

St. Paul Lutheran Church
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road

PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Parish Administrator’s Email: parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsvvR6FI09zcaiDPY174k5A>

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month & Festivals

Christian Education: Sunday’s at 10:15 A.M.

Air Conditioned & Handicapped Accessible

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Grounded in faith and growing in grace, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed in our local community and throughout the world.



Are you visiting St. Paul? Are you interested in membership or just looking to see if St. Paul is a good fit for you and/or your family??

Please call (570-629-1992) or stop by our office during regular business hours (Mon – Thurs 9:00am – 1:00pm) and speak to our Parish Administrator, Leanna Wickline, who will be happy to guide you through the membership process and help you find information on all of the great programs at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

SILENT MEDITATION. . . Please note – the silent meditation is a part of the morning worship service. This is a time for individual reflection; a time for communicating with God, as well as a time of preparation for the service of worship. We encourage you to use it in a meaningful way.

Please respect the prayerful atmosphere of this holy place. We ask that you turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

Pastor: Reverend Rashion “Woody” Santiago

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline

Choir Director/Organist: Mr. Robert Jones

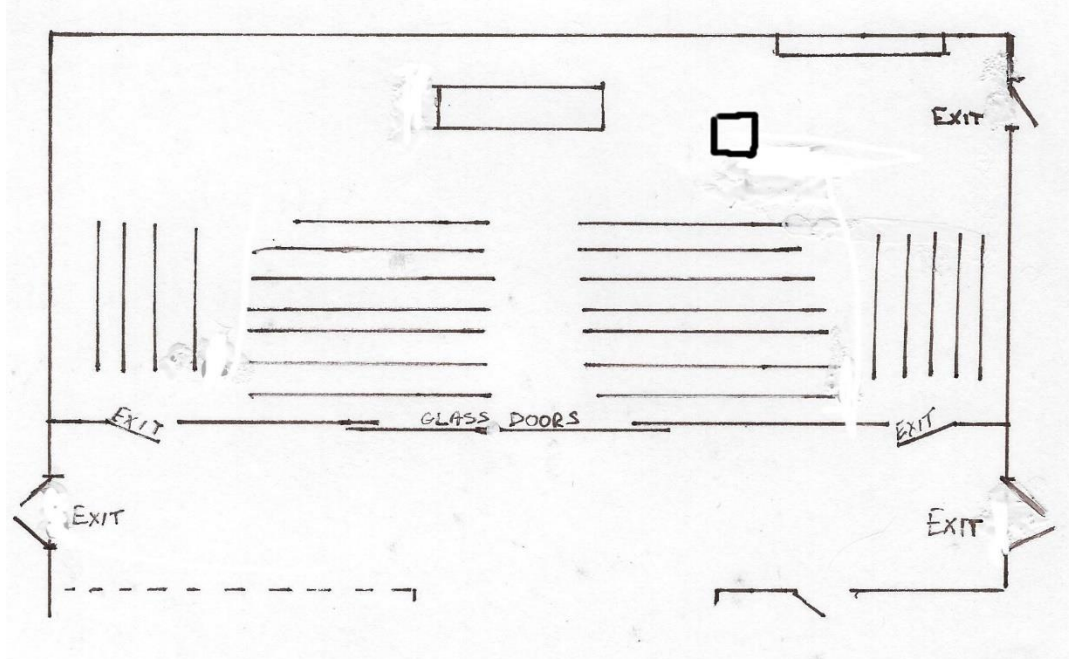
2023 Council Members

Grant Allen, Dawn Bartron, Bill Below, Chris Kinsley Sr., Nicole Kresge,
Carl Reindl, Deb Storman, Beth Werkheiser, Leanna Wickline

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Worship Service

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Sunday, January 29, 2023

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

+Late Seating

**Please stand, if able.*

Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes

Announcements

Prelude

***Confession**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Absolution**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

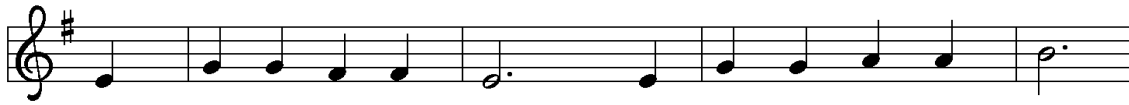
***+ Opening Hymn ELW # 873 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* verses 1,2,3 & 6**

***Greeting**

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

And also with you.

***Kyrie**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***Hymn of Praise**



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***Prayer of the Day (Lector)**

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

¹Now listen to what the Lord is saying: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your complaint. ² Listen to the Lord's lawsuit, you mountains and enduring foundations of the earth, because the Lord has a case against his people, and he will argue it against Israel. ³ My people, what have I done to you, or how have I wearied you? Testify against me! ⁴ Indeed, I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from that place of slavery. I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam ahead of you. ⁵ My people, remember what King Balak of Moab proposed, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from the Acacia Grove to Gilgal so that you may acknowledge the Lord's righteous acts. ⁶ What should I bring before the Lord when I come to bow before God on high? Should I come before him with burnt offerings, with year-old calves? ⁷ Would the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams or with ten thousand streams of oil? Should I give my firstborn for my transgression, the offspring of my body for my own sin? ⁸ Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

¹Lord, who can dwell in your tent? Who can live on your holy mountain?

