

*Sixth Sunday
after Epiphany*



*February 11, 2023
Amherst Lutheran Campus*

*Welcome to the Amherst Lutheran Campus
of St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 11, 2023*



Pre-Service Music: Guest Musician: Billy Brandau

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!

Gathering Hymn:

Verse 1: Light of the world you stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see, Beauty that made this heart adore you
Hope of a life spent with you

Chorus: So here I am to worship Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that you're my God
You're altogether lovely altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2: King of all days oh so highly exalted
glorious in heaven above, Humbly you came to the earth you created
all for love's sake became poor

Bridge: And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross

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 O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Praise Song: W&P 6: Alleluia

Verse 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse 2: He's my Savior, alleluia, he's my Savior, alleluia;
he's my Savior, alleluia, he's my Savior, alleluia

Verse 3: He is worthy, alleluia, He is worthy, alleluia;
He is worthy, alleluia, He is worthy, alleluia

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The LORD sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:1-8

Happy are they who follow the teaching of the LORD. (Ps. 119:1)

A Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

C Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

A who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

C You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

A Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

C Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

A I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

C I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: W&P 6: Alleluia

Verse 4: I will praise him, alleluia, I will praise him, alleluia;
I will praise him alleluia, I will praise him alleluia

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the Fifth Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Kristen Arends

Sermon Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Lyrics & Music by Thomas A. Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near
When my light is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When the darkness appears and the night draws near
And the day is past and gone
At the river I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

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

P Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Offering Hymn: We Are an Offering

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering

Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours, We are an offering

All that we have, All that we are, All that we hope to be
We give to You, We give to You

We lift our voices, We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering

Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are Yours, We are an offering

We are an offering, We are an offering
We are an offering, We are an offering

Offering Prayer

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

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/>

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

Communion Hymn: Seek Ye First

Verse 1: Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And his righteousness,
And all these things
Shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 2: Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God
Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 3: Ask, and it shall be given unto you.
Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened unto you
Allelu, alleluia.

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.

Distribution Hymn: Performed by Billy Brandau

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: ELW 841 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: February 12-19, 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
7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting
- Wednesday:** 12:00 pm: Staff Meeting
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
6:00 pm: Alanon
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at Amherst Lutheran Campus
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Campus Worship and Communion
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: **No Sunday School Today**
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: Are given to 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: Pastor Alan Anderson; Frances M. DiPasquale (Steve DiPasquale's mother); Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske

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, anyone associated with Amherst Lutheran Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for February are: Thursday 2/16 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturday 2/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for February: Soup (especially Progresso or chunky soups), broth, cereal other than Cheerios, and granola bars.

Daily Bread Food Truck: We are successful in our Monday Meal Share mission with the help of our donors and volunteers. We give thanks to the members of the Men's Club who recently installed several pieces of equipment in the commercial kitchen. Our volunteers are diverse in their knowledge and talents. For more information to volunteer or donate, please contact the church 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, March 9, 2023.

Ash Wednesday Services: Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22. Please join us at one of the following services at St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus: the 12:00 pm service will start with soup and psalms followed by ashes and communion. The 7:00 pm service will include ashes and communion.



My name is Karin Johnson and I facilitate the ministry at Kevin Guest House for ALC. We provide a meal once a month through a designated fund in our treasury. I was informed by the treasurer that the funds are low. Now that we're officially merged with St Pauls, I spoke with Pastor Steve on Saturday about how to continue requesting funds. He said during the transition, congregation members could give cash or write a check, put Kevin House in the memo section, and place it in an envelope marked "Kevin House" in the offering plate. When the combining of funds is accomplished, online giving will most likely be possible as well. I'm not sure how to express all this in a bulletin notice. If you have any questions, please call me 716-689-6365 or call/text 716-860-9549, or speak to Pastor Steve. Thank you, Karin Johnson

Kevin Guest House is **America's first independent healthcare hospitality house**. For 50 years, we've provided a comfortable and supportive home away from home for patients and families traveling to receive state of the art healthcare in Buffalo.

Founded in 1972 by Cyril & Claudia Garvey of Sharon, PA in honor of their son Kevin who sadly lost his battle with leukemia, KGH is the inspiration for the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia, PA and more than 600 similar houses across the country and worldwide.

More than 60,000 guests have stayed at KGH since its inception, mostly originating from WNY and the Southern Tier, but also including guests from 49 states, Canada, and 11 other countries. Patients and their families are welcome regardless of age, medical condition, or healthcare provider.

The Kevin Guest House campus is comprised of four buildings in the heart of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and can serve guests in these beautifully restored homes in a variety of rooms based on your need and availability.





+ 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*

Pastors

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell)

Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Kristen Arends (716-481-8728 - cell)

Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors 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