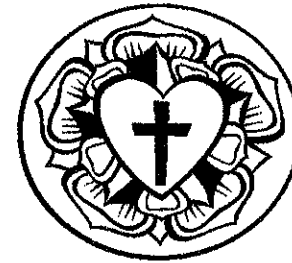


Ash Wednesday  
Services with  
imposition of  
Ashes and Holy  
Communion  
at noon and 7  
pm.

**You may now make an offering to the church** through our website [www.SummerHillLutheran.org](http://www.SummerHillLutheran.org). Simply click on the online giving button on our home page and you will be directed to a secure site to make a one time or on-going offering. You may direct your offering from your checking or savings account or a credit or debit card. Use this QR code to go directly to the contribution page.



# The Epistle of St. Paul's

**January/February 2020**

**A publication of  
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
Summer Hill**

## **THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S**

is published by:

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**Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill**

**Sunday Holy Communion Service – 8 & 10:30 am**

**Saturday Holy Communion Service - 5 pm**

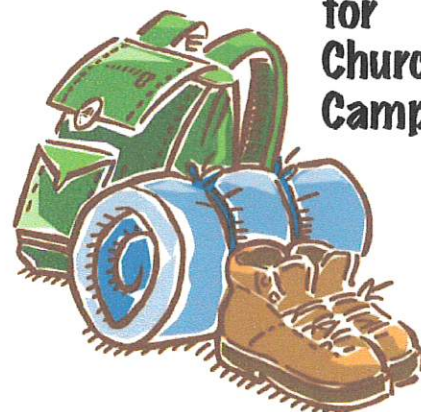
**Sunday Scholl – 9:15 am**

### **Our Staff**

The Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner	Pastor 570-977-4189
Matthew Hayes	Director of Music 484-794-7902
Linda Angstadt	Parish Secretary 570-754-7350
Eva Waldman	Church Sexton/Treasurer 570-754-7350
Cindy Brown	Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279

### **Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 9 am - 3 pm  
Closed from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm for lunch



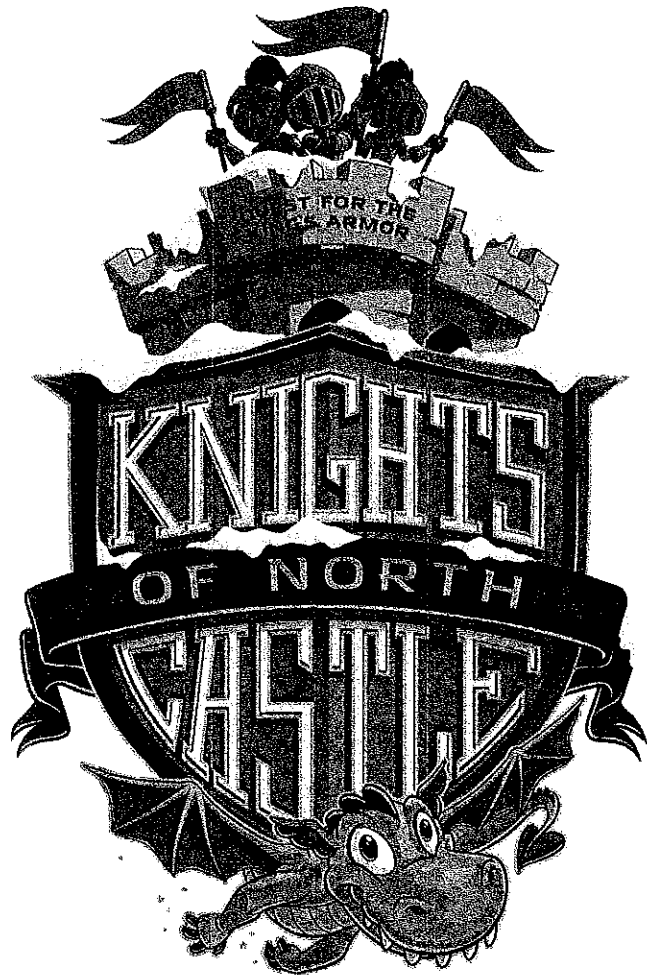
**Sign up  
for  
Church  
Camp!**

Bear Creek Camp's residential program, for all children who have completed grades 1 -12, is a traditional camp program centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living and small group development. Each age group experiences a mix of small-group and all-camp activities throughout their week to meet their group's

spiritual, social and developmental needs. Most camp sessions begin on Sunday afternoon and end Saturday morning. Campers spend their time living and playing together: swimming, boating, hiking, worshiping, playing games, discussing their faith, camping, making arts and crafts, learning about the environment, singing and much more. Financial aid is available.

