# Sixth Saturday after Epiphany



February 15, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Campus



New to St. Paul's? We're so glad you're here! Fill out this form so we can get to know you better!

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus Sixth Saturday after Epiphany February 15, 2025

# Musician: Adam Schmidt

# Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
- C you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.
- P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.
- C Amen.



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

#### 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 Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

#### Praise Hymn: W&P 154

#### We will glorify D G A/E A D the King of kings, will We will we glo fy 1 - ri will Lord in maj - es - ty, we Je ho - vah reigns 2 Lord of earth, he is 3 He is Lord of heav en, kings, hal - le -King of Hal - le lu - jah the 4 to A/E A/C# D G G A/E A glo - ri -Lamb; will glo - ri - fy the the we fy will wor - ship him in bow be - fore his throne; we Lord the a - bove all who live; he is Lord of the Lamb; hal - le lu - jah to lu - jah the to D D/F# G D/A A Bm I AM. Lord of lords, who is the great lone. will wor - ship him а righ - teous - ness, we praise to give. him all we u ni verse, AM. is the great Ι Lord of lords, who

# First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

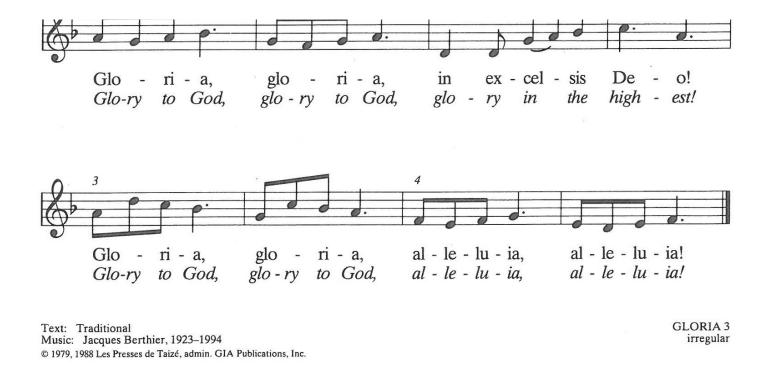
The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

# **Psalm 1 (read responsively)** They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

- A Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- C Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.
- A They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
- C It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- A Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- C For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Hymn: WOV 640: Glory to God



# P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Sixth Chapter.C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



#### Sermon Hymn: WOV 764: Blest Are They

Blest are they, the poor in spirit Theirs is the kingdom of God Blest are they, full of sorrow They shall be consoled

REFRAIN: Rejoice and be glad Blessed are you; holy are you Rejoice and be glad Yours is the Kingdom of God

Blest are they, the lowly ones They shall inherit the earth Blest are they, who hunger and thirst They shall have their fill REFRAIN

Blest are they who show mercy Mercy shall be theirs Blest are they, the pure of heart They shall see God REFRAIN

Blest are they who seek peace They are the children of God Blest are they who suffer in faith The glory of God is theirs REFRAIN

Blest are you who suffer hate All because of me Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom Shine for all to see REFRAIN

# Apostle's Creed

- **P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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

#### Prayer's of the Church

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (Please be seated.)

Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

P Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from damaging storms, changes in climate, and harmful practices, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

P Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant them skills to lead and work on behalf of all citizens in their care. God of grace,

#### C hear our prayer.

- P Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.

- P Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith to the living. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- C Amen.

# Offering Hymn: W&P 19: Bless His Holy Name



*Ways to Give to St. Paul's:* 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:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/



# Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer here and in our planned giving to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. 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

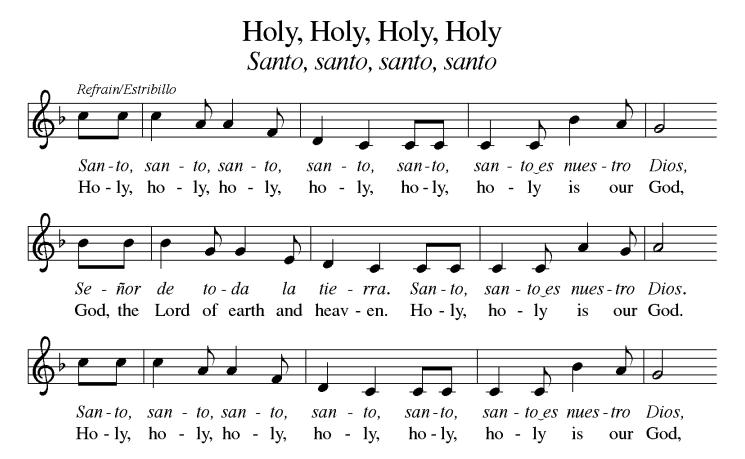
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

