



**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence. You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 22nd, 2023 ✝ 10:15 a.m.

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude

J. S. Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP FOR EPIPHANY**

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Lift up your eyes and look around:

all gather together to proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Your sun will never set again.

The Lord is our light and our salvation!

Your moon will wane no more.

The Lord is our light and our salvation!

Your days of sorrow will end.

The Lord is our light and our salvation!

Whom shall we fear?

**Whom shall we fear? The Lord is the strength of our life;
whom shall we fear?**

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of peace,

we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reunite us with one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of Peace, our Savior and Lord Jesus. Amen

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come. **Amen**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

ELW 520

***GREETING**

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1–4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced defeat, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them. The people in the northern parts of Israel have experienced "gloom" and "darkness" because of the destruction wrought by Assyrian military forces. To these people, the prophet announces the shining of a great light of salvation.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ who was crucified for us. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW 172

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:12–23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

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

SERMON

*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 to the dead.

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 INTERCESSION

Guided by the light of Christ, who has been made known to the nations, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For Christ's church on earth and for those who proclaim the good news of the kingdom, that all divisions cease, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For sky and sea, fish and birds, and the beauty of the whole creation, that God's goodness be seen through our everyday surroundings, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For our political and social leaders, that they use their power justly, and for all the nations of the world, that peace and understanding prevail, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all who call upon the Lord for help: those dealing with gloom or anguish, those who are afraid, those suffering from illnesses, especially... and for those who seek shelter, that God provide them with compassionate care-givers and advocates, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the followers of Jesus Christ gathered here, that we be guided by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the cross as the power of God, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Other prayers may be offered here in speech or silence.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, especially... that their witness to the spread of God's Word inspire us in our doings, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**



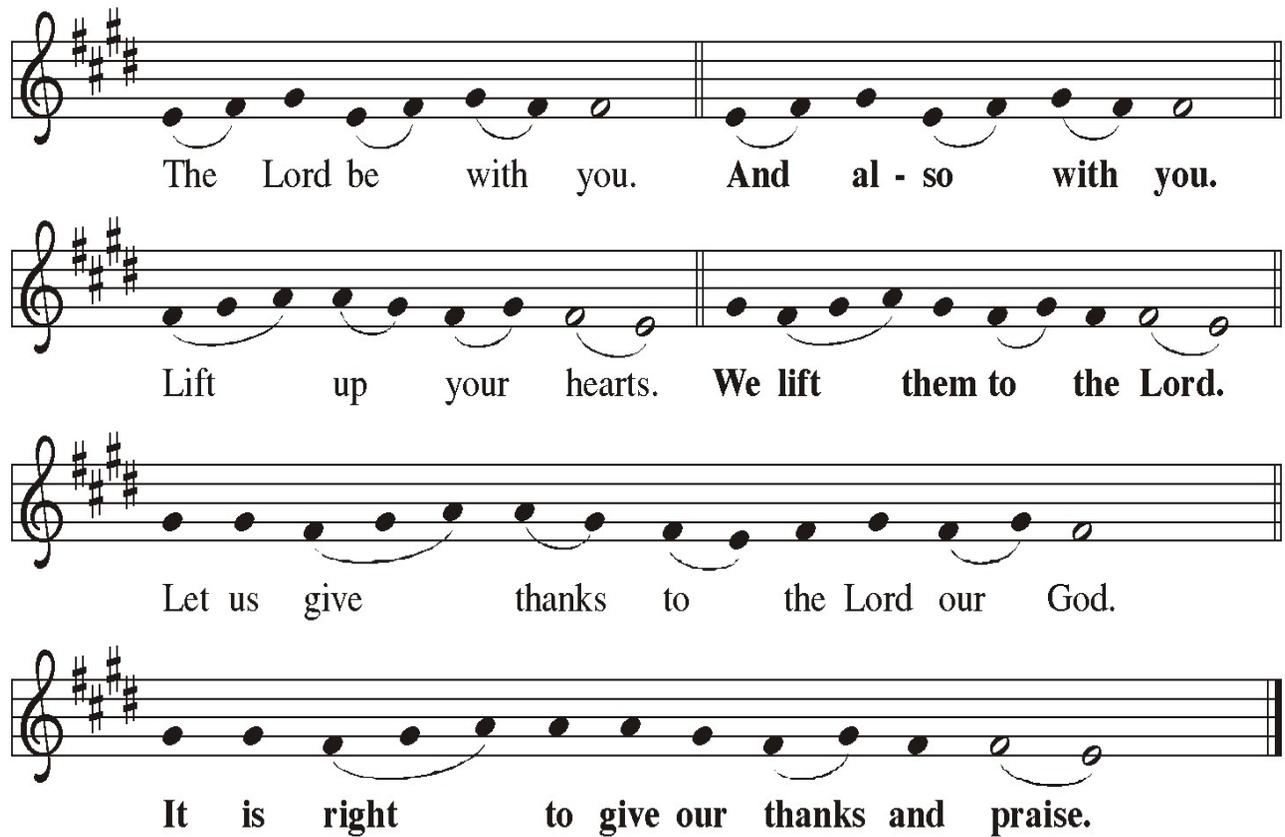
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

