

# **REACTIONS REVEALED:**

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES; OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

February 20, 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

Father in heaven, you are the ultimate example of love even for enemies as you sent your Son to save me, a rebel. Forgive me for not showing that same kind of love to everyone around me, and reveal to me even more your forgiving love today. Spur my heart on toward good deeds and compassion in Christ. In his name I pray. 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.



## **HOLY COMMUNION**

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

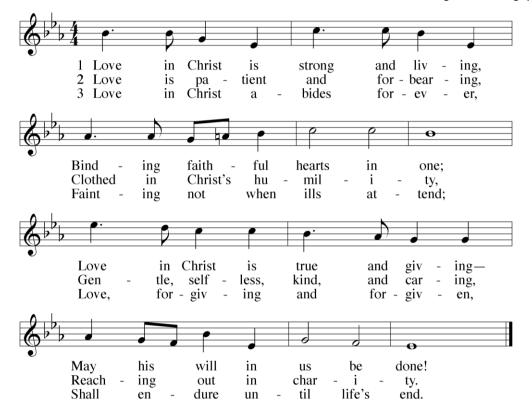
# DIVINE SERVICE II

Divine Service II is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that serves to praise God for his glory and highlight the celebration of Holy Communion.

**DUET** Celebrate God's Love

## **OPENING HYMN**

Love in Christ Is Strong and Living | 490



please stand

## **INVOCATION**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

#### CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For faitness worrying and selfish pride

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

## **ABSOLUTION**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

M: For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

## C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

# C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

## **GLORY BE TO GOD**

(short musical intro)

- All glory be to God on high!
   Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
   We praise you for your peace and grace,
   Your favor toward our fallen race.
- Our grateful thanks to you we bring, For your great glory, heav'nly King, For all, O Father, you have done Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.

# The Word

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church, always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope of your promises and be strong in the power of your love; 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



**FIRST LESSON** Genesis 45:3-8a,15

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?"

His brothers could not answer him, because they were terrified by his presence. <sup>4</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me, please."

They came closer. He said, "I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>Now do not be upset or angry with yourselves for selling me to this place, since God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For two years now the famine has been in the land, and there are still five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me ahead of you to preserve you as survivors on the earth, and to keep you alive by a great act of deliverance. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God.

<sup>15</sup>He kissed all his brothers and wept over them. After that his brothers talked with him.

SECOND LESSON Romans 12:14-21

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who are rejoicing; weep with those who are weeping. <sup>16</sup>Have the same respect for one another. Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves.

<sup>17</sup>Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. <sup>19</sup>Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," says the Lord. <sup>20</sup>But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

<sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 6:36

Alleluia. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

<sup>27</sup>"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. <sup>28</sup>Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup>If someone strikes you on one cheek, offer the other too. If someone takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes away your things, do not demand them back.

<sup>31</sup>"Treat others just as you would want them to treat you. <sup>32</sup>If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? To be sure, even the sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners do the same thing. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you expect to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners lend to sinners in order to be paid back in full. <sup>35</sup>Instead, love your enemies, do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the unthankful and the evil. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup>Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap. In fact, the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you."

be seated







**SERMON** Genesis 45:3-8a,15

## "God sent me to preserve life."

please stand

## **NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

# We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen

be seated

## **OFFERING**

"Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. Because where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The presiding minister will speak the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

please stand

# The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we also bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. See p.156 in the hymnal for preparation.

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.

- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is good and right so to do.
- M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(short musical intro)

O holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

C: By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

M: Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

#### 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.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## **LAMB OF GOD**



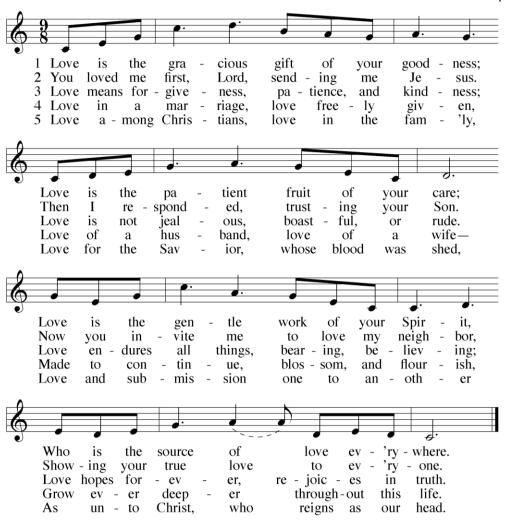
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## **DISTRIBUTION**

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17).

Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**





as needed



- 6 Lord, I believe what you have said; Help me when doubts assail me. Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me. Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears And is my priceless treasure.
- 7 Grant that we worthily receive
  Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
  And, truly grieving for our sins,
  May prove by our behavior
  That we are thankful for your grace
  And day by day may run our race,
  In holiness increasing.
- 8 For your consoling supper, Lord,
  Be praised throughout all ages!
  Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
  The world against it rages.
  Grant that this sacrament may be
  A blessed comfort unto me
  When living and when dying.

## SONG OF SIMEON

(short musical intro)

O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
Incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!

## **PRAYER**

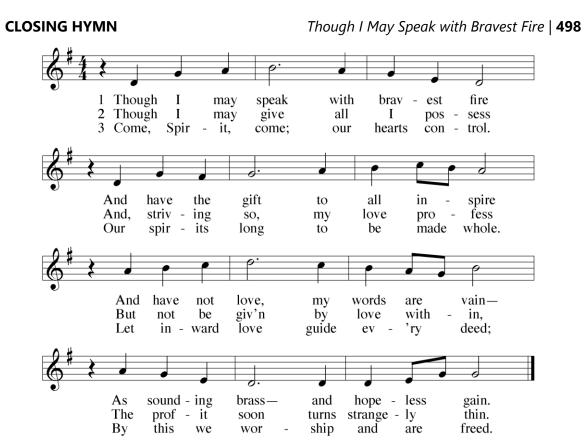
M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **BLESSING**

M: 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.



# **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **GRACE BUILDING (BIBLE STUDY) CONTINUES**

Sunday School and Bible Study: *God's beloved Son was baptized and tempted for us.* Midweek Bible Study (Tues., 7pm; Wed. 9am): *The Book of Zechariah* 

#### PRINCIPAL CALL EXTENDED

We have extended a divine call to Mr. Jacob Zimmermann to serve as our principal and grades 7-8 teacher beginning in the 2022-23 school year. Please keep Mr. Zimmermann and his family in your prayers as he deliberates the best place the Lord can work through him for the gospel. If you'd like to contact Mr. Zimmermann and discuss our ministry here at St. Paul's, you can call him at 414-659-6106.

#### **LENTEN SERVICES**

Lent is coming up! Beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 2, we'll be having one midweek Lenten service each week on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. The theme for this year's midweek services is The Crucial Hours. The series ponders key words and moments from the account of Jesus' passion that demonstrate the thorough completeness of his saving work for us, the breadth and depth of his love for us, and the strength of his union with us.

#### **NEW BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS**

STARTS TOMORROW! St. Paul's next Bible Information Class will begin in February and be completed by the end of May. If you or someone you know is interested in membership, in our church's teachings, or simply in a refresher of important biblical truths, this is the class to take. The classes will take place on Monday evenings starting Feb. 21. Please contact Pastor Groth if interested or if you would like more info. You can also visit www.stpaulsbangor.com/new/bic/ for more info on the class itself

#### WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VAN

If you know of a wheelchair accessible van that the Bakkens can borrow or rent, please contact either Pastor Groth or Irene Bakken at 608-344-1378.

#### **NEW MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**

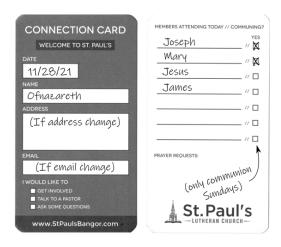
For our next midweek Bible study, we'll go through the book of Zechariah with all of its visions and imagery and gospel-filled prophecy. The study begins 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 22, and 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 23.

## ANOTHER DAY FOR CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS

If you missed your chance to have your church directory photos taken, there's still a chance! The photographers will be back on Tuesday, March 15, for another day of photos. If you're interested, please contact Sue Gollnik at 608-799-0984 or skgollnik@gmail.com. You can also contact her for any directory-related questions.

#### CONNECTION CARDS REMINDER

Just a friendly reminder about when and how to fill out the Connection Cards. Please fill them out at *all* worship services and hand them to the ushers as they usher you out at the end of worship. Please also make sure to include your last name on the front and first names on the back for communion (otherwise we have no idea).



## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

If you notice that birthdays or anniversaries are missing or incorrect when announced before the Prayer of the Church each Sunday, please notify Pastor Groth of the addition or correction so we can get that updated in our system. Thank you!

#### CAMM MONTHLY LETTER

February's letter for the Central Africa Medical Mission can be found in the church lobby.

#### **CHURCH EMAIL NEWS**

Just a reminder that you can sign up for our church news via email here: https://www.stpaulsbangor.com/email-list/.

#### **WELS COULEE WOMEN'S RETREAT**

The 2022 WELS Coulee Women's Retreat will be April 2, 2022, at Christ Lutheran Church in West Salem. This retreat provides an opportunity for WELS/ELS women and their friends to gather together, encourage each other with God's Word, and go forth to share God's Word with others. Registration forms and itinerary are available online at www.facebook.com/WCWRetreat (you may have to request to join the Facebook group). Register by March 15 (there's a discount for early registration by February 15).

## **GOFUNDME FOR LUTHER STUDENT**

David Chase, a freshman at Luther, was recently diagnosed with a tennis ball size tumor in the middle left of his brain. A GoFundMe account (a site that facilitates charitable giving) has been established to help the family with expenses. If you'd like to contribute and read more about this, please go to the web address below. Please keep David and his family in your prayers!

https://gofund.me/a85f1181

**OFFERING SUMMARY** (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2022 Weekly Budget: \$10,069.73 Budget to Date: \$70,488.11 Received Last Week: \$8,979.77 Rec'd to Date: \$63,348.45

#### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 96 10:00 am: 87 Total: 183

Live Stream Peak Live Viewers: 31

Sunday Bible Study: 47

Sunday School: 7

Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 14

# **CALENDAR**

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion
MONDAY	5:00 pm	Bible Information Class
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class Accreditation Committee Meeting
THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Presiding Minister Accompanist** 

Pastor Brock Groth Harriet Langrehr

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