ANOINTING REVEALED:
WHAT THE EYE SEES IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT GOD DECREES

First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 9, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul’s. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God’s forgiveness through Jesus.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY’S WORSHIP

Lord, I cannot see your work in my heart through the gospel with my own two eyes. Forgive me for trusting in my eyes more than in your promises. Thank you for revealing to me through your Word what you have done for me and continue to do within me through Christ and through the Holy Spirit. Thank you for connecting your promise of forgiveness with something I can see—the water in baptism. Continually bless me through his gracious water of anointing, renewing me and setting me apart from the sinful world around me until I am with you in heaven. I ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children’s activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids’ Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

THANK OFFERING

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you’re visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don’t feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.
The Service of the Word offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

**OPENING HYMN**

As with Gladness Men of Old | 83 (1-3)

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold, As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright, Lord, may we ever more your followers be.

2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to your lowly bed, There to bend the knee before pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest will ing feet ever more your mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare At your cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'n-ly King.

4. Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way; And, when earthly things are past, star to guide, Where no clouds your glory hide.

5. In the heav'n-ly country bright Need they no cre nied light; You its light, its joy, its crown, may we sing Alleluias to our King!
INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

(short musical intro)

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are
PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

be seated

The Word
1 The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I see a king for myself among his sons.”

2 Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.”

The L ORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the L ORD.’ 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you are to do. You are to anoint for me the person that I point out to you.”

4 So Samuel did what the L ORD had told him to do and went to Bethlehem. Trembling with fear, the elders of the city came to meet him. They said, “Do you come in peace?”

5 He said, “Yes, in peace. I have come to sacrifice to the L ORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” He consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they had come, he looked at Eliab and said, “Certainly this is the L ORD’s anointed.”

7 But the L ORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at how tall he is, because I have rejected him. For the L ORD does not look at things the way man does. For man looks at the outward appearance, but the L ORD looks at the heart.”

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The L ORD has not chosen this one either.”

9 Then Jesse had Shammah pass by. But Samuel said, “The L ORD has not chosen this one either.”

10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, “The L ORD has not chosen any of these.” 11 Samuel said to Jesse, “Is that all of the young men?”

Jesse said, “There still is the youngest, but he is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said to Jesse, “Send for him, for we cannot sit down to eat until he comes.”

12 He sent for him and brought him in. David had red hair and striking eyes, and was good-looking. The L ORD said, “Get up! Anoint him, because this is the one.”

continued...
So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers. The Spirit of the LORD rushed on David with power from that day forward. After that Samuel set out and returned to Ramah.

HYMN

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy | 294

1 Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among your saints, your chosen host, Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.

2 My loving Father, there you took me To be henceforth your child and heir. My faithful promise surely will endure. Oh, cast me sorrows share. O Holy Spirit, comfort me. When threatening clouds a-round I see.

3 My faithful God, you fail me never; Your receive it all, O Lord, from me. Let me confess my faith sincerely. And help me your own come impure. Have mercy when I come dear child to be! Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but yours alone.
SECOND LESSON  

Titus 3:4-7

4But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward mankind appeared, 5he saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs in keeping with the hope of eternal life.

VERSE OF THE DAY  

Mark 1:11b

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.

(short musical intro)
15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. 16 John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. While he was praying, heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children who are in grade four and younger may come forward and sit on the front step for the children’s devotion. Older children, parents, or other family members may come forward to encourage the younger children’s participation.
1 To Jordan’s river came our Lord, The
2 The Savior came to be baptized—The
3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood And
4 Then from God’s throne with thund’rous sound Came
5 The Father’s word, the Spirit’s flight A-

Christ, whom heav’nly hosts adored, The
Son of God in flesh disguised—To
John baptized the Lamb of God, The
God’s own voice with words profound: “This
nointed Christ in glorious sight As

God from God, the Light from Light, The
stand beneath the Father’s will And
Holy Spirit, heav’nly dove, De-
is my Son,” was his decree, “The
God’s own choice, from Adam’s fall To

Lord of glory, pow’r, and might.
all his promises fulfill.
scended on him from above.
one I love, who pleases me.”
save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!
This man in Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan’s stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

SERMON

Reborn and Renewed to Love the Unlovable

Titus 3:4-7
APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

"I know, my God, that you test the heart, and you take pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things. Now with joy I see your people, who are present here to bring the offering freely to you" (1 Chronicles 29:17).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus, at your baptism you revealed yourself as the obedient Son of Man, fulfilling all righteousness. Your heavenly Father revealed you as his beloved Son, in whom he is well pleased. The Holy Spirit revealed you as the Christ, anointed and armed to destroy the work of the devil.

C: We thank you, beloved Son of God, that you took on yourself the nature of a servant, became like us, and were obedient to the will of your heavenly Father.

M: Lord Jesus, eternal Word of God, you have connected your mighty Word and gracious promises to the water of Holy Baptism. In Baptism you cleansed us from
sin, redeemed us from death, and clothed us in your perfect righteousness. We praise you for the promise and treasure of Baptism.

C: **Encourage us to remember our baptisms daily as we die to sin and rise to new life with you.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

   *Silent prayer.*

M: Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
We claim a place, though weak and lowly, among your saints, your chosen host,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.

C: **All that I am and love most dearly—receive it all, O Lord, from me.**
Let me confess my faith sincerely, and help me your own child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own serve any will but yours alone. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

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.**

HYMN  

*All Christians Who Have Been Baptized | 736 (1-5)*

1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In -
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im -
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our
5 O Chris-tian, firm-ly hold this gift And
know the God of heaven, And
deed, from your conception, Con-
mersed and drowned for ever. The
shame is fully covered With
give God thanks for ever! It
in whose daily life is prized The
demned and lost with all the earth, None
water of your baptism day Re-
all that he once sacrificed And
provides the power to uplift In
name of Christ once given: Con-
good, without exception. For
stored again what ever Old
freely for us suffered. For
all that you endeavors. When

sider now what God has done, The
like your parents’ flesh and blood, Turned
Adam and his sin destroyed And
here the flood of his own blood Now
nothing else revives your soul, Your

gifts he gives to every one Bap-
inward from the highest good, You
all our sinful selves employed Ac-
makes us holy, right, and good Be-

baptism stands and makes you whole And

itized into Christ Jesus!
constant ly denied him.
cord ing to our na
ture.
fore our heav’n ly Fa ther.
then in death com pletes you.
PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.


be seated
1 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God’s praise we sing.

2 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with his rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God’s praise we sing.

3 Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of one Father, We are his children;
Joyfully now God’s praise we sing.
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH RENEWING (BIBLE STUDY) CONTINUES
Sunday School and Bible Study:  *God is faithful, even when we are not.*
Midweek Bible Study (Tues., 7pm; Wed. 9am):  *Let’s Go*

ANNUAL MEETING AND NOMINATIONS
Our annual meeting will be Sunday, January 23, at 11:15 am in the church basement. The list of men who have been nominated for service to the Lord at St. Paul’s can be found posted on the bulletin board in the church lobby. The list will also be shared via email.

PRINCIPAL CALL
We have extended a divine call to Mr. Jon Engelbrecht to serve as our principal and grades 7-8 teacher starting next year. Jon happens to be a member of St. Paul’s. He currently serves as Dean of Students at Luther High. Please keep Jon and his wife, Trisha, in your prayers as he deliberates serving in this new opportunity in God’s kingdom. If you would like to discuss the call with Jon, you can reach him at 715-741-1262. God is good!

OFFERING ENVELOPES
New offering envelopes can be found in the church basement. Please make sure to pick yours up. Online giving is also available (and is much easier for congregational bookkeeping, if you’re able to given that way).

LET’S GO
We’ve begun an evangelism workshop entitled *Let’s Go.* *Let’s Go* is designed to encourage and equip Christians to connect unchurched people in their lives to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Seven lessons will help us focus on three important aspects of evangelism: Love, Listen, and Lead. Each lesson consists of a video followed by Q&A and application. Come join us as we now equip ourselves to be better proclaimers and ambassadors of the gospel for our Lord and for those who need to know his grace! The videos and lesson sheets will also be shared on our Facebook page each week.
ST. PAUL’S APPAREL

We’ve set up our own webstore of St. Paul’s apparel and other merchandise through Games People Play. Check out the web page below and submit your orders. **They’ll be accepting orders through January 31 before the orders are processed and delivered.** Many of the options do have minimum order amounts, so feel free to order one for a friend so we can meet our minimum! There are different types of t-shirts, sweatshirts, pullovers, and soft shell jackets to choose from, as well as a travel mug and a cinch pack. Ceramic mugs will be on sale via a different format in the near future. Gear up to show your support for St. Paul’s and as an easy way to let the community know about our ministry!

https://gppsports.chipply.com/stpaulbangor21/

SCHEDULE YOUR TIME FOR CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

We’ll be using Universal Church Directories to run the production of our new church directory. **They will be at St. Paul’s to take our photos February 1-5 and February 8-9.** To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on “Photography Appointment Scheduling Login” on the right side, enter **wi163** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family’s appointment time. If you have six or more in your family please use two consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. Please call Shelly Lafky (608-797-4167) if you need assistance in scheduling. Pictures will take place in the church basement. Everyone who is photographed will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory.

CAMM LETTER FOR JANUARY

Copies of the Central Africa Medical Mission letter for the month of January can be found on the bulletin in the lobby.

OFFERING SUMMARY  (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

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LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE
8:00 am: 95  10:00 am: 78  Total: 173
Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 26
Sunday Bible Study: --
Sunday School: --
Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 14

CALENDAR

TODAY
8:00 am  Worship
9:10 am  Sunday School
9:15 am  Bible Study
10:00 am  Worship

TUESDAY
7:00 pm  Bible Study

WEDNESDAY
9:00 am  Bible Study (same as Tues.)
5:00 pm  Public School Catechism Class

THURSDAY
7:00 pm  Choir Practice

NEXT SUNDAY
8:00 am  Worship with Communion
9:10 am  Sunday School
9:15 am  Bible Study
10:00 am  Worship with Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister  Pastor Brock Groth
Accompanist  Irene Bakken

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