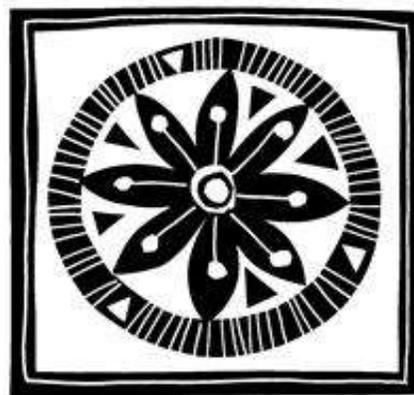
*DIALOGUE



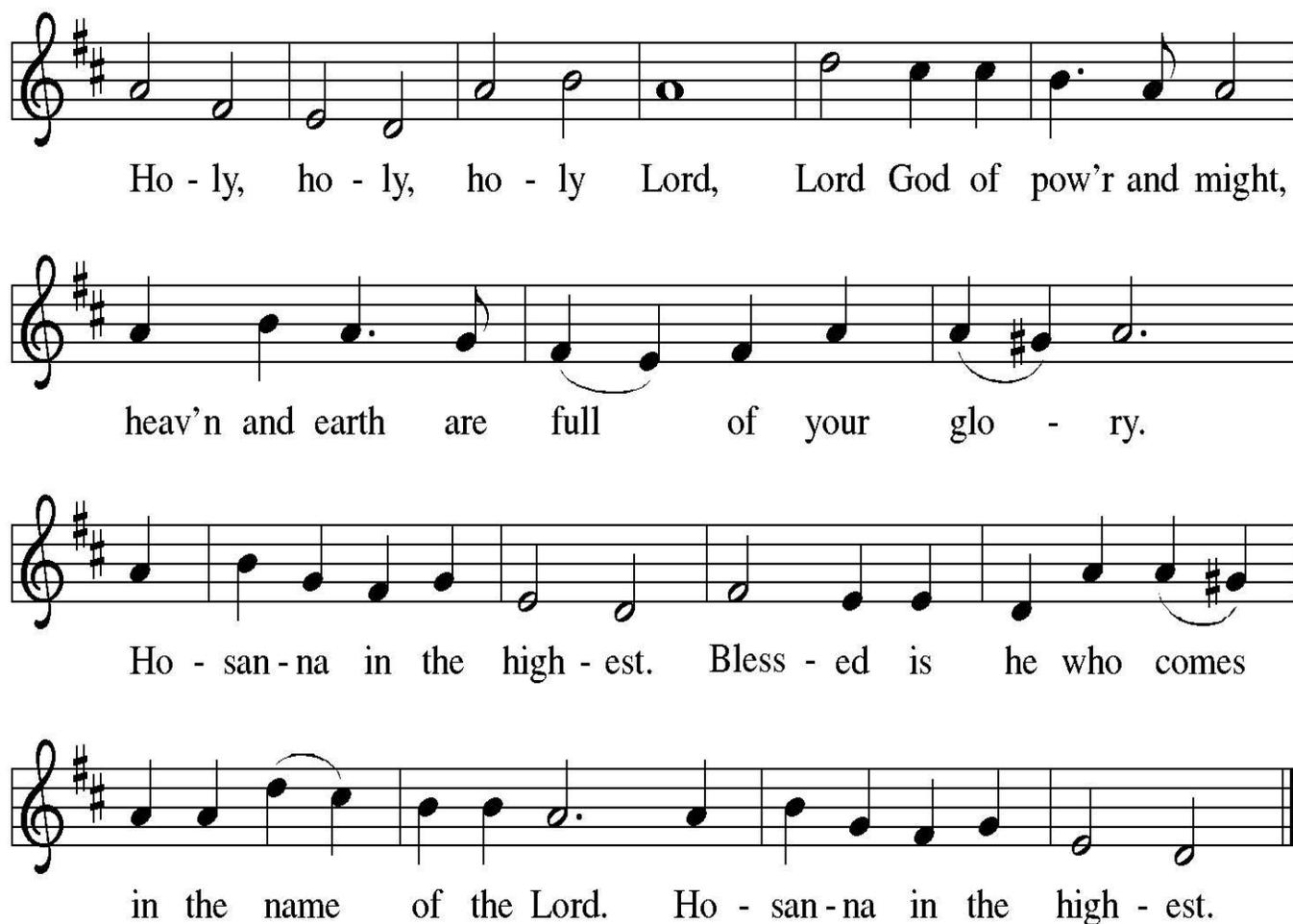
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

DISTRIBUTION

*BLESSING

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

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

*SENDING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

John Broussard

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

George Valek

GREETERS

John and Shirley Kostelny

LIVE STREAM

Charles Matthies

USHER

George Valek

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, Beverly Podzamsky, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation: Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Bill Holmes, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Julie Patron, Patricia Pfeiffer, Pat Pileggi, Alice Puglise, Gail Purcell, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Peter Spilotro, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel and Mike Yavorski.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in loving memory of beloved mother and grandmother +**Laverne Hanzel**+ on the anniversary of her death by remembering daughter Karen Cox, Kevin Hanzel and family, David Hanzel and family, sister Audrey Bucz, nephew Brian Bucz, and niece Adrienne Gana; and also in memory of mother and grandmother +**Betty Zittman**+ on the anniversary of her birth by remembering children and grandchildren.

Hard-copies of the Annual Report for the Congregational Meeting next Sunday are available today at the sanctuary entrances and in the lower hallway. Electronic copies of these reports will be emailed early this coming week. Please take some time to read these before the meeting.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering
January 15th 2023

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2023:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,031.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,496.00

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Conversion of Paul

Wednesday, January 25th

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

Thursday, January 26th

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith

Friday, January 27th

Women as well as men were important Christian leaders from the beginning, as demonstrated by these coworkers of the apostle Paul. Lydia, a seller of purple goods, lent her home for a church; Dorcas was known for charitable works; and Phoebe was a deacon in the church at Cenchrae.

Thomas Aquinas, teacher, died 1274

Saturday, January 28th

One of the most brilliant and creative theologians in the church's history, Aquinas worked to bring together scripture and the philosophy of Aristotle. A member of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), Aquinas was also a hymnwriter.