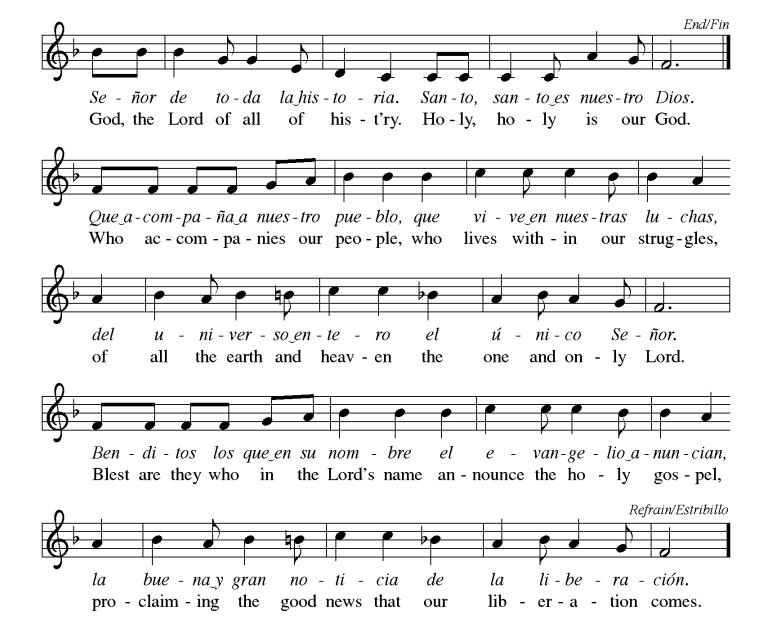
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

# Lord's Prayer

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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: W&P 61 (remainder of hymn is on the following page)



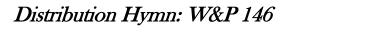


Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955; tr. Linda McCrae Music: CUÉLLAR, Guillermo Cuéllar

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<u>Holy Communion at St. Paul's</u>: 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.



We are an offering



of-fer-ing, lives up to you: we are an

we are an

# Communion Blessing

- P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
- C Amen.

# Prayer After Communion

- P Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
- C Amen.

# Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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: TFF 147 (on the following page)

#### Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Go in peace to serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.



Text African American spiritual Music: I SHALL NOT BE MOVED, African American spiritual

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: February 16-23, 2025

\*Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus\*

Sunday:	9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
	9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
	10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
Monday:	4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
	5:30-9:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
Tuesday:	10:00 am: Bible Study
	5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main (NA)
	7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
Wednesday:	6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
	7:00-8:00 pm: God on Tap at AC
	8:00 pm: AA Meeting
Thursday:	No planned events
Friday:	7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging (formerly Emotional Sobriety II)
	7:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
Saturday:	9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
	9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
	5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
Sunday:	9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
	9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
	10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

#### We send our condolences and prayers to the family and friends of Carl and Ethel Beck, Ginger Davis's parents.

#### We send our condolences and prayers to the family and friends of Dr. Dan Minocchi.

**Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family:** Dawn Matuszak; Cindy Milazzo-Schwartz; Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Diane Millace; Richard Elliott; Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Charles Herschlag; Kathy Greenawalt; Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson Prayer List: Shut-Ins (\* indicates new names or changes added this week)
Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217
Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086
John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031
Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004
Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529
Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, #251, Williamsville, NY 14221
Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221
Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221
David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

#### PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In-Person Worship:** St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. 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 Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

**Prayer Team Ministry:** Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

**Daily Bread Food Truck:** The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

#### **NEWANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for February are: Saturday 2/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm, and Thursday 2/27 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for February are: pasta and juice (bottles or cartons).



+ 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: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

Pastoral Leaders

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette <u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan <u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka <u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

#### Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm