



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." 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 THE EPIPHANY

January 26th, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-156

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

***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 and self-examination.

God of light and 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

*GREETING

The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God, and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that the joy of the Lord is their strength.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW 172

*GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

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

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

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

*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

Gathered together by God's Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Grant unity in the body of Christ, your church. Replace dissension with reconciliation, and strengthen its witness to the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

When your creation is harmed, all suffer together. Guide your people to make wise choices that protect the land, sea, and all life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Put an end to strife, violence, and hate in nations where there is turmoil. Guide leaders and movements for change to seek peace above all else. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be present where there is loneliness. Be comfort where there is pain. Be healing where there is brokenness. We pray especially for... . Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant health and new life in this assembly. Send us to share the good news of your abundant love in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who have come to know the fulfillment of your promises. Assure us of your hope until we join the saints in light. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*PEACE

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

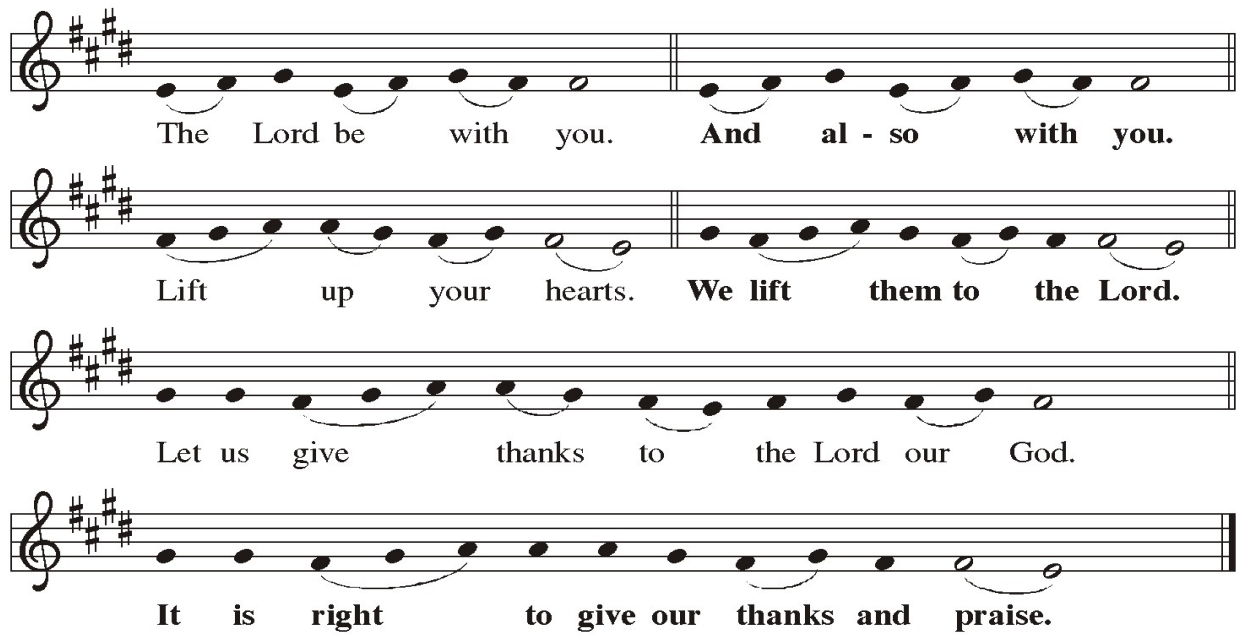
MEAL

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

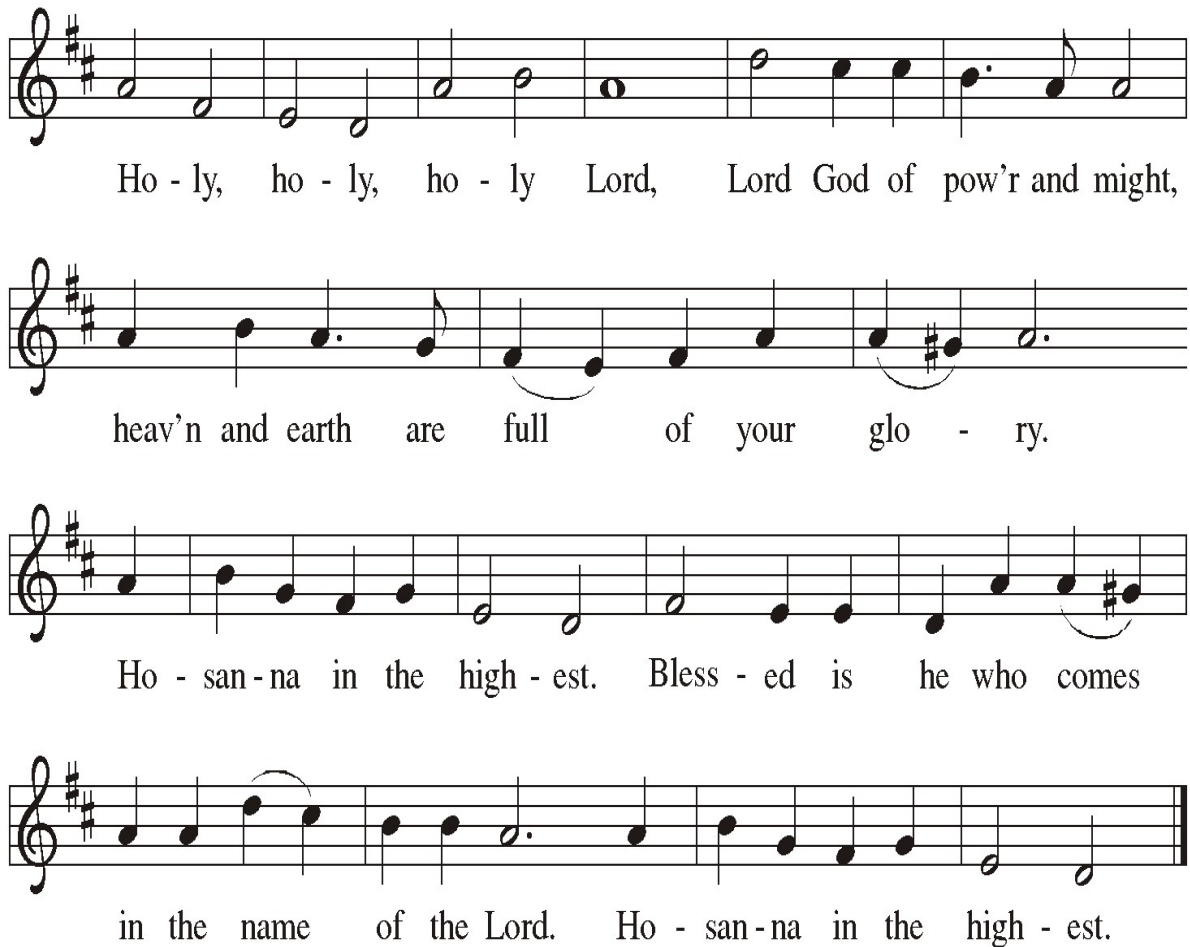


The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... 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 One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, 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**

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

DISTRIBUTION

“Andante” from *Sonata*

Mozart

***BLESSING**

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Dona Nobis Pacem

Mozart



**Baptism of Jesus, Castera Bazile, Portau
Prince Mural**

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Philip Lund

ASSISTING MINISTER

Carrie Watkiss

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

John Kostelny

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

USHER

Fred Kuzel

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel



IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Heather Greer, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara and Gregg Valek. *Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:* Betty Bartel, Kurt Behrendt, Wally Bisping, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Lenyce Lawrenson, Darlene Loughlin, Mike Matthies, Julie Mroz, Donald Neal, Gail Purcell, Tim Richard, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Janie Tarbox and Tom Thoreson.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in celebration of **Lois Mika** on the 92nd anniversary of her birth on February 4th by loving son Earl and daughter-in-law Rita.

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.

