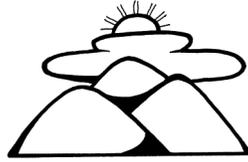


*Fourth Sunday
after Epiphany*



*January 29, 2023
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 29, 2023*



Prelude Music

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Most merciful God,

C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. That's the good news! So I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

Let Justice Flow like Streams



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-king wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

P Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.” “With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God, and keep your room neat, and wash behind your ears, and buy coffee for the person behind you in line at Tim Hortons, and hold the door for people, and for My Sake, if the bathrooms need a little cleaning up at church, just grab some supplies and get it done!

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world’s standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not

know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the Fifth Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



Hymn of the Day: LBW 383 (on the following page)

Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith in the Apostles' Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the Church

A Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Rescue all who are overwhelmed with stories of war between nations, mass shootings, racial and gender hatred. Turn the tides Lord. Bless all those who are in the middle of these tragic events and use us to dismantle this hatred and evil and replace these stories with examples of justice, grace, and unity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need, especially the people on our Prayer List and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

P Let us pray.

C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence, and your love. Amen

Dialogue and Preface

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 and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

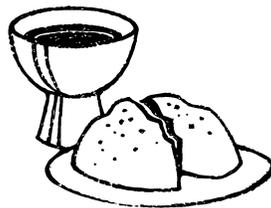
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he 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.

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



Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

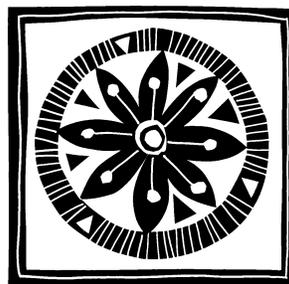
P Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen

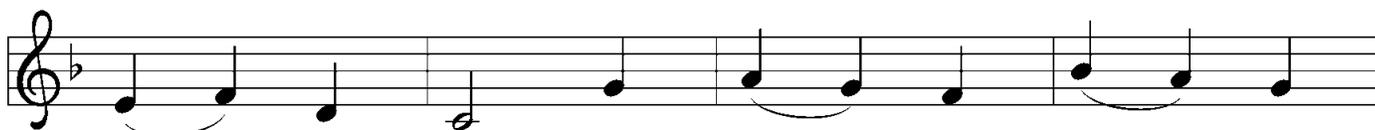


Closing Hymn: WOV 723

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: January 29-February 5, 2023

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Meal Share
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
6:00 pm: Alanon
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at Amherst Lutheran Campus
10:00 am-12:00 pm: Blessing and Sending Celebration for Lee Lindeman
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Campus Worship and Kids Night at Church
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: Are given for the glory of God.

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Lee Abel: 71 Windsor Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Neal DeLeo: Bristol village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

Marilyn Emerson: 364 Burroughs Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

*Susan Epstein: 59 Berryman Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

Frank Evans: 20 Park Lane, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Leon Szczerbinski (Sara Hannon's father); Pastor Alan Anderson; Frances M. DiPasquale (Steve DiPasquale's mother); Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske

Deacon Schedule: 1/29: Barbara Walter; 2/5: John Schunak

Usher Schedule: 1/29: Gerri Horton & Helen Gibson; 2/5: Todd Vahue & Robin Miano

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: With the addition of the Amherst Lutheran Campus (ALC) of St. Paul's, we now have two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, or Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, by referral, or are associated with the Amherst Lutheran Campus. The pantry hours for February are: Thursdays 2/2 and 2/16 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturdays 2/11 and 2/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for February: Soup (especially Progresso or chunky soups), broth, cereal (not Cheerios), and granola bars.

Daily Bread Food Truck: We are successful in our Monday Meal Share mission with the help of our volunteers and donors. We give a special thanks to Noah's Helping Hands for their generous donations of cereal and juice boxes for the children. Juice boxes always brings a smile to their face! For more information to volunteer or donate, please contact the office at 716-835-0407 or email dailybread4007@gmail.com.

Resettlement Mission: If you would like to help support the Resettlement Mission, donations of Visa gift cards would help provide for gaps in some of the material needs. Gift cards can be dropped off at the Church Office, or put in the offering plates on Sunday.

Book Club: Please come and join us, all are welcome! We are currently reading "This is Happiness" by Niall Williams. The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the narthex at Amherst Lutheran Campus beginning at 7:15 pm. Our next meeting is Thursday, February 9, 2023.

Upcoming Events



*Come and join us as we celebrate a **Blessing and Sending** ceremony in honor of **Lee Lindeman** as he retires from 17 years at **Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC)**. If you have ever had the opportunity to attend summer camp at LCLC, you will know who Lee is and the impact he has had on so many.*



*We will celebrate with Lee on **Saturday, February 4, 2023**, at **St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus** from **10:00 am-12:00 pm**. Food, drinks, and coffee will be provided until 11:45 am, after which we will take time to share stories/experiences, present Lee with some gifts, and pray for Lee and Karen in the next phase of life God has in store for them.*

Welcome Pastor Kristen

St. Paul's family,

*We would like to welcome **Pastor Kristen** and her family (husband Adam, daughter Annabelle, and son Westin) as they move into WNY! The family is moving into the **Sweet Home** school district near **Niagara Falls Blvd**. We will be collecting gift cards for local restaurants, grocery stores, **Trader Joe's**, **Target**, **Teds**, **Home Depot**, **Home Goods**, etc. to present to them in early February. Please help us welcome the family by purchasing a gift card and bringing it to the **St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus (SPEC)** office this week, or to church on **Saturday, February 4** or **Sunday, February 5**. Gift Cards can also be given to any **Staff Support Committee Member** (**Vanessa Solomon**, **Mimi Fierle** or **Karen Brown**).*



+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: David Schunak

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Gerri Horton

*Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon
Janet Schmidt Robert Simpson Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue*

Pastor: Rev. Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC)

Adam Schmidt (ALC)

Christian Education Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Church Office Staff: Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Polowy

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org