

THE KINDNESS IN HIS CALLING

Second Sunday after Epiphany

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

January 14, 2024

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, you see and know all of my sins, even my hidden faults. I cannot hide anything in my mind or heart from you. Yet you in kindness have called even me to discipleship. You graciously reassure me that my sins, even my hidden faults, are washed away by the blood of Christ. Build up my confidence today not only to trust in you for full forgiveness but also to follow you and learn from you, that I may ever declare your praises and extend your call to others as well. In Jesus 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.



SETTING ONE p.154

The Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CHOIR Heavens Rose

Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

DECLARATION OF GRACE

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



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



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GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH

(no musical intro)





The Word

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 3:1–10

¹The boy Samuel ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days. Prophetic vision was not common.

²Now it happened that Eli's eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see. Once when Eli was lying down in his place ³ and God's lamp had not yet gone out, Samuel was lying down in the LORD's temple, where God's ark was. ⁴The LORD called Samuel, and Samuel said, "I am here." ⁵He ran to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call. Lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶Then the LORD called once more, "Samuel!"

So Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me."

He answered, "I did not call, my son. Lie down again."

⁷Now Samuel had not yet experienced the LORD's presence, that is, the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸The LORD called Samuel for the third time. So he got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the young man. ⁹So Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'"

So Samuel went and once again lay down in his place. ¹⁰The LORD came and stood there and called as he had the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM OF THE DAYPsalm 139E

Vocalist(s) will sing verse 1. Congregation can join as comfortable.



SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

¹³But we are always obligated to thank God for you, brothers, loved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning for salvation by the sanctifying work of the Spirit and faith in the truth. ¹⁴For this reason he also called you through our gospel so that you would obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵So then, brothers, stand firm and hold on to the teachings that were passed along to you, either by word of mouth or by a letter from us. ¹⁶May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and in his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷encourage your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:29

Alleluia.

John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Alleluia.



GOSPEL John 1:43–51

⁴³The next day Jesus wanted to leave for Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?"

"Come and see!" Philip told him.

⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, "Truly, here is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, while you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

⁵⁰Jesus replied, "You believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that!" ⁵¹Then he added, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: tr. Gerhard Gieschen, 1899–1987, alt.; Martin Opitz, 1597–1639, abr.

Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517

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Tune: Public domain

SERMON

Why Is the Gospel So Important?

What God <i>reveals</i> through the gospel:							
you were							
you are							
you were brought to in the							
you were through it							
you will the of Christ							
What God <i>does</i> through the gospel:							
helps to and and							
gives and							
encourages and strengthens							



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.

Be seated

OFFERING

"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. [We pray especially for...] Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Brief intercessions may be added here.

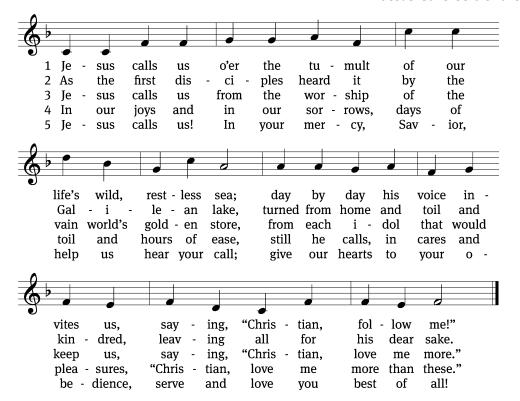
Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Amen.

HYMN



Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt. Tune: Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716 Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

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.

Amen.

Be seated

to

a - ges sealed, whose

CLOSING HYMN



- 1 O Christ, who called the Twelve
- 2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve
- 3 O Christ, who sent the Twelve
- 4 O Christ, th' a pos tles' Lord,

to rise and fol - low you, for

on roads they'd nev - er trod

Lord, the mar-tyrs' strength and song, the

the truth for



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways for ven - tures bold and new: words and works a - wak-ened faith, the ways of God re - vealed: serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro-claim the near - er reign of God: cru - ci - fied and ris - en King to whom the saints be - long:



grant us to hear your call in - struct us now, we pray, send us on ways where faith though gen - er - a - tions pass, to risk se - cur - i - ty and, by your em-pow'r-ing Word. True tran-scends ti - mid - i - ty, where our trib - ute still we bring, our



bound in heart and will to you, find teach-er, be for all who seek their love in-forms and hope sus-tains both hymns a sac-ri-fice of praise, our per - fect lib - er - ty. light, their life, their Lord. life and min - is - try. lives an of - fer - ing.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930 Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889 Tune: Public domain

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering Envelopes have arrived and are ready to pick up. You can find them organized (generally) alphabetically in the church basement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDY

"Promised Messengers" is the title of today's lesson. God sends His messengers to go before and prepare the way for the Messiah. Haggai tells Zerubbabel and Joshua that the glory of God will return to the Lord's house one day. Malachi warns that the Lord will refine His people as He prepares them for the coming judgment. The Lord will send His promised Savior, who will bring healing to His people.