We will be having a fundraiser on Sunday, Jan 26th at Hoss's in Cressona. Campers will be handing out cards after services in January that must be presented when ordering at the restaurant. 20% of the bill will benefit the campers. We will also be selling candy in Feb after the services. Anyone interested in attending camp should see Leah Mullins to start signing up.

Save the dates...  
June 7-11, 2020  
Vacation Bible School



**"Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, ... Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"**

**Isaiah 43: 14, 18-19**

Dear Folks,

Once again, we are beginning a new year. This year is slightly different as it also represents a new decade. Now's the time people tend to evaluate their lives, celebrating what they like and setting goals to change what they don't. Studies tell us by the 6<sup>th</sup> week of the New Year the vast majority of those resolutions made in good faith have fallen by the wayside.

While you may consider setting a new resolution, St. Paul's is making a change, not to something new, but going back to something old. During the fall, because the majority of people expressed an interest in one Sunday service, and our attendance numbers decreased, especially at the 8 am service, the Church Council voted to "try on" one service. The time was 10 am. No one had their original time of service. The change was made with the understanding a survey would be taken and a time of discussion would be held at our Congregational Meeting in November. While the survey still showed over two thirds liked the one service, there were still some voices who wanted their 8 am or 10:30 am service. At its November meeting, the Church Council voted to go back to 2 Sunday services – 8 am and 10:30 am with Sunday School at 9:15 am.

Change is hard. We see it in how many New Year's resolutions are broken, and we quite often see it in the church.

We think of the Bible as being static and unchanging, but even there, change can be found. In the Old Testament God is found in the temple. In the New Testament, God is found in His son Jesus with the temple no longer holding a central place. The Bible reflects the faith journeys of its writers as well as the Word of God for us. Each Biblical writer reimages Scripture for their own time and place. Although we have 4 Gospels that tell us the good news of Jesus, only 3 tell us the Christmas story of the Son of God becoming human, and each tell it in a completely different way. It's Luke's version we hear on Christmas Eve. The 4<sup>th</sup> gospel doesn't tell us anything about Jesus' birth.

As people of God, we gather to worship, accepting the mystery of those things we cannot understand. In this new year of doing an old thing, let us open our hearts and minds to meeting God in unexpected, new ways. Come, worship at any of our 3 weekend worship services, and commune with God in this sacred space where all are welcomed. Make this opportunity of choice for worship count in your life!

Serving in the name of Christ,

*Pastor Kathy*  
The Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner  
Pastor



### First Communion

This year's First Holy Communion class will meet during the season of Lent. The class is open to all students who are at least 10 years old and/or in 5<sup>th</sup> grade or above. The weekly meeting time will be decided by a consensus of those enrolled when we meet for the first time on Sunday, February 16, 2020, following the 10:30 am service. At this meeting, the program will be described and questions answered. Students will receive their First Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday evening, April 9, 2020. **Please call the church office by Friday, February 14, 2020 to register your child.** Please see Pastor Kathy with any questions.



The following have donated gifts to the memorial fund in memory of Robert Emerich

Gregory and Brenda Phillips	\$25.00
Lawrence & Shirley Emerich	\$50.00
Harold & Joan Berkheiser	\$10.00
Bernice Rhine	\$25.00
Beverly Trumbo	\$50.00



Willis Woomert donated \$100.00 to the memorial fund in memory of his parents, Willis and Thorne Woomert.



## Evangelism News

By Charles Hawk, Sr.

It is now 2020! The beginning of a new year. The adult Sunday School Class is studying a book titled

"Embodied Light". It is based on the INCARNATION. It is good! We are inviting you to come and see what it is all about. Remember we are now back to the original Sunday School start time of 9:15AM. Our class has just begun this book and it looks like we are going to really be enlightened and we have only read the introduction! I am just going to mention some of the questions I have seen by glancing thru the first couple of chapters and see if they perk your interest. Why did God make earth in the first place? Why did God make people? Why did He make people look like us? Why did God decide to become a man? These are just some of the questions we will be studying. If you think it sounds interesting, join us. We can get more books in a hurry! Wisdom which comes from God is just one of the reasons our FAITH gets stronger. See you in SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Thank you very much for the college care package. I really appreciate that you take the time to prepare them for us college students.

