

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

**X** 

The Fifth Sunday of Epiphany — February 5, 2023



# ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

31 North Park St Clintonville, WI 54929 www.stpaulclintonville.com

### **Pastor Caleb Rothfuss**

Cell: (989) 220-8833 Church Office: (715) 460-3143

### Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us here at St. Paul in Clintonville!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the doors to the worship area.
- **Restrooms**: If you need them, there are bathrooms just to the sides of the main entrance doors.
- Children: We are grateful and glad that they are here! If you feel the need to, you can take them to the parent's room or to the back gathering area. Let us know if there are other ways we can help you focus on the Word.
- Changing Table: If needed these are in the parent's room and downstairs restrooms.
- Communion: guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for communion so that we can talk about what we believe about it first.

This church is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. <u>wels.net</u>



### YOU ARE . . . SO BE

Imagine a beautiful guitar, carefully crafted out of the finest mahogany and steel strings. Now imagine that fine instrument is never played. It is placed atop a bookshelf and never touched. It just collects dust. Tragic, right? What a thing is finds fulfillment when that thing does what it was made to do. Of what use is a guitar that makes no music? What would be the point of turning on a lamp and then throwing a heavy blanket over it. It might still be a lamp, but it provides no light. (It only serves as a fire hazard!) Form and function are intimately connected.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches that the same is true of discipleship. He wants us to see that being a disciple and acting as a disciple are intimately connected. When God called us to faith, he declared that we were something new: light, salt, his children. Jesus now encourages us to be what God says we are, so that God might bless the world through us. As Jesus speaks to us, he means to mold our will to his own.



Artwork by Ian M. Welch. Copyright 2015 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. <a href="https://www.paramentics.com">www.paramentics.com</a>

The Bible translation used in today's service is NIV 11.

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### —Service Setting Two—

the full order of service with music parts can be found in the hymnal starting on page 172



stanzas 5 and 6 on the next page

- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
  tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
  throats to shout the hope that fills us,
  mouths to speak thy holy name.
  Alleluia, alleluia!
  May the light which thou dost send
  fill our songs with alleluias,
  alleluias without end!
- God the Father, light-creator, to thee laud and honor be.

  To thee, Light from Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.

  Holy Spirit, light-revealer, glory, glory be to thee.

  Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!

### **Invocation** Call to Worship

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Group: Amen

### **Confession of sins**

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

6

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

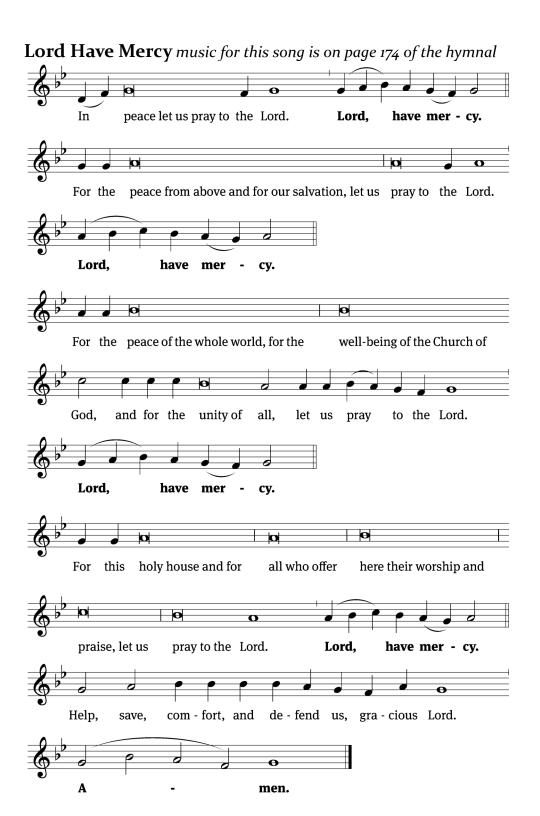
We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

### **Declaration of Grace** through Christ

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen**.







### Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your one and only Son as the Word of life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us believe what the Scriptures proclaim about him and do the things that are pleasing in your sight; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

### First Reading Exodus 19:1-8

God made Israel, a nation of slaves, his special people. He wanted Israel to be the kingdom of priests he had called them to be.

¹On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai. ²After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

<sup>7</sup>So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. <sup>8</sup>The people all responded together, "We will do everything the LORD has said."

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

### Psalm 112 sung in unison





Blessed are those who / fear the LORD, who find great delight in / his commands. Wealth and riches are in their / houses, and their righteousness endures for-/ever. Refrain

Surely the righteous will never be / shaken; they will be remembered for-/ever.

Their hearts are secure, they will / have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph / on their foes.

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

### Refrain

### **Second Reading** 1 Peter 2:9-12

St. Peter encourages us to be what God has declared us to be: members of a royal priesthood, citizens of a holy nation.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup>Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation** *Matthew* 5:16



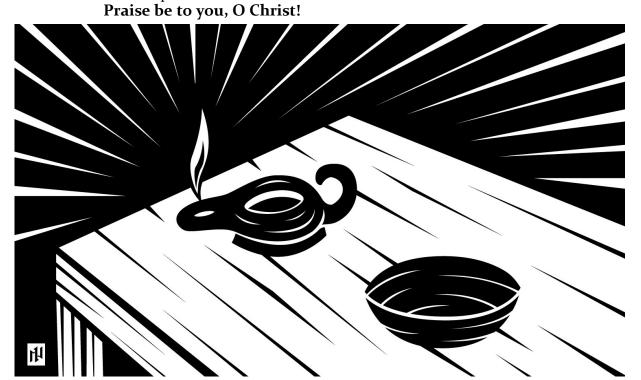
### Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1–12

<sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

17"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.





### **Sermon** *Matthew* 2:1–12

## The Essential Ingredients for Authentic Christians

### **Confession of Faith** Nicene Creed

# Installation of the Church Council Exhortation

Dear friends, in Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ set you free from sin and death and made you members of his body, the church. Through Word and sacrament, the Holy Spirit has nurtured your faith and increased your love.

You have now been appointed to serve our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with responsibilities that you are to carry out according to his Word. St. Paul wrote concerning service in the church: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

St. Paul spoke to all who serve the Savior: "It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." The Lord has promised to be with you and give you the gifts you will need to carry out the work entrusted to you.

As servants of Jesus Christ and workers in this congregation, you are to set aside time for study of the Scriptures so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are to strive to be an example of Christian faith and life so that others may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you in the presence of God and this congregation:

Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the work entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

I will, and I ask God to help me.

### To the Congregation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you to regard these fellow believers as servants of Jesus Christ and God's gifts to his church. Pray for them and support them in their service so that believers may be strengthened in faith and many others may come to know the Savior and the eternal hope he gives.

### **Prayer**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your church through the willing work and special gifts of so many people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit to the servants we are installing today that they may carry out their duties with diligence, wisdom, and humility. Encourage them to seek guidance from your Word and lead them to pray for your direction. Help them to be good examples to others and support the work of the gospel ministry in this congregation. Keep them in your care and encourage them by your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and make your service a blessing to others.

### **Thanks**

We sincerely thank those who in the past years have served the Lord and his people with their time and abilities. May the Lord graciously bless you and those you have served.

### **Prayer of the Church**

Gracious Father, in Christ Jesus and through faith in him, we approach you with freedom and confidence. Mercifully hear our prayer.

As you caused your light to shine that first Epiphany, shine in the darkness of our hearts. Drive far from us all our fears and all our doubts. Give us a new confidence each day to live as children of the light.

Bless the work of your church here and throughout the world. By your Holy Spirit, make known far and wide the mystery of Christ Jesus. Give strength to all workers in your gospel ministry, and bless the Word they proclaim. Bring those living in darkness into the light of life.

Remember missionaries and mission workers who bring the light of Christ to distant lands. Provide for their families and all their needs. Bless their work and continue to gather for yourself people from the four corners of the world to live as children of the light. Renew our joy and give us new opportunities to make known the light of Christ.

Give guidance and wisdom and strength and health to our government officials. Direct their rule for our good as it is pleasing to you. Give us hearts and lips that honor and respect those you have placed in authority over us.

Remember those who are ailing in body or mind.

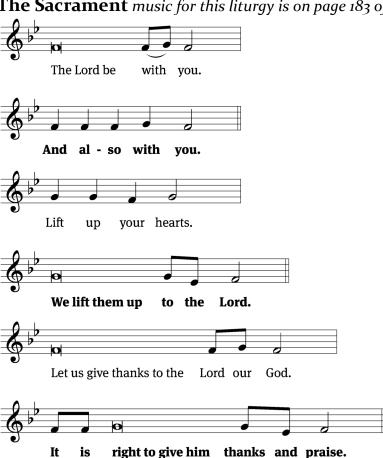
[Especially bless . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Guide all who attend to their needs. Comfort your children and all those who love them. Assure them of your presence and your promise to be with them in all circumstances of life.

These and all our needs are known to you, gracious Father. Mercifully hear our prayer. Guide us by the light of your Word until that day comes when you bring us home to yourself to join your people from every nation, tribe, people, and language, redeemed by the blood of Jesus. In his holy name we pray. Amen.

### Offering

Our offering is our reaction to God's Word. Do not feel obligated to give here, we are just thankful you are here.

**The Sacrament** music for this liturgy is on page 183 of the hymnal



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who came as the light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy music for this song is on page 184 of the hymnal



### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer the prayer our Savior taught us

### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** 



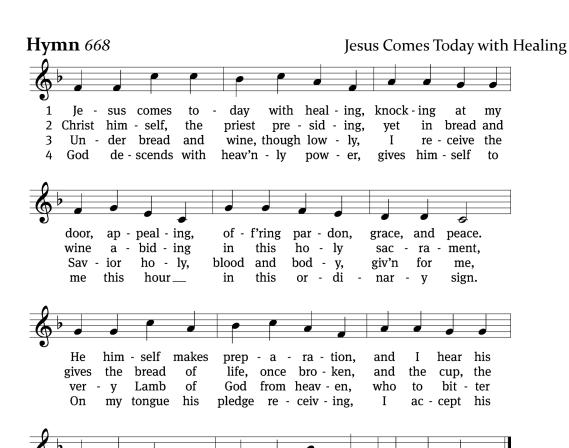
### O Christ, Lamb of God music for this song is on page 186 of the hymnal



### **Distribution** of the Sacrament

### **Our Practice of Close Communion**

Based on the words of Scripture, we believe that partaking in the Sacrament of Holy Communion is one of the highest forms of fellowship we have this side of heaven—both with our Risen Savior and with our fellow believers. By partaking in the sacrament, we confess that we believe what this congregation teaches and confesses. Because we don't want to put anyone in the uncomfortable position of having to state their full agreement with us before we've had an opportunity to explain it to them, we respectfully ask that only those who are communicant members of this congregation or another WELS or ELS congregation come forward to receive the Sacrament. If you would like further explanation of our practice, Pastor Rothfuss would be more than willing to explain after the worship service.



"Come and

his

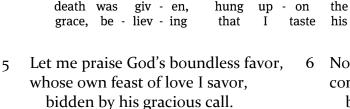
of

taste

sa -

the

cred



ta - tion:

to - ken

in - vi -

pre - cious

Wedding garments he provides me, with a robe of white he hides me, fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation, comfort in my tribulation, balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, cleanses me from sin and error, makes my wounded spirit whole.

bless - ed feast."

cov - e - nant.

curs - ed tree.

di - vine.

love



### **Thanksgiving**

in

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

this great

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

feast

of

love

be

with

us

now.

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

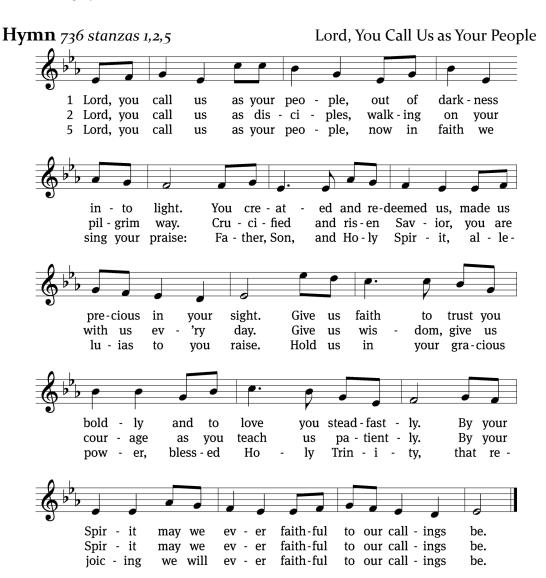
### **Blessing** the Benediction

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.

Amen.



# Announcements

### Thank You for joining us!

Thank you for being here this morning! Stick around after the service and enjoy some snacks. Soon after there will be Sunday School in the basement for kids. Teens and adults should come back to the worship area for Bible Study.

### **Ladies Night Out:** *Game Night this Tuesday*

Ladies, don't miss out on game night this Tuesday starting at 6:30pm.

### **Book Club** Connecting Sinai to Calvary

Come on over Tuesday, February 14th for Book Club. Starting at 6:30pm we will discuss the second half of Chapter 5. Good news, this section gets in to the Gospel!

### Midweek Lent Meals and Services starting February 22nd

During the season of Lent there will be extra opportunities to prepare our hearts as we go through the Passion History. Join us for these Wednesday services starting February 22nd at 6:30pm. Starting around 5:30pm there will be shared meal in the basement. If you are willing to bring food for these meals, please help us coordinate by using the sign up sheets by Pastor's office.

### **Musical Gifts**

Do you have some musical abilities you would be willing to share? If you play a musical instrument please talk with Chuck, we are looking at what options we have for accompanying some music during the service or for choir pieces.

### Help Needed

The congregation is in need of members willing to help with the financial management of our church. Short descriptions of these roles are listed below. If interested or if you have questions, please talk with Tim Boughton. Financial Secretary: This position helps document and manage the financial intake of the church (offerings and other donations). He or she would be responsible for managing offering envelopes, documenting offerings given and thier designations, ensuring the offerings are accurately counted and safely stored and deposited. She or he would also need to create reports on giving for members. Treasurer: This is an elected church council position that manages and documents the church expenses. His responsibilities would include being part of and reporting to the church council, paying church bills and expenses, documenting the church's financials and ensuring the finances balance.

### Valentine's Day Care Packages sent by Sisters in Christ

Sisters in Christ will be sending out care packages to college students and military members this Valentine's Day. Let them know of any college student or military member you would like them to send a package to by writing the person's name and mailing info on the sheet by Pastor's office. (Men, this is also their subtle way of reminding you that Valentine's Day is less than a month away, plan ahead)

# Upcoming Events at St. Paul

**February 7** Tuesday

Ladies Night Out: Game Night @6:30pm

**February 8** Wednesday

Open Office @10am-12 noon Catechism Class @5:30pm

**February 11** Saturday

Men's Breakfast Bible Study @6am

**February 12** Sunday

Worship Service @9am Sunday School @10:15am Bible Study @10:15am

**February 14** Tuesday

Book Club: Chapter 5 @6:30pm

**February 15** *Wednesday* 

Open Office @10am-12 noon Catechism Class @5:30pm Evangelism Planning @6:30pm

**February 18** Saturday Men of His Word

**February 19** Sunday

Worship Service @9am

### ~THE LORD WILING~

Snacks this week Sunday January 29, 2023 Attendance: 86 Total Offered: \$4,719.00 General Fund: \$4,208.00 Estimated Weekly Need: \$3,100 Based on the yearly budget and general

Karen A **Ieannie S** Ushers this week Nick B Coulter B Caleb G

Snacks next week Lizzie B Abbie S

Ushers next week

Dave S Jacob A Chad D Steve S

Communion Help: February:

Communion Clean Up Karen A 2/5 Jeannie S 2/5 **Angie B 2/19** 

Susannah M 2/19

Shut In Visitors

fund support given year to date