MIDWEEK STUDY – THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Our midweek Bible study is on one of the most interesting books of Scripture: Revelation. Chapter by chapter the author cuts a pathway through each vision and prophecy of Revelation until he reaches the clearing where we behold a new heaven and a new earth. The 12 Lessons include: The Purpose, Outline and Interpretation of the Book; The Letters to the Seven Churches; God's Rule of the World; The Seven Seals; God's Judgment of the World; The Church Secure and Glorified; The Devil and His Helpers Appear; The Seven Bowls of Wrath; The Downfall of the Devil's Allies; The Millennium; The New Heaven and the New Earth; and Review. Join us as we continue to dive into the imagery and meaning of Christ our Savior in the book of Revelation.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY WEBINAR

Want to learn about using hospitality to reconnect with others at your church and also as an evangelism tool? "Reviving Relationships Through Biblical Hospitality," a new webinar from WELS Women's Ministry, will inspire you to rethink your relationships and get you thinking about your own church culture with new eyes. Panelists will talk about the importance of biblical hospitality in your home, at church, and even in public. The webinar will be held Thurs., Jan. 18, 2024, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. (CST). Learn more and register at wels.net/women.

CHILI SUPPER

On January 20th, from 4:00-8:00 pm, our grades 5-8 students will be hosting a chili supper in the

church basement. A freewill donation can be given at the door. Carry-outs are available.

Homemade lefse will be sold the day of the event. Proceeds will help support their school trip in

May.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGING

Our Sunday School students will be singing at the 10:00 am service on January 28. Please have

your child in Sunday School the next few weeks for practice. What a wonderful opportunity to let

their light shine!

BIBLE BASICS CLASS

Our next Bible Basics class (also called the new member class or Bible Information Class) will begin

Monday, February 5, at 6:00 pm. I ask that you block off 1.5 hours for each session, but usually it will be closer to 1 hour. Free childcare can be available upon request. If you or someone you

know would be interested in taking the class, please sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby or

contact Pastor Groth at pastor@stpaulsbangor.com. Long-time members are also invited, as it's

always a good refresher of the foundations of our faith. For more info on the class itself, visit

stpaulsbangor.com/new/bible-basics.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2023 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00

Budget to Date: \$11,826.00

Received Last Week: \$18,406.02

Rec'd to Date: \$18.406.02

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 119

Online Viewers: 38

10:00 am: 89

Total: 246

Sunday Bible Study: 40

Sunday School: 12

Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 29

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LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

The following is the list of men who have been nominated for service to the Lord at St. Paul's (asterisk denotes an incumbent). Voting will take place at the annual meeting on **January 21st at 11:15 am**.

Church Council

Dan Arndt*
Blake Horstman
Chad Horstman*
Tim Johnson
Steve Lund
Todd Miller

Stewardship-Evangelism

Michael Johnson* Scott Rich

Luther High Association

Jon Engelbrecht Donald Peterson* Gary Schomberg Josh Stratman Kevin Stratman* Al Urbanek

Finance Committee

Justin Berg* Troy Duerwachter Tyler Duerwachter Luke Frederick* James Gade Matt Garves Kris Hammes Ben Horstman Carter Horstman Jeff Koltermann Zach Kotek John Langrehr Jr. Grant Manke Steve Parr* Brad Spoo Jesse Todd

Education Committee

(No expired terms this year)

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
TUESDAY	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mornings with Mommy Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 3:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class 3K Committee Meeting
SATURDAY	4:00 pm	Chili Supper
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 11:15 am 6:30 pm	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion Annual Voters' Meeting PACE Meeting

SERVING IN WORSHIP

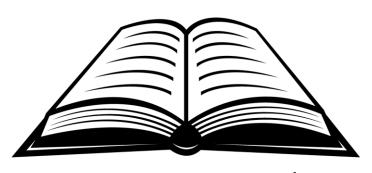
Presiding Minister Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth Harriet Langrehr

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If you continue IN MY WORD



you are truly MY DISCIPLES



WiFi: SPLC_Guest Password: gracealone