

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship
Sunday, January 23, 2022 – Third Sunday after Epiphany
Setting One of the ELW – Revised service for Zoom (inclement weather)

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

C **Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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.**

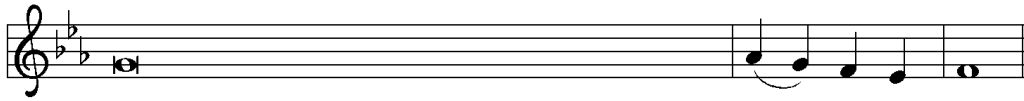
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



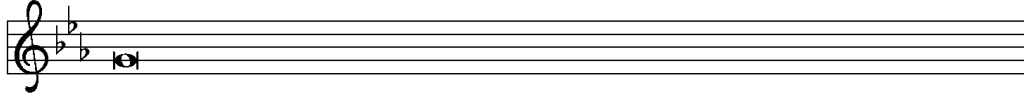
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



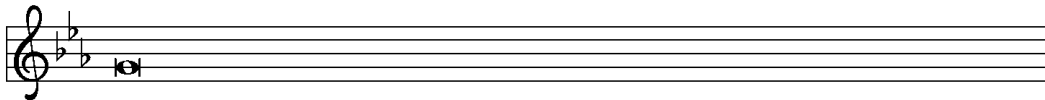
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

P The Lord be with you
C **And also with you**
P Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Children's Message

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 your strength."

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.

²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Psalm: Psalm 19

spoken responsively by verse

¹The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God, and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale | to another, and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**

³Although they have no | words or language, and their voices | are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world, where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of ¹ it again; nothing is hidden from its ¹ burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- ¹ vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom ¹ to the simple.

**⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and re- ¹ joice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light ¹ to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- ¹ dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous ¹ altogether.

**¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than ¹ much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey ¹ in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your ser- ¹ vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is ¹ great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's ¹ own offenses? Cleanse me from my ¹ secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion ¹ over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a ¹ great offense.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable ¹ in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and ¹ my redeemer.**

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.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

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.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Sermon

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the 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 INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Send us out to bring your liberating good news to all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. Sustain species at risk of extinction. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You desire that there be no dissension among us. Where we are divided in our society, nation, or world, come quickly to reunite us into one body. Ease conflict, dispel violence, and bring an end to war. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or those living under oppression (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation (*especially*). Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Compassionate God, you proclaim your love and mercy. Comfort any struggling with treatment and care, and others in need (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Tony, JoAnn, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis, Bob, Ellie, Barbara, Naomi, Larry, Nathan, Laura, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Tend to those who mourn (*especially*). Bring us together in your everlasting glory. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

LORD'S PRAYER

A 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.

SENDING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen**

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **We will. Thanks be to God.**

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God with the following recognition:

✙ In memory of loved ones by the Foreman Family.

Altar Flowers – If you would like to make a recognition through a request for Altar Flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium. Sign up for the day(s) you would like to request, pick up an envelope and form in the lower box and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin, and payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, please speak with a staff person.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Barbara Shade, Naomi Watson, Larry Hawley, Nathan Casper and wife Laura

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time**, email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Gad Kainer, Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Betty Sue Dickerson and son Barry Dickerson (friends of the church), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Clarence Schulze (father of Sharon Schulze), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley), Mary Bader, Cynthia Sund (grandmother of Megan Cunningham), Amy Natzle (friend of Megan Cunningham), Ruth Parker (aunt of Pat Casper), Jane Busch (sister-in-law of Audrey Busch), Karen Salotti (friend of Diana Dominick), Richard Dominick (brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Jack Craig (uncle of Pat Casper)

The Preschool, together with the Slane Family, is collecting new or gently used children's books for Book Harvest, a local organization that supports literacy in Durham. Books should be children's books (ages 0-18) and cannot include textbooks or religious books. Books can be deposited into the marked box at the main entrance to the church by **Sunday, January 16th**.

Articles and information for the February Cross Connections newsletter are due on Monday, January 24 to Susan Esposito. You may email to her at admin@stpaulsdurham.org or drop in her mailbox at church. "Holy Folders" will meet on Friday, January 28 at 11:00 am to assemble the issue for the post office.

Annual Reports! All committees and groups which meet at St. Paul's are required to submit a report each year which outlines what your committee/group accomplished in that year. **If you did not meet** during the past year, or modified your group, you may state how the pandemic has affected it. You should include the purpose of your committee, as well as the membership. Reports are to be submitted to Susan Esposito **now** -- they can be emailed to admin@stpaulsdurham.org, or dropped in her mailbox, no particular format as long as it is readable.

On the First Sunday of each month, we will offer drive through communion at the rear entrance of the church from 11:30 am until noon.

On Sunday mornings, we want to be sure our handicapped persons have accessible seating in the sanctuary. We have therefore added reserved signs to three of our handicap rows for their use.

Nurturing Committee – Be-Friend – The Be-Friend branch of the nurturing Committee has sprouted. The flowers on the Caring Tree (in the narthex) have blossomed into bold Words of Hope. These are supportive scriptures that Nurturing Committee members and others have pointed to as meaningful. Also, in the basket unit by the Caring Tree are items put together to add a smile as you grow and develop a new and/or an already up and running relationship. Look for the clear portfolio Be-Friend Idea Starter Kit as well as card making and other supplies in this place.

Join the Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11.

Topic: Coffee Hour, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRIgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09>

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 – Password: 292680

Croasdaile Worship – The Croasdaile worship in January will be Thursday, January 27, 2022, the Fourth Thursday of the month, at 2:00 pm.

"By Heart" – Vicar Mac is leading a study of "By Heart," a historical, theological, and spiritual deep-dive into Luther's Small Catechism. Classes meet on Wednesdays, at 7:00 pm in Trinity Hall or on Zoom:

<https://Lenoir-Rhyne.zoom.us/j/98437980374?pwd=Z0IUQ0I2UFRQTE9yMWVMa2F4NGVFUT09>. Email Vicar Mac (vicar@stpaulsdurham.org) with questions.

Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 AM – will be in Trinity Hall and over Zoom. We are studying the book: Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis. We will send emails if any study guides are needed.

Here is the zoom information.

Topic: Pastor's Bible Study

Time: Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89526693517?pwd=UVI2SldvRTVtYTdQOHFEa2N1THREdz09>

Meeting ID: 895 2669 3517 -- Passcode: 727541

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,89526693517#,,,,*727541# US (New York)

+13017158592,,89526693517#,,,,*727541# US (Washington DC)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kjXLtywXY>

We have a live link used to view our weekly Sunday morning Worship Services on Sundays at 10:00 AM Here is the link: <https://vimeo.com/event/1478223> . The live service will be put on the vimeo site after the service is concluded and can be watched at any time. That link is: <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham> (then choose the service date or event you wish to watch).

Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- ◆ **Devotions** – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1> Please send your devotions to Vicar Mac Mullins at vicar@stpaulsdurham.org
- ◆ **Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Worship Tasks**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1>
Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, altar guild, video, etc.
- ◆ **Sunday morning 10:00 AM Communion Assistants and Lock-Up**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>

We are using a live link to view our weekly Worship Services on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Here is the link: <https://vimeo.com/event/1478223> The live feed is a much better video experience and the recording of this live service will be put on the vimeo site after the service is concluded and can be watched at any time. That link is: <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham> (then choose the service date or event you wish to watch).

We are in need of worship assistants! Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- ◆ Devotions – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1> Please send your devotions to Vicar Mac Mullins at vicar@stpaulsdurham.org
- ◆ Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Worship Tasks
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1>
Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, video, altar guild, etc.
- ◆ Sunday morning 10:00 AM Communion Assistants and Lock-Up
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion>