

*Fifth Sunday
after Epiphany*



*February 5, 2023
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023*



Prelude Music

Installation of Pastor Kristen Arends and Pastor Steve Biegner

Kathryn Francis, Church Council President: After prayer and conversation, we, the people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, both Eggertsville and Amherst Campuses, have called Kristen Arends and Steve Biegner to lead our congregation and staff as the pastors of this mission. I present them this morning for the community's affirmation and prayer.

St. Paul's Missionary: A reading from John 20:21-23: Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Reading: Matthew 28:18-20: Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Reading: 1 Timothy 4:12-16: Set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Attend to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Pastor Charles Biegner asks: Kristen and Steve, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God through the call of the church?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Pastor Charles Biegner asks: Will you preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church? Will you carry out this ministry in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Congregational Representative asks: Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and in your use of the means of grace? Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Youth Representative asks: Will you give faithful witness in the world, that God's love may be known in all that you do?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Deacon: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

C: Amen.

Kathryn Francis, Church Council President: People of God, will you receive Pastor Kristen and Pastor Steve as messengers of Jesus Christ sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard them as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for them, help and honor them in their work, and in all things work with them to shine the good news of Jesus into the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of Amherst families?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Pastor Charles Biegner: Kristen and Steve, the office of pastor is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blessing by the Congregation: Steve and Kristen, may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Kathryn Francis, Church Council President: People of God, I present to you Pastor Kristen and Pastor Steve as the newly installed pastors of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Let us welcome them in the name of Christ.

Opening Hymn: WOV 400

God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray,
in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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 Lord God, 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.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. 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 doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 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"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being 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. 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. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.]

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)

- 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 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 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.
- C **[The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish..]**
- 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

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P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the Fifth Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

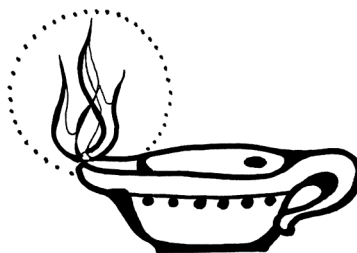
Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[Jesus said:] “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. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 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. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 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. 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. 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 the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



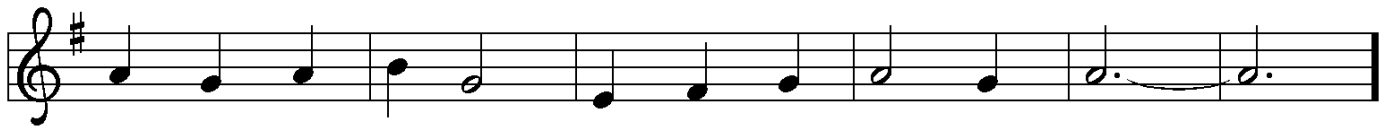
Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

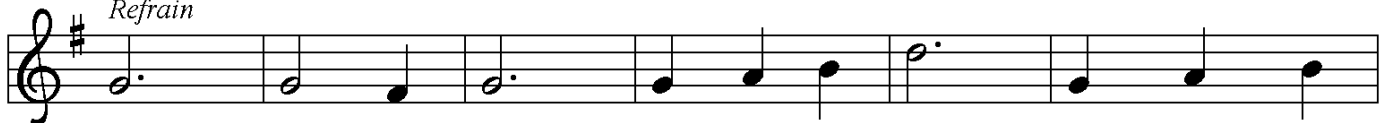


truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

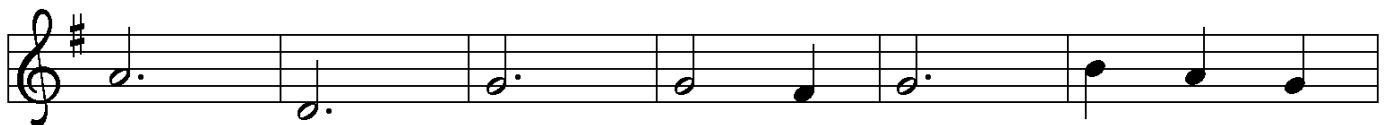


your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

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.)

Call your people to seek your wisdom in difficult conversations and action. Give the church everywhere courage to repent for the ways we have tolerated and practiced injustice. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Inspire our wonder at creation, from the light of dawn to the beauty of the dark night. Sustain the unseen depths of the ocean to the plants and animals we know well. Bring healing to lands and communities experiencing natural disasters. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Instruct the powerful in your ways. Provide upright leadership in business and industry, that workers are not oppressed. Throughout the world, inspire voters and raise up politicians to heed your call for nations to practice righteousness. 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 Loosen the bonds of injustice in our midst. Grant peace to endless quarrels, put an end to hunger, and break every yoke of oppression. Shelter all who flee abuse in their homes or violence in their communities. Satisfy those afflicted in any way, 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 Shape our congregation to be salt for the earth. Give us delight in your commandments, that we are generous with those in need. Make us steadfast in our trust in you, ready with tangible mercy and compassion for our neighbors. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A The cross and resurrection bring redemption from sin and death. We praise you for all whose unshaken faith in Christ shines forth in their witness. Keep them in our remembrance and bring us with them into the kingdom of heaven. 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 The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

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 866: 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 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.

Additional Stanzas:

We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

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: February 5-12, 2023

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Installation of Pastors Kristen Arends and Steve Biegner; 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:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Alanon
7:15 pm: Book Club Meeting at Amherst Lutheran Campus
7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday:** 8:30-9:30 am: Men's Breakfast
9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at Amherst Lutheran Campus
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
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: Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: Are given in honor of Chick and Barbara Biegner's 40th Anniversary last week from Wes and Sharon Ries.

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

Deacon Schedule: 2/5: John Schunak; 2/12: Sara Gallagher

Usher Schedule: 2/5: Todd Vahue & Robin Miano; 2/12: Bob Brown & Sharon Adimey

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 pantry hours for February are: Thursday 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 other than 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.



+ 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)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

and Kristen Arends

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

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Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org