COMMEMORATIONS

Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries

Sunday, 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

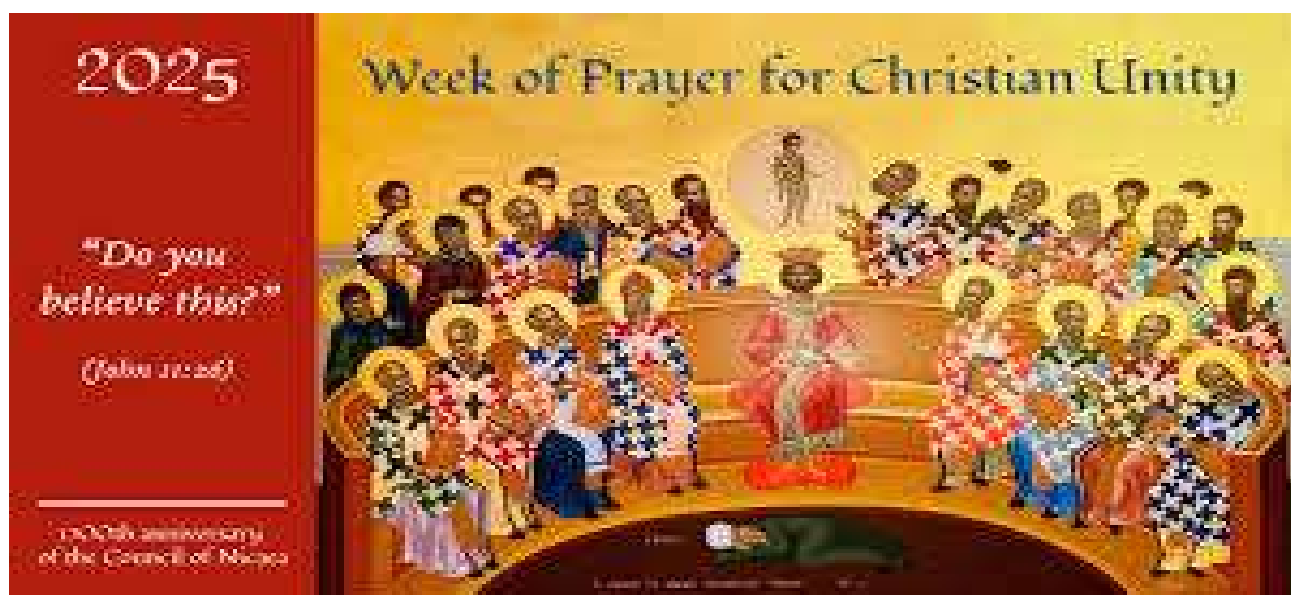
Monday, January 27th

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

Tuesday, 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.



This year marks the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD.

LIVING “WORDS WITH FRIENDS”

Playgrounds still resound with “sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” But those words ring hollow. As adults, and as children, we know only too well the power of words to do harm. In contrast, the scriptures for today point us to the word that bears hope, promise, and life. Human words can hurt or fail, but now we hear this holy word of wisdom, challenge, instruction, and hope that really does form us in God’s promise.

Rather than words that tear down, we are invited by the prophets and Jesus into God’s living words with and among friends. Jesus, in coming home and attending the synagogue, reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus announces good news to those struggling economically on the fringes of society, hope to those who are imprisoned, healing to those without sight, a lifting of the burden from those who are weighed down or oppressed, and even the in-breaking of a holy year of favor. Standing in a tradition of prophets and priests who speak, engage, and teach God’s word, Jesus now offers one thing more—fulfillment. The words of those who dream and hope, who work for justice and mercy on behalf of God, are now true.

Today as we look around and see people spending time speaking, reading, and even playing games with words, this is an opportunity to ground ourselves in the one full Word that bears life. This word counters sticks and stones and all that oppresses; Jesus’ address announces God’s liberating actions. This Word sounds promise to all who hear; it is an invitation to see God at work among God’s people.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering January 19th , 2025

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2024:</i>	\$2,615.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$.00

Donations are welcome via Zelle at donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org .