



First Sunday After Epiphany, Baptism of Our Lord January 7, 2024

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:00 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org>



Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7-Q>



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector.....	Jacki Waas
Organist.....	Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....	Kay Wachter & Marcia Gupta
Acolyte.....	Camden Plog, Kay Wachter

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Trish Valcarcel
 Vice-President—Patty Rimel
 Treasurer—Amy Mildenstein
 Secretary—Jackie Waas

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

CHURCH BELL RUNG

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN.....*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*ELW 304**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame,
as urgent as a flame. | 3 Straightway and steadfast until death
you then obeyed the call
to serve with free and willing heart,
to give your life for all,
to give your life for all. |
| 2 God called you, "My beloved Son";
you are God's servant true,
sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,
God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do. | 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God's service we
may perfect freedom find,
may perfect freedom find. |

***GREETING (ELW, p. 147)**

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 (ELW, p. 203) (Sung)**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW Pg. 204) (Sung)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem.....*One Golden Dawn on Jordan's Bright Sand (Brad Nix)*.....Choir

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FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: #29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW, p. 205)**



L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25th chapter, **25:31-46**

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY.....**When Jesus Came to Jordan**.....ELW 305

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon
but as the Sinless One.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.</p> <p>2 He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.</p> | <p>3 Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make;
this very day invade us,
and ev'ry bondage break.
Come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most:
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.</p> |
|---|---|

***THE 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.*

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: ... God, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

***The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

***OFFERTORY HYMN** *Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW Pg. 186)*

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE:**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations: in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Pg. 207)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Amen (ELW Pg. 207)



***THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now 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.

HOLY COMMUNION:

P: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The feast is prepared, the table is set, come and eat.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW P. 208)

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (half), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half), C4 (half), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (half), F#3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (half), C3 (half). The lyrics are written below the staff.

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

**SENDING HYMN..... God, Whose Almighty WordELW 673*

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light. | 3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light. |
| 2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light. | 4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light. |

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

***DISMISSAL**

**GO IN PEACE, TRUST IN GOD, SERVE THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.



PRAYER LIST

Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*

Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Hank Holiday, *Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Marion Lawrence, *Cousin of Kate Stottlemeyer*

The Jones Family, *Close family friends of Joann Valainis*

Bishop Gohl, *Bishop Delaware/Maryland Synod*

Gil Eiker, *Husband of Rebecca Eiker*

Ellen Hatgi, *Member*

Doug Ashbrook, *Family Friend of Pastor Phil*

Roger Stottlemeyer, *Uncle of Kate Stottlemeyer*

Family of Sharon Kahler, *mother of Sheila and Rodney Kahler, members*

Jeff Gentry, *Organist*

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing! "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." **Matthew 18:20**

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

- +Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy,
niece to Linwood Snider
- +Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce,
grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
- +U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik,
grandson of Sam Purswell
- +Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of
Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
- +Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law
of Marcia & Raj Gupta
- +Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of
Mary Ann Ferguson
- +Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of
Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in
law

*Do you have need for prayer?
Do you know someone else who has need for prayer?
If so, please know that we have a prayer team at
St. Paul's that is ready to help.
Simply contact the Church Office.
All requests are confidential.*

***Please remember all the names on our prayer
list, and especially those that are **bold**.
They have a specific current need for
Christian love and support.*

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

You were led to the holy pool of divine baptism. And each of you was asked, whether you believed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You made that saving confession, and descended three times into the water, and ascended again—here also, in a hidden and figurative way, pointing at the three-day burial of Christ. For as our Savior passed three days and three nights in the heart of the earth, so you also, in your first ascent out of the water, represented the first day of Christ in the earth, and by your descent, the night. For as they who are in the night see no more, but they who are in the day remain in the light, so in descending you saw nothing, as in the night, but in ascending again, we were as in the day. Let no one suppose that baptism is merely the grace of remission of sins, as was John's baptism. No: baptism conveys to us the gift of the Holy Spirit, and God, who has presented you, as it were, alive from the dead, is able to grant you to walk in newness of life. —Cyril of Jerusalem

[Cyril of Jerusalem, Lectures on the Christian Sacraments, ed. F. L. Cross (Crestwood, N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1977), 60-63]



OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community.

Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.

<https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/>

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,825.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need: \$360.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income December 31, 2023:

Weekly Contributions:	\$
Property Loan Fund:	\$
Total:	\$

<u>In Worship Offerings</u>	
Weekly Contributions:	\$
Property Loan Fund:	\$
Total:	\$

ATTENDANCE:

December 31, 2023

In person: 50

Virtual: **

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, January 7th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

First Sunday after Epiphany

Baptism of Our Lord

Ministry Sunday 10:00am

Monday, January 8th

FEC

Girl Scouts 8am-5pm

6pm

Tuesday, January 9th

Executive council

6pm

Council

7pm

Wednesday, January 10th

FEC

8am-5pm

Thursday, January 11th

FHS

9am-3pm

Sunday, January 14th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Bishop Gohl to Speak at Service

Installation at Bethel Lutheran Ch. 2:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*****IMPORTANT*****

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=201F4sr9QgQ>

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at

St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEggsBUXlow1I7-Q>



***The altar flowers are given to the
glory of God and
in honor of Peter's Birthday.
Given by Betsy Galliher.***



On behalf of Bethel Lutheran Church, Pastor Phil would like to invite you to his Installation Service at Bethel Lutheran Church, 9664 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD 21702 on **January 14, 2024 at 2:00pm.**

Let us rejoice that the Lord has brought our congregations together and we are looking forward to celebrating this occasion as the family of God.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Jan. 21, 2024
Town Hall



Jan. 28, 2024
Annual Meeting



Flower Calendar

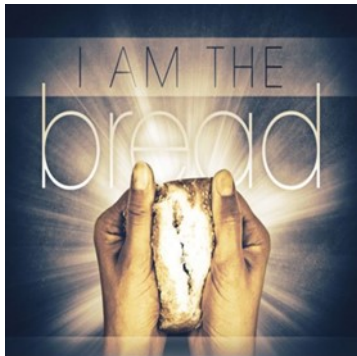
Would you like to schedule a date to sponsor Altar flowers?

Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to offer flowers.

The sign up sheet is also hanging on the bulletin board at the side door!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAD IS COMING BACK!



The Worship and Arts Committee has voted to reinstitute bread at communion, starting with the Lenten season. We'll need members of the congregation to volunteer to provide bread on a weekly basis. Bread used will be white only, unsliced/ unbroken, fresh baked or purchased, no nuts or seeds please, and a soft crust rather than hard, please, to lessen the crumbs that fall.

Please contact Candy Foucart at cafoucart@yahoo.com if you are interested and she will get back to you with all with possible dates. If there are any questions please ask Candy or any Worship and Arts Committee member.

If no bread is available on a Sunday we will use the wafers.

Thanks for your commitment to St. Paul's!

Candy Foucart, Communion Coordinator

Donations for *Glade Valley Food Bank* are always accepted!

****Updated Items of need are**:**

Cereal, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, boxed crackers, baked beans, canned pasta, canned tuna and mac 'n' cheese

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you.



Staff

Minister-202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Pastor Phil Beck
 Youth Coordinator-240-315-5030 (youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....
 Office Administrator- 301-845-4600(officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).....Joann Valainis
 Music CoordinatorNancy Cochran
 Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
 Administration/PurchasingEd Chaney
 SextonLarry Beard
 Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
 Property Coordinator.....Tom Waters
 Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney