger Asplund, Deb Liebrecht, Connie Laidig, and those we name aloud or in our hearts... brief silence... Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office by phone or email.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all. **C: And, also with you!**

Please share a sign of Christ's peace however you feel comfortable.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

Scout Recognition *(Scouts come forward)*

Gerard: Today we celebrate these scouts, their leaders, and families on this Scout Sunday. We give thanks to God for who they are and for their service and loyalty to serve God and others.

Dialogue: Pastor

Scout Blessing

P: Bless these scouts, O Lord, we pray
Keep them healthy, in every way
Let them know their Scout sign
And have it always on their mind.
Hear their prayers, both night and day
Guide them, Lord, along their way,
Bless these Scouts and Leaders too;
Always keep them close to you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

C: Almighty God, we give you thanks for these scouts, for their leaders, and for their parents and for all the trusted adults who support them. Amen.

MEAL

Offering

General and special offerings may be placed in the plates by the doors as we enter or depart. In addition to the offering that supports the ministry of St. Paul, the children of St. Paul receive a weekly Children's Offering.

Their offering this month will support the Dixon Public School student lunch debt. We thank the children and youth for their help collecting the children's offering!

Offering Song:

"Light of the World"

Screen

Verse 1

You are the light of the world
You are the light of the world
So shine shine shine where you are
You are the light of the world

Verse 2

You are the city on a hill
You are the city on a hill
So shine shine shine where you are
You are the city on a hill

Verse 3

You are a candle in the dark
You are a candle in the dark
So shine shine shine where you are
You are a candle in the dark

Verse 4

You are a star in the night
You are a star in the night
So shine shine shine where you are
You are a star in the night

Verse 5

You are the light of the world
You are the light of the world
So shine shine shine where you are
You are the light of the world

Ending

So shine shine shine where you are
You are the light of the world

Words & Music by Cathy Pino © 2000 Pino, Catherine

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Please rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Screen

A: Let us pray. God of majesty,

C: no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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:

ELW pg. 144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

Words of Institution

P: P: 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, Jesus 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."

The Lord's Prayer

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

C: 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: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

The congregation is invited to be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Each person may respond, "amen".

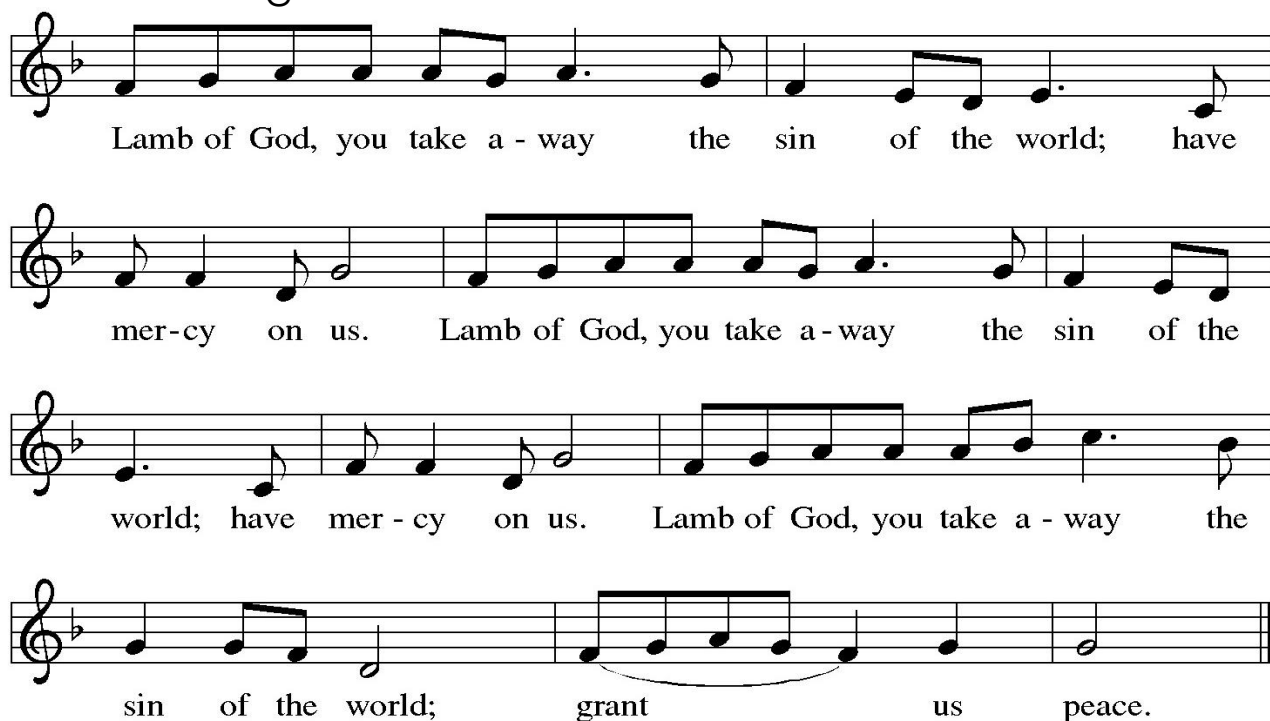
St. Paul Lutheran Church and the ELCA practice "open table" communion.

This is Christ's table; Jesus is our host. Everyone is invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion!

Communion Songs

Lamb of God

Screen



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.

"We Come to the Hungry Feast" Screen or ELW #479

1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,
 To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay
 not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
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"Only by Our Lonesome"

Screen

- 1 We confess that we cannot do it all
 only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.
 There is space between where we put a wall
 only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.
 Won't you knock down all the walls that we built stable?
 Tip them over and restore them into sturdy dinner tables.
- 2 We confess that we cannot free ourselves
 only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.
 And despite our best we get overwhelmed
 only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.
 Won't you knock down all the walls that we built stable?
 Tip them over and restore them into sturdy dinner tables.

3 We confess that we cannot find our way
only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.
Please, forgive our sins, reignite our flame,
only by our lonesome, only by our lonesome.

Won't you knock down all the walls that we built stable?
Tip them over and restore them into sturdy dinner tables.

Words and Music: Nate Crary © 2014 Nate Crary, admin. Augsburg Fortress Used with Permission

Please rise in body or spirit

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Screen

A: Let us pray, Radiant God,

C: we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

"We are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba)" Screen or ELW #866

Verse 1

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

Verse 2

We are dancing in the light of God,
we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing in the light of God,
we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing, dancing,)
we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing, (dancing, we are dancing, dancing,)
we are dancing in the light of God.

Verse 3

We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.

Verse 4

We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,)
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, (singing, we are singing, singing,)
we are singing in the light of God.

Verse 5

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.
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Dismissal A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Praise Band

Leading Worship

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Riley

Musicians: Gerad VonHolten & Praise Band

Worship Assistant: Joyce Craney

Youth Worship Helpers: Luis, Hannah, & Rafael

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St. Paul Announcements

Church Office contact information ~ email: office@stpauldixon.org phone: 815-288-2757

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Pastor Anthony Windau (414) 364-9504 pastoragwindau@gmail.com

Pastor Riley Reed-Windau (406) 240-2145 pastorreedwindau@gmail.com

Today's altar flowers were given to the glory of God by the Schulte Memorial fund.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 2/8: TODAY	Faith Lab 9:30 am - 10:30 am Worship Service 10:45 am ~ Praise Band worship assistant: Joyce Craney Executive Council Scout Sunday
Monday, 2/9:	Prayer Team 10:00 am
Tuesday, 2/10:	Line Dancing 9:00 am Staff Meeting 9:00 am at Immanuel Social Ministry Meeting 10:00 am
Wednesday, 2/11:	WELCA 9:00 am Finance Committee Meeting 2:30 pm
Thursday, 2/12:	Chair Yoga 11:00 am
Friday, 2/13:	Liberty Court Worship 1:30 pm Youth leave for The Quake 3:45 pm
Saturday, 2/14:	Worship 5:30 pm at St. Paul worship assistant: Robin Colglazier
Sunday, 2/15:	Sunday School (PreK-5 th grade) 9:30 am - 10:30 am Worship Service 10:45 am worship assistant: Sherry McCarter Welcome new & returning members (cake following) Youth return from The Quake

Today's worship is
livestreamed on
Facebook and
archived on YouTube.
If ever you miss a
service, you can join
us online!

New Member Sunday!

Please make plans to attend worship on Sunday, February 15th as we welcome new and returning members. We will have cake to celebrate!!



The Church Office will closed
Monday, February 16th

Spaghetti Dinner ~ Tuesday,
February 24th

4 pm – 7 pm at St. Paul

Tickets on sale now

**Volunteers needed
sign up in the Gathering Area
to volunteer.**

**WELCA Coffee
Wednesday, February
11th 9:00 am**

DACMA
(Dixon Area Christian Ministers)
Lent Services

February 22, 6:00 pm
@ 1st Presbyterian

March 1, 6:00 pm @ Grace UMC

Refreshments to follow



St Paul Members: Accessing your St Paul Realm account. If you haven't set up your account yet, you should have recently received an email invitation to do so. You can also watch a short instructional video on how to set it up and use the account to access the online church directory, giving & pledge information and more. Note: you will need an email address. Contact the church office for more details.