Jonathan Schwenk

## Keep in your prayers:



Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Gary & Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Leonard & Yvonne Szpara, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Barbara Pennypacker, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Eleanor Jamison, Adam Brink, Glenn & Linda Curtis, Georgia Sandler, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch, Jr., Dianna Curry, Fern Staller, Carol Glaser, Pat Stevens, Lawrence Latsko, Rosemary Meade, Tyler Boland, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Chrissy Kull, Stella Lavenburg, Matthew Flashner, William Ash, and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tom Leganza, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, and Brad Renninger

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**Pastoral visits and home communions are available anytime. Please call the office or Pastor Kathy.**

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The deadline for items for the March newsletter is **February 15th.**

## Happy January Birthday To:

1/1 Cody Reber, Isaiah Arnett,  
1/2 Trent Schantzenbach  
1/3 Karen Curtis; Eva Waldman  
1/5 Sydney Hill  
1/7 Leslie Fessler  
1/8 Stacy Staller  
1/9 Danielle Detweiler  
1/10 Carol Boyer  
1/11 Delaney Hill; Trevor Reber  
1/12 Keith Honicker  
1/13 Leah Mullins; Gerald Sholly, Jr.  
1/14 Richard Paxson  
1/16 Marna Gilbert  
1/17 Thomas Merchant, Jr.; Kendra Santiago  
1/18 Jaxson Manbeck  
1/19 Earl Epting; Kyle Koury; Donald Mairose;  
Barry Costenbader  
1/20 Deborah Kosmisky  
1/21 Tyler Heist; George Skripko IV  
1/22 Evan Burcik  
1/24 Donald Boyer  
1/25 Jonathan Schwartz  
1/26 Rebecca Reber  
1/27 Janet Roberts  
1/30 Connie Harig  
1/31 Gary Brown; Helen Miller



## Happy February Birthday To:

2/2 Debbie Lord; Carly Schnoke  
2/3 Mary Lou Blankenhorn; George Hall; Sandy Wentz  
2/4 Brenda Phillips; Angie Saylor  
2/6 Alan Romberger; Duane Bressler  
2/7 Elizabeth Ciavarella; Chelsea Wertz  
2/8 Brandon Koury; Reba Llewellyn  
2/9 George Skripko V  
2/11 Emily Brown; Tiffany Epting  
2/14 Myles Honicker; Jacob Woll  
2/16 Jessica Rollman  
2/17 Karen Tokarick  
2/18 Derek Burcik; Eric Thomas  
2/20 Christopher Schnoke  
2/21 Tyler Wertz  
2/22 Carl Schwenk; John Strauch, Jr.  
2/23 Francis Frankenstein; Mary Jo Moss  
2/25 Jennifer Minrod; Cynthia Reidler;  
Denise Wertz  
2/26 Richelle Carroll; Brandon Felty; Mason Reber  
2/28 Lisa Lehman  
2/29 Renee Bressler



## Social Ministry News

On Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, we sponsored our annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors. 113 people were served, including those who attended, meals that were delivered, and everyone who worked at the dinner. Thank you to all who helped in any way to help us to have another successful event. Thank you also to Thrivent for helping us with their financial contribution.

Fifty children's names were received from Children & Youth, and ornaments with their names and gift suggestions were put on the Angel Tree. Within two weeks of church services, all of the names were taken. Thank you to all who have purchased gifts to help make these children have a Merry Christmas.

On Sunday afternoon, December 8<sup>th</sup>, nine of us boarded the bus and visited twelve of our elderly and shut-in members, delivered their Christmas treat bags, and sang a few Christmas Carols to each of them. Thanks to all who participated.

## *Council of Churches Schuylkill Haven & Vicinity*

Schuylkill Haven & Vicinity Council of Churches Update  
As one of two of St. Paul's representatives for the Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches, I wanted to share all the good work that gets done through this organization with you, the members of St. Paul's. The Council meets every other month, rotating host sites amongst the 17 different dues-paying churches on the Council.

Pastor Kathy serves as our treasurer, and our church secretary, Linda, serves as both our other representative from St. Paul's and the leader of the Media Relations ministry. She works to keep our website updated. At all meetings, community ministries are reviewed. The Blood Bank ministry updates us with dates blood is collected in Schuylkill Haven, as well as results from previous collections. There was a collection on September 26 where 41 pints were collected, and data is still pending on the November 21 collection. Assignments are given for a Borough Prayer Assignment. A pastor from any of the 17 churches goes to the Schuylkill Haven Borough Council monthly meeting and leads the Council in prayer. Development is reviewed. Grants are applied for by members of the Council to help assure that the Council of Churches has funds. There is a Diaper Bank. A representative travels to Easton or Philadelphia monthly to bring back diaper products that are available to families in need at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry. The November collection included 1408 infant and children diaper products and 719 adult products. The Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry reviews their supply and gives a count of how many families used the service monthly. In the months of September and October, 181 families and 179 families respectively, used the Food Pantry. The leader of this

ministry also stated she was looking for volunteers for the month of December.

The Council of Churches is given an update from the Pastors Meetings that are held, as well as Social Action, and Special Services. Under Special Services, the Council announced the date and site for the Schuylkill Haven Area High School's Baccalaureate for the Class of 2020. The annual Unity Service also was planned, where all Council of Churches representatives and pastors come together to worship and recognize the volunteers that help make the community ministries happen. The service this year will be at 3pm on February 16, 2020 @ 3 pm. Stay tuned for more details. Social Action is a very important ministry. There is a cell phone line that can be contacted by anyone in Schuylkill Haven or a member of one of the churches in the Council for assistance. This cell phone is covered 24/7/365 by a pastor from the Council. Pastor Kathy also holds this phone and fields phone calls at times throughout the year. In the previous two months, it was reported that various needs arose: paying utility bills, emergency housing, emergency food pantry, and gift cards. Some phone calls render certain individuals ineligible due to repeat requests or greater needs. Through the Council of Churches, the funds are available to help people in the community that have fallen on hard times. Referrals are made to Servants to All, our local shelter in Pottsville, for the homeless. Emergency night stays are given at a local hotel, food is provided and the lights are kept on in houses of those unable to pay the utility bills.

Guest speakers also share needs within the community. The November meeting had a Chaplain from the Lebanon VA. He updated us on needs for veterans, reminding us the VFWs and VSO within our community act as good advocates for our veterans. He made us aware of a program called Warrior to

Soul Mate for veterans and their partners to help with relations post-combat. There is a No Veteran Dies Alone program, and he reminded us veterans should apply for resources, even if they have in the past and were denied. It is important that veterans apply, even if they feel others need it more than they. Applying and being denied helps other veterans receive resources! There is also a need for volunteer drivers to transport veterans from Schuylkill County to the VA.

Lastly, I'd like to mention that the Council of Churches funds the yearly backpack program in the Schuylkill Haven School District. It costs approximately \$10,000. Kids identified as needing additional food over the weekends are given a book bag with food to take home to assure they are not hungry while school is not in session. The yearly CROP walk is also organized by the Council of Churches, where over \$5,700 was raised this year to go to fighting hunger.

I was amazed at all the amazing ministries all made possible through the Council of Churches. I would like to continue updating our members about all the good works being done within our community on a daily basis. We are a very important cog in this organization because we are a financially stable church with an active pastor, secretary, and because of YOU! We should be proud of our contribution as member of St. Paul's to this greater good. United through the Council of Churches, we are able to help many more than we would be able to help if we did solitarily.

Julie Wisner



# Church Calendar for January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 10am Holy Communion	30 10am Prayer Shawl	31	1	2 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4 5pm Holy Communion service
5 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	6 10am Prayer Shawl	7 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	8 1pm Evangelism Meeting 6 pm undecorate sanctuary 7pm Council Meeting	9 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11 5pm Holy Communion service
12 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	13 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Stewardship	14 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Social Ministry	15 7pm Property	16 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18 5pm Holy Communion service
19 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	20 10am Prayer Shawl	21 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	22	23 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25 5pm Holy Communion service
26 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion Bear Creek Camp Hoss's Fund Raiser	27 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Finance	28 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Council of Churches at First UCC	29	30 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	31	1 5pm Holy Communion service

# Church Calendar for February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	<b>27</b> 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Finance	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 5pm Holy Communion service
<b>2</b> 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	<b>3</b> 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Church Council	<b>4</b> 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 7pm Council Meeting	<b>6</b> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5pm Holy Communion service
<b>9</b> 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	<b>10</b> 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Stewardship	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Social Ministry	<b>12</b> 1pm Evangelism Meeting	<b>13</b> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5pm Holy Communion service
<b>16</b> 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion 11:30 am First Holy Communion Meeting	<b>17</b> 10am Prayer Shawl	<b>18</b> 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 7pm Property	<b>20</b> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 5pm Holy Communion service
<b>23</b> 8am Holy Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	<b>24</b> 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Finance	<b>25</b> 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 12 noon Worship Service 7 pm Worship Service	<b>27</b> 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5pm Holy Communion service

# Lectionary Calendar for January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 <i>or</i> Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 2:15-21	2 Psalm 72 Genesis 12:1-7 Hebrews 11:1-12	3 Psalm 72 Genesis 28:10-22 Hebrews 11:13-22	4 Psalm 72 Exodus 3:1-5 Hebrews 11:23-31
5 <b>Epiphany of Our Lord</b>	6 Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	7 Psalm 72 1 Kings 10:1-13 Ephesians 3:14-21	8 Psalm 72 1 Kings 10:14-25 Ephesians 4:7, 11-16	9 Psalm 72 Micah 5:2-9 Luke 13:31-35	10 Psalm 29 1 Samuel 3:10—4:1a Acts 9:10-19a	11 Psalm 29 1 Samuel 7:3-17 Acts 9:19b-31
12 <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b>	13 Psalm 89:5-37 Genesis 35:1-15 Acts 10:44-48	14 Psalm 89:5-37 Jeremiah 1:4-10 Acts 8:4-13	15 Psalm 89:5-37 Isaiah 51:1-16 Matthew 12:15-21	16 Psalm 40:1-11 Isaiah 22:15-25 Galatians 1:6-12	17 Psalm 40:1-11 Genesis 27:30-38 Acts 1:1-5	18 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Kings 19:19-21 Luke 5:1-11
19 <b>Second Sunday after Epiphany</b>	20 Psalm 40:6-17 Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28 Acts 8:26-40	21 Psalm 40:6-17 Isaiah 53:1-12 Hebrews 10:1-4	22 Psalm 40:6-17 Isaiah 48:12-21 Matthew 9:14-17	23 Psalm 27:1-6 1 Samuel 1:1-20 Galatians 1:11-24	24 Psalm 27:1-6 1 Samuel 9:27—10:8 Galatians 2:1-10	25 Psalm 27:1-6 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 Luke 5:27-32
26 <b>Third Sunday after Epiphany</b>	27 Psalm 27:7-14 Judges 6:11-24 Ephesians 5:6-14	28 Psalm 27:7-14 Judges 7:12-22 Philippians 2:12-18	29 Psalm 27:7-14 Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26 Luke 1:67-79	30 Psalm 15 Deuteronomy 16:18-20 1 Peter 3:8-12	31 Psalm 15 Deuteronomy 24:17—25:4 1 Timothy 5:17-24	

# Lectionary Calendar for February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> Psalm 15 Deuteronomy 24:17—25:4 1 Timothy 5:17-24
<b>2</b> <b>Presentation of Our Lord</b>	<b>3</b> Psalm 37:1-17 Ruth 1:1-18 Philemon 1-25	<b>4</b> Psalm 37:1-17 Ruth 2:1-16 James 5:1-6	<b>5</b> Psalm 37:1-17 Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22 Luke 6:17-26	<b>6</b> Psalm 112:1-9 [10] Deuteronomy 4:1-14 1 John 5:1-5	<b>7</b> Psalm 112:1-9 [10] Isaiah 29:1-12 James 3:13-18	<b>8</b> Psalm 112:1-9 [10] Isaiah 29:13-16 Mark 7:1-8
<b>9</b> <b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>10</b> Psalm 119:105-112 2 Kings 22:3-20 Romans 11:2-10	<b>11</b> Psalm 119:105-112 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25 2 Corinthians 4:1-12	<b>12</b> Psalm 119:105-112 Proverbs 6:6-23 John 8:12-30	<b>13</b> Psalm 119:1-8 Genesis 26:1-5 James 1:12-16	<b>14</b> Psalm 119:1-8 Leviticus 26:34-46 1 John 2:7-17	<b>15</b> Psalm 119:1-8 Deuteronomy 30:1-9a Matthew 15:1-9
<b>16</b> <b>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>17</b> Psalm 119:9-16 Exodus 20:1-21 James 1:2-8	<b>18</b> Psalm 119:9-16 Deuteronomy 23:21—24:4, 10-15 James 2:1-13	<b>19</b> Psalm 119:9-16 Proverbs 2:1-15 Matthew 19:1-12	<b>20</b> Psalm 2 Exodus 6:2-9 Hebrews 8:1-7	<b>21</b> Psalm 2 Exodus 19:9b-25 Hebrews 11:23-28	<b>22</b> Psalm 2 1 Kings 21:20-29 Mark 9:9-133
<b>23</b> <b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>	<b>24</b> Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55 Exodus 33:7-23 Acts 7:30-34	<b>25</b> Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55 1 Kings 19:9-18 Romans 11:1-6	<b>26</b> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 <i>or</i> Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	<b>27</b> Psalm 51 Jonah 3:1-10 Romans 1:1-7	<b>28</b> Psalm 51 Jonah 4:1-11 Romans 1:8-17	<b>29</b> Psalm 51 Isaiah 58:1-12 Matthew 18:1-7