² **The one who lives blamelessly, practices righteousness, and acknowledges the truth in his heart —**

³ who does not slander with his tongue, who does not harm his friend or discredit his neighbor,

⁴ **who despises the one rejected by the Lord but honors those who fear the Lord, who keeps his word whatever the cost,**

⁵ who does not lend his silver at interest or take a bribe against the innocent — the one who does these things will never be shaken.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God to us who are being saved. ¹⁹ For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the intelligence of the intelligent. ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the debater of this age? Hasn't God made the world's wisdom foolish? ²¹ For since, in God's wisdom, the world did not know God through wisdom, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of what is preached. ²² For the Jews ask for signs and the Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles. ²⁴ Yet to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God, ²⁵ because God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, consider your calling: Not many were wise from a human perspective, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. ²⁷ Instead, God has chosen what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

²⁸ God has chosen what is insignificant and despised in the world — what is viewed as nothing — to bring to nothing what is viewed as something, ²⁹ so that no one may boast in his presence. ³⁰ It is from him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God for us — our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written: Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Gospel (*Lector*)

*Gospel Acclamation



***Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to teach them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

¹¹ "You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. ¹² Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 728 *Blest Are They

***The Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 People (Lector)**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The foundations of the earth bear witness to your faithfulness; the mountains and hills echo with your holiness. When we mistreat your creation, show us the error of our ways. Inspire us with reverent awe to honor all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who are regarded as foolish, weak, low, and despised; reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Give your life, strength, and wisdom to all in need. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

At this time, you are welcome to share your joys and concerns, either aloud or silently. *Pause.* We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

Offering Prayer

Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***Blessing**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.
Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Verse 1

It all comes down to this
What you require of me
Love my neighbor as myself
And You above all things

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly
With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly
With You God

Verse 2

It all comes down to this
To be Your hands and feet
Good news to all the world
The truth will set us free

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly
With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly
With You God

Bridge

It's beauty for ashes
It's mourning to dancing
It's closer and closer
The Kingdom of heaven

Verse 3

Years from now we'll see
The fruit our hands have sown
Faith just like a seed
The only way it grows

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly
With You God
In all things in all ways walk humbly
With You God

***Choral Benediction**

"Go Now and Pass It On"

May the Lord walk be - side us as we
6 leave this qui - et place, for the Lord will al - ways
12 guide us if we walk in the light of His grace.
17 May we feel God's love a - round us as it
22 keeps us faith - ful and strong, for the peace
27 of God sur rounds us, and now we must pass it
32 on. Go now and pass it on.

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"The worship ends. . .the service begins."

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Prayer Requests

Prayers have been requested for the following brothers and sisters in Christ who have concerns needing God's help...

Specialist William "Blake" Allen; Sr. Master Sargent William F. Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Diane Berner; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; Captain Katy Blessing; David Brong; Dennis Bushkofsky; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Jamie Fisher; Paul Frantz; Todd & Anna Geil; Louis Genset; Lynn Gerber; Tim Grover; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; the family of Bob Hallet at his passing; the family of Matt Herzberg at his passing; Charlie Hemple; T. J. Imhof; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Robbie Kinsley; Nikolaos Kotretsos; Eleanor Kreuger; Joeann Lance; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Steven Moore; Ada Morales; Nelson Morales; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Anna Rivera; Jean Ross; Gina Santiago; Claudette Segear; Vaughn Sensinger; Phyllis Sensinger; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; Brenda Van Why; Steve Widgett; Alice Weaver; Harry Weaver; Jacob Wilson; John Woodling; Carolyn Zacharias; for the people of Ukraine; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the families and victims of the mass shootings, for all those around the world and here at home suffering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Have your prayers been answered? Or do you still need God's help? Please let us know. Thank you to everyone who prays with us for those in need.

Grocery Tapes

If you shop at Kinsley's Shoprite or Weis markets we get a percentage of your purchase. Just bring your receipts in and put them in the box on the table in the Narthex. In order for us to receive credit, the receipts must include the date and store number. Please don't tear off the bottom of the receipts.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Calling all Souper Bowl of Caring fans, it is that time of year again to help fill the Strunk Food Pantry. Until February 12th, we will be collecting non-perishable items for the Strunk Food Pantry. This year's goal is 400 items. **Items of particular need are: boxed pasta, mac & cheese, cereal, peanut butter, soup, canned vegetables, beans of all types, canned tuna and chicken, canned fruit and canned potatoes.** Once again, we will be serving soup after the service on February 12th to say thank you for all your generosity. Anyone interested in making soup please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Inside Out Church

Inside Out Church is held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, in Spies Hall. We join together with a meal and a deep dive into the scriptures. This is an opportunity to grow your faith and increase your knowledge and understanding of God's Word and the Bible.

February Worship Assistant Schedule						
	Acolyte	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistants	Counters	Altar Guild
2/5/2023	Emily	Charlie Hempel	Bill Below	Linda Below	Deb Storman	Beth Reindl
	Kresge	Donna Warner		Deb Storman	Beth Werkheiser	Leanna Wickline
2/12/2023	Deb	Carl Reindl	Linda Below		Dawne Ladeas	
	Storman	Beth Reindl			Barbara Allen	
					Judy Michael	
2/19/2023	Eli	Linda Below	Kris Kent	Dawn Weiss	Deb Storman	Beth Reindl
	Kresge	Deb Storman		Dawn Bartron	Barbara Allen	Leanna Wickline
2/26/2023	Dawn	Charlie Hempel	Joan Rinker		Beth Werkheiser	
	Weiss	Donna Warner			Barbara Allen	

If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please contact the office.

Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

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

Matthew 5:13-20